

WRIGHT STREET  
PARKING DECK  
140 Wright Street

CITY OF AUBURN, AL  
POPULAR ANNUAL  
**FINANCIAL REPORT**

FISCAL YEAR ENDING  
SEPTEMBER 30, 2021



City of Auburn



<b>Message from the City Manager</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Ward Map</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Meet your Council</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>About Auburn</b>	
Organization Chart	5
Fiscal Year 2021 Accomplishments	6
Community Profile	7
Auburn's National Recognition	8
Annual Events	9
Get Connected	10
<b>Looking Ahead</b>	
Strategic Plans	11
Strategic Plan Accomplishments	12
Six Year Capital Improvement Plan	13
Projects Completed in 2021	14
<b>City Finances</b>	
Financial Highlights	16
Where the Money Comes From	17
Where the Money Goes	18
General Fund - Fund Balance	19
Assets and Liabilities	20
Long Term Debt	21
Enterprise Funds	22
Component Units	23
FY21-22 Biennial Budget	24

A message to the Citizens of Auburn, Alabama:

I am pleased to present the City of Auburn's Popular Annual Financial Report (PAFR) for the year ended September 30, 2021. Despite the lingering impact of the pandemic, the City experienced another year of revenue growth, largely due to Auburn's diversified economy and the resiliency of the Auburn community. While small businesses continue to be the backbone of Auburn, technology and manufacturing sectors have grown tremendously. This continued business growth in tandem with residential growth has resulted in Auburn becoming the seventh-largest city in Alabama.

Mayor Ron Anders, Jr. and the City Council strive for continued capital investments and improvements for the City of Auburn and its citizens. This year is no exception with many capital projects for the City's infrastructure, neighborhoods, downtown, and recreation facilities. Each year the City publishes a 6-year Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) that aligns with the City's strategic plans and vision of our City Council. In fiscal year 2021, the City completed 32 major CIP projects as outlined on pages 13 and 14 of this report. The City of Auburn prides itself in its continued commitment to operating a fiscally sound local government in order to provide quality public services at a level commensurate with the demands of our residents as well as invest in the City's future.

It is my hope that this PAFR provides you with a better understanding of the City of Auburn's financial position as well as demonstrates what makes Auburn a great place to live, work and raise children. This report includes information about the City of Auburn's organizational structure, strategic goals, community profile, capital projects, and summary financial information.

The financial data presented in the PAFR is derived from the Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR) and is consistent with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP). The PAFR is designed to present an easy-to-read financial summary showing the source of the City's revenues and explaining how these revenues are spent. The PAFR also includes information on the City's net position, assets and liabilities, and long-term debt. The PAFR is not a replacement for the ACFR and is intended for readers who would like to view the City's financial information in an overview format. The PAFR primarily focuses on the General Fund while excluding the City's discretely presented component units. For those who are interested in additional financial detail, you can find a copy of the annual online at: [www.auburnalabama.org/annual-financial-report](http://www.auburnalabama.org/annual-financial-report).



Megan Crouch  
*City Manager*

We are proud to serve the Auburn community and are committed to maintaining a high standard of fiscal health. Thank you for taking the time to read this year's report. I invite you to share any questions or comments you may have by emailing me at [mmcgowen@auburnalabama.org](mailto:mmcgowen@auburnalabama.org).

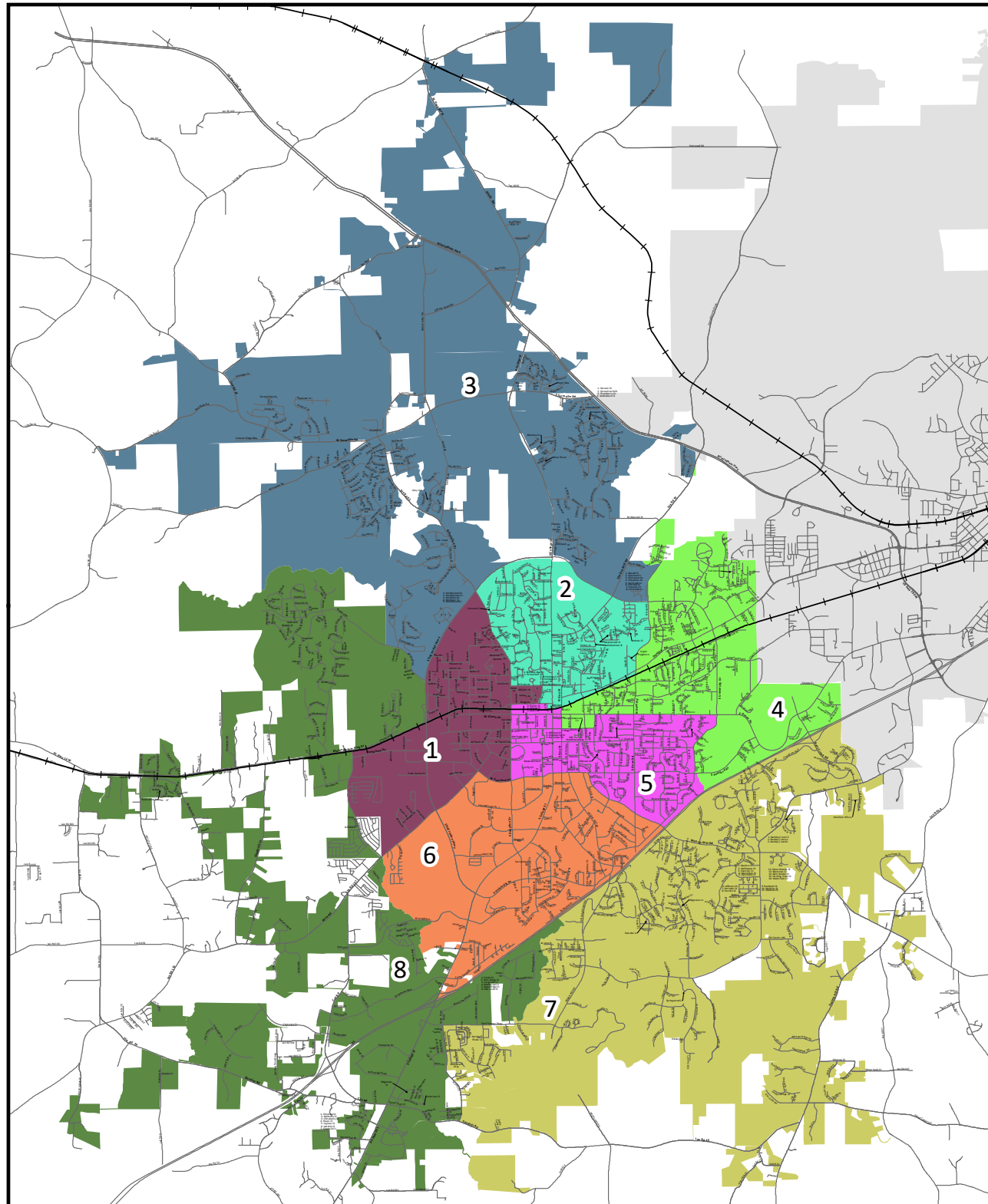
Sincerely,

**Megan McGowen Crouch**



WARD  
MAP

MEET YOUR  
COUNCIL



**Ron Anders, Jr.**  
Mayor

randers@auburnalabama.org



**Connie Fitch Taylor**  
Ward 1

ctaylor@auburnalabama.org



**Kelley Griswold**  
Ward 2

kgriswold@auburnalabama.org



**Beth Witten**  
Ward 3 & Mayor Pro Tem

bwitten@auburnalabama.org



**Brett Smith**  
Ward 4

basmith@auburnalabama.org



**Steven Dixon**  
Ward 5

sdixon@auburnalabama.org



**Bob Parsons**  
Ward 6

bparsons@auburnalabama.org



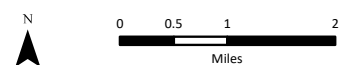
**Jay Hovey**  
Ward 7

jhovey@auburnalabama.org



**Tommy Dawson**  
Ward 8

tdawson@auburnalabama.org



GIS Division  
02/24/2022

The City of Auburn, Alabama does not guarantee or warrant the accuracy of this map or any information contained herein. Information may contain errors and should be verified by an appropriately qualified, licensed and independent professional.

