

2026 BUDGET — IN — BRIEF

The 2026 adopted budget continues the County's commitment to focusing on the fundamentals, balancing the needs of today with the future, embracing innovation and efficiency, and working together as One Gwinnett.



Carefully managing spending by tightening control over operations, capital projects, and infrastructure investments



Prioritizing the fundamentals by filling only essential positions and actively managing risks to operations and public trust



Cutting non-essential costs and eliminating discretionary spending while protecting core services



Staying resilient while continuing to invest in Gwinnett's future



Strengthening the core services our residents depend on

Our Budget Process



The 2026 budget was developed with input from four county residents who served on the Chairwoman's Citizen Budget Review Committee. Chairwoman Nicole Love Hendrickson, County staff, and the four citizen reviewers studied the business plans and budget requests of the departments and agencies to make recommendations for the budget.

Gwinnett's budget process began in March 2025 when Commissioners held a strategic planning session to establish the priorities for the County. Departments presented their business plans and new operating budget requests to the Budget Review Team in August. With input from the review team, Chairwoman Hendrickson presented a proposed budget on November 18, 2025. The Commissioners held a public meeting for input from the public and accepted online comments through December. The 2026 budget was adopted on January 6, 2026.

Our Priorities

The 2026 budget process began with the Board of Commissioners' strategic planning session. The Board defined priorities based on the County's values that were used by the County Administrator's Office and County departments to develop strategies that guided departmental requests. The priorities are as follows:



Focus on Fundamentals

- Recruitment and retention
- Protect and strengthen essential services



Balance Today's Needs with Sustainability for Tomorrow

- Responsible investments
- Infrastructure maintenance



Embrace Innovation & Efficiency

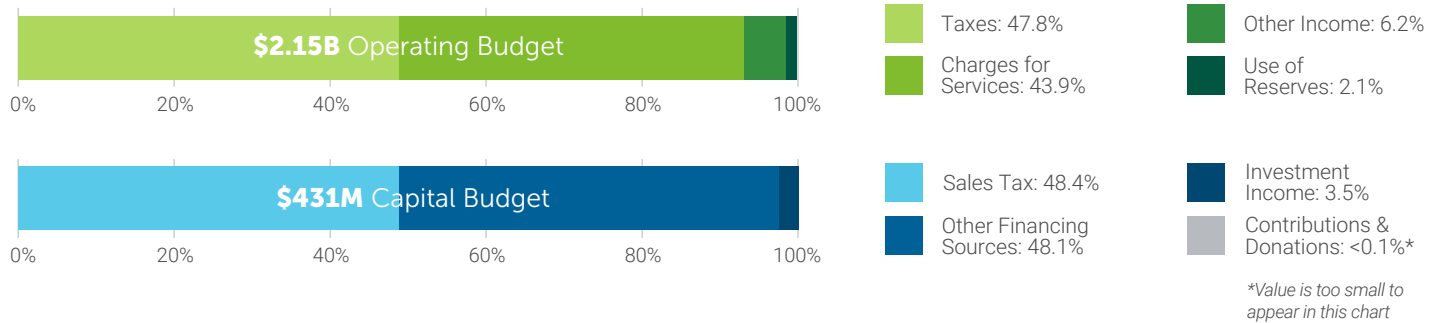
- Enhance E911 communication
- Police Drone Program Pilot
- Responsibly leverage artificial intelligence in County operations



Think 'One Gwinnett'

- Access to valuable community resources
- Completion of Grayson Community Resource Center
- Expansion of Dacula Park Community Recreation Center and Senior Wing
- Bethesda Park Aquatic Center lighting

