



Citizens' Annual Financial Report

FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2021
RALEIGH, NORTH CAROLINA

Letter from the
City Manager
PG 4

Letter from the Chief
Financial Officer
PG 5

The City of Raleigh:
Everyone's Household
PG 7

Adopted Budget –
Sources of City Funds
PG 8

Adopted Budget –
Uses of City Funds
PG 9

Governmental
Activities
PG 10

General Fund
Results
PG 11

Business-type
Activities
PG 12

Capital
Improvement Plan
PG 13

Understanding
City Debt
PG 14

Raleigh Accolades
and Demographics
PG 15

Spotlight on
Sustainability
PG 16 - 19



Report Overview

The fiscal year 2021 (FY21) **Citizens' Annual Financial Report** provides citizens and other interested parties with a user-friendly overview of the City's financial results and is produced to increase awareness of the City's fiscal operations. The report also summarizes long-term planning initiatives, accolades and other City demographics that may be of interest to the reader. The financial information presented within this report is obtained from the audited financial statements of the City's FY21 Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR), or formal annual report.

The Citizens' Annual Financial Report is not required to present the same level of detail as the ACFR and, therefore, may not fully conform to generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP). This report highlights the overall financial position and trends of the City. The FY21 ACFR was audited by Cherry Bekaert LLP and has received an unmodified or "clean" audit opinion. This report may be viewed on the City's website at <https://raleighnc.gov/services/government/annual-comprehensive-financial-report>

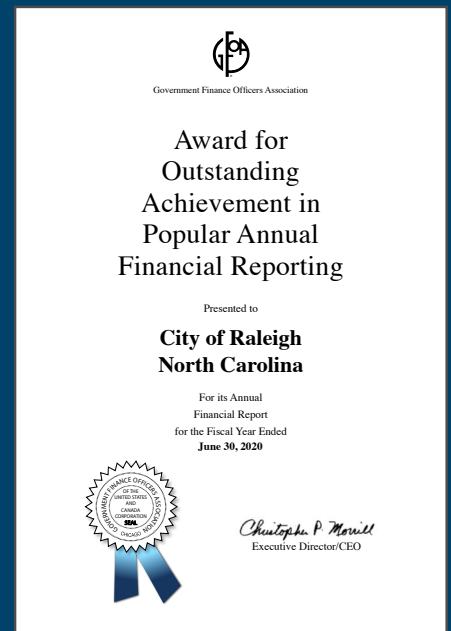
About the Cover and Spotlight Article

Pictured on the front cover is the North Carolina State Capital along Fayetteville Street with a view of the downtown Raleigh skyline in the background.

The City of Raleigh's Office of Sustainability focuses on climate and sustainability measures within Raleigh and the greater community. The Office of Sustainability and their initiative to establish Raleigh's first Community Climate Action Plan is featured in our Spotlight article starting on page 16 of this report.

GFOA Award

The Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) represents public finance officials throughout the United States and Canada, whose shared mission is to promote excellence in state and local government financial management. The City of Raleigh participates in the GFOA Award Program for Outstanding Achievement in Popular Annual Financial Reporting. The award shown is for last year's report.



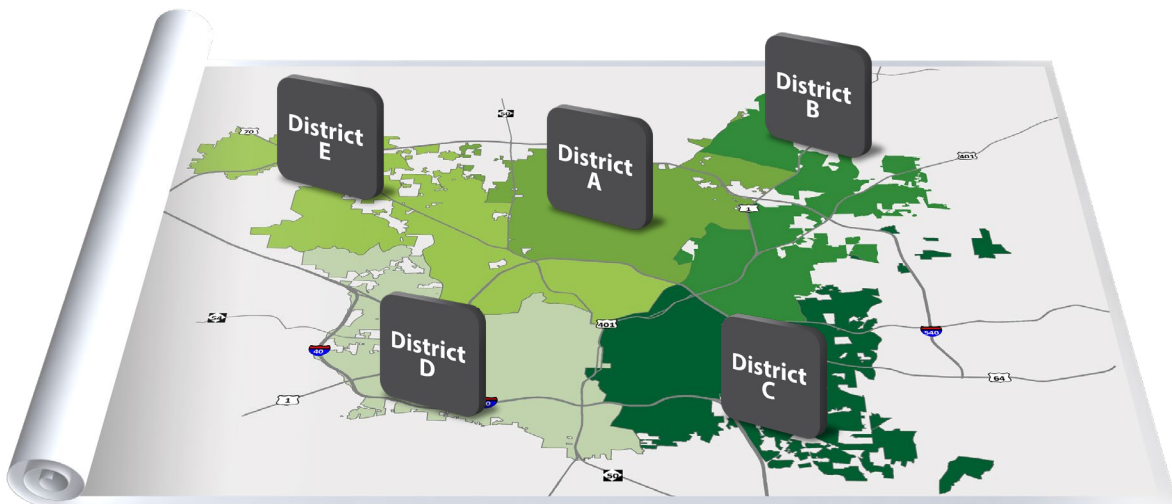
Raleigh City Council | 2021



Bottom Row: *Nicole Stewart, David Cox, Stormie D. Forte, Mary-Ann Baldwin*
Top Row: *Jonathan Melton, Corey D. Branch, Patrick Buffkin, David Knight*

Mary-Ann Baldwin – MAYOR
Patrick Buffkin – DISTRICT A
David Cox – DISTRICT B
Corey D. Branch – DISTRICT C

Stormie D. Forte – DISTRICT D
David Knight – DISTRICT E
Jonathan Melton – AT LARGE
Nicole Stewart – AT LARGE





"**Raleigh** is financially strong and continues to attract new people and business development opportunities and investments"

Leadership | From the City Manager

Dear Readers:

The City of Raleigh highly values high-quality service, and strategically applies resources to serve the needs of the City, its residents and visitors. Despite the ongoing global pandemic, Raleigh is financially strong and continues to attract new people and business development opportunities and investments. This can largely be attributed to the diverse business environment, nationally ranked universities, outstanding healthcare facilities, inclusive culture, and first-class quality of life amenities. Raleigh, like many other communities, is faced with the challenges of post pandemic recovery, but we stand ready to respond through fiscal and environmental stewardship, operational efficiencies, strategic investments, effective and responsible management, and an unwavering alignment to our organizational values. This commitment will ensure the City remains well positioned to maintain its high level of service to the community.

