



# FY2026 PROPOSED BUDGET

Prepared By:

**Michelle Bailey-Hedgepeth**  
-Town Administrator

**Vito Tinelli**  
-Town Treasurer

May 5, 2025



## FROM THE TOWN ADMINISTRATOR

Mayor, Council, and Residents of the Town of Bladensburg,  
It is my honor to present the Proposed Fiscal Year 2026 Budget for the Town of Bladensburg. This budget reflects months of dedicated work by the Town's Leadership Team, particularly with the close collaboration with Mr. Vito Tinelli, Town Treasurer, with vital contributions from Chief Tyrone Collington, Ms. Regine Watson, Town Clerk, and other department heads. This marks the second year we have utilized the updated format recommended by the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) to enhance clarity, transparency, and usability. We also held a series of budget sessions and frequent updates to align with best practices and ensure thoughtful decision-making throughout the process.



### **Commitment to Transparency and Fiscal Responsibility**

The FY 2026 Proposed Budget underscores our continued commitment to fiscal stewardship, transparency, and public accountability. The full document will be published on the Town's website and shared across social media platforms and internal staff channels, ensuring accessibility for all stakeholders. Since my arrival, I have observed a growing level of discipline and strategy in our budget process. We are continuously working to build a stronger foundation for long-term financial health and operational excellence.

### **Economic Conditions and Budget Realignment**

The past year has brought significant economic challenges and structural financial pressures. Early in this cycle—and as far back as FY 2024—we identified several ongoing structural deficits, largely resulting from the expiration of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds. While ARPA provided much-needed support during the pandemic, it also led to expanded services that now require sustainable funding sources. Over the last two years, we have identified these sources, but it is an evolving issue due to the uncertainty of federal funding and its overall effect on the Maryland economy. This year's budget reflects our efforts to realign spending with the Town's core values:

- Public Safety
- Resident Services
- Economic Development
- Financial Sustainability



We recognize that many residents and business owners are still coping with the impacts of layoffs, inflation, and global tariffs. In response, the Town has taken meaningful steps to reduce personnel, supply, and discretionary spending while avoiding passing additional burdens onto our residents whenever possible.

### **Grants, Capital Investments, and Strategic Partnerships**

Despite operational constraints, we have made substantial strides in securing state and federal grants for critical infrastructure and public safety initiatives. These funds have allowed us to move forward on long-delayed capital projects. However, it is essential to note that such funds are restricted to capital use and do not resolve operational deficits. Additionally, we have engaged specialized consultants in key areas—Economic Development, Legislative Affairs, Grants, Human Resources, and Historic Preservation. These partnerships have begun delivering long-term value and have positioned us to operate more efficiently while expanding services and project delivery.

### **Looking Ahead: Conservative Forecasting, Strategic Growth**

Our FY 2026 revenue projections follow a conservative approach, informed by both historical data and current economic forecasts. While we remain cautious, we are also optimistic about Maryland's ongoing economic growth.

We recognize that modest revenue enhancements, including tax increases, may be necessary to sustain essential services and meet future demands. These decisions will be made with care, transparency, and in accordance with the public interest.

The budget is a living document, and our commitment to responsible stewardship does not end with adoption. We will continue to monitor, adjust, and communicate financial changes with the Council throughout the fiscal year.

### **Closing Remarks**

The FY 2026 Proposed Budget is the product of collaboration, accountability, and long-term planning. It reflects the evolving needs of our community, the realities of our financial landscape, and our unwavering commitment to Bladensburg's residents and businesses. I want to thank the Mayor and Town Council for their support and trust in both myself and our staff. As we progress, I remain committed to strengthening the Town's fiscal foundation and ensuring we serve our community with integrity, empathy, and professionalism.

**Michelle Bailey-Hedgepeth**

Town Administrator

# ABOUT BLADENSBURG

## About us

Bladensburg, Maryland, is a historic residential suburb near Washington, D.C., located along the scenic Anacostia River. Founded in 1742 by Provincial Governor Thomas Bladen and incorporated in 1854, the town is a vibrant part of the Port Towns community group. Bladensburg operates under a Council-Town Administrator system with a mayor and four council members serving staggered four-year terms. The Honorable Takisha James currently serves as Mayor, alongside Council Members Trina Brown and Kalisha Dixon (Ward 1), and Carrol McBryde and Marilyn Blount (Ward 2). The Council acts as the legislative body, while the Town Administrator oversees daily operations.

The full-service Public Safety Department, led by the Police Chief, manages patrol, investigations, the Community Action Team, K-9 and Special Assignment Teams, along with Dispatch and Code Enforcement. The Town also includes departments for Public Works, a Town Treasurer, a Town Clerk, Special Events, and Public Information.

Bladensburg experienced notable growth in the early 20th century with the development of Decatur Heights (1914, 1917) and the Sunnybrook subdivision (1947). Its rich heritage and proximity to the Anacostia River have long made it a point of interest, highlighted through tours, preservation efforts, and historical signage.

According to the 2022 U.S. Census update, the town has 9,591 residents, with a median household income of \$54,208 and a median age of 35.3. Covering just one square mile, it lies only 8.6 miles from Washington, D.C., bordering the capital to the south. Bladensburg features a diverse population and workforce, including service providers, office workers, and professionals. Its historical roots, strategic location, and cultural richness make it a remarkable place to live, work, and visit.



# **SUPER!** TOWN COUNCIL



**Takisha James**  
Mayor



**Trina Brown**  
Council Member, Ward 1



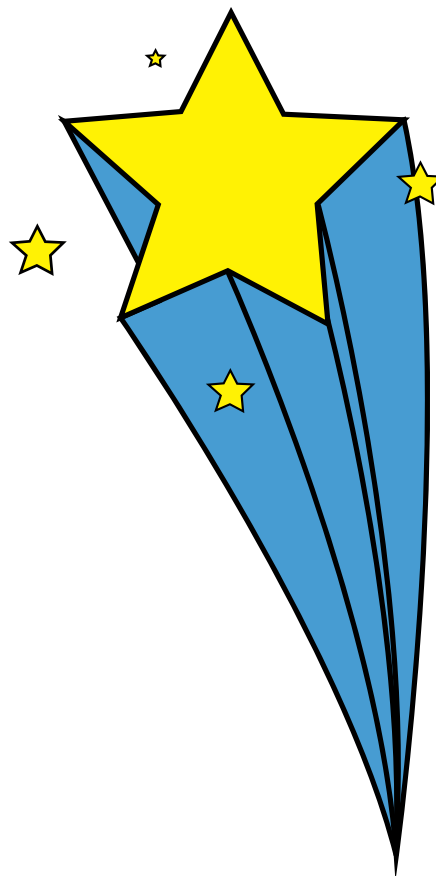
**Kalisha Dixon**  
Council Member, Ward 1



**Marilyn Blount**  
Council Member, Ward 2



**Carrol McBryde**  
Council Member, Ward 2



The Town of Bladensburg Mayor and Council for FY 2026

# ORGANIZATION CHART

## Appointed Professionals

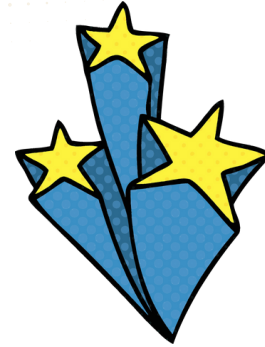
Town Attorney  
Town Engineer  
Auditor



**Mayor and Council**



**Town Administrator**  
Michelle Bailey-Hedgepeth



## Town Administration

## Public Works

## Public Safety



**Town Clerk** ■  
Regine Watson



**Town Treasurer** ■  
Vito Tinelli



**Public Works Supervisor** ■  
Purnell Hall



**Chief of Police** ■  
Tyrone Collington Sr.



**Administrative Assistant**  
Jessica Amaya



**Finance Clerk**  
Christina Daves



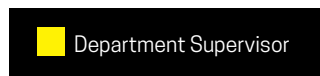
**Public Works Staff**



**Code Enforcement Supervisor** ■  
Shaun Rinehart



**Marketing Specialist**  
Ray Jefferies



**Code Enforcement Staff**



**Command Staff**



**Interns/Cadets**



**Administrative Staff**



**Communications**



**Police Officers**



# FY 2026

## BUDGET ASSUMPTIONS

The following Budget Assumptions were shared with the Town Council and at Public Meetings as part of the FY 2026 Budget Process.

### Compensation

- NO COLA and Merit will not be considered until after December 2025.
- A reduction in compensation for Administrative Staff from 40 hours to 37.5 hours
- Increased insurance contributions by employees
- Increased contributions for employees who have take-home vehicles

### Spending Cuts

- Reductions to Discretionary Spending
- Reductions to internal contracts and services
- Hiring Freeze | Freezing of vacant positions
- A suspension of Capital Spending that is not grant-funded.

### Tax Increases and/or changes of Tax Rate to Reduce Fund Balance Transfer:

#### Tax Rate Increase FY 2026 Railroad and Public Utility Tax

**What is the Railroad and Public Utility Tax?** In the State of Maryland, Public Utilities are regulated as “public service companies.” The Railroad and Public Utility assessments are certified by the Department of Assessments and Taxation, State of Maryland. The Public Utility and railroad property include all property needed to operate the business in the Town. It includes real property, such as lands and buildings. It also includes personal property such as telephone or electric poles, towers, lines, cables, meters, transmission, distribution mains, and other equipment used to operate the utility.

**Current Rate:** 2.75 per \$100 of Assessed valuation

**Proposed Rate:** 3.25 per \$100 of Assessed valuation



# FY 2026

## BUDGET ASSUMPTIONS

### Tax Increase for Apartments, Commercial, and Industrial Properties within the Town.

**What does this mean?** A real property tax is a local tax on the value of real estate. The property owner will receive a property tax bill each year. The property tax bills for the residents of the Town of Bladensburg are issued in July / August of each year by Prince George's County. The tax bill amount is determined by (1) the assessments and (2) the property taxes.

### Tax Increase on Business Personal Property

**What is this?** In Maryland, there is a tax on business-owned personal property imposed and collected by the local governments. The Department of Assessments and Taxation is responsible for the assessment of all personal property throughout Maryland.

Personal property generally includes furniture, fixtures, office and industrial equipment, machinery, tools, supplies, inventory and any other property not classified as real property. The Town bills and collects this Tax on an annual basis.

Current Tax Rate 2.09 per 100 of assessed value (.0209) Proposed Tax 2.50 per 100 of assessed value (.0250)

### Increase of Apartment, Commercial, and Industrial Tax Rates

The Current Apartment Tax Rate is \$0.80 per \$100 of assessed value.

All other residential areas **will remain** at \$0.74 per \$100 of assessed value.

- Proposed Apartment Tax Rates: \$0.85 per \$100 of assessed value
- Proposed Commercial and Industrial Tax Rates: \$0.82 per 100 of assessed value

## OVERALL TAX CHANGES FOR FY2026

### Increase Utilities and Railroads Business Tax:

Increasing Business Personal Property Tax on Utilities and Railroads from \$2.75 to \$3.25 per \$100

Total potential increase: \$60,000

Requires only a Mayor and Council Action –No Constant Yield Process

### Increase Business Personal Property Tax:

Increasing Business Personal Property Tax from \$2.09 to \$2.50 per \$100

Total potential increase: \$150,000

Requires only a Mayor and Council Action –No Constant Yield Process

### Increase Real Estate Tax for Apartments:

Increasing real estate tax rate from \$.80 per \$100 to \$.85 per \$100

Total potential increase: approximately \$150,000

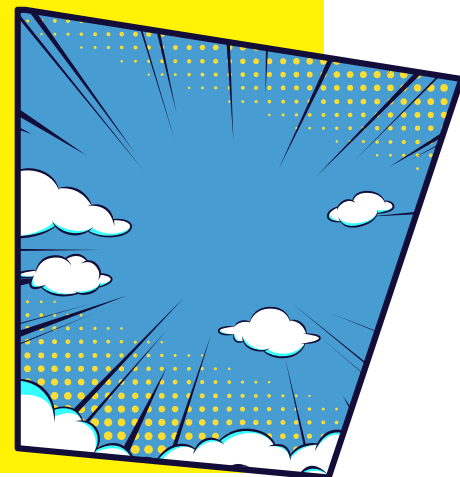
Advertised and posted as part of Constant Yield on May 12, 2025.

### Increase Business and Industrial Real Estate Taxes:

Increasing real estate tax rate from \$.74 per \$100 to \$.82 per \$100

Total potential increase: approximately \$170,000

Advertised and posted as part of Constant Yield on May 12, 2025



# FY 2026

## BUDGET ASSUMPTIONS

### Financial Stressors / Economic Conditions:

In developing the Budget for FY 2026, management has identified several financial stressors and economic conditions that require consideration. These factors have been evaluated and may need further study for future fiscal planning.

#### Inflation:

As of February 2025, the annual inflation rate in the United States increased to 2.8%, up from 2.7% in December 2024. (Source BLS.GOV) This upward trend indicates a sustained rise in the general price level, affecting the purchasing power of the Town's budget and its residents. Increases in shelter and gasoline prices are key contributors to this inflation rate. It is crucial to monitor these trends, as they can significantly impact long-term financial projections and budgetary allocations.

#### Fuel Costs:

Fuel expenses are vital to the Town of Bladensburg's operational budget, influencing municipal transportation and services. As of March 10, 2025, the average price for regular gasoline in the United States stood at \$3.09 per gallon, a 1.9% increase from December 2024. Stable or moderately increasing fuel costs allow for more predictable budget planning. However, any unforeseen fluctuations could affect the Town's operational expenses and should be closely monitored.