Where the Money Comes From

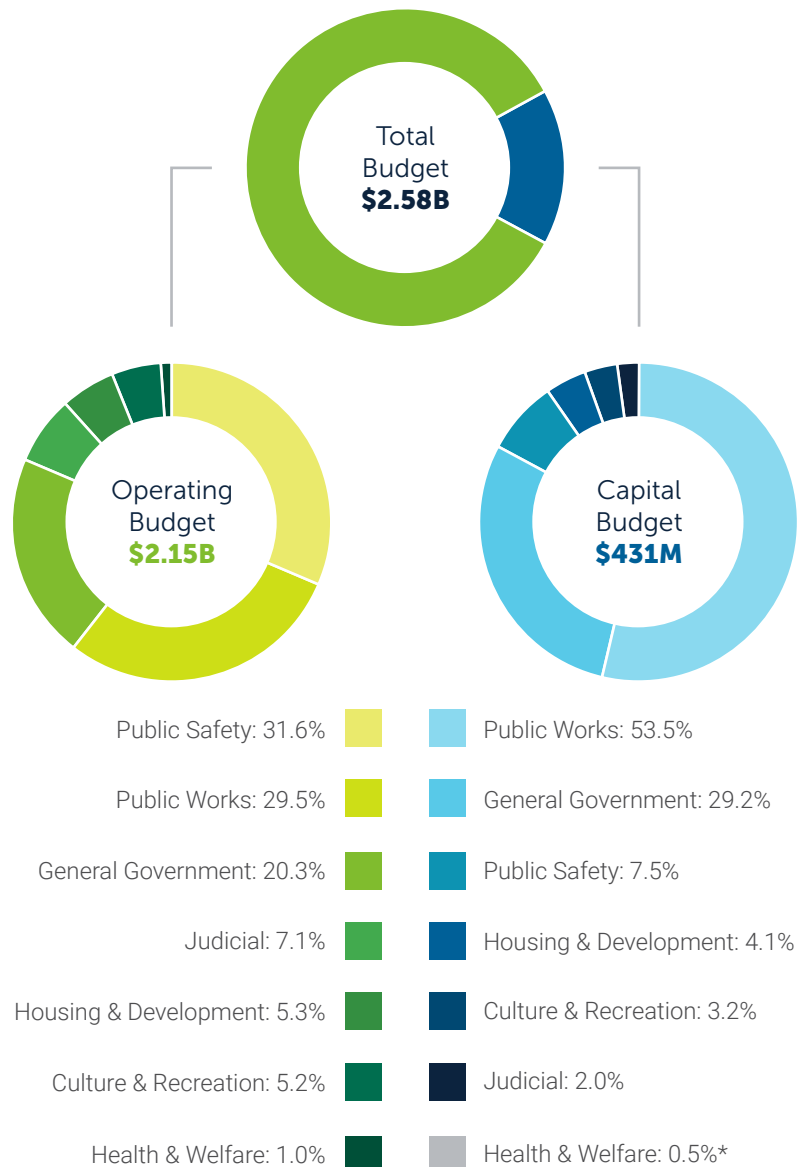


Where the Money is Going

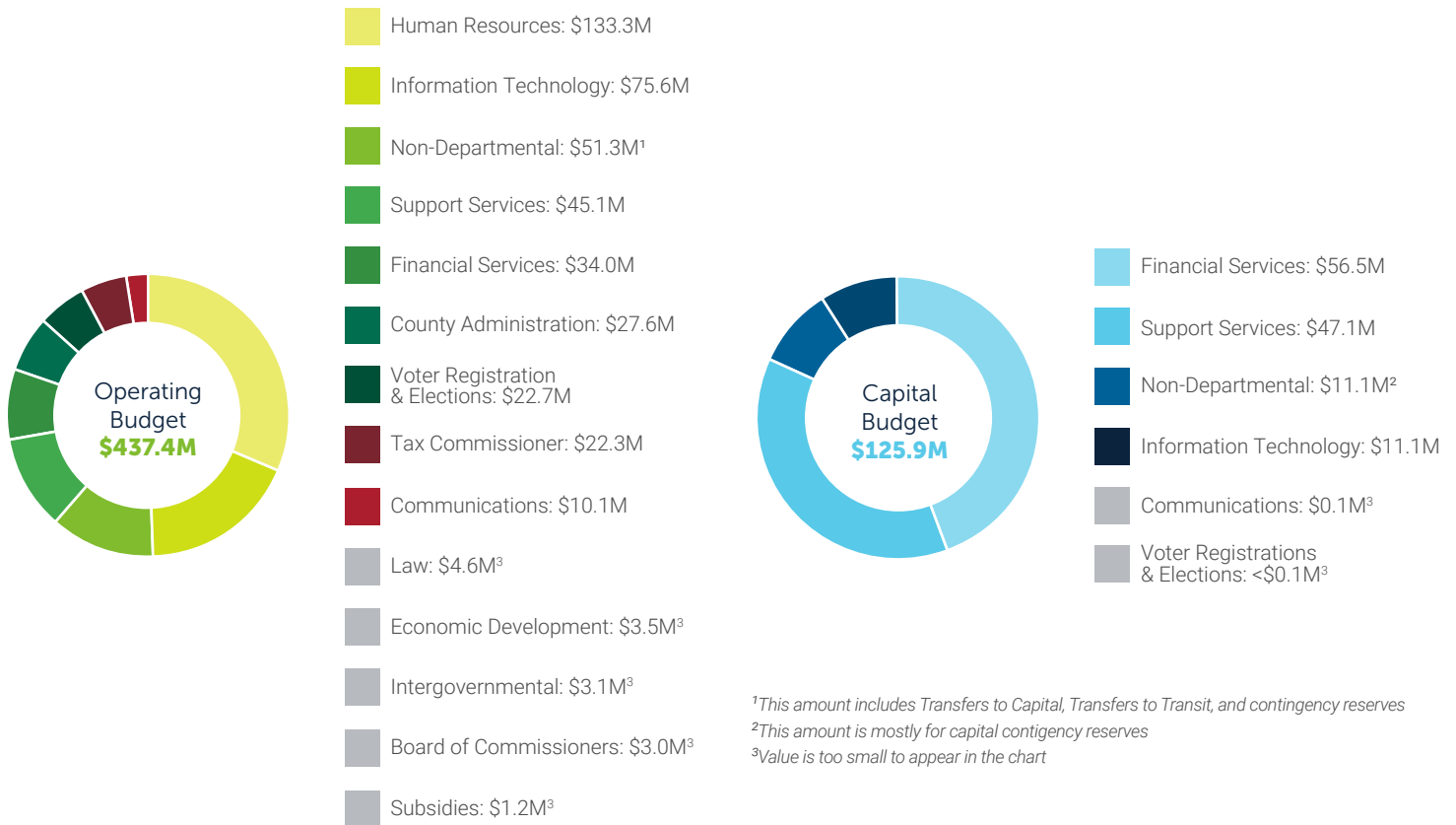
In total, the combined operating and capital budget for 2026 is \$2.58 billion, which is down 3.2% from the 2025 adopted budget. The operating budget of \$2.15 billion is approximately \$40 million, or 1.9% higher than the adopted 2025 operating budget. The capital budget of \$431 million is \$124 million, or 22.4% lower than the 2025 adopted capital budget.

Operating Budget: The portion of the budget that supports daily operations as the County works to provide basic governmental services. The operating budget includes things like salaries, benefits, supplies, and contracted services.