The City's Office of Sustainability works to create an organizational environment where each City department, investment, and initiative incorporates the City Council's commitment to a sustainable city. Sustainability encourages innovative ways of thinking that positively impact the environment, our local economy, and all who live, work, play, and learn in Raleigh. On pages 16-19 of this year's Citizens' Annual Financial Report, we highlight the Office of Sustainability and their collaborative efforts with the community to establish Raleigh's first Community Action Climate Plan.

I certainly hope that you enjoy and find useful the FY21 Citizens' Annual Financial Report.

Sincerely |

Marchell Adams-Davis | City Manager



“Strong internal control systems ensure appropriate checks and balances”

From the Chief Financial Officer

To Our Citizens:

Raleigh’s city government includes over 5,000 full and part-time employees operating in many diverse roles that provide services to citizens and visitors in our growing city. Even as a large municipality; however, the City shares with every household the need to manage resources with a commitment to proper planning, balanced budgets and a sustainable financial position. The City’s Finance Department prepares the Citizens’ Annual Financial Report with a goal of explaining key financial objectives for the City in a similar context to your own finances.

The City continues its mission of being accountable and transparent and ensuring sound fiscal stewardship even with the continued global pandemic. Strong internal control systems ensure appropriate checks and balances. The City continues to be proactive in managing the financial impacts associated with the global pandemic and was able to meet or exceed financial policies as well as continue the commitment to fund long-term liabilities. In addition, the City was able to maintain the strongest credit ratings available in the marketplace. The City’s overall fiscal health continues to remain strong even in uncertain times.

The Citizens’ Annual Financial Report is a communication tool to provide interested parties the City’s financial story in a user-friendly and understandable manner. The report utilizes the Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR), which is available to you on the City’s website, www.raleighnc.gov. The ACFR provides detailed financial statements, notes, and other schedules that provide valuable information on the City’s finances. The ACFR is audited annually by an independent certified public accounting firm and is presented to City Council to ensure transparency.

The City of Raleigh has received numerous awards from the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) for excellence in financial reporting. Thank you for your support as the City seeks to maintain a high standard of service. The City’s finance team hopes you find the Citizens’ Annual Financial Report helpful and use it as a tool to understand Raleigh’s financial operations.

Sincerely |  Allison E. Bradsher | Chief Financial Officer

The City of Raleigh and the surrounding Research Triangle Region growth has consistently and significantly outpaced the nation. Fueled by an impressive mix of education, ingenuity and collaboration, Raleigh is an internationally recognized leader in life science and technology innovation. It also happens to be a really great place to live.





The City of Raleigh | Everyone's Household

The City of Raleigh is the level of government that touches the daily lives of citizens the most. The City provides a full range of governmental services, including public safety, regulating quality of housing and construction, paving roads, solid waste management, water and sewer services, providing public transit and parking options, maintaining parks and recreational facilities, and hosting convention and performing arts events. These services are provided to ensure Raleigh remains one of the top places to live, work and play. Over the last 30 years, growth in Raleigh and the surrounding Research Triangle Region has consistently and significantly outpaced the nation, further driving the City to strategically invest in its financial sustainability well into the future. The City applies the same financial fundamentals to the management of the City's finances that apply to individual households. Highlighted below are a few of the ways the City's financial management practices continue to ensure a strong financial position.

Budget and planning

The City responsibly plans for its future financial needs in various ways, including relying on key financial policies and procedures, financial projections, a 10-year capital improvement plan (CIP), long-term rate studies and financial models. Similar to the average citizen, the City uses a balanced budget to ensure that it maintains a healthy financial position and uses its resources effectively. North Carolina law requires local governments to approve a balanced budget each year. The City's annual budget process includes a review of current economic conditions to develop a fiscally sound funding plan that ensures revenues are sufficient to cover budgeted operational needs for each department. The proposed budget is presented in May to City Council, who approves the final budget document on or prior to the start of the fiscal year July 1.

The City's annual Operating and CIP budgets can be found on the City's website at <https://raleighnc.gov/services/grants-and-funding/current-city-budget>.

Financial standards

Comparable to a household's need to borrow for a house or car, the City has taken on moderate debt levels to provide necessary infrastructure impacting citizen's daily lives, such as streets and parks. The City's credit rating from the three national credit rating agencies – Moody's, S&P Global and Fitch - are all AAA/Aaa. This represents the highest credit ratings available and provides an independent view of the City's overall financial well-being. Details summarizing FY21 City debt activities are captured on page 14 of this report.

