



City of Lancaster

BUDGET IN REVIEW

FY 23-24

A PLACE TO LIVE!



Tucked along the Catawba River, the city of Lancaster seamlessly blends natural beauty with historic character. A city on the rise- Lancaster continues to exhibit a progressive, family-orientated quality of life that continues to receive newcomers and visitors with small-town charm and southern hospitality. Discover the undiscovered with our unique arts, rich history and culture, events and festivals, along with so much more.

Choose to live in South Carolina's hidden gem of a city, you are going to love it here!

QUICK FACTS:

City Tax Rate in Mills: 0.2040

City Local Option Sales Tax Credit Factor: 0.005240

2020 US Census Population: 8,829

HIGHLIGHTS



- 1. Greenway Expansion:** Phase 2 Greenway projects are underway. The trail continues to expand beyond Gillsbrook Drive towards the Forest Hills neighborhood. Greenway visitors will soon experience a wider sidewalk along Roddey Drive, a new walkway along Woodland Drive to White Street, AND an underpass right under Main Street.
- 2. Wastewater Treatment Plant:** After the Wastewater Treatment Plant received a 10-million-dollar grant from the South Carolina Infrastructure Investment Program (SCIIP), employees are gearing up for the optimization project at the WWTP slated to begin in 2024. Projects to be completed in the optimization include a new influent pump station providing a maximum pumping of 20 MGD; New headworks including screening and grit removal; Rehabilitation of clarifiers, oxidation ditches, and sludge holding; Hydraulic fixes throughout the treatment train; New energy-efficient blowers with VFD controls to maximize process requirements, etc.
- 3. Murals to Basketball:** With an emphasis on Events and Projects, as well as Tourism, The City of Lancaster is dedicated to creating a destination for those seeking the enjoyment of small-town charm and southern hospitality. The Finance Committee and City Council expressed a need to continue funding various non-profit agencies that show a commitment to the overall tourism and economic vitality of our community.



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DEPARTMENT HIGHLIGHTS

MAIN STREET LANCASTER

The budget prioritizes encouraging economic growth and helps create a more inviting character for the downtown area. The Downtown Rehabilitation Program is budgeted at \$200,000 to help complete projects such as improvements within the Downtown District. Our team will launch the first phase of the Traffic Signal Box Art Project on Main Street. This project will beautify and colorfully enhance selected city streetscapes, showcase the talent of local artists, and work towards goals outlined in the City's Downtown Revitalization Plan.



PUBLIC WORKS

In FY24 budget includes a CIP for the 15th Street Building to get a facelift. 15th Street houses the Public Works Department, Police Department Training Facilities, and so much more!



POLICE DEPARTMENT

The City's FY24 budget strongly focuses on public safety through people and pay. Total budget for salaries increased by 46% for Police Special Paygrade Classification. \$450,000 was set aside to replace six police vehicles with related law enforcement equipment. Training is a priority for the Police Department, raising the budget by 15% allows those to continue to ensure the community's safety.



FIRE DEPARTMENT

The FY24 budget includes: Hiring a design professional & project manager for Fire Station 3, Replacing the Fire Marshal's vehicle, and Replacing both stations backup generators.

BUILDING & ZONING

The city recognizes the need for developing the first-ever Comprehensive Plan. It will include recommendations from the public specific to land use, transportation, housing, environmental resources, and other important topics.

FINANCE DEPARTMENT

Through teamwork, the Finance Department was able to successfully balance an over 39 million dollar budget. An annual audit is completed every year by the department.



WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT

Focusing on upgrading the Wastewater Treatment Plant is a top priority.

- Replacing the Return Activated Sludge/Waste Activated Sludge pumps, a \$240,000 project.
- Replacing truck 444 this year.
- Purchasing a new 8" bypass pump at a cost of \$70,000. This pump is a supplement to our influent pump station in case of a heavy rain event.

COURT ADMINISTRATION

COURT IS IN SESSION! Court Administration continues to provide equal court standards through 7 judges and state assessments. They serve the people of Lancaster by case docketing, case management, caseload reporting, collection of fines, etc.



SOLID WASTE DEPARTMENT

The FY24 budget includes over \$1.5 million in CIPs to improve our streets and sidewalks. It funds Taylor Street and Lyndon Drive Drainage projects along with Sidewalk repairs.



IT DEPARTMENT

Creating user friendly technology is top priority! The FY24 budget includes a much needed website upgrade and council chambers technology upgrade for live streaming council events.

HR DEPARTMENT

During the FY24 Goals Session, Council saw the need for continuing employee training. During the new fiscal year, DEI and Front Line Supervisors' training will be a top priority.

SEE LANCASTER

The City will continue to offer events like Finally Friday, Red Rose Festival, Scarecrows on Main, and holiday celebrations including Christmas in the City and Juneteenth Freedom Celebration. Event staff continues to add new events such as the Shamrock Block Party. Plus, adding new and improved Christmas Decorations Downtown for the Holiday festivities!