#### Economic Growth and Trade Policies:

Global economic conditions and national trade policies can indirectly influence local economies. Recent analyses indicate that ongoing trade tensions may dampen global growth projections, with the U.S. GDP growth expected to decrease to 2.2% in 2025. Such macroeconomic factors could impact local revenue streams, employment rates, and investment in community projects. Considering these broader economic indicators is essential when planning for the Town's financial future.



# FY 2026

## BUDGET ASSUMPTIONS

### **Interest Rates and Monetary Policy:**

The Federal Reserve's monetary policy directly affects borrowing costs and investment returns. While the Federal Reserve is currently maintaining its benchmark interest rate, there is a growing consensus that rate cuts may occur later in the year if economic conditions weaken.

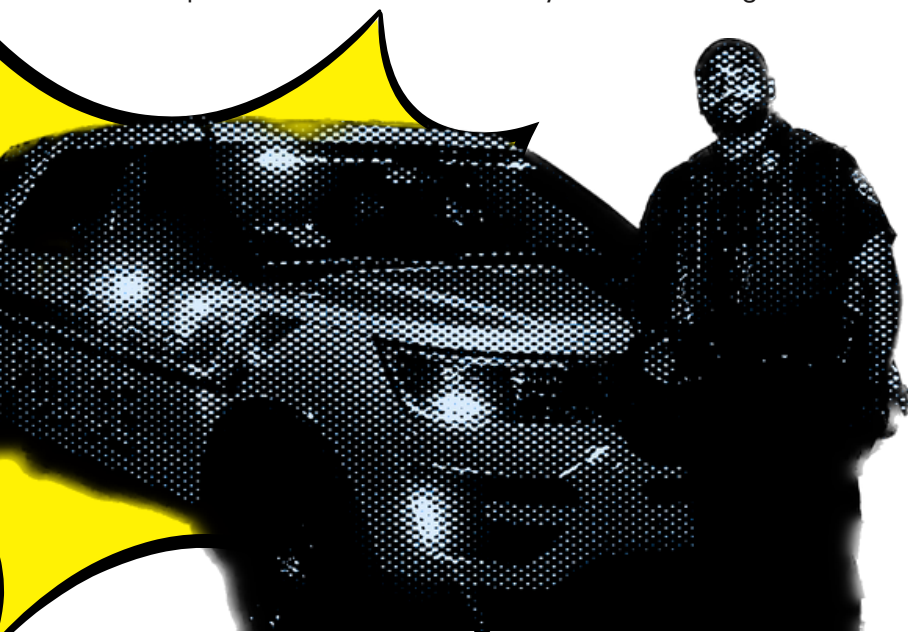
Changes in interest rates can influence the Town's ability to obtain affordable debt servicing costs when developing the Town Hall. It also may have an effect on investment income, necessitating vigilant monitoring to adjust financial strategies

### **Fleet Replacements:**

In recent years, the Town of Bladensburg has adopted a pay-as-you-go approach to vehicle replacement, allowing for more flexible financial management. With the significant influx of funds from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) and speed camera revenues over the past two years, the Town has successfully acquired over 20 new vehicles, effectively replacing one-third of its aging fleet. In FY 2025, we replaced four totaled cars and sold some of our current outdated fleet vehicles through an online auction service.

As we plan for the future, it is essential to establish a Vehicle and Equipment Replacement Fund (VERF) to ensure a sustainable long-term funding structure. This dedicated fund will provide a reliable financial foundation for ongoing fleet maintenance and replacement needs, enhancing the Town's ability to maintain a modern and efficient vehicle fleet. This year, we have started the strategic approach, which includes a thorough analysis to determine whether leasing or purchasing vehicles is the most cost-effective option. This evaluation will consider initial costs, long-term savings, vehicle usage, and maintenance requirements.

Staff recommends that Fleet replacements and additions be frozen in the first half of FY 2026 to allow the Town to build up reserves in the Traffic Enforcement Funds. Vehicle replacement cannot be delayed for the long term due to service problems in an aging fleet.





# FY 2026

## BUDGET ASSUMPTIONS

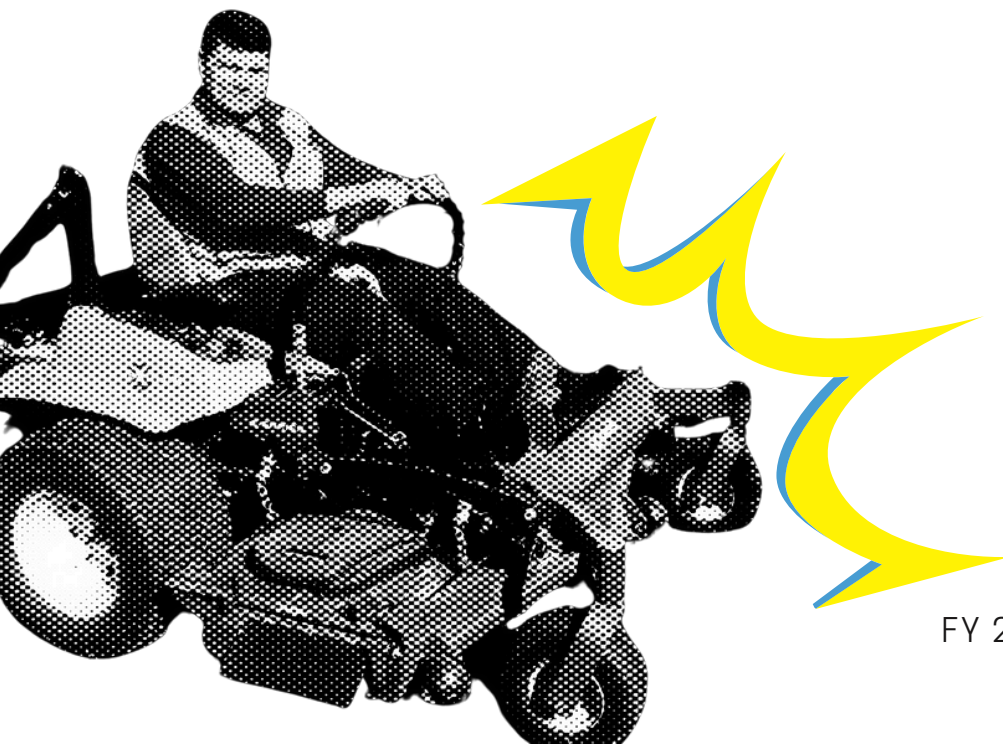
**Insurance and Retirement Costs:** Over the last several years, we have seen significant cost increases in our insurance premiums. Since FY 2021, these costs have doubled partly due to cost increases but also due to the number of new participants due to hiring. As a result of the over 17 % increase this year, we have raised the employee share of the health insurance cost to reduce the effect on the budget.

The Police Department has also requested that the town investigate LEOPS as a retirement option for officers. In Fall 2025, Automated Enforcement Funds may be used to fund an actuarial study of this process. If this actuarial study is acceptable to the Town, it must act by Fall 2025 and apply to LEOPS for FY 2027 entrance.

If enacted by the Town Council for FY 2027, the Council may consider asking Public Safety employees to pay a portion of the increased benefit costs. Currently, other agencies are looking at 37-39 percent of the salaries as contributions; with the existing plan, the Town is paying close to 10 percent contribution rates.

**Workers' Compensation:** Despite seeing a return of premium in FY 2024 and FY 2025 for claims experience in calendar year 2022 and 2023, the number of claims submitted in calendar year 2024 increased. The Town received a rate increase in FY 2025 and expects a premium increase in FY 2026.

With the rise in staffing in Public Safety and Public Works, the Town may be more exposed to worker compensation claims despite safety training efforts. Increases may be a long-term factor and recurring cost for the Town. To quell these increases, we have increased our outreach and education to staff on safety.



# BUDGET CALENDAR



The Maryland Statute states that the fiscal year for each municipal corporation in the state begins on July 1 of a calendar year and ends on June 30 of the following calendar year. The statute requires the Town Council to adopt an annual budget and submit it for certification to the County by June 30 of the year before the beginning of the fiscal year, which begins July 1 and ends June 30.

|                     |                                                  |                                                                                                                          |
|---------------------|--------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Nov 18, 2024</b> | Ordinance Introduction                           | Budget Enactment Ordinance introduced at the regular Town Council Meeting, outlining steps for FY 2025-2026 budget cycle |
| <b>Dec 9, 2024</b>  | Budget Calendar Finalization<br>(Second Reading) | Town Council finalizes and approves the official budget calendar for all FY 2025-2026 related meetings.                  |
| <b>Jan 13, 2025</b> | Budget Review                                    | Town Council Meeting                                                                                                     |
| <b>Feb 18, 2025</b> | Budget Session #1                                | Town Council Budget & Town Events                                                                                        |
| <b>Mar 10, 2025</b> | Budget Session #2                                | Introduction & Public Safety                                                                                             |
| <b>Mar 18, 2025</b> | Budget Session #3                                | Finance, Clerk, and Administrator                                                                                        |
| <b>Apr 1, 2025</b>  | Budget Session #4                                | Public Works & Public Safety                                                                                             |
| <b>Apr 14, 2025</b> | Budget Overview & Draft Ordinance Presented      | Draft of the Proposed Budget Ordinance provided to Town Council during regular meeting.                                  |
| <b>Apr 29, 2025</b> | Budget Session #5                                | Special Council Budget Meeting                                                                                           |
| <b>May 12, 2025</b> | Tax Hearing & Introduction of Budget Ordinance   | Proposed Budget formally introduced for adoption during Town Council Meeting.                                            |
| <b>Jun 9, 2025</b>  | Budget Ordinance – Second Reading                | Final adoption of the FY 2025-2026 Budget Ordinance, if no further revisions are required.                               |
| <b>Jul 1, 2025</b>  | Budget Execution                                 | Official start of the FY 2025-2026 budget cycle.                                                                         |

# REVENUE ITEMS BY MAJOR CATEGORY

## TAX REVENUES

### **Real Estate Taxes (Residential, Commercial, and Industrial – excludes Apartments)**

- Real Property is assessed by the State Department of Assessments and Taxation (SDAT) every three years.
- The county bills and collects tax assessments and then remits them to the Town.

### **Business Personal Property Tax and Public Utilities and Railroads**

- In Maryland, businesses pay an annual tax based on the value of their business personal property (furniture, fixtures, tools, machinery, inventory, equipment, etc.) to the County and Municipality in which they are located.

### **Income Tax**

- Prince George's County imposes a local income tax on residents and corporations, which is collected by the Comptroller of the Treasury and disbursed to municipalities.
- The portion received by the Town is the greater of either (1) 0.37% of taxable income, (2) 8.% of State income tax liability, or (3) 17% of the County's income tax liability.
- The Town has budgeted for a decrease in Income Tax Revenues because of the economic downturn and high unemployment.

### **Admissions and Amusement Tax**

- This is based on the revenues reported by businesses in the Town for vending machines, coin-operated machines, equipment rentals, and cover charges.
- The revenues are reported to the Comptroller of the Treasury where they assess and collect the tax and a portion is then remitted to the Town.

### **Local Business License**

- Fees established for operating a business in Town and for apartments. This year, other local license fees and permits, which are minor amounts, will be included.
- Projecting: no changes since we will have the same amount of apartments and businesses.

### **County Trader's License**

- Portion of fees received from the County for business licenses.



## REVENUE ITEMS BY MAJOR CATEGORY

### TAX REVENUES

#### Cable Franchise Fees

- Fees are remitted from Verizon and Comcast for subscription services within the town and to support the operations of our public broadcast channel.
- The Town receives a portion of the gross subscriber revenues generated within the Town

#### Local Fines and Fees

- Code and Public Safety violations paid to the Town

#### Report Copy Fees

- Police Report copies either subpoenaed or requested and for other Public Information Act requests.

#### Finger Printing

- Service offered for background checks through Maryland's Criminal Justice Information Service

#### Reimbursements

- Funds from partner agencies for Public Safety manpower coverages and service rendered.

#### Automated Traffic Enforcement

- Fines are generated for automated traffic enforcement in school zones, stop sign, and red light cameras.





# REVENUE ITEMS BY MAJOR CATEGORY

## STATE & COUNTY FUNDING

### Highway User Revenues

- Funding from the State of Maryland is based on the road miles maintained within the Town and also based on the number of vehicles registered in the Town
- The FY25 allocation increased due to more drivers on the road, fuel consumption, and fuel prices due to decreased demand, so fewer taxes were paid into the fund.
- \$150,000 allocated to road improvements/replacements under the Public Works budget, the balance used for road and walkway maintenance.

### Police Grants and Town Grants

- Specialized grants for additional services such as increased patrols for school bus safety, gun violence, and our COPS programs for doing youth outreach activities.
- The Town has applied and received numerous grants in FY 2024 and FY 2025 that will be spent in this Fiscal Year.

### Police Aid

- Municipal and County Police Agencies receive funding from the Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention, which is the State Aid for Police Protection Grant.
- Funding is based on the Town's budgeted expenditures for Public Safety and other factors.

### County Disposal Fee Rebate

- Funding provided by the County for dumping items for the Public Works Department

### Bank Stock

- Fixed amount received annually as part of an old hold harmless agreement to discontinue taxing bank shares. Minimal amount that does not change from year to year.



## REVENUE ITEMS BY MAJOR CATEGORY

### STATE & COUNTY FUNDING

#### **Insurance Reimbursement**

- Includes an annual rebate from our health insurance company for premiums paid in excess of claims
- Also include workers compensation premiums refunded to us, and for direct payments of damages down to Town property

#### **Property Rental**

- Income received from rental of Mango Café Property

#### **Vehicle Deployment**

- Payroll deduction for the use of take-home police vehicles.

