AUGUST 2016

GREENSBORO

At Your Service

News & Information

Adopted FY 2016-17 City Budget Now Online

The City's adopted budget for FY 2016-17 is now posted online at www.greensboro-nc.gov/AdoptedBudget. City Council approved the $488 million budget at its June 14 meeting. The budget resolves a $3.5 million gap in the general fund without raising property taxes.

City Increases Fees/Fines

For the tenth consecutive year, the City is not raising property taxes, but effective July 1, the City increased its water/sewer rates and vehicle license fees.

Rate changes include:

- Water and sewer rate increase of 4.5 percent for both Greensboro residents and those who live outside of Greensboro.
- Vehicle license fees increased from $10 to $30. The last increase in this fee was in 1991.

Downtown Preps for This Year's National Folk Festival

The 75th National Folk Festival is scheduled for September 9-11 in downtown Greensboro with 30-plus groups of performers on seven stages, the NC Folklife Area, Family Activities Area, NC Arts Marketplace and Festival Food Courts.

The free event celebrates America's diverse culture with music, dance, foods and crafts.

As it did last year, the City is offering several ways to get to and from the festival safely, easily and economically.

If traveling by car, three downtown parking decks will be open for a flat rate of $10 per day on a first-come, first-serve basis. Or, park for free at designated Park 'n Ride lots and take a Greensboro Transit Authority (GTA) bus to and from the heart of the festival.

You may also take a GTA bus along any of the system's daily routes and seven Sunday routes from any GTA bus stop to downtown free of charge during the three-day event.

Want to bicycle to the festival? No problem. Ride along one of the City's signed bicycle routes that go through downtown or participate in group rides to the festival.

For full details about getting to the party and the event sechedule, visit www.greensboro-nc.gov/FolkFestival and www.nationalfolkfestival.com.

Greensboro Drinking Water Report Now Available

The City's annual water quality report, which provides details on water quality monitoring results for January 1 to December 31, 2015, is

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Attend a City Council Meeting

Greensboro City Council meets at 5:30 pm on August 16 and September 6 and 20. Meetings are open to the public and air live on Greensboro Television Network. Review council's full meeting schedule at www.greensboro-nc.gov/CouncilMeetings.

City Offices Closed Labor Day

City offices and facilities close on Monday, September 5, in observance of Labor Day. There are no trash, recycling, bulk trash, yard waste or appliance collections that day. Instead, Monday's collections take place Tuesday, September 6, and Tuesday's collections take place Wednesday, September 7. Questions? Call 336-373-CITY (2489).

9/11 Memorial Stair Climb is September 3

The Greensboro Fire Department is hosting its sixth annual 9/11 Memorial Stair Climb at 9 am Saturday, September 3 at the Bellemeade Parking Deck, 220 N. Greene St., to honor the firefighters and police officers who perished at the World Trade Center in 2001. Public registration to participate begins at 7 am. For more information, call 336-574-4088.

now available for public review. Visit www.greensboro-nc.gov/Water and under the Featured Links section, click on "New - 2015 Consumer Confidence Report" or call the City Contact Center at 336-373-CITY (2489) for a copy.

City Launches "Operation Bed Roll" Project

The City's Field Operations and Police departments are partnering for Operation Bed Roll, a project that aims to transform thousands of plastic grocery bags into "plarn," or plastic bag yarn, to create crocheted sleeping mats that provide an insulated barrier for those who sleep on the ground. The goal is to create 100 sleeping mats for homeless residents by October.

The City is now seeking crocheters to take on this project. It's an ideal craft project for church and school groups or individuals. To participate in the project, visit www.greensboro-nc.gov/plarn.

Library Offers Live Homework Help

Is your child stuck on a school homework problem? Does he need help studying for a test? Free help is just a mouse click away. Tutor.com provides trained one-on-one tutors who cover all grade levels and subjects. You need a library card to access this service.

Visit www.greensborolibrary.org and click on the Homework Help link to access the Online Tutors service.

Share the Road with School Buses

With the school year around the corner, the Greensboro Police remind you that school buses make frequent stops, generally travel less than the posted speed limit on major highways, and when turning right might need extra space and may swing wide into an intersection.

Also remember it is illegal and very dangerous to pass a stopped school bus when it's displaying a mechanical stop signal or flashing red lights and loading or unloading children.

Read more tips at www.greensboro-nc.gov/SchoolBus.

At Your Service Newsletter Now a Monthly Publication

This newsletter will now be produced monthly and delivered to you in your City water bill mailing. If you miss an issue, please visit www.greensboro-nc.gov/AYS to access back copies. The City thanks you for your readership.

Big Sweep is September 10

This year's Big Sweep is slated for 9 am to 12 noon Saturday, September 10. Volunteers clean litter from our community's lakes, creeks, and streams as part of this event. Last year, project organizer Greensboro Beautiful exceeded its goal of recruiting 1,000 volunteers for the day. Learn more at www.greensborobeautiful.org/cleanups.

Run 4 the Greenway is September 24

The seventh annual Run 4 the Greenway is set for September 24 and this year there is a new race route.

The event's start and finish will be at Innovation Cornerstone/ Cumberland Park at the corner of Lindsay Street and Murrow Boulevard. For registration and the full schedule, visit downtowngreenway.org. The run is an awareness and fund-raising event that supports the Downtown Greenway.

2016-17 OPUS Concert Series Starts in Fall

In the fall, the City Arts Music Center kicks off its free 2016-17 OPUS Concert Series, which runs through May 2017. All concerts are free and donations are appreciated. For more information, call 336-373-2026 or visit www.greensboro-nc.gov/OPUS.

Visit us online at www.greensboro-nc.gov

Call the City's Contact Center at 336-373-CITY (2489)

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