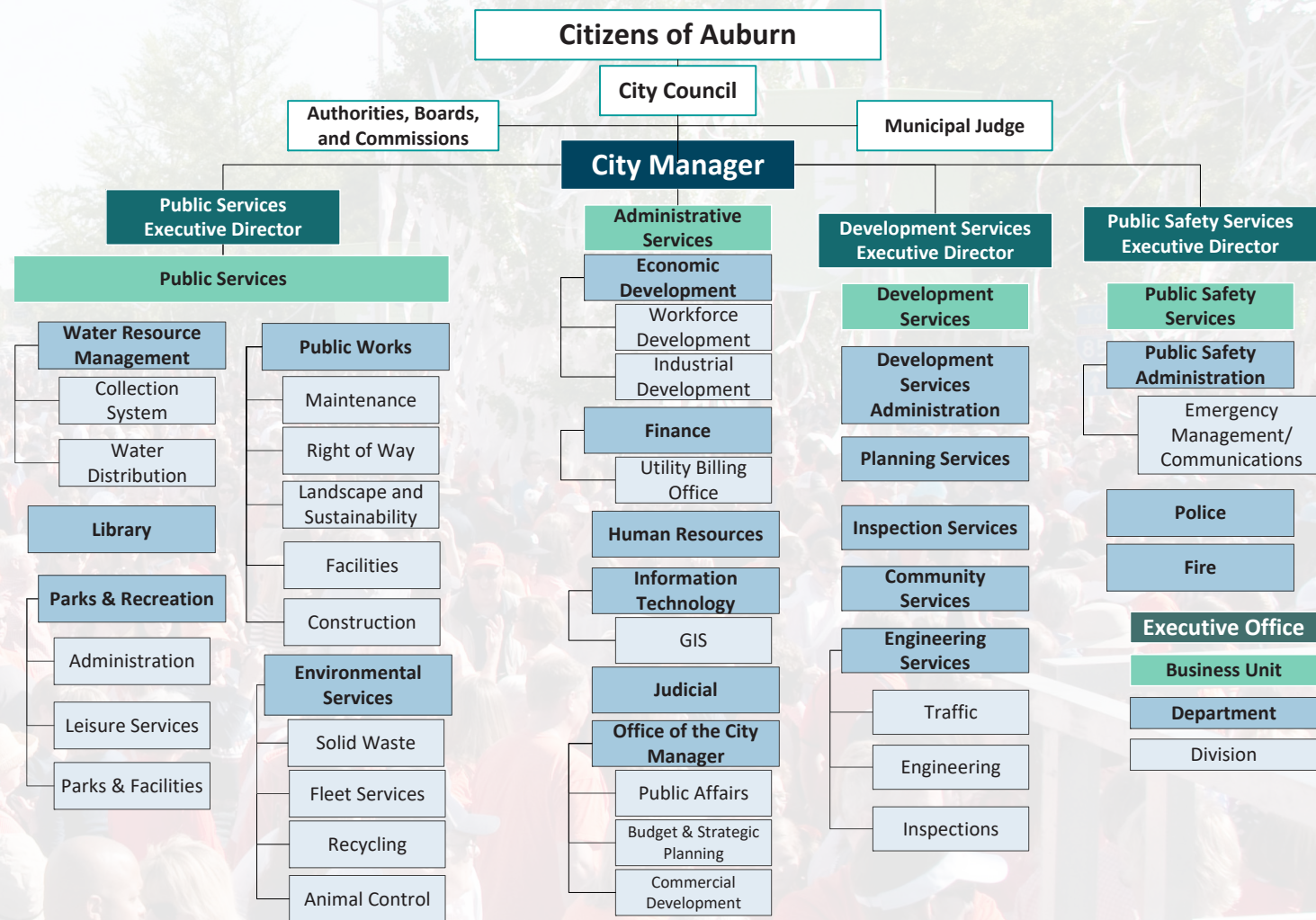
The Auburn City Council typically meets the first and third Tuesday of every month at 6:00p.m. The full meeting schedule and location can be found at

[auburnalabama.org/boards-and-commissions/meeting-schedule/](http://auburnalabama.org/boards-and-commissions/meeting-schedule/).

All City Council meetings are recorded and can be watched on the City Council's website:

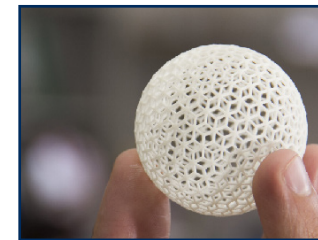
[auburnalabama.org/agenda](http://auburnalabama.org/agenda).





**COMMUNITY VACCINE CLINIC**

The City of Auburn partnered with East Alabama Health and the City of Opelika to open a Community Vaccine Clinic to help combat the COVID-19 virus. Hundreds from the community volunteered, with City of Auburn employees logging more than 4,200 hours to help run the clinic. Over 90,000 vaccines were administered over a four-month period, helping businesses stay open and citizens remain healthy.



**ADDITIVE MANUFACTURING ACCELERATOR**

The accelerator was established to aid industries and startups in creating and developing new products using 3D printing. Participants receive engineering and business consulting, access to additive machines, and a finished product prototype. The program is a collaboration between the City, the National Center for Additive Manufacturing Excellence, Auburn University, Auburn Training Connection, and manufacturing company SWIGRO, to further 3D printing innovation.



**INSPECTION SERVICES**

The Inspection Services department completed over 24,000 inspections with a total valuation of more than \$416 million, 30% of which were commercial developments, 60% residential, and 10% property maintenance inspections. City inspectors completed an average of 95 inspections a day to ensure developments are meeting the City's standards to create safe, reliable housing and businesses in our community.



**BOND RATING**

The City's Bond Rating was once again affirmed by rating agencies. We received an AA+ rating from S&P and an Aa2 rating from Moody's. These ratings reaffirm the stable and sound management practices and careful long-term planning that involves hard work from every City department.