#### **Misc. Revenues**

- Small receipts or payments which do not fall in any of above revenue accounts. These would include reimbursable expenses.

#### **Interest Earned**

- Earnings for fund balance invested in Maryland Local Government Investment Pool.



# MAYOR & COUNCIL

## BUDGET DETAIL

### Mayor and Council Information:

The Town of Bladensburg has a Council-Manager form of government. The Mayor and Town Council is the legislative body responsible for determining policies; ratifying and passing legislative ordinances; approving and adopting the annual budget; establishing the tax rate; undertaking public improvements; enacting local laws necessary for the protection of the public health, safety, and welfare of the community; and for developing the goals and vision for the Town.

The Town is divided into Ward I and Ward II, with two (2) representatives from each Ward, while the Mayor is elected at-large by the residents of the Town.

Day-to-day operations of the Town's various departments and implementation of policies established by the Mayor and Council are the responsibility of the Town Administrator, a professional administrator appointed by the Mayor and Town Council.

### Duties and Responsibilities

The Town Council is the governing body of the Town of Bladensburg with direct responsibility for the formulation of Town Policy. General responsibilities of the Town Council include:

- Hearing views of the public on matters concerning Town operations
- Defining the Policy and Goals of the town
- Improving programs and organizations for achieving Town goals
- Deciding financial matters of the Town and the setting of a tax rate
- Communicating the Town's goals and concerns to other legislative bodies
- Enacting all ordinances





# MAYOR & COUNCIL

## COMMUNITY EVENTS



In FY25, the Town of Bladensburg hosted **17** impactful events that celebrated who we are—our culture, our values, and our connections to one another. From joyful festivals to meaningful community gatherings, each event was designed to entertain, educate, and bring people together around shared goals of sustainability, unity, and togetherness.

These moments weren't just about planning events—they were about creating experiences for neighbors to connect, learn, and celebrate side by side. Thanks to our dedicated team, community partners, and residents, we've built more than just events—we've built memories, relationships, and momentum. As we look to FY26, we're excited to keep that energy going and create even more opportunities to celebrate what makes Bladensburg so special: us.

## Accomplishments

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- Revived Bladensburg Day as both our Founders Day and an annual fall festival
- Reintroduced the community parade for the first time in decades
- Honored the 210<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Battle of Bladensburg
- Hosted a powerful Domestic Violence/Mental Health Awareness Event
- Organized **3** green Green Events promoting sustainability
- Launched a new tradition: the Bladensburg Turkey Trot on Thanksgiving Day
- Coordinated **2** holiday meal distributions for Thanksgiving and the winter season
- Debuted Discover Bostwick, a community event focused on the historic Bostwick House, encouraging resident feedback for future site planning
- Bladensburg Fireworks continues to be a signature celebration—not only for our town but also as a standout event across the county
- 23rd Annual Yule Log made its festive return, proudly standing as Bladensburg's longest-running tradition

## Collaborators

American Legion Colmar Manor - Anacostia Watershed Society - Bladensburg Branch Library - Bladensburg Volunteer Fire Department - Bladensburg Police Department - Bladensburg Community Center - Bladensburg Green Team - Bladensburg High School - Bladensburg Patriotic Committee - Bladensburg Waterfront Park - Elizabeth Seton High School - Friends of Quincy Run - Grace Victory Center - No Opportunity Wasted Foundation - Starbucks Capital Plaza - We Lead By Example Inc. - Prince George's County Planning Department - Port Towns



**Town of Bladensburg**  
**Mayor and Council FY26 Draft Budget**

|                                     | <b>FY24 Budget</b> | <b>FY25 Budget</b> | <b>FY26 Budget</b> | % inc. | <b>Notes to Line Items</b>                                                            |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 6000 · Compensation                 |                    |                    |                    |        |                                                                                       |
| 6010 · Regular Pay                  | 60,008             | 62,708             | 61,568             | -2%    | Compensation for the Mayor and (4) Council Members                                    |
| 6030 · FICA                         | 4,591              | 4,797              | 4,710              | -2%    | 7.65% employer tax on total pay                                                       |
| 6040 · Health Insurance             | 40,468             | 45,651             | 48,626             | 7%     | Health, Dental, Vision insurance based upon enrollment in plans                       |
| 6050 · Pension                      | 6,559              | 6,854              | 5,384              | -21%   | Contribution to MD State Retirement System                                            |
| 6060 · Workers Comp                 | 2,000              | 500                | 500                | 0%     | Required liability insurance                                                          |
| Total 6000 · Compensation           | 113,626            | 120,510            | 120,788            | 0%     |                                                                                       |
| 6145 · Council Business Development | 22,000             | 26,000             | 30,000             | 15%    | Attendance for meetings and conferences to MML, NLC, PGCMA, AAMA                      |
| 6160 · Employee Recognition         | 8,000              | 15,000             | 15,000             | 0%     | Staff recognitions, lunches, awards, and Christmas.                                   |
| 6210 · Council Projects             | 2,500              | 2,500              | 2,500              | 0%     | Discretionary funding for local organizations and projects                            |
| 6225 · Community Grants             |                    |                    |                    |        |                                                                                       |
| 6226 · Fire Department Donation     | 30,000             | 30,000             | 30,000             | 0%     | Annual donation to Bladensburg VFD                                                    |
| 6227 · Scholarships                 | 5,000              | 5,000              | 5,000              | 0%     | New - for Bladensburg students to attend college or vocational school/studies         |
| 6225 · Community Grants - Other     | 12,000             | 12,000             | 12,000             | 0%     | \$2,000 grants given on an application basis                                          |
| Total 6225 · Community Grants       | 47,000             | 47,000             | 47,000             | 0%     |                                                                                       |
| 6230 · Community Events             | 66,000             | 66,000             | 70,000             | 6%     | Events such as Fireworks, Yule Log, Black History Month Celebration, Food asst., etc. |
| 6235 · Senior Citizen Projects      | 4,500              | 4,500              | 4,500              | 0%     | \$1,500 donation given to the three Senior Housing Communities to fund events         |
| 6255 · Town Meetings                | 5,000              | 6,000              | 6,000              | 0%     | Video production and recording of Town meetings and refreshments                      |
| 6320 · Wireless Communications      | 4,800              | 0                  | -                  |        | \$80 monthly cell phone allotment - ceased during FY24                                |
| 6420 · Computer Expense             | -                  | -                  | -                  |        |                                                                                       |
| 6550 · Insurance - Liability        | 3,000              | 2,000              | 4,000              | 100%   | Elected official liability insurance through LGIT                                     |
| 6825 · Membership                   | 13,000             | 20,000             | 20,000             | 0%     | MML, National League of Cities, PGCMA, Metro Washington Council of Govts., etc.       |
| 6835 · Travel                       |                    | 14,000             | 14,000             | 0%     | Travel and accommodations associated with meetings and conferences                    |
| <b>Total Expense</b>                | <b>289,426</b>     | <b>323,510</b>     | <b>333,788</b>     | 3%     |                                                                                       |



# TOWN ADMINISTRATOR BUDGET DETAIL

## **Town Administrator**

The Town Administrator serves as Town's Chief Administrative Officer, the Town Administrator is responsible for overseeing the day-to-day operations of the Town, setting goals, and providing administrative direction and oversight for all Town departments in full accordance with the policies, goals and vision established by the Mayor and Town Council.

## **Mission**

To deliver excellent public service that enhances the quality of life for our residents and businesses; foster an informed and engaged community by effectively communicating the Town's goals and priorities to both internal and external stakeholders; develop and recommend policies to meet the needs of the community; and foster community pride through collaborative partnerships.

## **Goals**

- Provide leadership and implement policies to support the goals and objectives of the Town's Strategic Plan, ensuring the needs of the citizens, businesses, and industries of Bladensburg are met.
- To provide high quality, innovative, and professional services to enhance the lives of our citizens and businesses.
- Encourage excellence throughout the organization to ensure the delivery of quality public services.
- Develop and implement sound fiscal policies and practices to ensure transparent and sustainable government operations and programs.
- Foster a mindset throughout the organization that strives to not only meet community expectations, but exceed them.
- Improve communication and the flow of information to the public by developing community outreach programs to enhance citizen awareness and engagement.
- Cultivate an innovative organization that encourages innovation and continuous improvement.
- Work collaboratively with our County, State and regional partners to identify and develop opportunities to promote economic and redevelopment in Bladensburg.
- Facilitate workforce opportunities to enhance the Quality of Life for Town residents.

**Town of Bladensburg**  
**Town Administrator FY26 Draft Budget**

|                                 | <b>FY24 Budget</b> | <b>FY25 Budget</b> | <b>FY26 Budget</b> | % inc. | <b>Notes to Line Items</b>                                           |
|---------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 6000 · Compensation             |                    |                    |                    |        |                                                                      |
| 6010 · Regular Pay              | 150,613            | 156,760            | 147,050            | -6%    | (1) Town Administrator reduced                                       |
| 6030 · FICA                     | 11,522             | 11,992             | 11,249             | -6%    | 7.65% employer tax on total pay                                      |
| 6040 · Health Insurance         | 14,686             | 24,557             | 26,479             | 8%     | Health, Dental, and Vision insurance based upon enrollment           |
| 6050 · Pension                  | 16,462             | 17,134             | 16,073             | -6%    | Contribution to MD State Retirement System                           |
| 6060 · Workers Comp             | 500                | 500                | 500                | 0%     | Required liability insurance                                         |
| Total 6000 · Compensation       | 193,783            | 210,943            | 201,351            | -5%    |                                                                      |
| 6110 · Tuition Reimbursement    | 1,000              | 1,000              | -                  | -100%  | Continuing Education courses                                         |
| 6140 · Professional Development | 4,000              | 4,000              | 3,000              | -25%   | Training and leadership conferences (MML, ICMA, etc.)                |
| 6255 · Town Meetings            | -                  | 5,000              | 5,000              |        | Reclassified to Mayor and Council budget                             |
| 6260 · Transportation           | 60,000             | 60,000             | 60,000             | 0%     | Port Towns Call-a- Bus local transportation service                  |
| 6320 · Wireless Communications  | 960                | -                  | -                  |        |                                                                      |
| 6400 · Computer                 | -                  | -                  | -                  |        |                                                                      |
| 6560 · Legal                    | 40,000             | 40,000             | 40,000             | 0%     | Town Attorney fees and specialized legal counsel as/if needed        |
| 6580 · Contractual Services     | 100,000            | 125,000            | 125,000            | 0%     | Lobbyist, Economic Development, HR Consultant, Grant writer, etc.    |
| 6810 · Advertising              | 30,000             | 30,000             | 30,000             | 0%     | Quarterly newsletters and promotions                                 |
| 6820 · Website                  | 4,000              | 4,000              | 4,000              | 0%     | Website hosting and platform services                                |
| 6825 · Membership               | 1,000              | 1,000              | 1,000              | 0%     | Annual memberships for professional and trade organizations          |
| 6835 · Travel                   | 3,000              | 5,000              | 4,000              | -20%   | Per diem and travel costs for attendance to seminars and conferences |
| <b>Total Expense</b>            | <b>437,743</b>     | <b>485,943</b>     | <b>473,351</b>     | -3%    |                                                                      |



## **Town Administrator – FY 2025 Accomplishments**

### **1. Strengthening Financial Stewardship**

- Led the FY 2025 Budget Process with enhanced transparency and structure, following GFOA best practices, including the second year using a more resident-accessible format.
- Identified and addressed structural budget issues, initiating mid-year adjustments to align spending with long-term fiscal sustainability.
- Supported a smooth transition from ARPA-funded programs by recalibrating staffing and service levels.
- Collaborated with the Treasurer to prepare multi-year budget comparisons and increase Council and public understanding of long-term fiscal trends.

### **2. Advancing Strategic Capital Improvements**

- Oversaw major capital initiatives, including:
- 57th Avenue Lighting Project – permitting, contractor coordination, and installation phase.
- Roadways & Bridge Repair Project (CDBG PY48R) – managed grant reimbursements and compliance.
- Sought and obtained grant funding for Capital projects for FY 2026
- Supported the completion of major Town infrastructure improvements such as Upshur Street repaving, LED crosswalk upgrades, and gateway signage.

### **3. Expanding Grant Capacity & Intergovernmental Partnerships**

- Oversaw a significant increase in grant applications and awards, including public safety, infrastructure, and planning funds.
- Partnered with consultants to strategically expand grant-seeking capacity, helping the Town capture additional capital resources without increasing the operating burden.
- Worked collaboratively with regional and state stakeholders on legislative advocacy for Bladensburg's priorities.

### **4. Annexation & Economic Development Initiatives**

- Revised the Town's 2025 Annexation Plan following legal and community considerations, leading to the development of the new Kenilworth Avenue Corridor proposal.
- Initiated direct outreach to property owners and businesses in the proposed annexation area, emphasizing ROI, security, and shared growth.
- Continued development of business support tools, including grant-funded economic development consultants, façade improvement grant exploration, and roundtables with the business community.