Saving and investing for the future

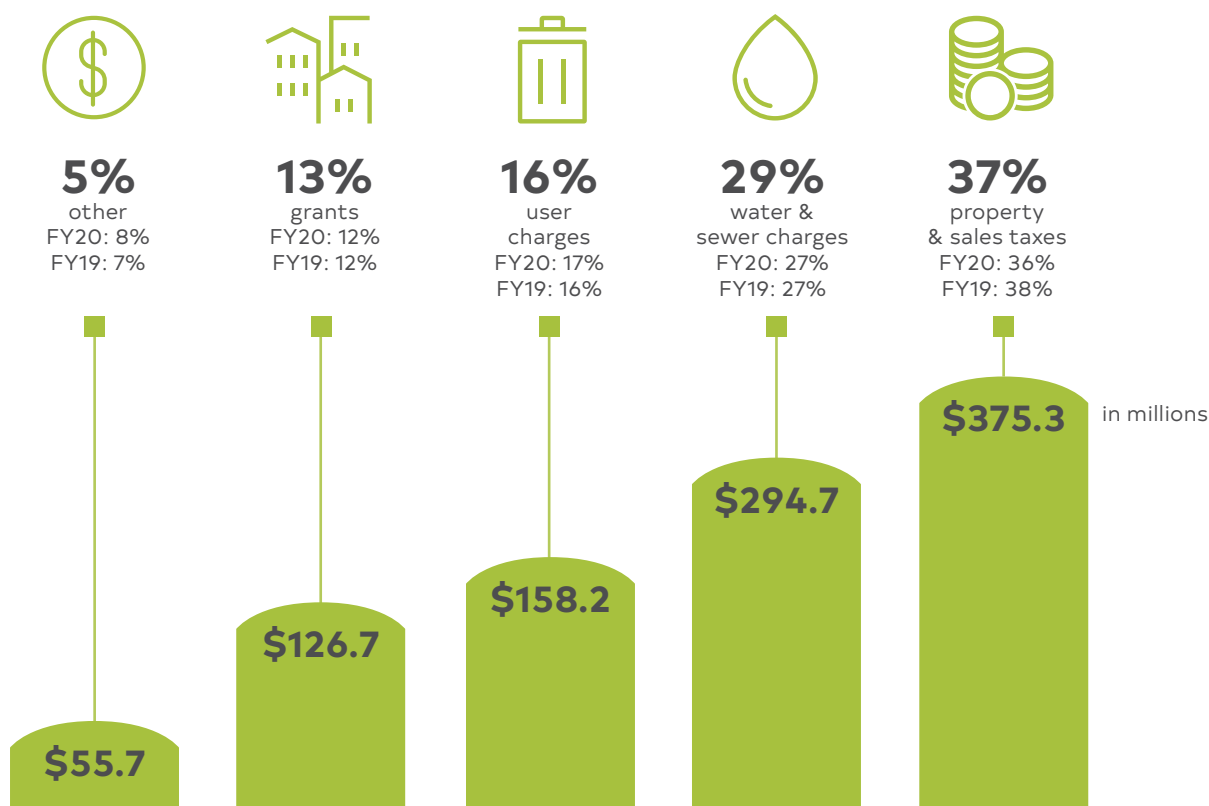
Saving for the future is an important aspect of the City's financial stewardship, similar to your own household budget planning. The City utilizes various policies and guidelines, models, and fiscal analyses that enable management to address short-term as well as plan for long-term financial needs. Collectively, these financial tools allow City Council and City Management to make informed decisions regarding future investments within our growing community, while also maintaining an adequate level of savings.

Sources | City Funds

The City has various funding sources that provide for governmental and business-type services. The three-year trend illustrated below shows City budgeted funding sources remain relatively consistent over time. The City's largest revenues are **property and sales taxes**. These tax collections predominately fund basic government services, including investments in public safety, public infrastructure, and leisure services. **Water and sewer charges** are the second largest category of revenues and reflect City Council approved rates for the regional utility system consistent with long-term planning models. **User charges** capture a variety of City services, and fees are collected specifically from those who directly benefit and utilize these services. Examples include solid waste services fees, stormwater fees, development activities, parks and recreation fees, convention center activities, and parking charges. The FY21 budget included an approved rate increase in user charges for solid waste services to maintain service levels. Enterprise user rates are predominately aligned to long-term business models, ensuring the City can sustain existing service levels and future capital infrastructure needs. The City also receives federal and state **grants**, as well as other funding allocations from external sources that support specific initiatives, such as road repairs, parks and recreation, housing development projects and community outreach. **Other** sources include interest income and miscellaneous revenues.

FISCAL YEAR 2021 (FY21) ADOPTED BUDGET

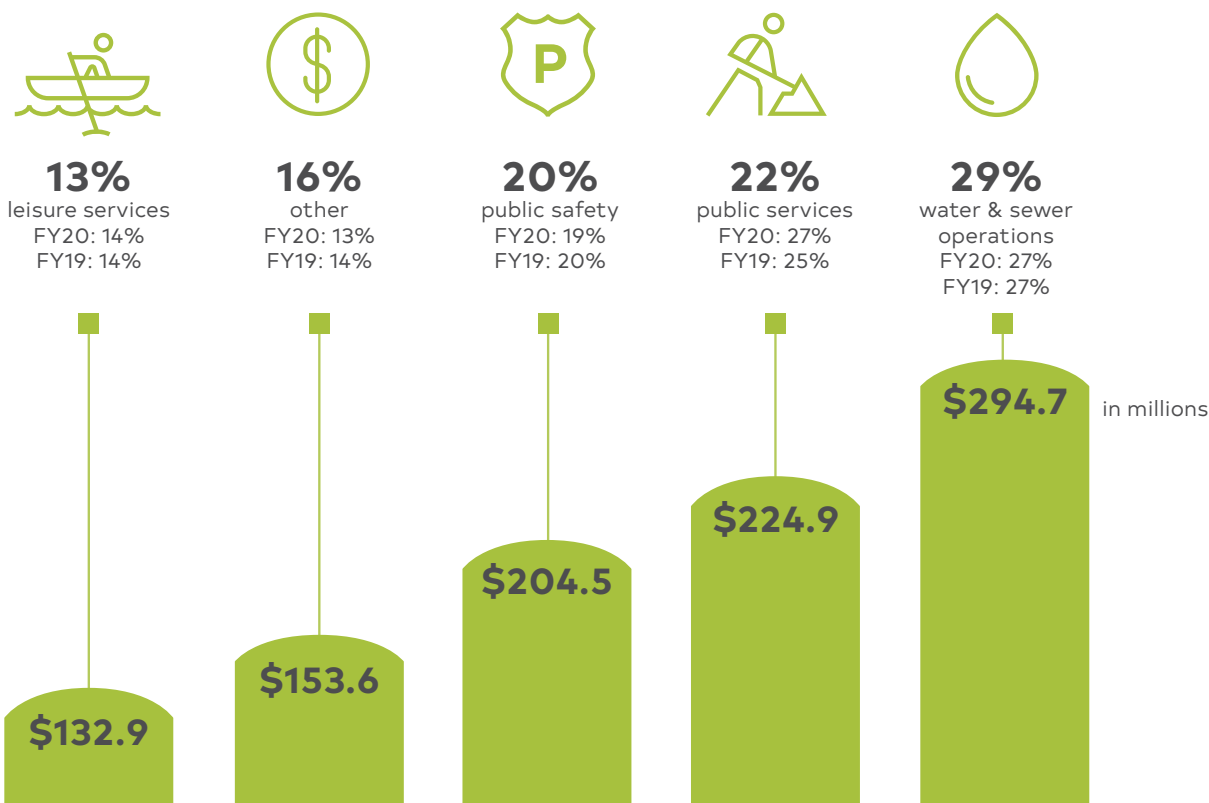
FY21 City-wide Adopted Operating and Capital budgets total \$1,010.6 million. The categories shown highlight the sources (revenues) and uses (expenses) as a percentage of the total. **Budget priorities for FY21** were aligned to the City's Strategic Plan. A few of the top initiatives are included to the right:



Uses | City Funds

The City provides many comprehensive services to our citizens. The three-year trend illustrated below displays how the City's budgeted funding uses remain relatively consistent over time. **Water and sewer operations** represent the largest budgeted category for the City with a focus on providing clean drinking water and effective wastewater management services, which protect the environment and public health. **Public services** capture a wide variety of work efforts, including solid waste services, stormwater, development activities, parking and public transit. Public services budgeted uses increased year over year more than other categories, reflecting the City's FY21 strategic investment in capital improvements and infrastructure management. **Public safety** accounts for expenditures associated with fire, police and emergency communication operations, which are funded predominately by general tax revenues. The City's support of public safety initiatives provides for the continued safety of our growing service area. **Leisure services** include parks, recreation and cultural resources, as well as the Convention Center Complex where citizens and visitors enjoy amenities and cultural programs. Reductions in this category from the prior year reflect anticipated facility closures and limited hosted events as a result of the ongoing global pandemic. Additional uses listed as **other** include internal service organizations, various housing assistance and other community initiatives.

- Invest in public safety initiatives, including vehicles and stations
- Continue to support a high quality of life for our citizens
- Ensure long-term financial sustainability and financial strength
- Manage growth through investment in various infrastructure initiatives
- Increase community outreach and affordable housing availability
- Initiatives promoting human rights, civil rights, community health, equity and inclusion services
- Foster a diverse local economy through partnerships and innovation
- Maintain our greatest asset, our workforce



FY21 | Governmental Activities

The Governmental activities section in the City's financial statements includes programs predominately supported by taxes, federal and state grants, and other special funding allocations. In comparison, the City's Business-type activities, described on page 12, are primarily funded by user charges. Governmental revenue sources cover various services, including public safety efforts for fire, police, and emergency communications; parks, recreation and cultural resources initiatives; infrastructure management; planning and neighborhoods; and general government administration. Governmental activities also include revenue sources, such as grant-funded programs as well as capital project activities that support infrastructure across the City.

Balance sheet

Amounts in millions	FY21	FY20	Change
Assets	\$ 2,166	\$ 2,032	\$ 134
Deferred Outflows of Resources	105	79	26
Liabilities	(1,059)	(963)	(96)
Deferred Inflows of Resources	(41)	(42)	1
Net Position	\$ 1,171	\$ 1,106	\$ 65

A **balance sheet** provides a snapshot of what the City currently owns (assets) and owes (liabilities), as well as sources (deferred inflows) and uses (deferred outflows) that will be recognized in future years. **Net position** represents the City's investment in the assets it uses in providing services to its citizens. Increases in net position serve as a useful indicator of the strength of the City's financial position.

Net position is a snapshot of the overall financial condition of the City and is comprised of capital assets, restricted funds for needs such as debt commitments, and the remaining component is unrestricted and available to support ongoing operations. The majority (or 71%) of the City's \$1,171 million governmental net position represents our investment in capital assets, including land, buildings and other infrastructure which are used to provide services to citizens. As shown in the table above, the City's change in net position increased by \$65 million. The City's continued investment in capital assets, moderate growth in certain revenues, and diligent monitoring of expenditures yielded positive impacts to results.

Income statement

Amounts in millions	FY21	FY20	Change
Revenues	\$ 586	\$ 562	\$ 24
Expenses	(464)	(459)	(5)
Transfers In (Out)	(57)	(68)	11
Change in Net Position	\$ 65	\$ 35	\$ 30

An **income statement** provides a summary of amounts received (revenues) and amounts spent (expenses). The difference between revenues and expenses shows the City's **change in net position**. A positive change in net position indicates the City had enough revenues to cover its obligations and the ability to save for the future.

The FY21 revenue increase in the City's governmental activities was driven primarily by strong sales tax collections and development user fees activity. The City continues to maintain a focus on expense management to ensure prioritization of mission-critical services and initiatives. Current year expenses increased moderately and are in-line with expected operating increases. Transfers out decreased from the prior year as management focused available funding to support critical business needs.

FY21 | General Fund Results

The General Fund is the City's main operating fund supporting key governmental operations, such as public safety, public infrastructure and leisure services. This page displays FY21 actual results in cents to provide an easy to understand illustration of General Fund revenue sources and expenditure uses. **Property taxes** and **sales taxes** are the two largest sources of General Fund revenue totaling 78 cents of every dollar received. **Public safety** (fire, police, and emergency communications) accounts for the largest area of General Fund spending at 43 cents, followed by **leisure services** (parks, recreation and cultural resources) at 17 cents and **public infrastructure** (city planning, inspections, and roadways) at 16 cents. The City's General Fund revenues and expenditures allocation is similar to the prior year, and results met expectations in FY21 when compared to budget.



FY21 | Business-Type Activities

Business-type activities encompass the City's enterprise fund operations. The City manages six enterprises: Raleigh Water, Convention Center Complex, Public Transit, Stormwater, Parking, and Solid Waste Services. These business-type operations are primarily funded by fees charged to customers who directly benefit from the services provided.