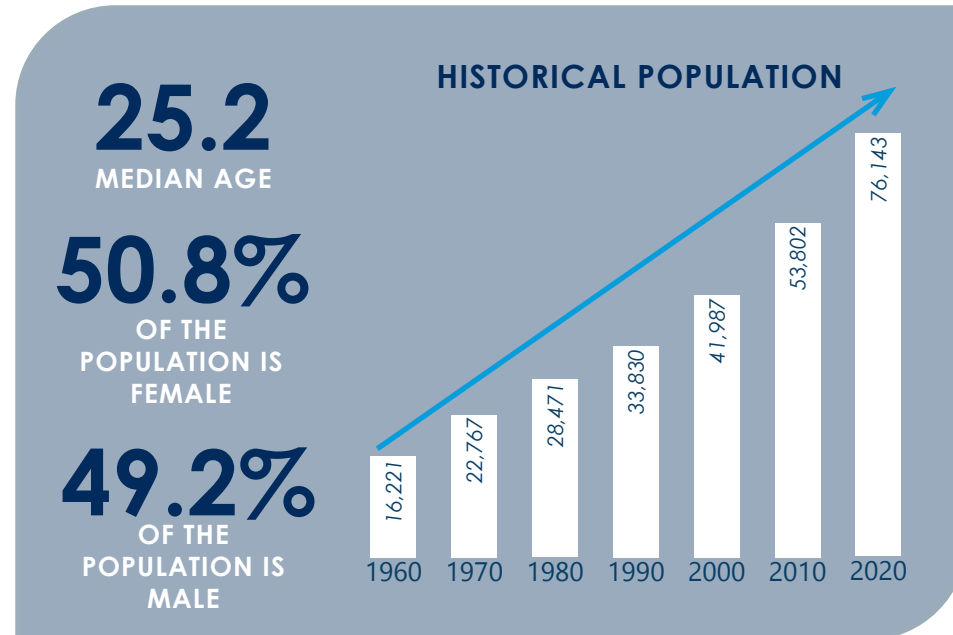
The City of Auburn was 1 of 16 cities to receive the inaugural Leading the Way Award from the ETC Institute. This award is given for ranking in the top 10% of all cities and counties surveyed in the United States in three areas: satisfaction with the overall quality of services, satisfaction with customer service provided by employees, and satisfaction with the value residents think they received for local taxes and fees. The City had the #1 Satisfaction Rating for trash and garbage collection services out of 200+ surveyed communities, and also ranked in the top 10% in 14 other categories.



COMMUNITY  
**PROFILE**

FOUNDED IN **1836**

| POPULATION: 76,143



LABOR  
FORCE:  
30,904



EMPLOYED:  
30,268



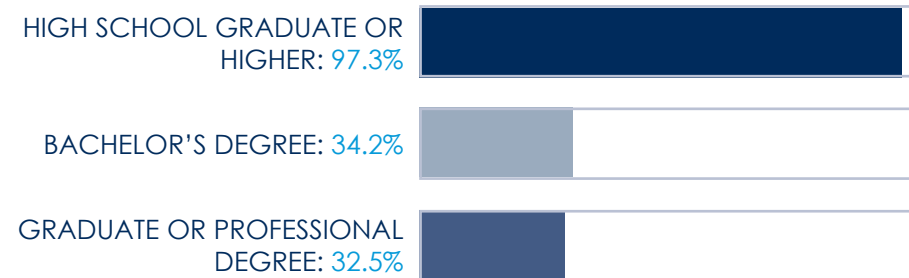
UNEMPLOYMENT  
RATE:  
2.1%



MEAN FAMILY  
INCOME:  
\$120,712

U.S. Census Bureau

| EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT (POPULATION 25 YEARS & OLDER)



U.S. Census Bureau

To view the full community profile visit:  
[auburnalabama.org/economic-development/auburn-community-profile/](http://auburnalabama.org/economic-development/auburn-community-profile/)

AUBURN'S NATIONAL  
**RECOGNITION**

2022: "THE SOUTH'S 3RD BEST COLLEGE TOWN" **Southern Living**

2021: "#6 BEST METRO FOR ATTRACTING BUSINESS IN THE U.S." **SITE SELECTION MAGAZINE**

**MILKEN INSTITUTE**  
2021: "17TH BEST PERFORMING SMALL CITY FOR ECONOMIC GROWTH IN THE U.S."

2020: "THE MOST EDUCATED CITY IN ALABAMA" **INSURIFY**

**LIVABILITY** 2020: "TOP 100 BEST SMALL TO MID-SIZED CITIES TO LIVE IN THE U.S."

2019: "5TH BEST CITY FOR ECONOMIC GROWTH POTENTIAL IN THE U.S." **BF BUSINESS FACILITIES**





**POLAR PLUNGE: JANUARY**

Sign up, dive in, and raise money for a great cause. Recruit sponsors to support you as you brave the cold and take the plunge in support of the Lee County Special Olympics!

**DADDY DAUGHTER DATE NIGHT: FEBRUARY**

For 32 years, Auburn has hosted a Daddy-Daughter Date Night with five different nights of refreshments, door prizes, dance contests, and keepsake photos. Daughters, dads, granddads, and uncles are invited to dance the night away and create an evening of lifetime memories.

**BARK IN THE PARK: MARCH**

Bring your favorite four-legged friend and enjoy a variety of educational booths, shop with local pet vendors, and enjoy door prizes and dog friendly activities all morning! Looking to expand your canine family? Rescue dogs will be available for adoption as well!

**EASTER EGG HUNT: APRIL**

Our Easter egg hunt is one of the largest in Lee County, with over 35,000 eggs hidden over four acres! With different hunting grounds for each age group, it is sure to be a blast for the whole family. Join us for live entertainment, balloon animals, face painting, and a chance to meet the Easter bunny!

**AUBURN CITY FEST: APRIL**

CityFest is a fun family day filled with food, community, and entertainment. This is Auburn's largest free outdoor festival, featuring over 100 arts and craft vendors, local food, and nonprofit vendors.

**MAYOR'S MEMORIAL DAY BREAKFAST: MAY**

Each year, the City of Auburn and the Auburn Veterans Committee host the Mayor's Memorial Day Breakfast to honor the United State Military and recognize those soldiers who have made the supreme sacrifice.

**SUMMERNIGHT DOWNTOWN ART WALK: JUNE**

The summernight downtown art walk is a downtown entertainment district event, free to the public and takes place rain or shine! The art walk features a parade, works by local artists, live musical entertainment, children's activities, and a lemon culinary contest!

**INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATION: JULY**

Celebrate Independence Day with the Auburn community. Bring a blanket and a picnic basket with your family to enjoy free goodies, fun music, inflatables, and the best fireworks in the area!

**FRIGHT NIGHT MOVIE: OCTOBER**

From music, kid's activities, and an evening of spooky movies to get you in the Halloween spirit, there's plenty for everyone. We encourage you to bring blankets, chairs, and picnic dinners to enjoy the movies!

**DOWNTOWN TRICK OR TREAT: OCTOBER**

Come visit our downtown merchants for trick-or-treat candy and goodies! Enjoy a live DJ, balloon animals, face painting, and so much more. Enter the costume contest and make sure to get a photo with Aubie!

**VETERANS DAY CEREMONY: NOVEMBER**

Join the City of Auburn and the Auburn Veterans Committee in honoring those who have served during the Annual Veterans Day Ceremony at the Auburn Veterans Memorial Monument.

**HOLIDAY ART SALE: DECEMBER**

Get in the holiday spirit by attending this festive shopping experience. The holiday art sale is a great place to get a head start on your Christmas shopping while meeting local artists selling their own unique handmade work.

**JINGLE JOG/SANTA STROLL: DECEMBER**

Pull out your ugly Christmas sweaters for the Jingle Jog 5k and Santa Stroll Fun Run! Join us to ring in the holiday season in style!