# TOWN ADMINISTRATOR

## FY25 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

### 5. Organizational Development & Staff Engagement

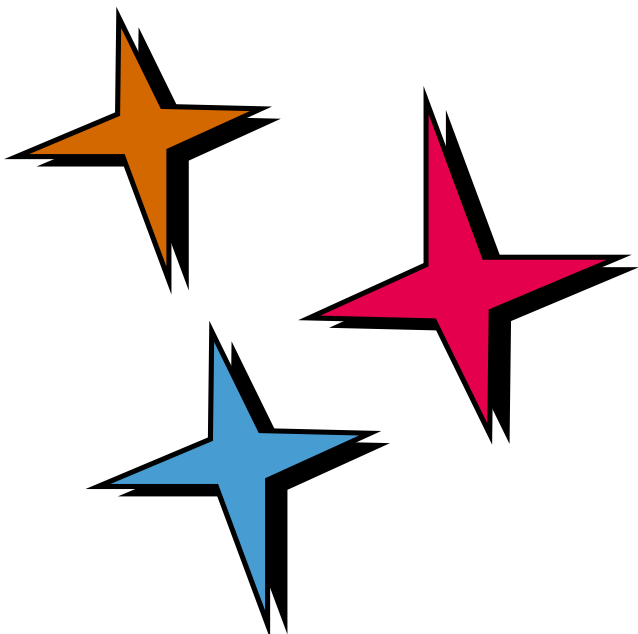
- Conducted strategic assessments of departmental performance, resulting in several organizational improvements.
- Supported professional development for key staff members, including PW Supervisor, Treasurer, and administrative personnel.
- Managed the transition of staff roles and responsibilities, including new Code Enforcement and Communications positions.
- Sought an RFP and awarded a contract for a Human Resources Consultant

### 6. Community Engagement and Communications

- Engaged with Community Partners and Port Towns on various projects.
- Led and coordinated the Urban Land Institute's Technical Assistance Panel for Bostwick House, as well and worked with the Aman Memorial Trust on Capital Improvement Projects for the site
- Oversaw public information and reporting for the America in Bloom program, Sustainable Maryland certification, and Town-sponsored events.

### 7. Governance and Council Support

- Served as a consistent and transparent liaison between Town Council and departmental leadership.
- Maintained the highest standards of professionalism and accountability, ensuring timely delivery of Council reports, meeting agendas, and follow-up items.
- Strengthened internal controls and procurement procedures with support from the Treasurer and Town Clerk.



# TOWN TREASURER

## BUDGET DETAIL

### Town Treasurer

The Treasurer's Office is responsible for providing financial direction and managing Town assets, implementing the Town's financial policies and procedures, and monitoring financial performance against legally adopted budgets.

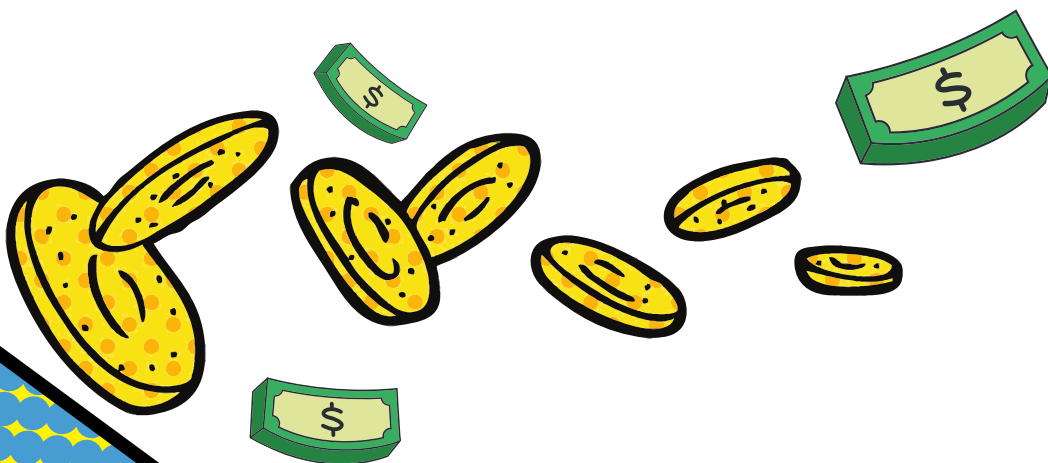
### Mission Statement

The mission of the Treasurer's Office is to oversee the town's financial operations, implement sound fiscal policies to ensure the long-term financial sustainability of the community, maintain the public's trust through transparent and responsible accounting practices, and faithfully steward the taxpayer's funds.

### Responsibilities of the Finance Department/Treasurer

Establishing and maintaining sound fiscal policies

- Producing and monitoring the Town's Annual Budget
- Preparing financial and administrative reports
- Accounts Payable and Fixed Assets
- Accounting and Financial Reporting
- Managing the annual audit
- Collecting and disbursing Town funds
- Collection of local taxes
- Maintaining vendor files and relationships
- Processing the payroll
- Issuance of business license
- Overseeing and monitoring all Town purchases and ensuring all purchases are in accordance with federal, state and Town laws
- Serving as the Custodian of all Town funds





## Finance– FY 2025 Accomplishments

The Treasurer's Office, comprised of the Treasurer and a Finance Clerk, achieved several notable accomplishments in Fiscal Year 2025:

- Successfully completed another annual audit with no findings or recommendations.
- Implemented electronic payment processing for fines, fees, and taxes, resulting in faster receipt of funds and a reduction in collection activities.
- Executed contracts for new budgeting and reporting software, as well as accounts payable software, to streamline vendor invoice processing and improve operational efficiency.
- Successfully closed out all ARPA funds awarded by the State of Maryland, with a reserve allocated for a stormwater management project in collaboration with Prince George's County.
- Represented the Town on the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments' Region Forward Coalition, supporting regional economic growth and development initiatives.
- Secured favorable Tax Differential results with the County, allowing Town residents to benefit from a reduced real property tax rate in recognition of locally provided services.
- Conducted a thorough analysis of tax rates and classifications to support the development of the FY26 budget.
- Provided training to administrative staff in the Town Clerk's Department to support the Treasurer's Office with accounts payable and payroll functions.

# Town of Bladensburg Finance FY26 Draft Budget

|                                 | <u>FY24 Budget</u>    | <u>FY25 Budget</u>    | <u>FY26 Budget</u>    | % inc. | <u>Notes to Line Items</u>                                                                                                                                                         |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|--------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 6000 · Compensation             |                       |                       |                       |        |                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| 6010 · Regular Pay              | 198,467               | 237,792               | 223,119               | -6%    | <div> <div>Hours reduced</div> <div>(1) Treasurer</div> <div>(1) Accounting Assistant</div> <div>Pension contribution + annual admin fee for all employees of \$7,800</div> </div> |
| 6020 · Overtime                 | 1,000                 | 1,000                 | 1,000                 | 0%     |                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| 6030 · FICA                     | 15,259                | 18,191                | 17,069                | -6%    |                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| 6040 · Health Insurance         | 10,067                | 10,821                | 9,933                 | -8%    |                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| 6050 · Pension                  | 24,871                | 25,991                | 24,387                | -6%    |                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| 6060 · Workers Comp             | 500                   | 500                   | 500                   | 0%     |                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| ARPA Funded                     | 31,310                |                       |                       |        |                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Total 6000 · Compensation       | <u>281,474</u>        | <u>294,295</u>        | <u>276,008</u>        | -6%    |                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| 6110 · Tuition Reimbursement    | 2,000                 | 4,000                 | -                     | -100%  | Continuing Education courses                                                                                                                                                       |
| 6140 · Professional Development | 2,000                 | 2,000                 | 2,000                 | 0%     | Training and leadership conferences to MDGFAO, MML, and MACO                                                                                                                       |
| 6150 · Payroll Service          | 6,000                 | 8,000                 | 10,000                | 25%    | Fees for payroll service, quarterly and annual tax filings, W-2's, and 1099's                                                                                                      |
| 6320 · Wireless Communications  | 960                   | -                     | -                     |        |                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| 6400 · Computer                 | -                     | -                     | -                     | 0%     |                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| 6460 · Software Contract        | 2,000                 | 2,500                 | 12,000                | 380%   | Annual finance software licensing                                                                                                                                                  |
| 6510 · Audit                    | 17,000                | 15,000                | 15,000                | 0%     | Annual audit plus single audit for ARPA funds - 4th year of 4 year contract                                                                                                        |
| 6520 · Bank Charges             | 5,000                 | 5,000                 | 5,000                 | 0%     | Banking fees                                                                                                                                                                       |
| 6530 · Bad Debts                | 6,000                 | 8,000                 | 8,000                 | 0%     | Write-off of uncollectable Personal Property taxes for businesses which closed                                                                                                     |
| 6550 · Insurance - Liability    | 10,000                | 10,000                | 15,000                | 50%    | Liability and Umbrella Policies for Town, along with Fidelity and Crimes Coverage                                                                                                  |
| 6825 · Membership               | 500                   | 500                   | 500                   | 0%     | Annual memberships for professional and trade organizations                                                                                                                        |
| 6835 · Travel                   | 1,000                 | 1,000                 | 500                   | -50%   | Per diem and travel costs for attendance to seminars and conferences                                                                                                               |
| Subtotal                        | <u>333,934</u>        | <u>350,295</u>        | <u>344,008</u>        | -2%    |                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| 6950 · Debt Service             | 87,000                | 47,000                | 18,000                | -62%   | Principal and interest payments for leased body cameras and tasers                                                                                                                 |
| <b>Total Expense</b>            | <u><b>420,934</b></u> | <u><b>397,295</b></u> | <u><b>362,008</b></u> | -9%    |                                                                                                                                                                                    |



# TOWN CLERK

## BUDGET DETAIL

### Town Clerk's Office

The Town Clerk's Office serves as a vital link between the Town government and the community, ensuring transparency, accessibility, and efficient administration of public records, council meetings, and community engagement. The office is committed to upholding the highest standards of integrity and service to the residents of Bladensburg. FY 2025 marked a productive and transformative year for the Town Clerk's Office, following the onboarding of a new Town Clerk and Assistant Town Administrator, Regine Watson, in August 2024. The office has made significant progress across several core areas, supporting the Town's operational, governance, and community engagement priorities.

### Staff Members

- Town Clerk/Assistant Town Administrator – Oversees the administration of the Town Clerk's Office, ensures compliance with public records laws, manages legislative functions, and supports Town operations.
- Marketing Specialist – Leads public communications, graphic design, photography, manages the Town's website and social media presence, and coordinates marketing efforts for Town initiatives and community events.
- Deputy Town Clerk/Administrative Assistant – Assists with maintaining public records, coordinating Town Council meetings, and supporting administrative functions within the department.





## Town Clerk – FY 2025 Accomplishments

### Boards, Commissions, and Committee Support

- Green Team: Continued coordination of meetings and initiatives, including support for the Town's successful Sustainable Maryland Designation application.
- Patriotic Committee: Supported planning and execution of commemorative events such as the 210th Anniversary of the Battle of Bladensburg, Veterans Day, and Memorial Day.
- Board of Supervisors of Elections (BOSOE): Finalized key election governance documents (Internal Policy Manual, Election Judges Manual, and Candidate Certificate) for the October 2025 election; managed interviews and appointments.
- Ethics Commission: Oversaw a transparent screening and appointment process, resulting in a fully constituted Ethics Commission with three members and one alternate.

### Records Management Modernization

- Records Retention Schedule: Initiated the first update since 1976 in partnership with the Maryland Department of General Services.
- Scanning Services: Sought companies and bids for scanning services; to be explored further in FY 2026 if funding allows.
- Certification: Both the Clerk and Deputy Clerk completed Maryland State Archives certification, earning 0.5 CMC credits.

### Procurement and Vendor Engagement

- Vendor Expansion: Led the Town's registration and integration with eMaryland Marketplace Advantage (eMMA), expanding vendor access and increasing procurement transparency.
- Bid Management: Successfully managed and awarded bids for:
  - Engineering Services
  - HR Consultant
  - Stop Sign Camera Program
  - Janitorial Services
  - CDBG PY50 – Sidewalk Improvements
  - On-Call Plumbing Services
  - Bostwick House – Wash House Stabilization
- Surplus Vehicle Disposal: Oversaw sale of surplus vehicles, generating \$17,980 in revenue and reducing fleet maintenance burdens.
- Human Resources Program: Supported the selection and onboarding of an HR Consultant; an internal employee newsletter will launch in July 2025.



## **Town Clerk - FY 2025 Accomplishments**

### **Communications and Marketing**

- Keep Bladensburg Beautiful Campaign: Co-developed a student-centered initiative promoting civic pride and cleanliness.
- America in Bloom: Contributed to award-winning communications work recognized at the 2024-2025 Symposium.
- Economic Development Outreach: Launched the “Bladensburg New Business Roundtable: We Are Stronger Together” and published a new Economic Development webpage aligned with Council goals.

### **Community Campaigns:**

- Boo-tiful Bladensburg & Bladensburg Spring Yard Signage: Seasonal yard and landscaping contests and signage to promote neighborhood pride.
- No Mow April (Year 2): Encouraged residents to refrain from mowing in April to benefit pollinators.
- Tree City Designation: Submitted Tree City paperwork and collaborated with a community organization on Arbor Day activities.

### **Web Services and Digital Modernization**

- Public Information Act Portal: Implemented an online request system to streamline public records requests and enhance transparency.
- Website Payment Integration: Rolled out a new online payment system for credit card transactions, improving accessibility for residents and businesses.
- AI and Technology Use: Expanded AI note-taking for improved meeting documentation efficiency.
- Meeting Software: Continued integration of meeting management tools to ensure digital access to records and improved data continuity.