Balance sheet

Amounts in millions	FY21	FY20	Change
Assets	\$ 2,962	\$ 2,791	\$ 171
Deferred Outflows of Resources	91	106	(15)
Liabilities	(1,302)	(1,278)	(24)
Deferred Inflows of Resources	(15)	(17)	2
Net Position	\$ 1,736	\$ 1,602	\$ 134

A **balance sheet** provides a snapshot of what the City currently owns (assets) and owes (liabilities), as well as sources (deferred inflows) and uses (deferred outflows) that will be recognized in future years. **Net position** represents the City's investment in the assets it uses in providing services to its citizens. Increases in net position serve as a useful indicator of the strength of the City's financial position.

Net position is a snapshot of the overall financial condition of the City and is comprised of capital assets, restricted funds for needs such as debt commitments, and the remaining component is unrestricted and available to support ongoing operations. Net position represents a 72% investment in business-type capital assets that are used to provide services to our citizens. The largest type of capital assets are water and sewer treatment plants and the supporting infrastructure pipelines. As shown in the table above, the City's change in net position for business-type activities increased by \$134 million. The increase in net position generated from normal operations continues to demonstrate strength in our fiscal stability during an ongoing global pandemic, as well as continued due diligence on cost measures.

Income statement

Amounts in millions	FY21	FY20	Change
Revenues	\$ 400	\$ 411	\$ (11)
Expenses	(323)	(336)	13
Transfers In (Out)	57	68	(11)
Change in Net Position	\$ 134	\$ 143	\$ (9)

An **income statement** provides a summary of amounts received (revenues) and amounts spent (expenses). The difference between revenues and expenses shows the City's change in net position. A positive **change in net position** indicates the City had enough revenues to cover its obligations and the ability to save for the future.

The City experienced many positive trends and growth in business-type activities during most of FY21. The year over year revenue decrease for the City's business-type activities was driven primarily by the financial impacts from the global pandemic that led to revenue declines for Convention Center Complex with the closure of facilities and cancellation of large events in accordance with the Governor's stay-at-home orders, as well as a reduction to Parking revenues with less demand for on-street, special events parking. The City's expenses decreased in FY21 and fell within budget as service levels were maintained in line with the City's continued growth. City management will monitor the ongoing global pandemic and its continued impacts on enterprise operations, leveraging financial projection models for long-term planning of revenue growth compared to projected costs.

FY21 | Capital Improvement Plan

The City utilizes a multi-year Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) as one element in the City's long-term planning process. The CIP has a unique and important responsibility to outline what needs to be built now and what the City will need to build in years to come to meet growth and community needs. Long-term studies as well as citizen input are important elements in identifying new projects and making informed decisions within the City's planning process. The CIP analyzes the City's major facility, equipment and other infrastructure needs within the context of establishing priorities, estimating available fiscal resources, and phasing the development of funded projects over the next 5 years. The entire CIP process is completed in a strategic, thoughtful, and impactful way to maximize economic development and improve quality of life in alignment with the City Council's vision. Capital project initiatives generally include buildings, land, major technology projects, infrastructure and general improvements that allow the City to develop or expand services. The CIP is approved by City Council annually as part of the adopted budget.

The five-year CIP plan may be found at:

Budget and Management Services | Raleighnc.gov

During FY21, the City completed numerous projects outlined in the City's Capital Improvement Plan, including the following:

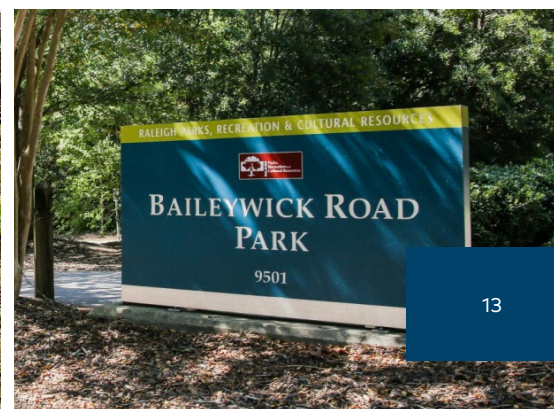
Raleigh Water and Stormwater Projects:

- Water & Sewer utility projects including facility improvements and repairs
- Various stormwater improvement projects

Other Infrastructure Projects:

- Enterprise and governmental equipment acquisitions, including purchase of police and fire vehicles for the continuation of responsive public safety efforts
- Continued transit project initiatives supporting Wake Transit activities in the New Bern Transit Corridor
- Various Convention Center Complex projects supporting security and building upgrades
- Continued street and sidewalk projects to address safety and accommodate the population growth throughout the City

In addition, the adopted FY21 CIP provided funding for new or continuing capital projects consistent with the City's strategic and comprehensive plans ranging from investments in capital maintenance and renovations, long-term public transit expansions, housing and community outreach, and other general public improvements.



FY21 | Understanding City Debt

A priority of the City is to maintain the long-term financial sustainability of our general governmental and business-type operations. This strong commitment has resulted in the City maintaining Aaa ratings from Moody's Investors Service and AAA ratings from S&P Global and Fitch ratings. All three of these top credit rating agencies represent the highest rating available on both the general and water and sewer debt. Raleigh is one of the few cities in the nation to have achieved these superior credit ratings, providing benefits such as obtaining the lowest interest rates for the City's debt issuances.

The City maintains a healthy balance of debt to support general government activities, such as public safety facilities, streets, and park improvements, while also supporting capital needs for business-type activities that provide services to our citizens. Given the capital-intensive nature of the business-type activities (pipes, pumps, and treatment plants), a majority (52%) of the City's total debt portfolio is repaid from business-type user charges. The remaining portion (48%) of the City's debt financing of governmental activities is paid for by general governmental revenues.

Governmental activities

General governmental outstanding debt totals \$558.4 million, an increase over prior year. The City has the ability to extend \$402.9 million for future debt needs that would support transportation, parks and recreation, housing and public safety projects.

