

# City of Fairfax Citizen-Centric Report

POPULATION **24,276** 

\$82,000

Median Household Income \$118,492

Unemployment Rate

**2.4%** 

AVERAGE HOUSING COST \$602,375

#### Who We Are

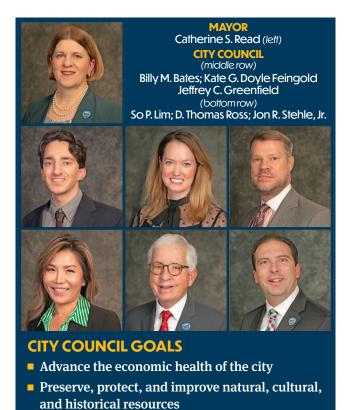
The City of Fairfax has a rich history, a dynamic present, and a promising future. Located in the heart of Northern Virginia and within the Washington, D.C. metro area, the city is home to a diverse, close-knit community.

Residents enjoy award-winning schools and parks, a growing trail network, reliable infrastructure, a lively arts scene, more than 240 restaurants, free public transit, and safe, clean streets.

#### Governance

The City of Fairfax is an independent jurisdiction of 6.34 square miles. It is governed under the councilmanager form of government. A mayor and six city councilmembers are elected every two years. The city manager serves as the executive officer of the city and is responsible to the council for administration of the city government.

The city is home to two elementary schools, one middle school, and a high school with an arts academy.



Main photo taken at the City's Annual Independence Day Parade.

Strengthen our welcoming and safe community

Improve our multimodal transportation system

■ Be a model of successful municipal governance

Gross Economic Output: \$34,566,130

Occupancy Rates: 90.2% Office; 97.5% Retail

Net Change in Number of Active Businesses: +51

Private Sector Construction Assessed Value:

\$91,383,400(2022)

Capital Investment in Public Infrastructure: \$92,083,889

CUE Bus Ridership: 536,110

Miles of Streets Repaved: 6 (7.5 FY21)



Average Fire Department Response Time:

5 min 27 sec (5 min 52 sec FY21)



(tons per year): 1 870

(2,178 FY21 includes glass)



Average Police Response Time:

7 min 53 sec

(7 min 28 sec FY21)



Residents Served by Parks and Recreation Program:

4,046 (3,000 FY21)

32 City Council Meetings

115 Community Reps on Boards and Commissions

### **Highlighted Recent Accomplishments**



#### **Economic Development**

- Expanded Restaurant Week program
- Economic Development Authority completed strategic plan
- Relocation of Mason Enterprise
  Center-Fairfax to Willowwood Plaza



#### Environmental Sustainability/ Stewardship

- Converting Old Town
  Fairfax streetlights to LED
- Created Stormwater Utility
- Rehabilitated City Hall detention pond



#### Community

- Adopted Kamp Washington Small Area Plan
- Willard Sherwood Health and Community Center design moving forward
- The Moxley, a 403-unit apartment complex with 29,000 square feet of commercial space, began phased occupancy
- Boulevard VI, a mix of condominiums, townhouses, detached homes, retail, and community space, began phased occupancy
- Sutton Heights, a 50-unit townhouse development that includes affordable dwelling units, began phased occupancy
- Installation of three municipal restrooms
- The Flats on University opened to residents in August 2022

# THE PLACE TO BE



#### **Transportation**

- Hill Street connection completed
- More than 30 planned transportation projects continue on schedule
- Sidewalks completed at Sager Avenue, Hallman Avenue, and Jones Street
- Widened sidewalk at East Street and Chain Bridge Road

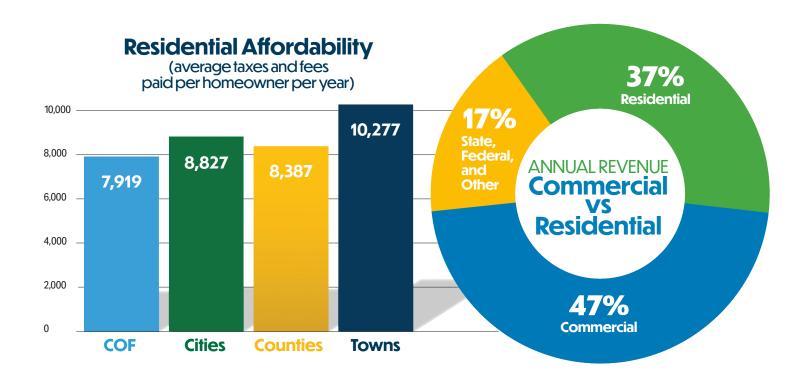


#### Governance

- Received Certificate
   of Achievement for
   Excellence in Financial
   Reporting for the city's
   Annual Comprehensive
   Financial Report for
   41st consecutive year
- Funded school security staffing enhancements
- Implemented a step system for public safety recruitment and retention
- Adopted a new city seal and renamed 14 streets that had Confederate of Lost Cause Mythology connotation
- Developed a mental health crisis co-responder team with fire and police departments and human services



Signs of Fairfax City's evolution are evident throughout the city. Aging commercial properties are being redeveloped into modern destinations for shopping and dining, and multifamily residential developments are creating new homes for our growing population. The city has a new seal and 14 new street names, and new community events celebrate our diverse residents. City leadership and staff remain focused on maintaining a safe, secure, clean, and inclusive city, where all residents and businesses have the opportunity to reach their full potential.