WHO SHOULD I CONTACT?

**Garbage, Trash, & Recycling  
Environmental Services**

334-501-3080  
webenvirsv@auburnalabama.org

**Utility Billing  
Finance, Utility Billing Office**

334-501-3050  
serviceorders@auburnalabama.org

**Water Service  
Water Resource Management**

334-501-3060  
After Hours: 334-501-3100  
webwtrswr@auburnalabama.org

**Animal Control  
Environmental Services**

334-501-3090  
After Hours: 334-501-3100  
webenvirsvc@auburnalabama.org

**Library Programs & Services  
Auburn Public Library**

334-501-3190  
weblibrary@auburnalabama.org

**Rent a Parks & Rec Facility  
Parks & Recreation**

334-501-2934  
webparksandrec@auburnalabama.org

**Athletics  
Parks & Recreation**

Houston Manning, 334-501-2942  
hmanning@auburnalabama.org

**Report Right-Of-Way Issues  
Public Works**

334-501-3000  
webpw@auburnalabama.org

**Recreational Programs  
Parks & Recreation**

Gabrielle Filgo, 334-501-2946  
gfilgo@auburnalabama.org

**Request Sidewalk or Traffic Calming  
Engineering Services**

334-501-7390  
serviceorders@auburnalabama.org

**Report a Street Light Outage  
Alabama Power**

1-800-245-2244  
[customerservice2.southerncompany.com/outages/report](http://customerservice2.southerncompany.com/outages/report)

**Public Safety**

Emergencies: 911  
Non-Emergency: 334-501-3100  
Anonymous Tip Line: 334-246-1391  
webpubsfty@auburnalabama.org

**Cemeteries  
Parks & Recreation**

Sari Card, 334-501-2933  
scard@auburnalabama.org

CAN'T FIND WHAT YOU'RE  
LOOKING FOR?

CITY HALL

334-501-7260

webocm@auburnalabama.org

144 Tichenor Avenue  
Auburn, AL 36830

Auburn FixIt App

FixIt makes it even easier to access City Services



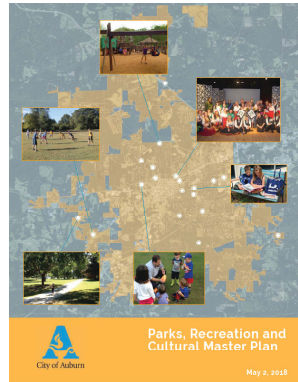
Request City services and report non-emergency concerns directly to City staff and track an issue's progress from beginning to resolution. It's accessible, transparent and made for you, our residents.

Simply download the app on your mobile device or create an account online, and start letting us know how we can help!

[auburnalabama.org/FixIt](http://auburnalabama.org/FixIt)







**Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Master Plan**

The purpose of the Auburn Parks, Recreation and Cultural Master Plan (PRCMP) is to provide a comprehensive look at the City of Auburn parks and recreation and public library system. This comprehensive plan will help to focus upgrades to the quality of the City's parks, recreation, arts and cultural programming, library, greenspace, greenways, trails, facilities, landscape, and natural features.

**Northwest Auburn Neighborhood Plan**

The Northwest Auburn Neighborhood Plan is a roadmap for the future of northwest Auburn developed by and for its residents. Ultimately, the plan provides a guide to enhance northwest Auburn's attractiveness, walkability and vitality while maintaining the unique heritage and character of the neighborhood.

**Comp Plan 2030**

CompPlan 2030 is the City of Auburn's plan for future growth and development over the next 20 years and provides recommendations for the future based on public input, analysis of existing and future conditions, and the best practices of planning. CompPlan 2030 focuses on how we use the land, now and in the future; how land use and the built environment affect the natural world, and vice-versa; schools, parks, and other facilities that form the civic foundation of the City; and the many forms of transportation that link everything together.

**Renew Opelika Road Plan**

The purpose of the Renew Opelika Road Plan is to revitalize and redevelop one of the City's most important corridors. The Opelika Road Corridor extends from Gay Street on the west to the City limits on the east, and was identified as a key corridor in need of redevelopment.

**Downtown Master Plan**

Auburn's Downtown Master Plan aims to expand the current urban core southward and westward and to develop a unified vision that serves all Auburn residents.

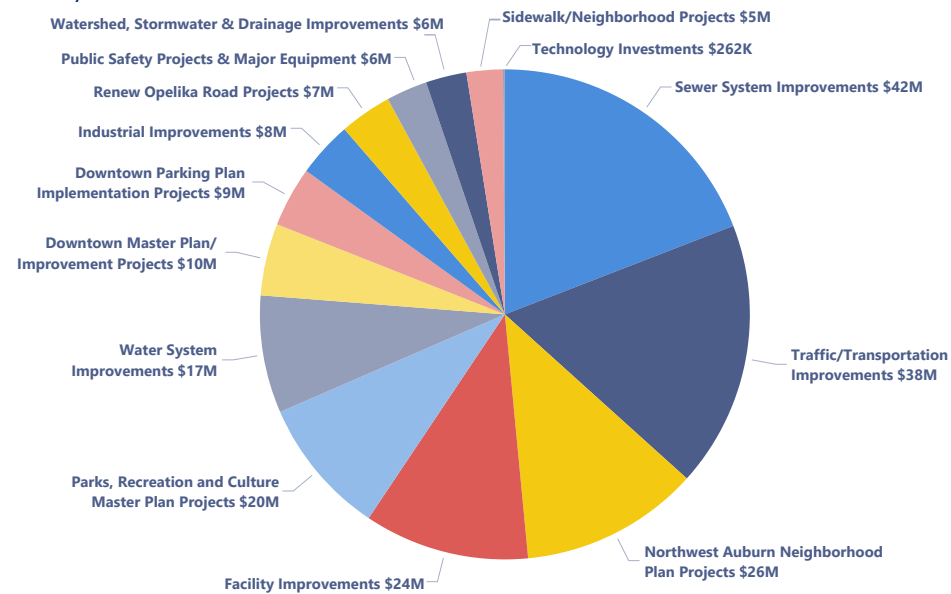


- As COVID-19 continued to impact the industrial sector in FY21, the Economic Development team recruited a new data center project to the City of Auburn with a total capital investment of over \$127 million while also supporting expansion of many of our existing industrial partners. The Economic Development team's efforts resulted in over 100 jobs created in FY21.
- The Auburn Water Works Board completed construction of a new water well in December 2020. This new source of high-quality groundwater is projected to benefit residents until 2050, positioning Auburn's water supply to meet demands for the foreseeable future while strengthening the resiliency of the overall water system.
- Auburn's oldest cemetery, Pine Hill, opened a new Cremation Garden. The garden has 4 columbariums for a total capacity of 640 cremations. The City also has plans for in-ground and above ground cremation markers around the columbariums.
- Parks and Recreation completed a renovation of the Frank Brown Recreation Center. Renovations included construction of a new entrance, additional offices, and a rear shade awning for citizens using the basketball courts.
- The City of Auburn purchased approximately 60 acres of land on Wire Road for new Environmental Services and Public Works facilities. Once the new facilities are constructed and relocated, the Boykin Campus Improvements project will begin.
- The Renew Opelika Road Phase 4 improvements project from Saugahatchee to Gentry Drive began construction in fiscal year 2021. The continued infrastructure investments in Opelika Road as identified in the Renew Opelika Road plan will help encourage new private sector investments and reinvestments in one of the City's most important corridors. Phase 4 is expected to be completed in late Spring or early Summer of 2022.
- A new walking path was constructed at Sam Harris Park. The 0.56 mile crushed stone trail connects Sam Harris Park to the Auburn Soccer Field at Shug Jordan, as well as the Lee County Humane Society.