FY21 New Debt

- The City expanded the existing Public Improvement Bond Anticipation Notes (BANs) program pertaining to capital improvements for the City's general governmental needs. The BAN program allows for:
 - Up to \$163.4 million in BANs associated with voter general obligation bonds to finance capital projects for streets and parks and also includes:
 - Tax-exempt two-thirds bonds to finance capital projects for streets, parks and public safety and taxable two-thirds bond supporting housing
- The City entered an installment financing agreement of \$37.0 million for the purchase of equipment

10.9% - FY21 actual debt payments compared to General Fund budget. City policy allows for a maximum of 15.0%.

Business-type activities

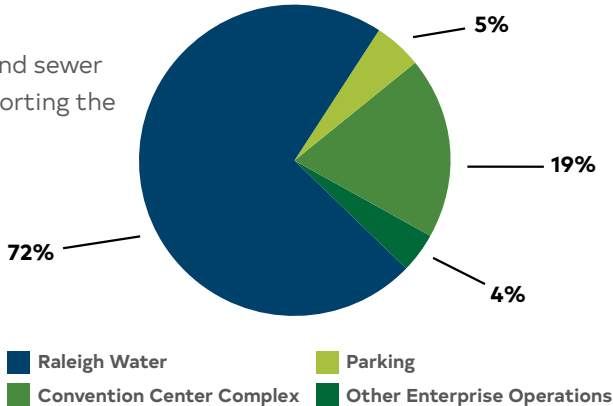
A majority of City debt is associated with our enterprise funds, primarily Raleigh Water, with a much smaller portion for Convention Center Complex and Parking. Business-type outstanding debt totals \$1.0 billion, which is consistent with prior year.

FY21 New Debt

- The City entered a Revenue BAN program pertaining to water and sewer capital projects that allows for draws up to \$200.0 million supporting the Raleigh Water enterprise operation

Debt management

The City's Treasury Division is dedicated to ensuring prudent debt management for future City planning needs.



More detailed schedules specifically on City debt can be found in the FY21 ACFR.

FY21 | Raleigh Accolades and Demographics

Raleigh continues to be ranked among the best places in the United States to live, work, play and more. Below are a few accolades the City has received:

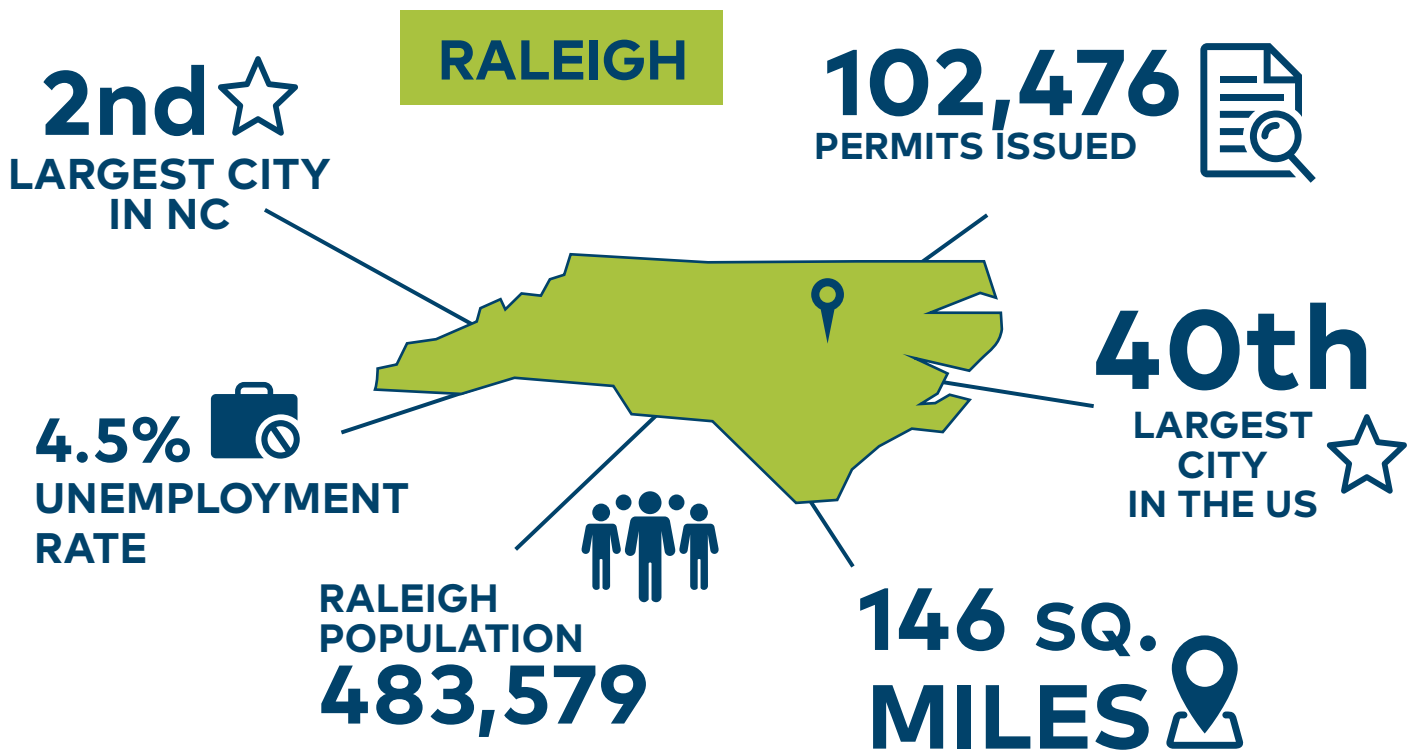
- 5th in the nation for the life sciences industry (December 2020, CBRE)
- 3rd Best State Capitals (January 2021 – WalletHub)
- 3rd Happiest Cities in America (January 2021 – Men's Health)
- 5th best-performing economy in the United States (February 2021, Milken Institute)
- Top 10% of local governments earning the "Leading the Way Award" (April 2021, ETC Institute)
- 11th Best-run City in America (June 2021 – Wallethub.com)

Major Industries & Employers:

As the Capital of the State, the City derives its economic profile from a diverse combination of business and employment centers, including Federal and State government, higher education, information technology, scientific research, healthcare and retail trade.