# Town of Bladensburg Town Clerk FY26 Draft Budget

|                                  | <b>FY24 Budget</b> | <b>FY25 Budget</b> | <b>FY26 Budget</b> | <b>% inc.</b> | <b>Notes to Line Items</b>                                                     |
|----------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|---------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 6000 · Compensation              |                    |                    |                    |               |                                                                                |
| 6010 · Regular Pay               | 203,803            | 255,963            | 247,670            | -3%           | Hours Reduced<br>(1) Clerk<br>(1) Deputy Clerk<br>(1) Marketing Coordinator    |
| 6020 · Overtime                  | 3,000              | 10,000             | 10,000             | 0%            |                                                                                |
| 6030 · FICA                      | 15,820             | 20,346             | 19,712             | -3%           |                                                                                |
| 6040 · Health Insurance          | 22,574             | 29,078             | 51,938             | 79%           |                                                                                |
| 6050 · Pension                   | 24,728             | 27,977             | 27,070             | -3%           |                                                                                |
| 6060 · Workers Comp              | 500                | 500                | 500                | 0%            |                                                                                |
| ARPA Funded                      | 24,156             |                    |                    |               |                                                                                |
| <b>Total 6000 · Compensation</b> | <b>294,581</b>     | <b>343,864</b>     | <b>356,890</b>     | <b>4%</b>     |                                                                                |
| 6110 · Tuition Reimbursement     | 2,000              | 2,000              | 2,000              | 0%            | Continuing Education courses                                                   |
| 6140 · Professional Development  | 3,000              | 3,000              | 2,000              | -33%          | Training and leadership conferences                                            |
| 6240 · Memorials                 | 2,000              | 2,000              | 2,000              | 0%            | Condolence gifts                                                               |
| 6270 · Historic Promotion        | 2,402              | 2,402              | 2,402              | 0%            | Annual dues to Anacostia Trails Heritage Area                                  |
| 6320 · Wireless Communications   | 1,920              | -                  | -                  |               |                                                                                |
| 6400 · Computer                  | -                  | -                  | -                  | 0%            |                                                                                |
| 6460 · Software Contract         | 10,000             | 15,000             | 15,000             | 0%            | Annual licensing meeting, PIA, and scanning software                           |
| 6570 · Equipment Lease           | 5,000              | 8,000              | 8,000              | 0%            | Copier lease and usage costs and postage machine lease                         |
| 6825 · Membership                | 500                | 500                | 500                | 0%            | Annual memberships for professional and trade organizations                    |
| 6835 · Travel                    | 1,500              | 1,500              | 1,000              | -33%          | Per diem and travel costs for attendance to seminars and conferences           |
| 6850 · Office Supplies           | 8,000              | 8,000              | 10,000             | 25%           | Office consumables                                                             |
| 6855 · Postage                   | 2,000              | 3,000              | 2,000              | -33%          | Town mailings                                                                  |
| 6880 · Election Costs            | 8,000              | 8,000              | 8,000              | 0%            | Costs for machines and ballots in case of vacancy                              |
| 6890 · Utilities                 | 7,000              | 7,000              | 7,000              | 0%            | 30% of electric, water, gas, and sewer for Town Hall, balance to Public Safety |
| <b>Total Expense</b>             | <b>347,903</b>     | <b>404,266</b>     | <b>416,792</b>     | <b>3%</b>     |                                                                                |



# PUBLIC SAFETY

## BUDGET DETAIL

### Bladensburg Police Department

The Bladensburg Police Department is the primary law enforcement agency for the Town of Bladensburg, Maryland. We have 31 Police Officers and 13 civilian staff members, which includes a full-service emergency communications center. Public safety, which includes the operations of the Police Department, represents the largest portion of our budget, reflecting our commitment to ensuring the safety and security of our community. Under Chief Tyrone Collington's leadership, the Bladensburg Police Department (BPD) has achieved measurable progress in public safety, community engagement, and professional development. Below is an updated summary of key initiatives, incorporating verified statistics and legislative outcomes:

### Mission Statement

The Bladensburg Police Department is dedicated to the protection and preservation of life and property, by the prevention, detection, investigation and reduction of crime in our community. The Bladensburg Police Department's mission is to improve the quality of life of the citizens; by recognizing and understanding the needs of the community, working with the community to solve problems, maintaining peace and good order and apprehending criminals.





## Public Safety – FY 2025 Accomplishments

### Community-Centric Policing Initiatives

- Chief Collington has prioritized transparency and trust through sustained community outreach. The Citizens Police Academy, relaunched in 2024, bi-annual sessions, offering residents firsthand insights into police operations. Events like National Night Out, Eggstravaganza, Independence Day Security Detail and Public Safety Participation, Car Show and Trunk or Treat have been well-attended, with the 2024 National Night Out, as well as other community outreach drawing significant community participation.

### Youth Engagement and Mentorship

- The Police Explorer Program, targeting youth aged 10 to 18, has expanded its reach. An Open House in September 2024 highlighted the program's role in job readiness and youth development. The program's growth is evident through increased community engagement and participation. Our Explorers and Strait Talk with Teens students have volunteered for several of community events to show their community to providing excellent service to our residents and to the seniors.

### Advocacy for Enhanced Retail Theft Legislation

- In January 2024, Chief Collington actively supported Maryland Senate Bill 11 and House Bill 179, known as the Organized Retail Theft Act of 2025. This legislation, approved by the Governor in April 2025, defines organized retail theft and enables prosecution across jurisdictions, addressing a critical gap in enforcement

### Significant Crime Reduction

- In January 2024, Chief Collington actively supported Maryland Senate Bill 11 and House Bill 179, known as the Organized Retail Theft Act of 2025. This legislation, approved by the Governor in April 2025, defines organized retail theft and enables prosecution across jurisdictions, addressing a critical gap in enforcement
- BPD reported a 20.5% decrease in Part 1 offenses in 2024, encompassing both violent and property crimes. This reduction is attributed to enhanced patrol strategies, community reporting tools, and targeted surveillance efforts.

# PUBLIC SAFETY

## FY25 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

### 2024 CID Summary

#### Total Cases Assigned: 77

- Closed/Exceptionally Cleared: 54 (70.1%)
- Suspended: 15 (19%)
- Open: 8
- Arrests Made: 32 (41.5%)

#### Detective Case Breakdown:

- Det/Sgt. Maria Ramirez: 7 cases (4 closed, 2 suspended, 1 open)
- Det/Sgt. Mahir Ayoub: 35 cases (25 closed, 5 suspended, 5 open); 1,734 regular hrs, 268 OT hrs
- Det. Webb: 34 cases (25 closed, 6 suspended, 1 open); 1,859 regular hrs, 470 OT hrs
- Det. Porter: 1 misdemeanor case (open)

#### Year-over-Year Comparison:

- Felony Cases Assigned: Down 26.7% (2023: 105 → 2024: 77)
- Suspension Rate: Improved (2023: 23% → 2024: 19%)
- Clearance Rate: Increased (2023: 53.3% → 2024: 70.1%)

#### Notable Arrests (Selection)

- Armed Robberies: Multiple incidents including 7-Eleven, Save A Lot, Advanced Auto
- Carjackings & Shootings: Armed and strong-arm cases reported across town
- Major Crimes: Fatal hit and run, domestic cutting, attempted murders, 1st-degree assaults

#### Active Community Participation

- Under Chief Collington's leadership, BPD has actively participated in over 30 community events annually, including food distribution initiatives, holiday parades, and safety awareness campaigns. These engagements reinforce community relations and demonstrate the department's commitment beyond conventional policing

#### Support for Special Olympics Maryland

- In 2024, BPD participated in the Maryland State Police Polar Bear Plunge, contributing to the event's record-setting fundraising total of over \$4.4 million for Special Olympics Maryland. While specific departmental contributions are not publicly detailed, BPD's involvement underscores its commitment to community and charitable initiatives

#### Professional Development and Recognition

- Chief Collington has emphasized continuous professional development within BPD. In 2024, multiple officers were promoted to supervisory positions, reflecting the department's focus on career advancement and operational excellence.

**Town of Bladensburg  
Public Safety FY26 Draft Budget**

|                                        | <b>FY25 Total</b> | <b>FY26 Operating</b> | <b>FY26 Traffic</b> | <b>FY26 Total</b> | % inc. | <b>Notes to Line Items</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
|----------------------------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|-------------------|--------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 6000 · Compensation                    |                   |                       |                     |                   |        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| 6010 · Regular Pay                     | 3,804,792         | 3,428,874             | -                   | 3,428,874         | -10%   | Funding for:<br>Chief of Police and (28) Law Enforcement Officers<br>( 6) Communications/PIO<br>( 3) Code Enforcement<br>( 1) Cadet part-time<br>( 2) Community Coord. and Executive Asst.<br>(40) Total employees to Public Safety |
| 6020 · Overtime                        | 350,000           | 400,000               | -                   | 400,000           | 14%    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| 6030 · FICA                            | 317,842           | 292,879               | -                   | 292,879           | -8%    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| 6040 · Health Insurance                | 708,706           | 703,373               | -                   | 703,373           | -1%    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| 6050 · Pension                         | 415,864           | 374,733               | -                   | 374,733           | -10%   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| 6060 · Workers Comp                    | 250,000           | 250,000               | -                   | 250,000           | 0%     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| ARPA Funded                            | -                 |                       |                     | -                 |        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Total 6000 · Compensation              | 5,847,204         | 5,449,859             | -                   | 5,449,859         | -7%    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|                                        |                   |                       |                     |                   |        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| 6110 · Tuition Reimbursement           | 20,000            | 10,000                | 10,000              | 20,000            | 0%     | Reimbursement for new officers to attend training academy.                                                                                                                                                                          |
| 6120 · Uniforms                        | 80,000            | 80,000                | -                   | 80,000            | 0%     | Uniforms, new officer bullet proof vests and outer carry vests                                                                                                                                                                      |
| 6130 · Recruitment                     | 16,000            | 16,000                |                     | 16,000            | 0%     | Background checks, investigations, and psychological evaluations for new hires                                                                                                                                                      |
| 6140 · Professional Development        | 50,000            | 35,000                | 15,000              | 50,000            | 0%     | Training and leadership opportunities                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| 6160 · Employee Recognition            | 14,000            | 4,000                 | 6,000               | 10,000            | -29%   | Commendations and recognitions                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| 6230 · Community Events                | 20,000            | 20,000                |                     | 20,000            | 0%     | NNO, Movie in the Park, Shop w/Cop, Citizens Police Academy, Safe Streets, etc.                                                                                                                                                     |
| 6310 · Telephone                       | 32,000            | 32,000                |                     | 32,000            | 0%     | All Town phone services run through Communications                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| 6320 · Wireless Communications         | 60,000            | 60,000                |                     | 60,000            | 0%     | Mobile Data Terminals on cruisers, T-Mobile hotspots, wireless phones                                                                                                                                                               |
| 6330 · Communications Contracts        | 40,000            | -                     | 40,000              | 40,000            | 0%     | Licensing and upkeep of mobile radios radio tower                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| 6340 · Interoperability                | -                 | -                     |                     | -                 |        | Reclassified to Software Contracts                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| 6350 · Internet Access                 | 7,000             | 7,000                 |                     | 7,000             | 0%     | Broadband access for Town Hall and for COPS office                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| 6360 · Data Fees                       | -                 | -                     |                     | -                 |        | Reclassified to Contractual Services                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| 6420 · Computer Expense                | 40,000            | 20,000                | 20,000              | 40,000            | 0%     | Hardware purchases and upgrades                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| 6440 · IT Support                      | 142,500           | -                     | 100,000             | 100,000           | -30%   | Contractual services to manage computers, servers, hardware, and software                                                                                                                                                           |
| 6460 · Software Contract               | 60,000            | 35,000                | 25,000              | 60,000            | 0%     | Barracuda backup, Trend Micro, SonicWall, LIPDR, Records Management, etc.                                                                                                                                                           |
| 6545 · Insurance - Auto                | 50,000            | 60,000                |                     | 70,000            | 40%    | Insurance on Town vehicles                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| 6550 · Insurance - Liability           | 50,000            | 50,000                |                     | 60,000            | 20%    | Police liability                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| 6570 · Equipment Lease                 | 10,000            | 10,000                | -                   | 10,000            | 0%     | Monthly copier lease and usage charges for (2) copiers and postage meter                                                                                                                                                            |
| 6580 · Contractual Services            | 120,000           | 20,000                | 100,000             | 120,000           | 0%     | Equifax, Lexis Nexus, storage. Shot Spotter and Grants Mgr. under Speed Camera                                                                                                                                                      |
| 6590 · Automated Traffic Enforcement   | 125,000           | -                     | 125,000             | 125,000           | 0%     | Automated traffic enforcement service                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| 6620 · Fuel                            | 115,000           | 115,000               |                     | 115,000           | 0%     | Fuel for all Public Safety vehicles                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| 6640 · Vehicle Repairs and Maintenance | 40,000            | 40,000                |                     | 40,000            | 0%     | Maintenance and repairs to Public Safety vehicles                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| 6650 · Vehicle Body Repairs            | 25,000            | 25,000                |                     | 25,000            | 0%     | Repairs paid for damage to vehicles, less deductible if applicable                                                                                                                                                                  |
| 6670 · Equipment Maintenance           | -                 | -                     |                     | -                 |        | Radar certification, reclassified to Contractual Services                                                                                                                                                                           |
| 6680 · Weapon Repairs and Supplies     | 15,000            | 15,000                |                     | 15,000            | 0%     | Firearm purchases and ammo for range                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| 6825 · Membership                      | 10,000            | 10,000                |                     | 10,000            | 0%     | Memberships to professional and trade organizations                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| 6835 · Travel                          | 8,000             | 8,000                 |                     | 8,000             | 0%     | Lodging and per diem for conferences, trainings, and seminars                                                                                                                                                                       |
| 6850 · Office Supplies                 | 15,000            | 15,000                |                     | 15,000            | 0%     | Office consumables for Public Safety                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| 6855 · Postage                         | 3,000             | 3,000                 |                     | 5,000             | 67%    | Mailings for investigations, complaints, and tickets                                                                                                                                                                                |
| 6865 · Supplies                        | 20,000            | 20,000                |                     | 20,000            | 0%     | Vehicle and safety supplies and investigation kits                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| 6870 · K9 Supplies                     | 15,000            | 15,000                |                     | 15,000            | 0%     | Supplies and veterinarian care                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| 6885 · Finger Printing                 | 1,000             | 1,000                 |                     | 1,000             | 0%     | Charges by CJS to perform finger print scans                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| 6890 · Utilities                       | 20,000            | 20,000                |                     | 20,000            | 0%     | Utilities for Public Safety Office and Police Annex                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Subtotal                               | 7,070,704         | 6,195,859             | 441,000             | 6,658,859         | -6%    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|                                        |                   |                       |                     |                   |        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| 6970 · Capital Outlay                  |                   |                       |                     |                   |        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| 6975 · Capital Outlay - Speed Camera   |                   |                       |                     |                   |        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| 6970 · Capital Outlay - Other          | 300,000           |                       | -                   | -                 |        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Total 6970 · Capital Outlay            | 300,000           | -                     | -                   | -                 | -100%  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|                                        |                   |                       |                     |                   |        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| <b>Total Expense</b>                   | <b>7,370,704</b>  | <b>6,195,859</b>      | <b>441,000</b>      | <b>6,658,859</b>  | -10%   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|                                        | TOTAL             | Operations            | Traffic Enf.        | TOTAL             |        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |



# PUBLIC WORKS

## BUDGET DETAIL

### Public Works:

The Public Works Department provides many essential town services, such as building maintenance, snow removal, street maintenance, street cleaning, and traffic sign repair. Additional responsibilities include oversight of street light repair and waste management. The Department of Public Works (DPW) had a productive and impactful year in FY2025, completing numerous infrastructure, beautification, and public safety initiatives throughout the Town. These accomplishments reflect the department's ongoing commitment to operational excellence, resident service, and long-term sustainability.