## SIX YEAR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN

The City's multiple strategic plans, as outlined on previous pages of this report, guide the development of the Six-Year Capital Improvement Plan (CIP), which outlines major capital investments over the next six planning years. All projects are carefully reviewed and approved by the City Council and are funded based on prioritization. The CIP guides the City's decisions regarding debt issuance and capital budgeting and is a critical part of the City's biennial budget. Capital investments are outlined in the chart below by project type for fiscal year 2021 through and including fiscal year 2026.



### Funding by Project Type (data in thousands)

	FY2021	FY2022	FY2023	FY2024	FY2025	FY2026	TOTAL
Sidewalk/Neighborhood Projects	\$ 802	\$ 315	\$ 654	\$ 659	\$ 1,343	\$ 1,440	\$ 5,214
Downtown Master Plan/Improvement Projects	6,319	1,311	108	1,033	1,302	258	10,331
Downtown Parking Plan Implementation Projects	8,624	-	-	-	-	-	8,624
Renew Opelika Road Projects	1,730	285	-	1,750	1,750	1,966	7,481
Northwest Auburn Neighborhood Plan Projects	397	2,644	21,488	385	765	-	25,680
Technology Investments	22	-	180	-	-	60	262
Public Safety Projects & Major Equipment	3,897	1,550	245	108	50	50	5,900
Parks, Recreation and Culture Master Plan Projects	5,739	11,550	1,250	150	1,050	50	19,788
Facility Improvements	3,195	20,100	100	100	100	100	23,695
Industrial Improvements	-	-	3,000	2,500	2,500	-	8,000
Traffic/Transportation Improvements	8,295	18,243	3,635	3,405	2,305	2,305	38,188
Watershed, Stormwater & Drainage Improvements	2,443	200	847	771	200	1,393	5,855
Sewer System Improvements	4,127	1,825	1,255	1,755	11,855	20,755	41,572
Water System Improvements	7,415	5,135	1,875	650	650	1,150	16,875
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 53,006</b>	<b>\$ 63,158</b>	<b>\$ 34,637</b>	<b>\$ 13,266</b>	<b>\$ 23,870</b>	<b>\$ 29,527</b>	<b>\$ 217,465</b>

**A note on funding sources:** projects that appear on the Six-Year Capital Improvement plan are paid for through a variety of funding sources, including: General Fund, current and planned borrowings, other city funds, grant funds, development agreement funds, sewer funds, and funds managed by the Water Works Board of the City of Auburn.

## CAPITAL CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS COMPLETED IN 2021

- 32 COMPLETED PROJECTS
- 8 WATER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS
- 7 FACILITY PROJECTS
- 6 TECHNOLOGY IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS
- 4 TRAFFIC, TRANSPORTATION, AND PARKING PROJECTS
- 4 PARK IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS
- 3 SIDEWALK, STREETLIGHT, AND STREETSCAPE PROJECTS



### WRIGHT STREET PARKING DECK

The new deck, located at 140 Wright Street, brings 350 public parking spaces to downtown Auburn. The property also includes a greenspace that fronts North College Street with benches and a sidewalk from the deck to North College Street lined with pedestrian lighting.



### DINIUS PARK

The new 13-acre passive park, located at 1435 E. Glenn Avenue, includes walking trails, small and large dog parks, a nature playground and a small pond. Dinius Park is named after the Dinius family who donated the land to the City of Auburn.



### COLLEGE & SHUG JORDAN INTERSECTION

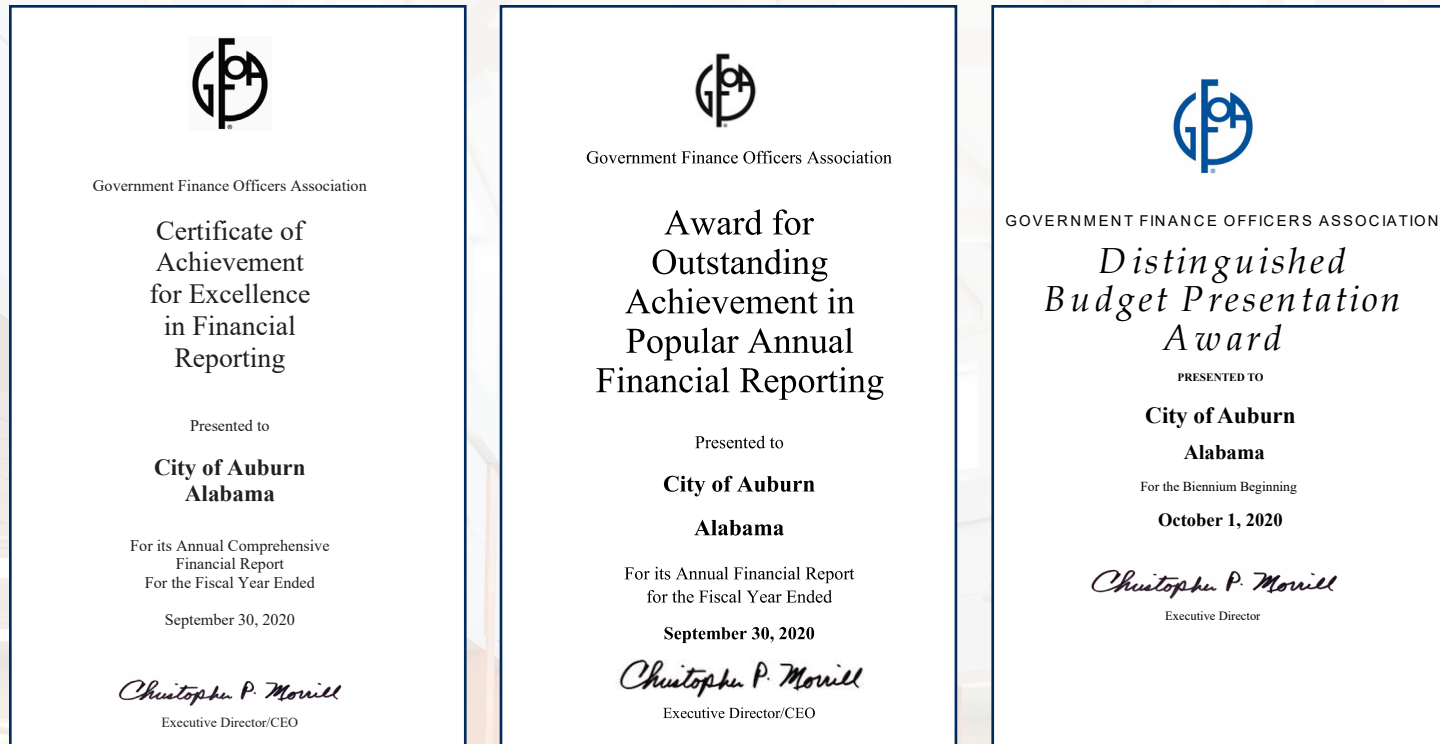
The intersection improvements widened Shug Jordan Parkway and North Donahue Drive to accommodate right turn lanes in all directions and upgraded the traffic signals.



# FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

CITY FINANCES

The City of Auburn has received the Triple Crown from the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) for receiving the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting, Popular Annual Financial Reporting (PAFR) Award, and the Distinguished Budget Presentation Award.



The previous pages of this document provided information about the profile of the City of Auburn. The remainder of the document focuses on the City of Auburn's financial information for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2021.

It is the mission of the City of Auburn to provide cost-effective high-quality services, created and designed in response to the needs of its citizens, rather than by habit or tradition. One of the ways in which the City aims to achieve this is by operating an adequately funded city government in a financially responsible and fiscally sound manner.

As part of the City's continuous effort to keep its citizens informed on how tax dollars are spent, the following pages provide unaudited summarized information about the financial activities of the City of Auburn. This information is prepared from the City's 2021 Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR).

The ACFR conforms to Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP) and includes audited financial statements and related information provided in a detailed narrative format. The GAAP-basis presentation of the ACFR includes the City of Auburn's component units (related organizations) and information about all of the City's individual funds. The ACFR is available at City Hall, the Auburn Public Library and online at [www.auburnalabama.org/annualreport](http://www.auburnalabama.org/annualreport).

The Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting awards governments who go beyond the minimum requirements of GAAP to prepare an annual financial report that is easily readable and efficiently organized.

The Popular Annual Financial Reporting Award recognizes governments for producing a PAFR easily understandable to the general public and other interested parties without a background in public finance.

The Distinguished Budget Presentation Awards Program was received for high quality budget documents that reflect both the guidelines established by the National Advisory Council on State and Local Budgeting and the GFOA's best practices on budgeting.



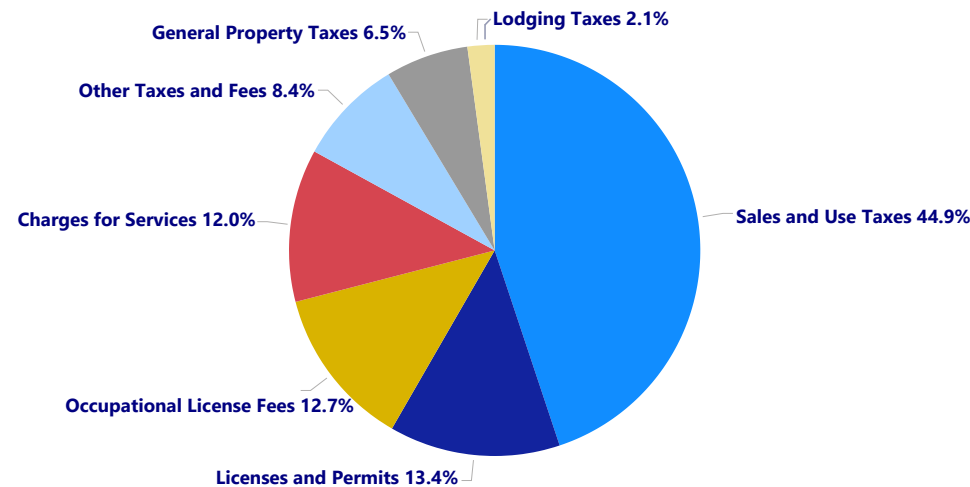


# WHERE THE MONEY COMES FROM

The City of Auburn has multiple revenue sources to support operations and capital outlays. As is typical in the State of Alabama, City of Auburn property taxes are relatively low and therefore, are not the City's primary revenue source. Sales and use taxes are the largest revenue source in the City's General Fund, providing 44.9% (\$50.9 million) of revenue in fiscal 2021. The total sales tax rate for purchases made within the City of Auburn is 9%, which includes 4% appropriated to the State, 4% to the City of Auburn, and 1% to Lee County.

The second largest revenue source for the General Fund is business license fees and permits, which provided 13.4% (\$15.2 million) of revenue in fiscal 2021.

The third largest revenue source is the City's occupational license fee, which is a 1% fee on the gross salaries and wages earned within the City of Auburn. This revenue source provided 12.6% (\$14.3 million) of General Fund revenues in fiscal 2021.



The chart below provides General Fund revenues for the last three fiscal years.

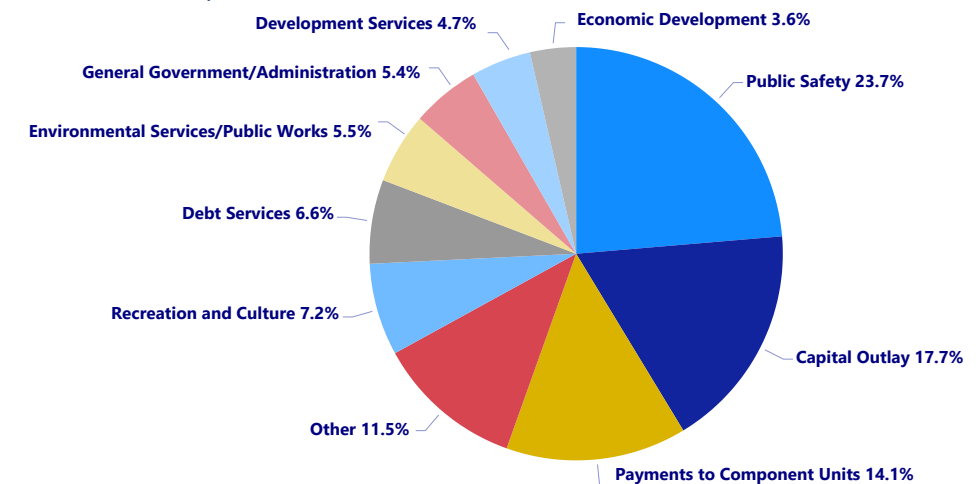
**General Fund Revenues Summarized (data in thousands)**

	FY2021	FY2020	FY2019
Sales and Use Taxes	\$ 50,902	\$ 43,839	\$ 43,804
Licenses and Permits	15,243	15,705	15,188
Occupational License Fees	14,346	13,830	13,286
Charges for Services	13,631	12,999	12,863
General Property Taxes	7,375	6,946	6,232
Lodging Taxes	2,410	1,901	2,582
Other Taxes and Fees	9,506	8,139	7,334
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 113,413</b>	<b>\$ 103,358</b>	<b>\$ 101,289</b>

# WHERE THE MONEY GOES

Once the government collects taxes and other revenues, the resources must be spent effectively to provide essential services to citizens and businesses. The General Fund finances the regular day-to-day operations of the City; therefore, it is the primary focus of this section.

General Fund expenditures for fiscal 2021 are shown in the pie chart and table below. The per capita amount in the chart represents the amount spent on each type of service per resident based on a population of 76,143. Public safety is the largest total and per capita expenditure for the City.



The chart below provides General Fund expenditures for the last three fiscal years.

