

Town of Garner Budget in Brief



\$30.7 Million Operating Budget Approved for Fiscal Year 2016-17

THE GARNER TOWN COUNCIL unanimously adopted a \$30,709,289 annual operating budget for fiscal year 2016-17 at its June 21 regular meeting. The budget is an increase of \$2,241,689 (7.9%) over FY 2015-16. Paramount in the adopted budget is an expansion of police and fire services, which are to be funded by a 1.5-cent property tax increase.

With this increase, the property tax rate will change from 51.75 cents to 53.25 cents per \$100 of assessed valuation. The revenue generated from this additional 1.5 cents will be specifically earmarked for the funding of nine new Garner Volunteer Fire-Rescue, Inc., firefighter positions and two new Town of Garner police officer positions. The increase is expected to add \$26.73 to the Town's levy of the average Garner homeowner's property tax bill (please see chart on the right).

The Town of Garner continues to demonstrate exceptional growth. As a result, the Town is starting to experience an increased level of demand for the essential services citizens depend on. The FY 2016-17 adopted budget reflects the Town's commitment to sustaining the current level of services while also responsibly investing in the personnel, equipment and infrastructure to continue this commitment into the future. Please see the section below for some of the initiatives and investments included in this year's adopted budget.

FY 2016-17 Initiatives and Investments

Garner Town Hall and Recreation Center Construction—

The 2013 voter-approved bond referendums provided funding for a new Town Hall at 900 7th Ave. and a new recreation center at the corner of Main and Montague streets in historic downtown Garner. Construction has already commenced on the new Town Hall with demolition work having been completed on the old Town Hall site. Construction of the new Town Hall is expected to be complete in the summer of 2017. Construction of the recreation center will begin in FY 2016-17. That project also includes a stormwater bioretention area and roadway improvements along Montague and Purvis streets and U.S. 70. The recreation center is expected to be completed in late 2017.

Lake Benson Dog Park—As part of the parks and recreational bonds approved by voters in 2013, the Lake Benson Dog Park will

Please see Initiatives on back

Impact of 1.5-Cent Property Tax Increase on Homeowners

Property Value	Cost per Year
\$100,000	\$15.00
\$150,000	\$22.50
\$178,195*	\$26.73
\$200,000	\$30.00
\$250,000	\$37.50
\$500,000	\$75.00

* Average single-family-home valuation in Garner, according to Wake County Revenue Department.

Total Annual Customer Costs for Municipal Services as of FY 2016-17

Zebulon	\$2,575.98
Wendell	\$2,131.96
Knightdale	\$1,922.56
Rolesville	\$1,722.75
Holly Springs	\$1,713.39
Fuquay-Varina	\$1,671.45
Garner	\$1,596.90
Wake Forest	\$1,580.03
Raleigh	\$1,572.35
Cary	\$1,531.60
Apex	\$1,528.10
Morrisville	\$1,435.83

Chart assumes total annual cost for residents based on property tax on a single-family residential unit valued at \$178,195 (the average Garner home value), annual water/sewer usage of 3,740 gallons and solid waste and stormwater fees.

SOURCE: City of Raleigh

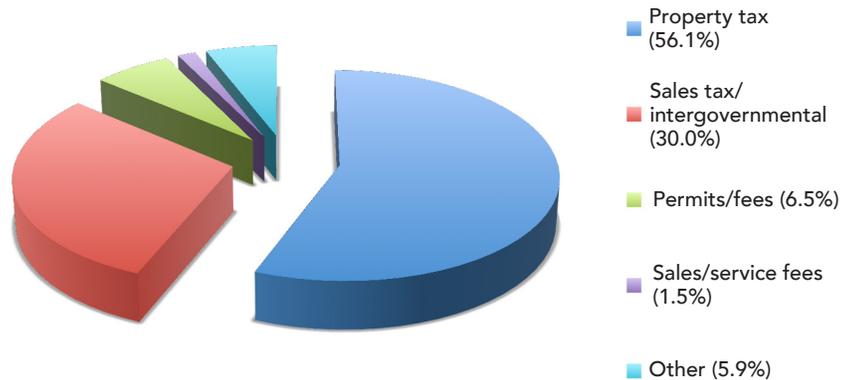


[/townofgarner.garnernc.gov](http://townofgarner.garnernc.gov)

Town of Garner Budget in Brief – FY 2016-17

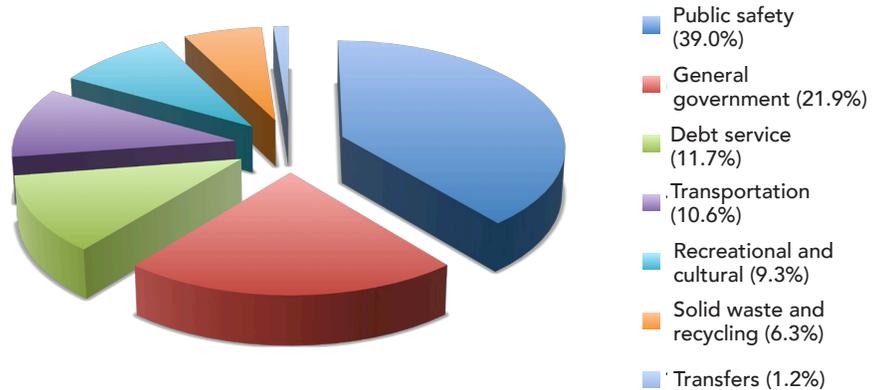
General Fund Revenues

Property tax	\$17,231,362	56.1%
Sales tax and intergovernmental	\$9,224,398	30.0%
Permits/fees	\$1,994,760	6.5%
Sales and service fees	\$448,417	1.5%
Other	\$1,810,352	5.9%
Total	\$30,709,289	100%



General Fund Expenditures

Public safety	\$11,976,194	39.0%
General government	\$6,722,466	21.9%
Debt service	\$3,599,422	11.7%
Transportation	\$3,248,191	10.6%
Recreational and cultural	\$2,868,693	9.3%
Solid waste and recycling	\$1,930,692	6.3%
Transfers	\$363,631	1.2%
Total	\$30,709,289	100%



Initiatives

continued from front

be opened during FY 2016-17. This will be Garner's second dog park, joining North Garner Dog Park, which is located at Garner Recreational Park.

Street Resurfacing Program—The FY 2016-17 budget includes funding for the second consecutive year of the Town's annual street resurfacing program (previously it was funded every other year). This program is a key investment in important Town infrastructure that keeps Garner connected and moving safely and efficiently. In FY 2015-16, the program provided for resurfacing of 1.75 miles of Town-maintained streets.

Town Comprehensive and Transportation Plan Updates and PRCR Master Plan Update—Started during the FY 2015-16 budget year, the Town will

continue with the implementation of the Comprehensive Growth and Transportation planning process. This long-range planning sets the Town's vision for land use while also identifying the transportation priorities needed to improve travel options as Garner continues to grow. New for FY 2016-17 will be a Parks, Recreation and Cultural Resources (PRCR) Master Plan update. Last adopted in June 2007, the existing PRCR Master Plan provides an inventory, needs assessment and action plan for the future of Garner's parks and recreational programming and amenities. With most of the priorities of this plan having been met, an updated plan will create a roadmap for PRCR's future.

Vehicle and Equipment Replacements—For the third consecutive year, the Town is continuing the process of assessing, prioritizing and replacing the aging vehicles and equipment critical to efficient and timely service delivery. The FY 2016-17 budget includes funding for the replacement of seven police vehicles.