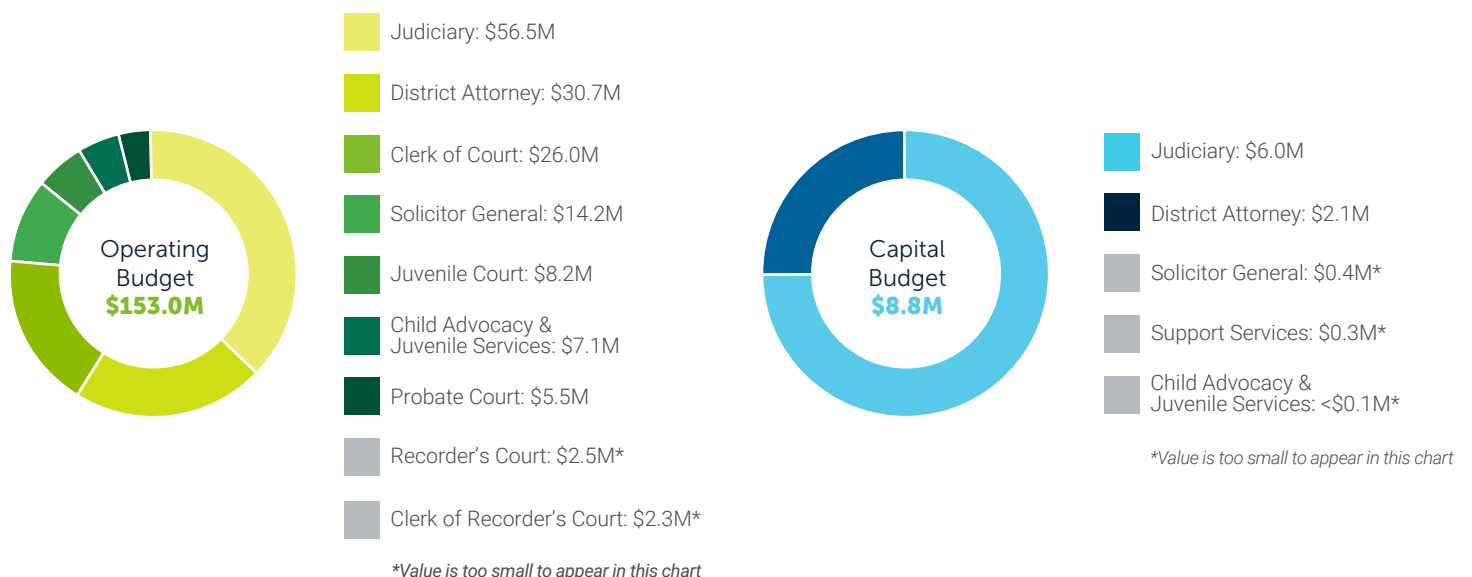
Capital Budget: The portion of the budget that allows for the purchase, construction, or other acquisition of property or equipment with a life expectancy greater than a year. The capital budget pays for new facilities, roads, and parks as well as maintenance for existing assets and infrastructure. It also includes funds from the County's voter-approved SPLOST program.



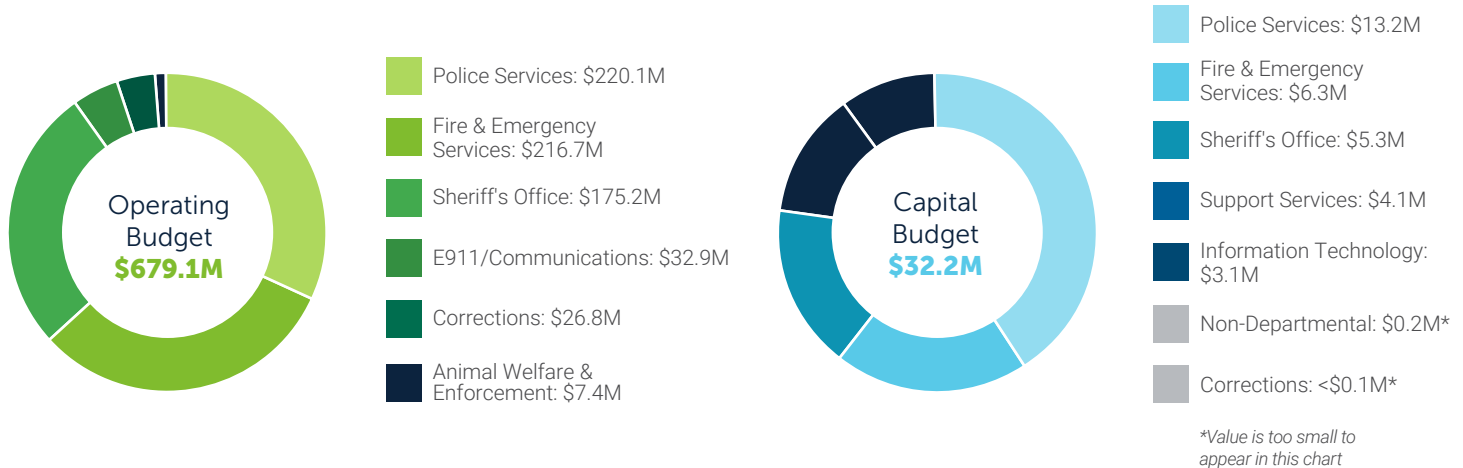
General Government



Judicial



Public Safety



Highlights

\$420,000

for the addition of
FOUR NEW POSITIONS
for the Situational Awareness and
Crime Response Center