**General Fund Expenditures (data in thousands except Per Capita)**

	FY2021	FY2020	FY2019	FY21 Per Capita
Public Safety	\$ 26,233	\$ 23,845	\$ 24,372	\$ 344.52
*Payments to Component Units	15,679	14,466	14,371	205.91
**Capital Outlay	19,590	10,842	12,855	257.28
Recreation and Culture	7,998	7,845	8,114	105.04
Environmental Services/Public Works	6,150	5,602	5,109	80.77
Development Services	5,205	5,190	5,118	68.36
Debt Service	7,290	6,665	6,991	95.74
General Government/Administration	5,952	5,782	5,677	78.16
Economic Development	3,988	3,588	3,365	52.38
Other	12,805	10,833	11,276	168.16
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 110,889</b>	<b>\$ 94,707</b>	<b>\$ 97,247</b>	<b>\$ 1,456.32</b>

\* Includes approximately \$14 million each fiscal year of direct education funding disbursed to Auburn City Schools.  
 \*\* Includes infrastructure, parks, facilities, and capital equipment above a threshold of \$5,000.

General Fund revenues support the following services to the Citizens of Auburn: police, fire and 911 operations; parks and facility maintenance; recreation programs; library services and programs; infrastructure and right of way maintenance; planning services; engineering services; inspection services; animal control; traffic control; economic development; and general administration. Other services provided to citizens, such as garbage, yard waste collection, recycling, and sewage are funded through enterprise funds and are discussed on page 22 of this report. Water services provided to citizens are funded through the Water Works Board, which is a component unit of the City. More information is included on page 23 of this report.

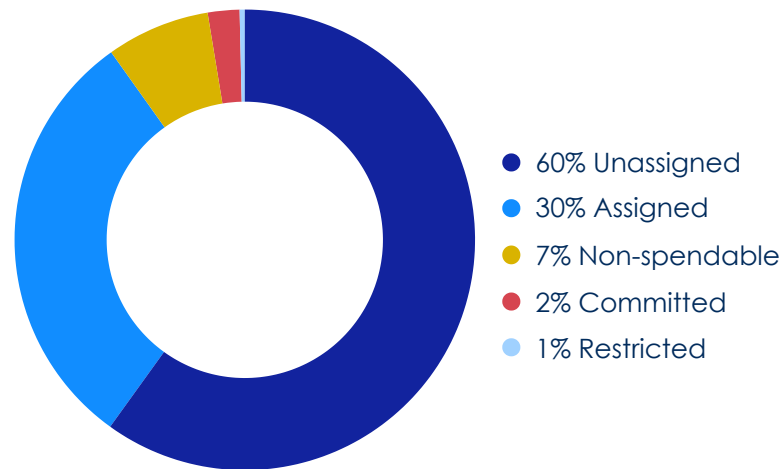


## GENERAL FUND FUND BALANCE

In the simplest terms, fund balance is the difference between what the City owns (assets) and what the City owes (liabilities). However, in governmental fund financial statements, there are no physical assets (land, infrastructure, facilities, etc.) nor any principal debt outstanding presented. The fund financial statements represent a current resources focus, including current assets such as cash, investments, and receivables, offset by current liabilities, such as accounts payable, claims, and unearned revenue.

The General Fund's fund balance is categorized into five categories, as described below, in order to make the extent of the constraints placed on a government's fund balance more transparent.

### GENERAL FUND - FUND BALANCE FY2021 Total: \$68,745,828



- Unassigned fund balance - amounts that are available for any purpose.
- Assigned fund balance - amounts the City intends to use for a specific purpose. The amount listed includes contracts and commitments for goods and services not yet received. It also includes the budgeted drawdown for the next fiscal year.
- Committed fund balance - amounts constrained to specific purposes by the City itself, using its highest level of decision-making authority, which is City Council. This amount represents two investments made by the City, one through the Industrial Development Board and the other through the Auburn Downtown Redevelopment Authority.
- Restricted fund balance - these amounts are legally restricted for a certain use. This amount represents funds restricted for public safety.
- Non-spendable Fund Balance - these amounts are not readily spendable, representing inventories, prepaid items and property held for resale.

## ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

The City manages and protects its assets for the use and benefit of all citizens. The chart below is a summary presentation of the 'Government-Wide' view found on the Statement of Net Position. This statement includes all the assets (what the City owns) and liabilities (what the city owes) of the City of Auburn as a whole. Governmental activities include the General Fund and all other governmental funds including special revenue funds, debt service funds, and capital project funds. Business-type activities include the Sewer and Solid Waste Management Funds, which account for all revenue earned from and costs related to the provision of sewer service and solid waste and recycling service.

A positive net position reflects strong financial health and solvency. The chart below shows the Statement of Net Position for the City of Auburn as of September 30, 2021.

### ASSETS What we own

	Governmental Activities	Business-type Activities	Total
Current & Other Assets	\$ 153,610	\$ 17,799	\$ 171,409
Capital Assets	288,600	83,191	371,791
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$ 442,210</b>	<b>\$ 100,990</b>	<b>\$ 543,200</b>
Deferred Outflows of Resources	\$ 15,546	\$ 3,085	\$ 18,631

### LIABILITIES What we owe

	Governmental Activities	Business-type Activities	Total
Current Liabilities	\$ 34,171	\$ 4,836	\$ 39,007
Long-Term Debt & Other Liabilities	303,290	29,724	333,013
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>\$ 337,460</b>	<b>\$ 34,560</b>	<b>\$ 372,021</b>
Deferred Inflows of Resources	\$ 226	\$ 84	\$ 310
<b>Total Net Position</b>	<b>\$ 120,069</b>	<b>\$ 69,431</b>	<b>\$ 189,500</b>

\*The City of Auburn issues debt (repaid with legally dedicated ad valorem taxes) for the benefit of Auburn City Schools (ACS). However, the City does not have title to the assets associated with the issued debt, therefore the land and buildings are not listed with the Capital Assets above.

Deferred outflows and inflows represent consumption and acquisition of items applicable to a future reporting period. The balances are primarily related to the City's pension and other postemployment benefits. Details regarding these activities can be found in the Notes to the Financial Statements of the ACFR.

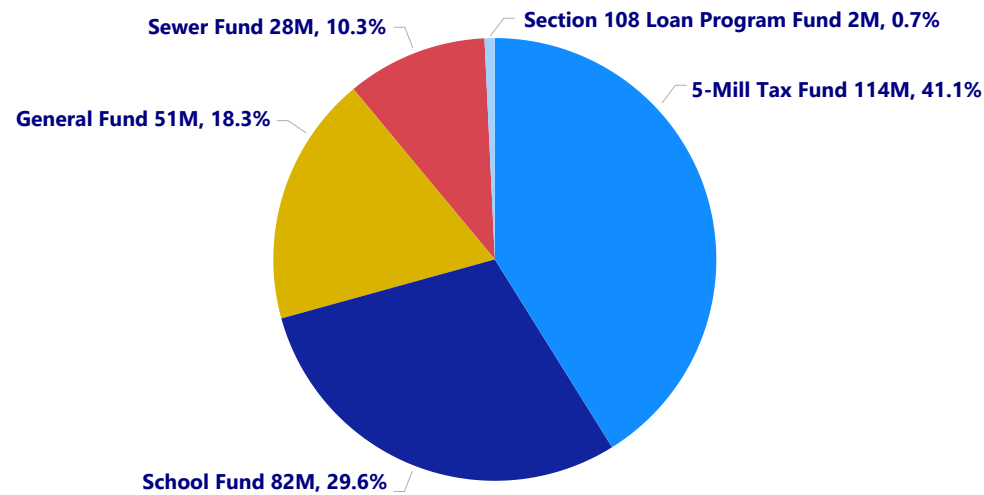
Auburn, Alabama's Annual Comprehensive Financial Report contains audited financial information in greater detail. For further information, please contact the Finance Department (334) 501-7220 or view at [auburnalabama.org/annualreport](http://auburnalabama.org/annualreport).



