



FY 2026 Budget Session #5

April 1, 2025



Topics for Tonight

- Session Introduction / Budget Assumptions
- Updated Cost Savings
- Updated Revenue Estimates
- Public Works Budget Details
- Public Safety Budget Details
- Next Steps



Introduction

The Town of Bladensburg is facing a budget shortfall this year and will continue through FY26.

Reasons| Loss of Revenues

- **ARPA** funding expired no longer available to fund some items
- **Speed Camera revenue shortfalls, which have resulted in more reliance on General Fund revenues**

Reasons| Growing Expenditures

- **Most of the Town expenditures are related to personnel and services**
- **Expenses for services and staffing have grown since FY 21**
- **Expenses related to commodities have increased**
- **Insurance costs have also risen sharply over the same period of time.**



Budget Assumptions

Saving Measures for FY26 Budget

- A freeze on vacant positions until June 2026 (excluding essential positions)
- Limited to No COLA increases and Merit increases for staff
- Changes to work schedules and hours for Administrative Positions (Public Safety and Public Works excluded)
- Overall reductions to discretionary spending
- No new Capital Purchases
 - The Council could evaluate capital purchases mid-year (December 2025), if the budget situation improves, we can add these to the budget related to public safety.



Updated Revenue and Cost Saving Items





Savings and Revenue

The Town of Bladensburg staff has developed a few scenarios that will do the following:

- Cut town expenditures on discretionary and non grant funded Capital projects.
- Increase the employee contributions to healthcare costs and take-home vehicles
- Freeze and decrease overall personnel spending
- Keep residential (Homeowners) taxes at the same rate (not changed in over 13 years)

Revenue Increases will occur by implementing the following:

- Raise Tax rates for Commercial and Industrial properties (last changed in over 13 years ago)
- Raise Tax rates for Apartment
- Increase Business License Fee (last changes in 2017)
- Changes to Utility and Personal Property taxes



Tax Rate Options



Currently Budgeted			
Residential no change, Increase Commercial and Apartments to \$.82			
Property Assessments	Assessments	Rate	Amount
Residential @ \$.74	286,858,732	0.74%	2,122,755
Commercial @ \$.82	138,941,533	0.82%	1,139,321
Apartments @ \$.82	208,510,566	0.85%	1,772,340
	634,310,831		5,034,415
Option A			
Increase Commercial to \$.80, and Apartments to \$.85			
Property Assessments	Assessments	Rate	Amount
Residential @ \$.74	286,858,732	0.74%	2,122,755
Commercial @ \$.80	138,941,533	0.80%	1,111,532
Apartments @ \$.85	208,510,566	0.85%	1,772,340
	634,310,831		5,006,627
Option B			
Residential no change, Increase Commercial and Apartments to \$.85			
Property Assessments	Assessments	Rate	Amount
Residential @ \$.74	286,858,732	0.74%	2,122,755
Commercial @ \$.85	138,941,533	0.85%	1,181,003
Apartments @ \$.85	208,510,566	0.85%	1,772,340
	634,310,831		5,076,097





What to expect next?

- Finalization of Revenue options
- Updated Estimated Cost Saving
- Review of overall budget
- Tax Rate Hearing
- Budget Ordinance

Next Steps



Budget Sessions:

Held throughout | March – May 2025

Next Session | April 14, 2025

Council Meeting Update

April 14, 2025

If there are changes to the Real Estate Tax Rate:

- Need at least one week to advertise for a hearing
- Any proposals have been included in meeting materials

Final Budget Session #5
Monday, April 29, 2025
(if needed)

Tax Rate Hearing
May 12, 2025
Council Meeting

Ordinance Approval Process

- **Ordinance Budget** Monday, May 12, 2025. Budget
- Adoption date, Monday, June 9, 2025.

Thank You !