The top ten employers within the City include:

- State of North Carolina
- Wake County Public School System
- Wake Med Health and Hospitals
- North Carolina State University
- UNC Rex Healthcare
- Wake County Government
- City of Raleigh
- Conduent Business Services
- Duke Energy Progress
- First Citizens Bank



If you would like to read more about the City's accolades, please visit the City's website at www.raleighnc.gov.

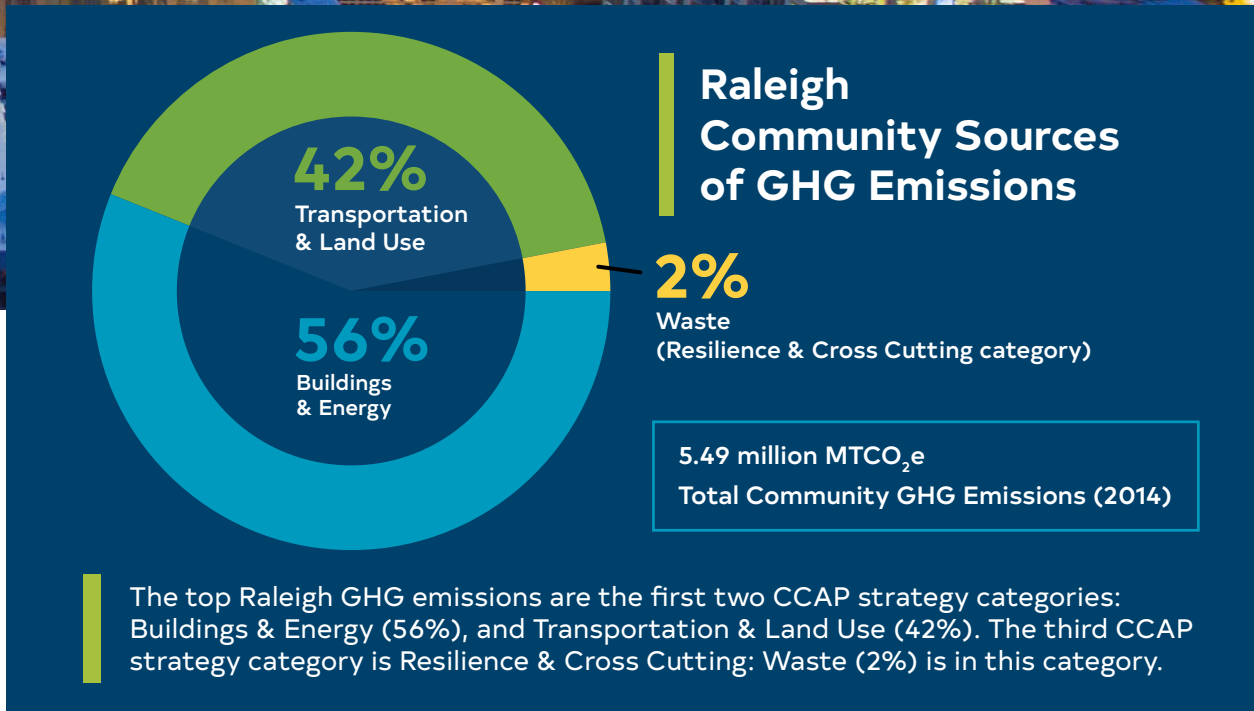


FY21 Spotlight on Sustainability

The City of Raleigh Office of Sustainability works collaboratively to prioritize sustainability, climate, equity and resilience efforts at an individual, city-wide and community-wide level. The Office serves as a catalyst, convener, consultant and technical expert to work on behavior change, education, resource efficiencies, and to strengthen innovative partnerships through pilot projects, testing new technology and encouraging new ways of thinking that positively impact the environment, our economy and all who live, work and play in Raleigh.

The Office of Sustainability has been working on climate and sustainability measures within the City and community for many years. Recently, the Office worked collaboratively with all City departments and the community to establish Raleigh's first Community Climate Action Plan.

In March 2021, Raleigh's City Council adopted the **Community Climate Action Plan (CCAP)** to meet the goal of an 80% reduction in greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by the year 2050; as well as to build community resilience and address climate equity in the Raleigh community. Climate Action will require the collective action of the entire community and CCAP lays out a set of strategies to reduce GHG emissions from energy used in buildings, transportation and land use related emissions, and emissions generated from waste as described further below. These strategies will transform how the Raleigh community grows and how the City may help prepare for the impacts of climate change.