### Mission Statement

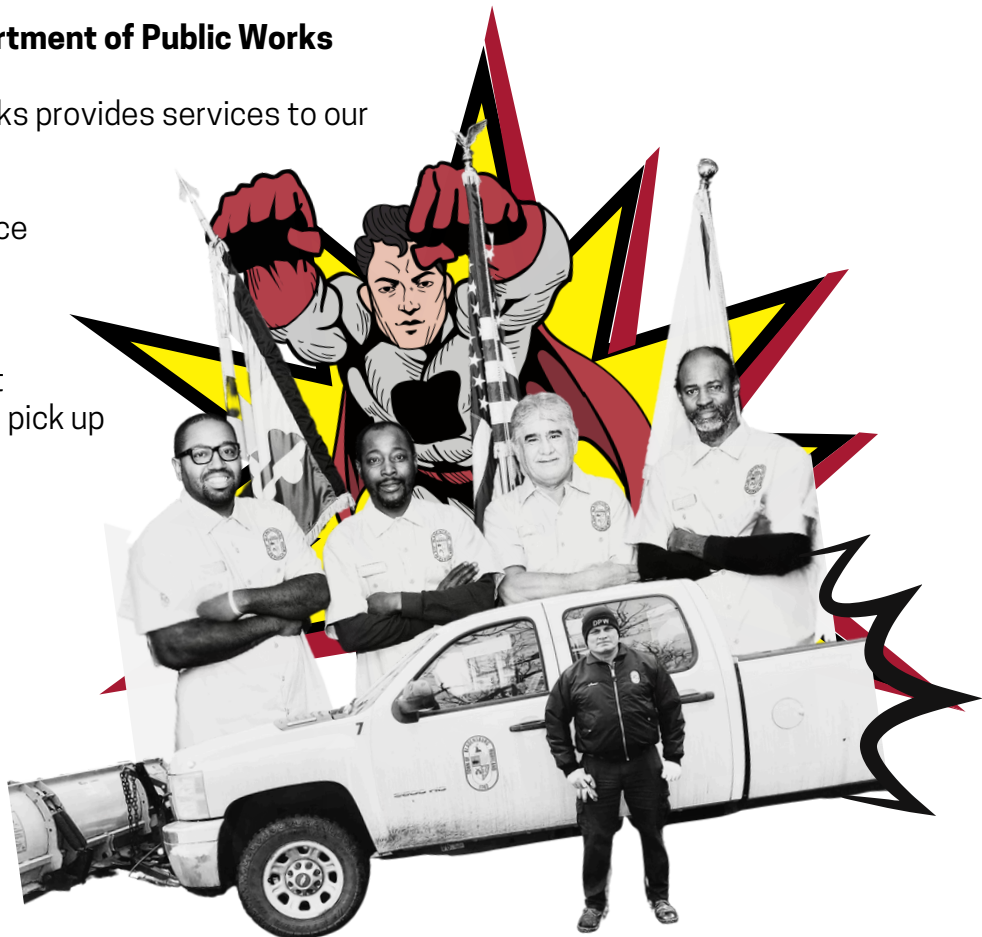
The Bladensburg Department of Public Works (DPW) mission is to keep the town clean and well-maintained. Our goal is to provide a wide range of environmentally friendly services to support and enhance the quality of life of our residents, businesses and visitors. We are committed to delivering prompt, efficient customer service with a positive attitude and working together collaboratively to ensure the Town of Bladensburg is a safe, secure, and thriving community.

### Responsibilities of the Department of Public Works

The Department of Public Works provides services to our citizens through:

#### Building & Grounds Maintenance

- Seasonal Leaf Collection
- Signs
- Snow Removal
- Storm Water Management
- Street Maintenance/Litter pick up
- Waste Collection





## **Public Works – FY 2025 Accomplishments**

### **Road Improvements**

- Upshur Street: Completed full milling and overlay, significantly improving driving conditions and extending the life of the roadway.

### **Sidewalk Repairs & ADA Compliance**

- 57th Avenue: Installed new ADA-compliant sidewalk ramps, enhancing accessibility for all residents.
- Emerson Street: Repaired a small but critical portion of the sidewalk to ensure pedestrian safety and usability.

### **Building Maintenance and Repairs**

- Police Station: Completed major sewer line repairs to address longstanding infrastructure issues.
- Town Hall & Police Station: Installed new vinyl plank flooring, modernizing interior spaces for both staff and visitors.
- CID Office: Fully remodeled the Criminal Investigations Division office, improving functionality and workspace conditions.
- Town Hall Exterior: Repainted all fascia boards for improved appearance and building preservation.
- Annex Building: Repainted the exterior to enhance curb appeal and maintain structural integrity.
- Flat Roof Repairs: Completed critical repairs to the flat roofs on both the Town Hall and the Annex to prevent future water damage.

### **Lighting Enhancements & Safety Improvements**

- 57th Avenue Lighting Project: Installed 10 new LED pedestrian light poles to improve nighttime visibility and enhance public safety.
- Traffic Safety: Installed LED flashing stop signs and crosswalk signs throughout town to improve traffic control and pedestrian awareness.
- Town Hall Lighting: Added new exterior LED lights to improve safety and aesthetics after dark.



## Public Works – FY 2025 Accomplishments

### Bridge Repairs

Repaired structural and surface elements on three key town bridges:

- Varnum Street
- Taylor Street
- Spring Road

These efforts ensure safe and reliable access for both vehicles and pedestrians.

### Town Beautification & Signage

- Gateway Signage: Installed six new gateway signs at major entrances to the Town, reinforcing community identity and welcoming visitors.
- Tree Plantings: Planted 53 new trees across various public spaces; 47 have successfully taken root and are thriving.

### Leaf Collection

- Seasonal Service: Collected approximately 40 tons of leaves using the vacuum system, ensuring cleaner streets and better stormwater flow.

### New Equipment Acquisitions

- Crosswalk Maintenance: Purchased a thermoplastic machine to enhance the durability and visibility of crosswalk markings.
- Fleet Expansion: Added two new pickup trucks to the fleet, including a small dump truck equipped with a snow plow and salt spreader for winter operations.

### Miscellaneous Achievements

- Curb Painting: Refreshed all yellow-painted curbs throughout Town to improve visibility and compliance with parking regulations.
- Trash Management: Installed five new public trash receptacles in high-traffic areas to support cleanliness and litter control.
- Team Growth: Welcomed two new employees to the DPW team, strengthening the department's capacity to serve residents.

### Professional Development:

- Mr. Purnell Hall, PW Supervisor, attended his first America in Bloom symposium in Ohio, gaining insights into national beautification and sustainability practices.
- Mr. Hall also became a member of the American Public Works Association (APWA), expanding professional networks and access to industry best practices.

# Town of Bladensburg Public Works FY26 Draft Budget

|                                   | <u>FY24 Budget</u>      | <u>FY25 Budget</u>      | <u>FY26 Budget</u>      | % inc. | <u>Notes to Line Items</u>                                                |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|--------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 6000 · Compensation               |                         |                         |                         |        |                                                                           |
| 6010 · Regular Pay                | 318,158                 | 410,908                 | 421,450                 | 3%     | (1) Supervisor<br>(5) F/T Workers                                         |
| 6020 · Overtime                   | 10,000                  | 10,000                  | 15,000                  | 50%    |                                                                           |
| 6030 · FICA                       | 25,104                  | 32,199                  | 33,388                  | 4%     |                                                                           |
| 6040 · Health Insurance           | 69,282                  | 86,499                  | 107,361                 | 24%    |                                                                           |
| 6050 · Pension                    | 39,224                  | 44,912                  | 46,054                  | 3%     |                                                                           |
| 6060 · Workers Comp               | 35,000                  | 40,000                  | 40,000                  | 0%     |                                                                           |
| ARPA Funded                       | 44,974                  |                         |                         |        | No ARPA funding for FY25 and Town Beautification teams                    |
| Total 6000 · Compensation         | 541,742                 | 624,518                 | 663,253                 | 6%     |                                                                           |
| 6110 · Tuition Reimbursement      | 3,500                   | 3,500                   | 1,000                   | -71%   | Education opportunities                                                   |
| 6120 · Uniforms                   | 3,000                   | 4,000                   | 5,000                   | 25%    | Work and safety gear                                                      |
| 6140 · Professional Development   | 2,000                   | 2,000                   | 2,000                   | 0%     | Training and leadership opportunities                                     |
| 6350 · Internet Access            | 3,000                   | 3,000                   | 3,000                   | 0%     | Internet access                                                           |
| 6420 · Computer Expense           | -                       | -                       | -                       |        |                                                                           |
| 6620 · Fuel                       | 20,000                  | 20,000                  | 20,000                  | 0%     | Fuel for equipment and Public Safety trucks                               |
| 6640 · Vehicle Repairs and Maint. | 20,000                  | 20,000                  | 20,000                  | 0%     | Repairs and upkeep of trucks and attached equipment                       |
| 6670 · Equipment Maintenance      | 10,000                  | 10,000                  | 10,000                  | 0%     | Repairs and upkeep of mowers and heavy equipment                          |
| 6710 · Building Maintenance       | 50,000                  | 50,000                  | 50,000                  | 0%     | Repairs and upkeep of all Town facilities                                 |
| 6720 · Grounds Maintenance        | 30,000                  | 30,000                  | 30,000                  | 0%     | Upkeep of grounds around Town buildings, roads, parks, and right of ways  |
| 6740 · Street Lights              | 50,000                  | 50,000                  | 50,000                  | 0%     | Lighting costs for Town roads and paths                                   |
| 6750 · Sanitation Contract        | 300,000                 | 250,000                 | 300,000                 | 20%    | Contracted 2x weekly trash pickup and 1x weekly bulk trash and yard waste |
| 6760 · Landfill Fees              | 16,000                  | 15,000                  | 15,000                  | 0%     | Disposal costs of street and roadway debris                               |
| 6770 · Building Supplies          | 10,000                  | 12,000                  | 12,000                  | 0%     | Building consumables - paper towels, water, cleaning supplies, etc.       |
| 6790 · Janitorial Services        | 30,000                  | 36,000                  | 25,000                  | -31%   | Contracted service for daily cleaning of Town buildings                   |
| 6835 · Travel                     | 500                     | 500                     | 1,500                   | 200%   | Costs associated with attending conferences and seminars                  |
| 6860 · Shop Supplies              | 3,000                   | 2,000                   | 2,000                   | 0%     | Shop consumables                                                          |
| 6890 · Utilities                  | 28,000                  | 28,000                  | 28,000                  | 0%     | Electric, water, sewer, and gas for Public Works building and Bostwick    |
| Subtotal                          | 1,120,742               | 1,160,518               | 1,237,753               | 7%     |                                                                           |
| 6970 · Capital Outlay             |                         |                         |                         |        |                                                                           |
| 6979 · Highway User Projects      | 150,000                 | 150,000                 | 150,000                 |        | Street repairs funded through Highway User Revenues                       |
| 6970 · Capital Outlay - Other     | 58,000                  | -                       | -                       |        |                                                                           |
| Total 6970 · Capital Outlay       | 208,000                 | 150,000                 | 150,000                 | 0%     |                                                                           |
| <b>Total Expense</b>              | <b><u>1,328,742</u></b> | <b><u>1,310,518</u></b> | <b><u>1,387,753</u></b> | 6%     |                                                                           |



# TOWN OF BLADENSBURG

4229 Edmonston Road  
Bladensburg, Maryland



**First Reading:** May 12, 2025

**Second Reading:** June 9, 2025

## PROPOSED FY 2026 | BUDGET ORDINANCE NO: 01 – 2026

**AN ORDINANCE TO LEVY THE REAL PROPERTY AND PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX RATES AND APPROPRIATE AND ADOPT THE OPERATING BUDGET OF THE MAYOR AND TOWN COUNCIL OF BLADENSBURG, MARYLAND, FOR THE 2026 FISCAL YEAR OF JULY 1, 2025, THROUGH JUNE 30, 2026.**