\$448,000

for the
**POLICE DEPARTMENT
DRONE PROGRAM PILOT**

\$2.49 MILLION

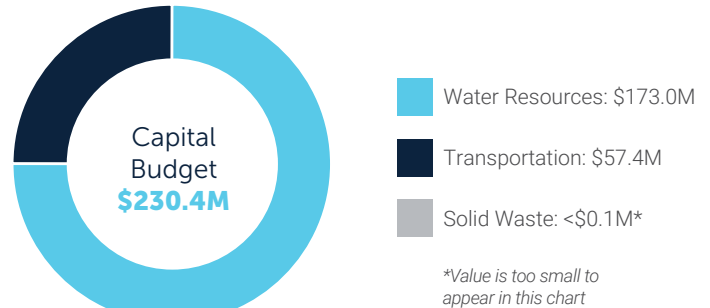
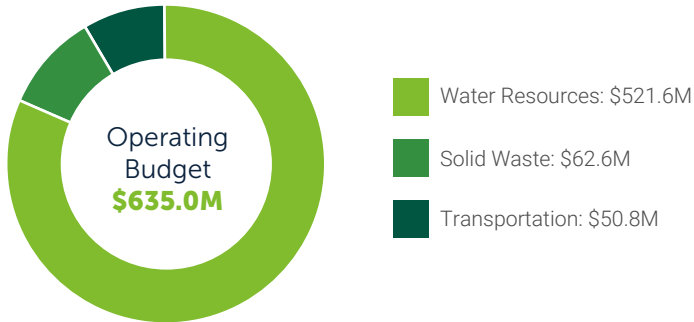
**TO UPGRADE E911
PHONE SYSTEM**

\$619,000

for the addition of
FIVE NEW POSITIONS
for the
**E911 COMMUNICATIONS
TRAINING SECTION**

The replacement of the E911 phone system will enhance emergency response times through faster call processing, AI-assisted call handling, video sharing, and automated callbacks. In addition, the Police Department remains committed to community safety through the implementation of a Drone Program Pilot designed to improve situational awareness and increase operational efficiency. This program will deploy two pre-positioned drones launched remotely from the North and Central Precincts.

Public Works



Highlights

\$465,000

//////// for the addition of a //////////

**ROAD MAINTENANCE CREW
FOR CENTRAL GWINNETT**

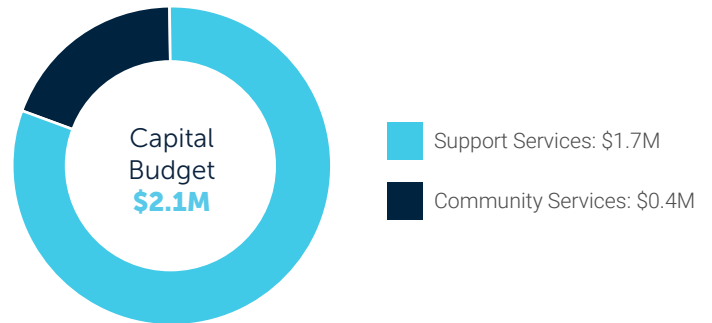
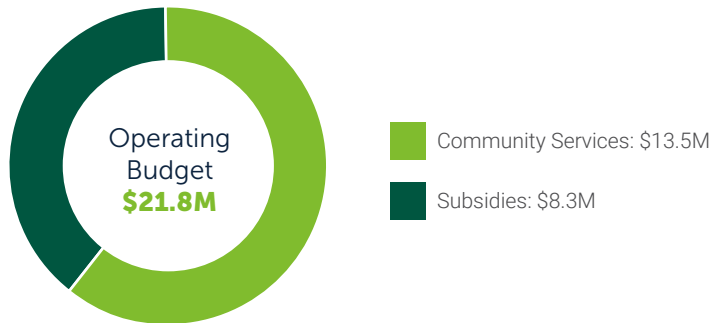
\$176 MILLION