FY2022 General Fund Revenues and Expenditures

\$161,036,673

Where does the money come from?

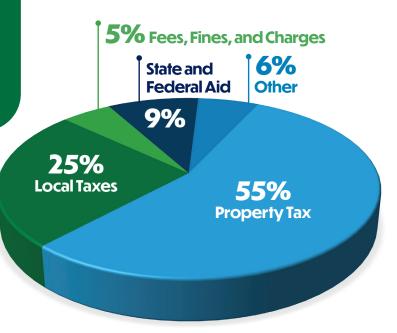
Learn more about the City General Fund at

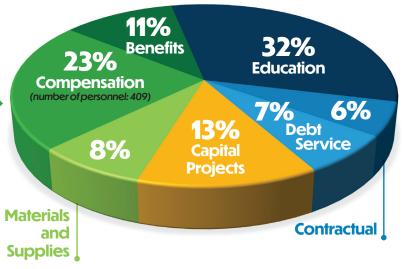
fairfaxva.gov/budget

\$161,023,822

How is the money spent?

FY22 Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (July 1, 2020-June 30, 2021) Audited by Robinson, Farmer, Cox Associates, PLLC Clean audit opinion from Government Finance Officers Association Bond Rating Aaa and AAA Fairfaxva.gov/government/finance





## **Investing in the Future**

#### Highlights of the FY2024 Budget (adopted May 2, 2023)

- FY2024 Budget total expenditures, all funds = \$228,432,057
- FY2024 General Fund expenditures = \$173,386,859
- FY2024-28 Capital Improvement Program =
  \$72.7M in FY24 (93 projects)
  \$323.4M for FY24-28 (115 projects)
- Real Estate Tax Rate = \$1.025 per \$100 of assessed value (+\$0.015)
- Personal Property Tax Rate = \$4.13 per \$100 assessed valuation based upon the vehicle assessment ratio of 100% of fair market value

- City Schools fully funded (55.5M)
- Stormwater Utility = 6% increase; \$30.52/billing unit
- Wastewater Fund = 6% increase
- Four new positions were funded (Finance, Human Services, IT, PD)
- 3.5% merit increase for eligible general scale employees
  2% market rate adjustment to general pay scales
  1% cost of living adjustment for public safety employees
  programmed annual step increase for public safety
  employees who were moved to the step system

#### Planning for the Future

- Maintain 15% unassigned fund balance; aspire for 20%
- Maintain AAA bond rating
- Implementation of a new financial and personnel enterprise system
- Stafford Drive Stream Restoration, Ashby Pond Environmental Improvements, and Community Flood Resilience Planning
- Thaiss Memorial Park renovation
- Fairfax Presbyterian Church including 10 affordable townhouses with residential project in partnership with Habitat for Humanity and Homestretch

- Wesley Housing and The Lamb Center redeveloping Hi-Way Motel site with 54 affordable multifamily housing units
- Redevelopment of Breezeway Motel/ Fairfax Gardens Apartments
- Site work commenced at Northfax West, a mixed-use development
- Fairfax Circle Small Area Plan slated to begin
- Designing Country Club Commons Trail
- Sidewalk improvements on Chain Bridge Road between Taba Cove and Warwick Ave

- Construction of Government Center Parkway
- Construction of missing link of sidewalk on the east side of Chain Bridge Road between Kenmore and Jenny Lynn Lane
- Construction of Judicial Trail
- Rolling out rebranded CUE buses and signs
- Installation of new bus shelters, solar-powered lighting, and realtime signs at select CUE stops
- Bikeshare stations from Metro to Mason via Old Town Fairfax

#### Realizing the Vision of the 2035 Comprehensive Plan

- Vision: In 2035, Fairfax City is a vibrant and livable 21st century community, with a strong, sustainable economy that supports walkable, safe, and convenient access to the natural and built environment.
- More than 260 Comprehensive Plan action items were in progress during 2022 with an additional 85 action items in support of the Old Town and Northfax small area plans in progress.
- Convened Comprehensive Plan Implementation work group meetings for the Comprehensive Plan, as well as the Old Town, Northfax, and Kamp Washington small area plans.
- Began work on a citywide housing assessment, the Fairfax Circle Small Area Plan, and a five-year review and update of the Comprehensive Plan.

fairfaxva.gov/livablefairfax



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Received Certificate of Excellence in Citizen Centric Reporting, 2019, from the Association of Government Accountants