Reducing Greenhouse Gas Emissions

Energy Use and Renewables

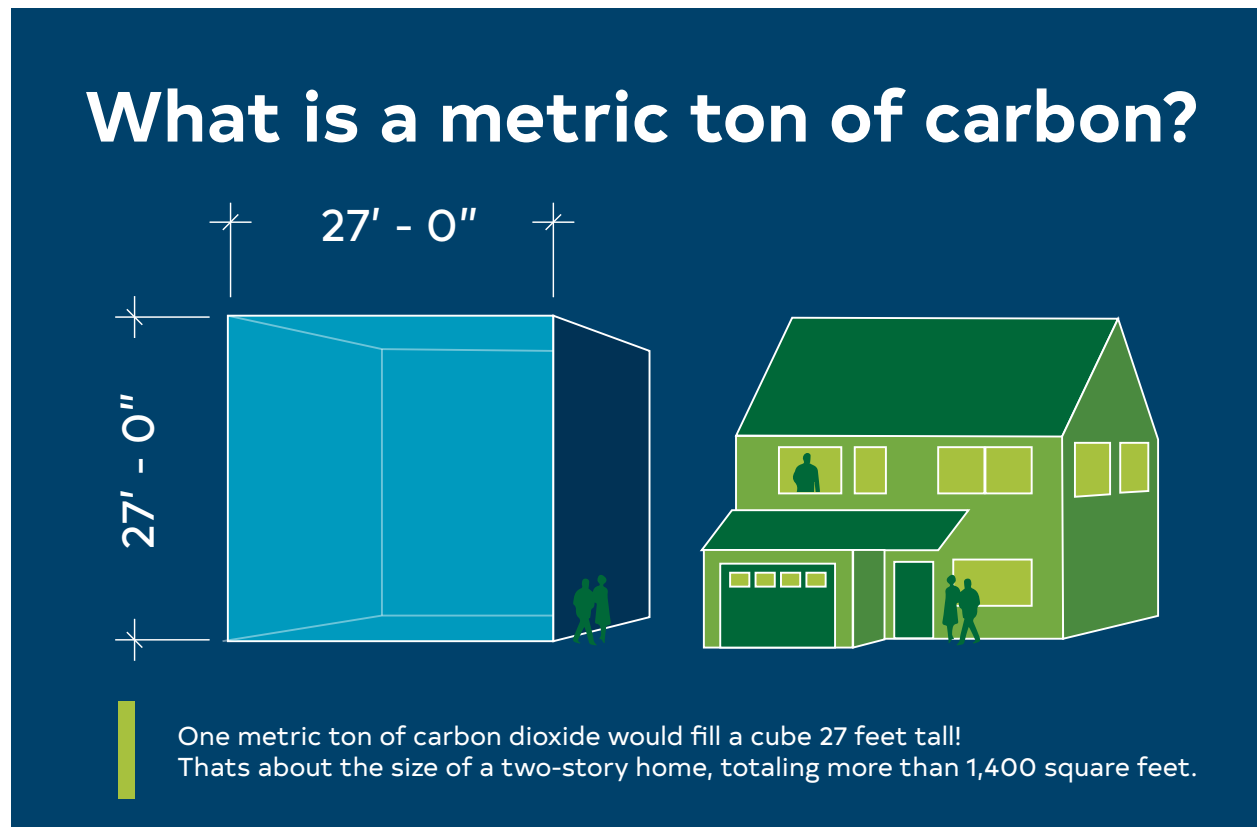
CCAP includes strategies for greening the grid, improving energy efficiency in new and existing buildings, and promoting renewable energy. These strategies will help reduce the emissions generated from common uses of energy that impact citizen's daily such as lighting and the heating/cooling of Raleigh's homes, offices, warehouses, stores and factories.

Transforming Transportation

Citizens are aware of emerging trends such as the increasing shift to electric vehicles (EV) or alternative modes of transportation. Most vehicles are still utilizing fossil fuels (i.e., gasoline), including our cars, buses, and trucks that travel through Raleigh, so the CCAP focuses on strategies to accelerate the transition to electric vehicles, reduce vehicle miles traveled, increase transit use and address related land use opportunities such as access to alternative modes of transportation and creating a more walkable and bikeable community. How citizens and visitors will get around is largely determined by how our city is designed. A shift towards denser urban areas means we can walk or bike to work, to school or to shop, rather than rely on vehicles. The implementation of the **Wake Transit Plan, Equitable Development Around Transit**, and the recommendations of the **Raleigh Transportation Electrification Study** all support the transformation of transportation in Raleigh.

Reducing Waste

Landfills and waste processes produce greenhouse gas emissions. CCAP includes strategies to address waste, including Raleigh Water's **bioenergy project** that will turn wastewater into a biogas, which has the added co-benefit of also reducing transportation GHG emissions as this biogas will be to fuel a large portion of the transit bus fleet. Residents and local organizations can also take climate action and reduce waste related to GHG emissions by reducing waste, and increasing recycling and composting to reduce overall waste that ends up in our landfills.



This figure illustrates the magnitude of greenhouse gas emissions (ie: carbon emissions) that we as a community are working to reduce through our Raleigh Community Climate Action Plan.

Building a Resilient Raleigh

Preparedness for weather and climate-related emergencies is also a key part of community resilience. Raleigh is already feeling the impacts of climate change. We're experiencing the effects of more frequent hurricanes, increased rainfall totals and flooding, and hotter, longer summers. CCAP includes strategies to mitigate climate impacts such as heat and flooding by expanding green stormwater infrastructure and the conservation of green spaces. Many of the CCAP strategies for energy efficient buildings also help protect people from hazardous weather.

The **Ready Raleigh Emergency Preparedness Guide** is a tool for communities to *Be Connected, Be Prepared and Be Informed* about potential emergencies and disasters that may impact the Raleigh area. The guide is focused at the household level and places a strong emphasis on community level preparedness: connecting with and supporting friends and neighbors during emergency situations. This guide provides recommended steps for residents to increase their knowledge, preparedness, and reduce risks in case of emergency.

Climate Equity

Climate change impacts will be felt most strongly by those who contribute least to GHG emissions. CCAP includes a focus on equity to ensure that we prioritize our community members most vulnerable to climate change. Climate action is an opportunity to build a more equitable city for all our residents. Raleigh recently participated with local partners, including Durham County, the North Carolina Climate Office, the National Weather Service, the North Carolina Museum of Life and Science and Activate Good in the **2021 NIHHS-CAPA HeatWatch Campaign** to map urban heat islands. Raleigh is also partnering with a local non-profit, **Partners for Environmental Justice** on a Raleigh Watershed Learning Network that provides opportunities for local community members to learn and be empowered to take action on flooding issues affecting their local neighborhoods and to provide feedback to staff.

Climate Action Awards

Raleigh is proud to recognize individuals and organizations who make a difference in climate action initiatives. The **Environmental Advisory Board's Climate Action Awards** recognize individuals or organizations making a difference in reducing greenhouse gas emissions, building resilience and/or addressing climate equity. The Award's key areas of greenhouse gas impact include: Air Quality, Energy, Transportation and Land Use, and Waste.

Climate Action Fund

The City has established the Climate Action Fund, which is used to provide financial support for climate projects administered in support of sustainability and the CCAP. In addition to the Climate Action Fund, a "call for Climate Action Ideas" has been created to track City projects that might not qualify for the Climate Action Fund and instead have the potential to be funded through federal and other grant opportunities as the City leverages funding opportunities to be good fiscal stewards.

CITY OF RALEIGH

OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER
919.996.3070

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER
919.996.3215

POST OFFICE BOX 590
RALEIGH, NORTH CAROLINA 27602
raleighnc.gov