TO **MAINTAIN, IMPROVE, AND CREATE
EFFICIENCIES** FOR **GWINNETT'S
WATER AND SEWER SYSTEM**

Investment in new positions for Transportation will ensure Gwinnett can consistently maintain roads and infrastructure throughout the year. These positions will be centrally located, ensuring a faster response for repairs to prevent minor issues from becoming costly problems.

Continuing to invest in water will ensure that Gwinnett continues to provide safe, clean drinking water and reliable wastewater treatment and stormwater services for residents. This priority demonstrates our commitment to accountable service delivery, maintaining clean water, and keeping our transportation network safe, reliable, and well-maintained for all residents.

Health & Welfare



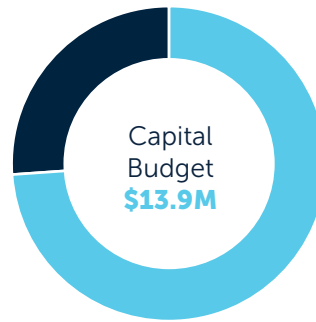
Highlights

\$53,000
to support the fourth quarter
launch of the
**GWINNETT COMMUNITY
RESOURCE CENTER AT
GRAYSON HIGHWAY**

The Community Services budget includes funds to expand the Dacula Park Community Recreation Center and to complete the Gwinnett Community Resource Center at Grayson Highway. Together, these projects reflect our commitment to equity, accessibility, and fostering stronger, more connected communities across Gwinnett.

\$153,000
for the expansion of
**DACULA PARK
COMMUNITY RECREATION CENTER**

Culture & Recreation



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Highlights

\$980,000

for

**LIGHTING IMPROVEMENTS
TO ENHANCE SAFETY**
at Bethesda Park Aquatic Center

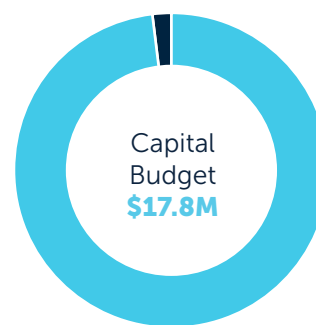
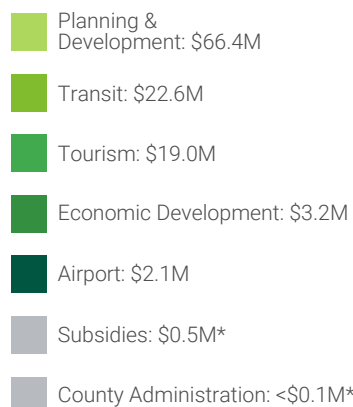
\$1.05 MILLION

for upgrades to the

**DACULA PARK
ACTIVITY BUILDING**

The investment in lighting improvements at the Bethesda Park Aquatic Center will enhance safety for visitors, lifeguards, and staff as current lighting is insufficient, creating visibility challenges and potential safety concerns. The investment in the Dacula Park Activity Building will include updates such as a new gym, an upper level walking track, art and dance studios, and more. These upgrades demonstrate our commitment to responsible stewardship and ensure these facilities remain safe, welcoming, and well-maintained for all residents.

Housing & Development



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Gwinnett

COUNTY GOVERNMENT

Gwinnett Justice & Administration Center
75 Langley Drive | Lawrenceville, Georgia
GwinnettCounty.com

The County maintains several online resources to provide residents and businesses with detailed information about Gwinnett's financial operations.

Visit the [Citizen Finance Guide](#) to learn more.

[Guide to the Budget](#)

[Where Your Property Taxes Go](#)

[SPLOST](#)

[Archive: Financial Reports](#)

Questions about this document?

Contact the Department of Financial Services
at 770.822.7850



Gwinnett