**BE IT ENACTED AND ORDAINED** by the Mayor and Town Council of Bladensburg that pursuant to the authority contained in Article 501 of the Charter of the Town of Bladensburg, the Town Budget for the Fiscal Year 2026 is attached hereto and;

**BE IT FURTHER ENACTED AND ORDAINED** by the Mayor and Town Council of Bladensburg that the **Residential Single Family property tax levy** for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2025, be, and the same is hereby set, at \$0.74 per \$100 of full value assessment on all taxable real property located within the corporate limits of the Town of Bladensburg; and

**BE IT FURTHER ENACTED AND ORDAINED** by the Mayor and Town Council of Bladensburg that the **Commercial property tax levy** for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2025, be, and the same is hereby set, at \$0.82 per \$100 of full value assessment on all taxable real property located within the corporate limits of the Town of Bladensburg; and

**BE IT FURTHER ENACTED AND ORDAINED** by the Mayor and Town Council of Bladensburg that the **Industrial property tax levy** for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2025, be, and the same is hereby set, at \$0.82 per \$100 of full value assessment on all taxable real property located within the corporate limits of the Town of Bladensburg; and

**BE IT FURTHER ENACTED AND ORDAINED** by the Mayor and Town Council of Bladensburg that the **Apartments property tax levy** for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2025, be, and the same is hereby set, at \$0.85 per \$100 of full value assessment on all taxable real property located within the corporate limits of the Town of Bladensburg; and

**BE IT FURTHER ENACTED AND ORDAINED** by the Mayor and Town Council of Bladensburg that the **Business Personal Property tax levy** for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2025, be, and the same is

hereby set, at \$2.50 per \$100 of full value assessment on all taxable business personal property within the corporate limits of the Town of Bladensburg, besides Public Utilities and Railroads; and

**BE IT FURTHER ENACTED AND ORDAINED** by the Mayor and Town Council of Bladensburg that the **Business Personal Property tax levy for Public Utilities and Railroads** for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2025, be, and the same is hereby set, at \$3.25 per \$100 of full value assessment on all taxable business personal property within the corporate limits of the Town of Bladensburg; and

**BE IT FURTHER ENACTED AND ORDAINED** by the Mayor and Town Council of Bladensburg that the general operating budget for Fiscal Year 2026 is attached and will be and is hereby adopted; and

**BE IT FURTHER ENACTED AND ORDAINED** that upon adoption of this Ordinance, the same shall be authenticated by the signature of the Mayor and Town Clerk to be recorded among the Town books and kept for that purpose, and that a certified copy of the Ordinance shall be posted in the Town Hall in public view for a period of not less than ten (10) days after its passage; and

**BE IT FURTHER ENACTED AND ORDAINED** that this Ordinance shall be effective on the first day of July 2025. The requirement for reading this Ordinance at two (2) separate meetings was fulfilled on May 12, 2025, and June 9, 2025.

**INTRODUCED** by the Mayor and Council of the Town of Bladensburg at a Town Council meeting on May 12, 2025, and thereafter, this Ordinance was prominently posted in the Town Hall and available for inspection by the public.

**By Order of the Mayor and Town Council**

Attest:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Regine Watson, Town Clerk

\_\_\_\_\_  
Takisha James, Mayor

**TOWN OF BLADENSBURG  
NOTICE OF A PROPOSED REAL  
PROPERTY TAX RATE INCREASE**

For the tax year beginning July 1, 2025, the Mayor and Council of the Town of Bladensburg in Prince George's County proposes to increase real property tax rates on apartments and multi-dwelling units from \$.80 per \$100 of assessment to \$.85 per \$100 of assessment, and to increase real property tax rates on commercial and industrial properties from \$.74 per \$100 of assessment to \$.82 per \$100 of assessment.

A public hearing on the proposed real property tax rate increase will be held at 7:00 PM on May 12, 2025 at Bladensburg Town Hall at 4229 Edmonston Rd., Bladensburg, MD 20710. The meeting will also be streamed live on The Town of Bladensburg's Facebook page, YouTube, and via Zoom.

To join the meeting via Zoom, please access the following link:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82724353868?pwd=1Ki7dHP1LIGZvZDIiOR1xtJxsaN9e.1>

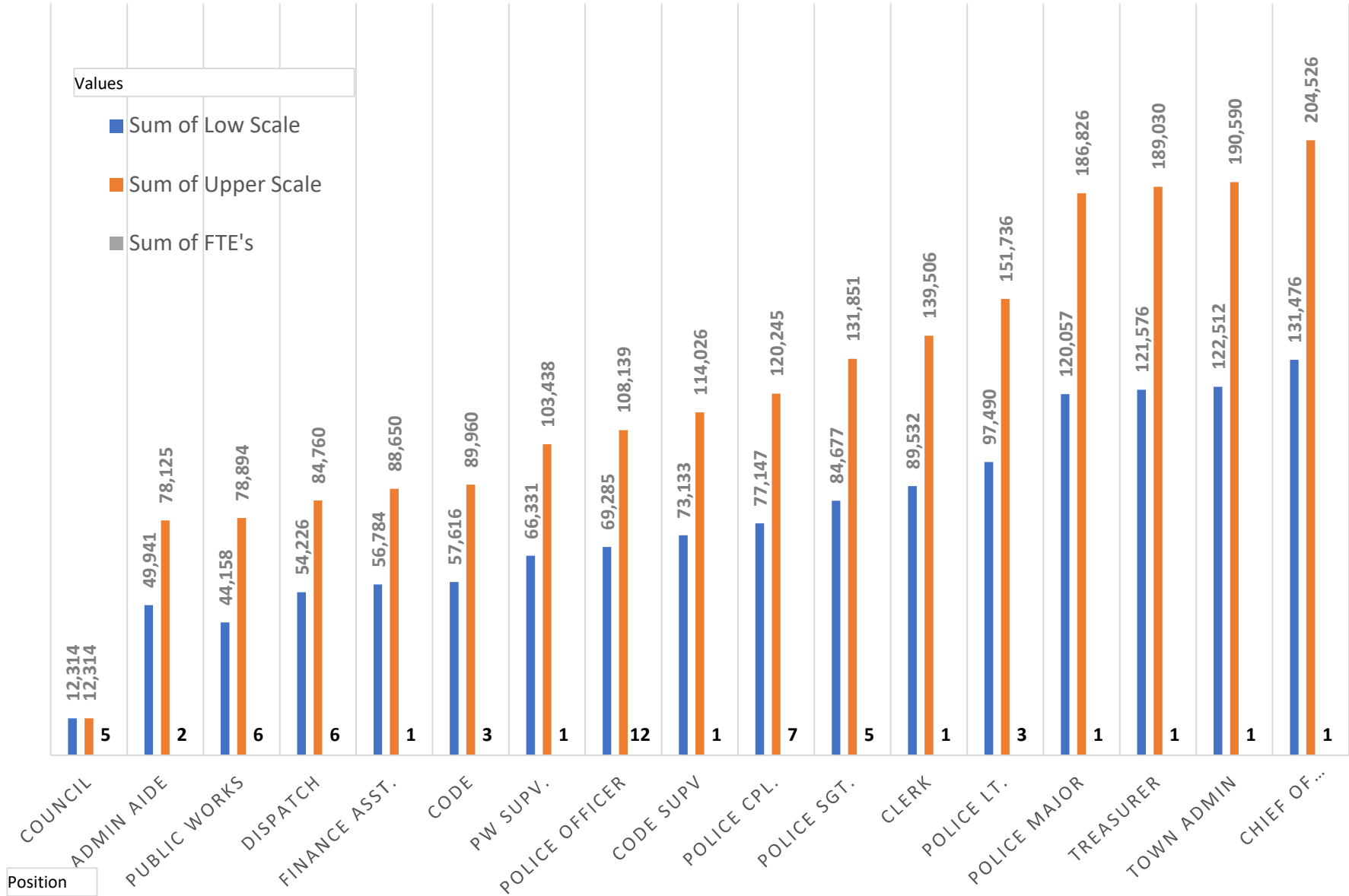
Enter the Meeting ID: 827 2435 3868 and Passcode: 408860

To join with audio only, dial +1-301-715-8592 and enter meeting ID number 82724353868 #.

The hearing is open to the public, and public testimony is encouraged. Speakers will be allowed to address the Mayor and Council for three (3) minutes. Public Comment may also be emailed to [clerk@bladensburgmd.gov](mailto:clerk@bladensburgmd.gov). All electronic comments must be submitted by 5 PM on May 12, 2025. Written comments can also be submitted to The Town of Bladensburg, 4229 Edmonston Rd., Bladensburg, MD 20710 and must be received by 5 PM on May 12, 2025. Comments received will be read into the record during the public comment portion of the meeting. Persons with questions regarding this hearing may call Bladensburg Town Hall at 301-927-7048 for further information.

Sum of Low Scale   Sum of Upper Scale   Sum of FTE's

## Town of Bladensburg Pay Ranges and Number Full-Time Employees (FTE's) by Position for FY26



**Town of Bladensburg  
FY26 Draft Budgeted Revenues**

|                                                | <b>FY24 Budget</b> | <b>FY25 Budget</b> | <b>FY26 Budget</b> | % inc. | Notes to Line Items                                                             |
|------------------------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 4000 · Property Taxes                          |                    |                    |                    |        |                                                                                 |
| 4020 · Real Estate Taxes                       | 4,179,813          | 4,560,000          | 5,034,415          | 10%    | Residential @ \$.0074, Commercial @ \$.0082, Apartments @ \$.0085               |
| 4040 · Business Personal Property Tax          | 1,045,000          | 795,000            | 950,000            | 19%    | Assessed business personal property of \$38M x \$.0250 tax rate not inc. below  |
| 4060 · Personal Property Tax - Other           |                    | 330,000            | 390,000            | 18%    | *New* - Utility and Rail Road personal property assessments of \$12M x \$.0325  |
| Total 4000 · Property Taxes                    | 5,224,813          | 5,685,000          | 6,374,415          | 12%    |                                                                                 |
| 4100 · Income Tax                              | 600,000            | 650,000            | 650,000            | 0%     | Income Tax collected by the State and remitted to the Town                      |
| 4200 · Other Local Taxes                       |                    |                    |                    |        |                                                                                 |
| 4220 · Admissions and Amusement Tax            | 40,000             | 20,000             | 20,000             | 0%     | Tax collected by the State and remitted to the Town for rentals, cover charges, |
| Total 4200 · Other Local Taxes                 | 640,000            | 670,000            | 670,000            | 0%     | and coin operated machines                                                      |
| 4300 · Licenses and Permits                    |                    |                    |                    |        |                                                                                 |
| 4310 · Local Business Licenses                 | 80,000             | 80,000             | 110,000            | 38%    | Business license and apartment rental license fees                              |
| 4320 · County Traders License                  | 15,000             | 15,000             | 15,000             | 0%     | Share of County business licenses remitted to Town                              |
| 4370 · Cable Franchise Fees                    | 110,000            | 120,000            | 80,000             | -33%   | Fees based on subscribership of Comcast and Verizon                             |
| Total 4300 · Licenses and Permits              | 205,000            | 215,000            | 205,000            | -5%    |                                                                                 |
| 4400 - Federal Funding (ARPA)                  | 2,288,133          | 200,000            | 500,000            | 150%   | ARPA funding Community Initiatives                                              |
| 4410 · Federal Earmark                         | 150,000            | 1,000,000          | 1,000,000          | 0%     | Senator Ben Cardin Earmark of \$1M                                              |
| Total 4400 · Federal Funding                   | 2,438,133          | 1,200,000          | 1,500,000          |        |                                                                                 |
| 4500 · State Funding                           |                    |                    |                    |        |                                                                                 |
| 4510 · Highway User Revenues                   | 285,200            | 327,766            | 327,766            | 0%     | State allocation for roads maintenance                                          |
| 4520 · Police Aid                              | 300,000            | 300,000            | 300,000            | 0%     | Annual grant from Governor's Office for Crime Control and Prevention            |
| 4550 · State Bond Bill                         | 150,000            | 1,200,000          | 1,200,000          |        | State Bond Bill for Bostwick                                                    |
| Total 4500 · State Funding                     | 735,200            | 1,827,766          | 1,827,766          | 0%     |                                                                                 |
| 4600 · County Funding                          |                    |                    |                    |        |                                                                                 |
| 4620 · County Disposal Fee Rebate              | 22,484             | 22,484             | 22,484             | 0%     | Rebate for using County dumps                                                   |
| 4640 · Bank Stock                              | 2,372              | 2,372              | 2,372              | 0%     | Fixed amount received annually as part of a 1960's hold harmless agreement      |
| Total 4600 · County Funding                    | 24,856             | 24,856             | 24,856             | 0%     | to discontinue taxing bank shares                                               |
| 4700 · Service Charges                         |                    |                    |                    |        |                                                                                 |
| 4720 · Local Fines/Fees                        | 15,000             | 40,000             | 40,000             | 0%     | Public Safety, Code, parking violations, and impound fees                       |
| 4730 · Copier Fees                             | 3,000              | 3,000              | 3,000              | 0%     | Fees collected for Police Reports and Public Information Act requests           |
| 4740 · Fingerprinting                          | 1,000              | 1,000              | 1,000              | 0%     | Service offered through Maryland's Criminal Justice Information Service         |
| 4780 · Red Light Enforcement                   | -                  | 537,000            | -                  |        | Fines generated for red light enforcement                                       |
| 4770 · Automated Traffic Enforcement           | 1,293,418          | 1,500,000          | 1,000,000          | -33%   | Fines generated for automated traffic enforcement                               |
| Total 4700 · Service Charges                   | 1,312,418          | 2,081,000          | 1,044,000          | -50%   |                                                                                 |
| 4800 · Other Revenues                          |                    |                    |                    |        |                                                                                 |
| 4810 · Insurance Reimbursement                 | 60,000             | 50,000             | 50,000             | 0%     | Annual rebate from health insurance and reimbursed costs for insured losses     |
| 4820 · Bus Shelter Advertising                 | 2,000              | -                  | -                  |        | Revenues remitted to us for advertising contracts on bus shelters               |
| 4830 · Property Rental                         | 42,000             | 42,000             | 42,000             | 0%     | Rental of Mango Café                                                            |
| 4840 · Vehicle Deployment                      | 7,000              | 7,000              | 28,200             | 303%   | Payroll deduction for Public Safety take home vehicles                          |
| 4870 · Misc. Revenues                          | 2,000              | 2,000              | 2,000              | 0%     | Misc. receipts which do not fall in any above revenue accounts                  |
| 4880 · Interest Earned                         | 80,000             | 250,000            | 250,000            | 0%     | Interest earned through MD Local Government Investment Pooled accounts          |
| Total 4800 · Other Revenues                    | 193,000            | 351,000            | 372,200            | 6%     |                                                                                 |
| 4900 · Restricted Revenues                     |                    |                    |                    |        |                                                                                 |
| 4950 - Community Legacy                        | 290,000            | 150,000            | -                  | -100%  | Street lighting project completion                                              |
| 4960 · CDBG Construction Grant                 | -                  | 167,000            | -                  |        |                                                                                 |
| 4970 · Other Grants                            | 10,000             | 172,500            | -                  |        | COPS Unit donations                                                             |
| Total 4900 · Restricted Revenues               | 300,000            | 489,500            | -                  | -100%  |                                                                                 |
| 4998 · Transfer from Speed Camera Fund Balance | 684,999            |                    |                    |        |                                                                                 |
| 4999 · Transfer from Fund Balance              | 494,260            | 575,114            | -                  | -100%  | Budget reconciliation to have a balanced budget when expenses > revenues        |
| <b>Total Revenues</b>                          | <b>12,252,679</b>  | <b>13,119,236</b>  | <b>12,018,237</b>  | -8%    |                                                                                 |