LONG TERM DEBT

The City of Auburn maintains excellent credit ratings of AA+ from Standard & Poor's and Aa2 from Moody's rating agencies. Bond ratings represent the credit worthiness of the City and measure the City's ability to meet financial commitments. The double A rating is reserved for organizations characterized by competent management, stable economies, and manageable debt levels. Strong bond ratings allow the City of Auburn to receive lower interest rates on its bond issues.

General obligation bonds, warrants, and notes payable outstanding totaled \$276.9 million on September 30, 2021. The City issues and manages debt for Auburn City Schools and for projects that result from partnerships with Auburn University or component units of the City, as well as City Sewer and General Funds. Of the \$276.9 million in debt outstanding, \$195.8 million is debt issued for assets that belong to Auburn City Schools, and \$1.2 million for assets that belong to the City's Public Park and Recreation Board. General obligation debt is usually payable from the City's general revenues of the General Fund. However, the schools and sewer debt is intended to be repaid from respective funds or dedicated sources. The chart below shows the repayment sources for debt principal outstanding as of September 30, 2021.



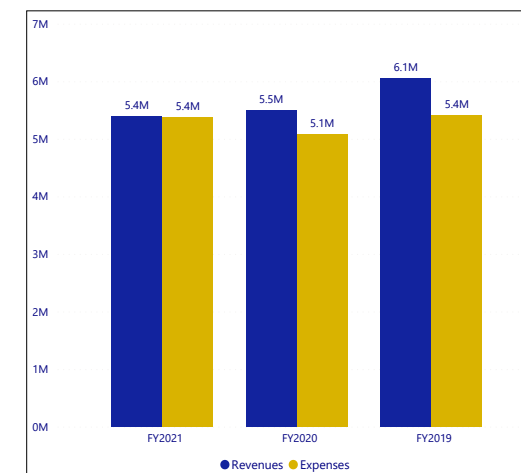
State statutes limit the amount of general obligation debt (exclusive of education and utility borrowings) the City may issue to 20% of the total assessed value of all taxable property within the City's corporate limits. The City's current debt limit is \$205.0 million. The amount of debt outstanding applicable to this limit is \$50.6 million.

ENTERPRISE FUNDS

Enterprise or proprietary funds are used to account for operations that are financed and operated in a manner similar to private business enterprises, where the intent of the governing body is that the costs (expenses, including depreciation) of providing specified goods and services to the general public be financed or recovered primarily through user charges.

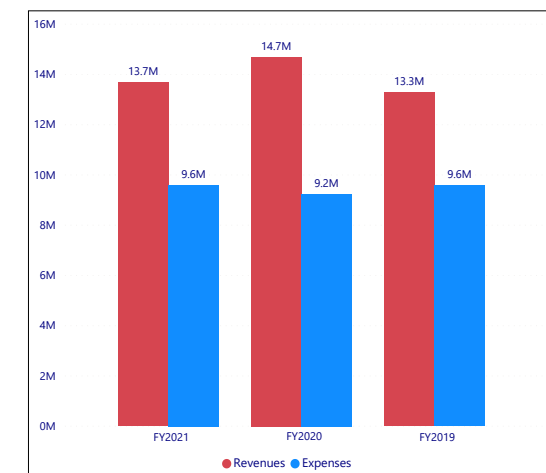
The City of Auburn has two enterprise funds, Sewer Fund and Solid Waste Management Fund. The graphs below reflect revenues and expenses for the past three fiscal years. The difference between revenues and expenses in each year illustrate the change in net position. Net position is discussed and reflected earlier in this report on page 20.

SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT FUND



FY2021 Ending Net Position: \$2,674,581

SEWER FUND



FY2021 Ending Net Position: \$66,756,384



FOR MORE INFORMATION:

**Solid Waste Management**  
[auburnalabama.org/garbage-and-recycling/](http://auburnalabama.org/garbage-and-recycling/)

**Sewer**  
[auburnalabama.org/water-resource-management/sewer/](http://auburnalabama.org/water-resource-management/sewer/)



Component units include organizations that are financially accountable to the City's executive or legislative branches (the Mayor or the Council, respectively) and other organizations for which the nature and significance of their relationships with the primary government are such that their exclusion could cause the City's financial statements to be misleading or incomplete. All component units are legally separate from the City. Currently there are six discretely presented component units of the City of Auburn.

**| Board of Education**

[auburnschools.org](http://auburnschools.org)

**| Water Works Board**

[auburnalabama.org/boards-and-commissions/independent-authorities/water-works-board](http://auburnalabama.org/boards-and-commissions/independent-authorities/water-works-board)

**| Industrial Development Board**

[auburnalabama.org/boards-and-commissions/independent-authorities/industrial-development-board](http://auburnalabama.org/boards-and-commissions/independent-authorities/industrial-development-board)

**| Public Parks and Recreation Board**

[auburnalabama.org/boards-and-commissions/advisory/public-park-and-recreation-board](http://auburnalabama.org/boards-and-commissions/advisory/public-park-and-recreation-board)

**| Commercial Development Authority**

[auburnalabama.org/boards-and-commissions/planning-and-development/commercial-development-authority](http://auburnalabama.org/boards-and-commissions/planning-and-development/commercial-development-authority)

**| Downtown Redevelopment Authority**

[auburnalabama.org/boards-and-commissions/planning-and-development/auburn-downtown-redevelopment-authority/](http://auburnalabama.org/boards-and-commissions/planning-and-development/auburn-downtown-redevelopment-authority/)



**Budget Development**

At the direction of the City Manager, the Budget and Strategic Planning Division is responsible for working with the City's Management Team in developing the budget and all associated publications. It is the goal of the City of Auburn that the budget be driven by the results of our Citizen Survey and the strategic plans set forth and adopted by the City Council.

**Biennial Budgeting**

The City of Auburn operates under a biennial (two-year) budget. The biennial budget consists of two one-year budgets and a Six-Year Capital Improvement Plan. Operating under a two-year budget gives City Council and City management a longer budgeting horizon and reduces the amount of staff time required for developing and adjusting the budget. The fiscal year for the City runs from October 1 each year through and including September 30 of the following year. Fiscal year 2021 ended September 30, 2021, and Fiscal Year 2022 will complete the 2021-2022 Biennial Budget on September 30, 2022.

**Looking Forward**

Below is the updated General Fund Budget Overview for FY2021-FY2022, which was approved by the City Council on August 17, 2021 as part of the Mid-Biennium Budget process.

**General Fund Budget Overview (data in thousands)**

	BUDGET FY2021	BUDGET FY2022
Beginning Fund Balance	\$ 64,581	\$ 50,662
Revenues	99,571	100,976
Other Financing Sources	539	547
<b>Total Available Resources</b>	<b>\$ 164,692</b>	<b>\$ 152,185</b>
Expenditures	97,477	92,580
Other Financing Uses	16,554	17,156
<b>Total Expenditures &amp; OFU</b>	<b>\$ 114,031</b>	<b>\$ 109,736</b>

Detailed budget information and full budget documents can be found on the budget and strategic planning website: [auburnalabama.org/budget](http://auburnalabama.org/budget)







**AUBURN CITY HALL**  
144 TICHENOR AVE  
AUBURN, AL 36830

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