**Town of Bladensburg  
FY26 Draft Budget**

|                                        | <b>FY24 Budget</b> | <b>FY25 Budget</b> | <b>FY26 Budget</b> | <b>% of Total</b>                   | <b>Inc. over FY25</b> |
|----------------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| <b>REVENUES</b>                        |                    |                    |                    |                                     |                       |
| Real Estate Taxes                      | 4,179,813          | 4,560,000          | 5,034,415          | 42%                                 | 10%                   |
| Business Personal Property Taxes       | 1,045,000          | 1,125,000          | 1,340,000          | 11%                                 | 19%                   |
| Income Tax                             | 600,000            | 650,000            | 650,000            | 5%                                  | 0%                    |
| Other Local Taxes                      | 40,000             | 20,000             | 20,000             | 0%                                  | 0%                    |
| Licenses and Permits                   | 205,000            | 215,000            | 205,000            | 2%                                  | -5%                   |
| Federal Funding                        | 2,438,133          | 1,200,000          | 1,500,000          | 12%                                 | 25%                   |
| State Funding                          | 735,200            | 1,827,766          | 1,827,766          | 15%                                 | 0%                    |
| County Funding                         | 24,856             | 24,856             | 24,856             | 0%                                  | 0%                    |
| Service Charges                        | 1,312,418          | 2,081,000          | 1,044,000          | 9%                                  | -50%                  |
| Other Revenues                         | 193,000            | 351,000            | 372,200            | 3%                                  | 6%                    |
| Grants                                 | 300,000            | 489,500            | -                  | 0%                                  | -100%                 |
| Transfer from Speed Camera Fund Bal.   | 684,999            |                    |                    |                                     |                       |
| Transfer from Fund Balance             | 494,260            | 575,114            | -                  | 0%                                  | -100%                 |
| <b>TOTAL REVENUES</b>                  | <b>12,252,679</b>  | <b>13,119,236</b>  | <b>12,018,237</b>  | <b>100%</b>                         | <b>-8%</b>            |
| <b>EXPENDITURES BY DEPARTMENT</b>      |                    |                    |                    |                                     |                       |
| Mayor and Council                      | 289,426            | 323,510            | 333,788            | 3%                                  | 3%                    |
| Town Administrator                     | 437,743            | 485,943            | 473,351            | 4%                                  | -3%                   |
| Clerk                                  | 347,903            | 404,266            | 416,792            | 3%                                  | 3%                    |
| Finance                                | 420,934            | 397,295            | 362,008            | 3%                                  | -9%                   |
| Subtotal Administration                | 1,496,006          | 1,611,014          | 1,585,939          | 13%                                 | -2%                   |
| Public Safety / Traffic Enforcement    | 7,181,931          | 7,370,704          | 6,658,859          | 54%                                 | -10%                  |
| Public Works                           | 1,328,742          | 1,310,518          | 1,387,753          | 11%                                 | 6%                    |
| ARPA Projects                          | 1,646,000          | 200,000            | 500,000            | 4%                                  | 150%                  |
| Grants - Restricted                    | 300,000            | 327,000            | -                  | 0%                                  | -100%                 |
| Capital Projects - Federal/State Funds | 300,000            | 2,300,000          | 2,200,000          | 18%                                 | -4%                   |
| <b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>              | <b>12,252,679</b>  | <b>13,119,236</b>  | <b>12,332,551</b>  | <b>100%</b>                         | <b>-6%</b>            |
| <b>Surplus/(Deficit)</b>               | <b>-</b>           | <b>-</b>           | <b>(314,314)</b>   | <b>(transfer from Fund Balance)</b> |                       |

Town of Bladensburg  
Budget Summary  
July 2025 through June 2026

|                                         | Jul '25 - Jun 26 |
|-----------------------------------------|------------------|
| Ordinary Income/Expense                 |                  |
| Income                                  |                  |
| 4000 · Property Taxes                   |                  |
| 4020 · Real Estate Taxes                | 5,034,415        |
| 4040 · Business Personal Property Tax   | 950,000          |
| 4060 · Personal Property Tax - Other    | 390,000          |
| Total 4000 · Property Taxes             | 6,374,415        |
| 4100 · Income Tax                       | 650,000          |
| 4200 · Other Local Taxes                |                  |
| 4220 · Admissions and Amusement Tax     | 20,000           |
| Total 4200 · Other Local Taxes          | 20,000           |
| 4300 · Licenses and Permits             |                  |
| 4310 · Local Business Licenses          | 110,000          |
| 4320 · County Traders License           | 15,000           |
| 4370 · Cable Franchise Fees             | 80,000           |
| Total 4300 · Licenses and Permits       | 205,000          |
| 4400 · Federal Funding                  |                  |
| 4410 · Federal Earmark                  | 1,000,000        |
| 4400 · Federal Funding - Other          | 500,000          |
| Total 4400 · Federal Funding            | 1,500,000        |
| 4500 · State Funding                    |                  |
| 4510 · Highway User Revenues            | 327,766          |
| 4520 · Police Aid                       | 300,000          |
| 4550 · Bond Bill                        | 1,200,000        |
| Total 4500 · State Funding              | 1,827,766        |
| 4600 · County Funding                   |                  |
| 4620 · County Disposal Fee Rebate       | 22,484           |
| 4640 · Bank Stock                       | 2,372            |
| Total 4600 · County Funding             | 24,856           |
| 4700 · Service Charges                  |                  |
| 4720 · Local Fines/Fees                 | 40,000           |
| 4730 · Copier Fees                      | 3,000            |
| 4740 · Fingerprinting                   | 1,000            |
| 4760 · Reimbursements                   |                  |
| 4770 · Automated Traffic Enforcement    | 1,000,000        |
| Total 4700 · Service Charges            | 1,044,000        |
| 4800 · Other Revenues                   |                  |
| 4810 · Insurance Reimbursement          | 50,000           |
| 4830 · Property Rental                  | 42,000           |
| 4840 · Vehicle Deployment               | 28,200           |
| 4870 · Misc. Revenues                   | 2,000            |
| 4880 · Interest Earned                  | 250,000          |
| Total 4800 · Other Revenues             | 372,200          |
| 4900 · Restricted Revenues              |                  |
| 4997 · Transfer from HUR Fund Balance   |                  |
| 4998 · Transfer from Speed Camera Fund  |                  |
| 4999 · Transfer from Fund Balance       |                  |
| Total Income                            | 12,018,237       |
| Gross Profit                            | 12,018,237       |
| Expense                                 |                  |
| 6000 · Compensation                     |                  |
| 6010 · Regular Pay                      | 4,529,731        |
| 6020 · Overtime                         | 426,000          |
| 6030 · FICA                             | 379,007          |
| 6040 · Health Insurance                 | 947,710          |
| 6050 · Pension                          | 493,701          |
| 6060 · Workers Comp                     | 292,000          |
| Total 6000 · Compensation               | 7,068,149        |
| 6110 · Tuition Reimbursement            | 23,000           |
| 6120 · Uniforms                         | 85,000           |
| 6130 · Recruitment                      | 16,000           |
| 6140 · Professional Development         |                  |
| 6145 · Council Business Development     | 30,000           |
| 6140 · Professional Development - Other | 59,000           |
| Total 6140 · Professional Development   | 89,000           |

**Town of Bladensburg**  
**Budget Summary**  
July 2025 through June 2026

|                                        | Jul '25 - Jun 26 |
|----------------------------------------|------------------|
| 6150 · Payroll Service                 | 10,000           |
| 6160 · Employee Recognition            | 25,000           |
| 6210 · Council Projects                | 2,500            |
| 6220 · Community Initiatives           |                  |
| 6225 · Community Grants                |                  |
| 6226 · Fire Department Donation        | 30,000           |
| 6227 · Scholarships                    | 5,000            |
| 6225 · Community Grants - Other        | 12,000           |
| Total 6225 · Community Grants          | 47,000           |
| 6230 · Community Events                | 90,000           |
| 6235 · Senior Citizen Projects         | 4,500            |
| 6240 · Memorials                       | 2,000            |
| 6255 · Town Meetings                   | 11,000           |
| 6260 · Transportation                  | 60,000           |
| 6270 · Historic Promotion              | 2,402            |
| 6310 · Telephone                       | 32,000           |
| 6320 · Wireless Communications         | 60,000           |
| 6330 · Communications Contracts        | 40,000           |
| 6350 · Internet Access                 | 10,000           |
| 6360 · Data Fees                       |                  |
| 6420 · Computer Expense                | 40,000           |
| 6440 · IT Support                      | 100,000          |
| 6460 · Software Contract               | 87,000           |
| 6510 · Audit                           | 15,000           |
| 6520 · Bank Charges                    | 5,000            |
| 6530 · Bad Debts                       | 8,000            |
| 6545 · Insurance - Auto                | 70,000           |
| 6550 · Insurance - Liability           | 79,000           |
| 6560 · Legal                           | 40,000           |
| 6570 · Equipment Lease                 | 18,000           |
| 6580 · Contractual Services            | 245,000          |
| 6590 · Automated Traffic Enforcement   | 125,000          |
| 6620 · Fuel                            | 135,000          |
| 6640 · Vehicle Repairs and Maintenance | 60,000           |
| 6650 · Vehicle Body Repairs            | 25,000           |
| 6670 · Equipment Maintenance           | 10,000           |
| 6680 · Weapon Repairs and Supplies     | 15,000           |
| 6710 · Building Maintenance            | 50,000           |
| 6720 · Grounds Maintenance             | 30,000           |
| 6740 · Street Lights                   | 50,000           |
| 6750 · Sanitation Contract             | 300,000          |
| 6760 · Landfill Fees                   | 15,000           |
| 6770 · Building Supplies               | 12,000           |
| 6790 · Janitorial Services             | 25,000           |
| 6810 · Advertising                     | 30,000           |
| 6820 · Website                         | 4,000            |
| 6825 · Membership                      | 32,000           |
| 6835 · Travel                          | 29,000           |
| 6850 · Office Supplies                 | 25,000           |
| 6855 · Postage                         | 7,000            |
| 6860 · Shop Supplies                   | 2,000            |
| 6865 · Supplies                        | 20,000           |
| 6870 · K9 Supplies                     | 15,000           |
| 6880 · Election Costs                  | 8,000            |
| 6885 · Finger Printing                 | 1,000            |
| 6890 · Utilities                       | 55,000           |
| 6900 · Grants - Restricted             |                  |
| Total Expense                          | 9,464,551        |
| Net Ordinary Income                    | 2,553,686        |
| Other Income/Expense                   |                  |
| Other Income                           |                  |
| Other Expense                          |                  |
| 6950 · Debt Service                    | 18,000           |
| 6970 · Capital Outlay                  |                  |
| 6972 · Long Term Capital Projects      | 2,200,000        |
| 6979 · Highway User Projects           | 150,000          |
| 6970 · Capital Outlay - Other          | 500,000          |
| Total 6970 · Capital Outlay            | 2,850,000        |
| Total Other Expense                    | 2,868,000        |
| Net Other Income                       | -2,868,000       |
| Net Income                             | -314,314         |



# DISCOVER **BLADENSBURG**

Thank you for reviewing the FY 2026 proposed budget. Stay connected and discover all that Bladensburg has to offer.



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