

# 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

2026 BUDGET IN BRIEF | 2



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

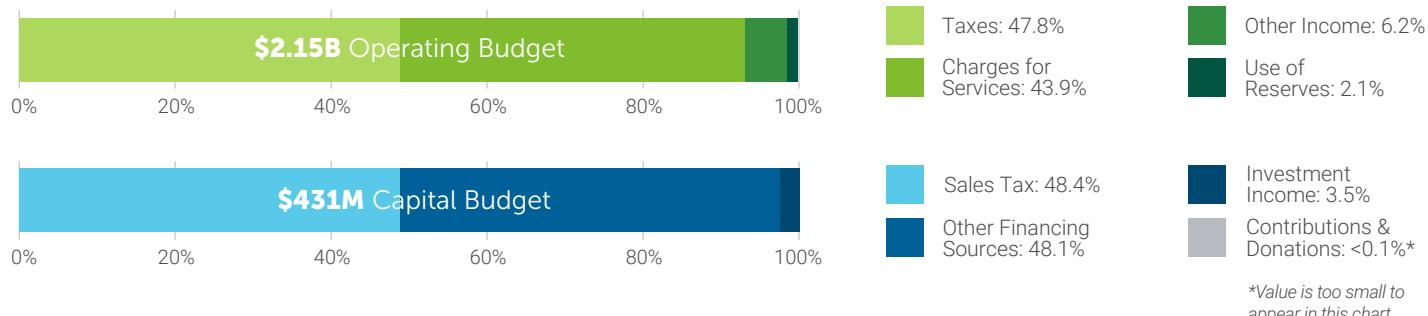


### Think 'One Gwinnett'

- 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

2026 BUDGET IN BRIEF | 3

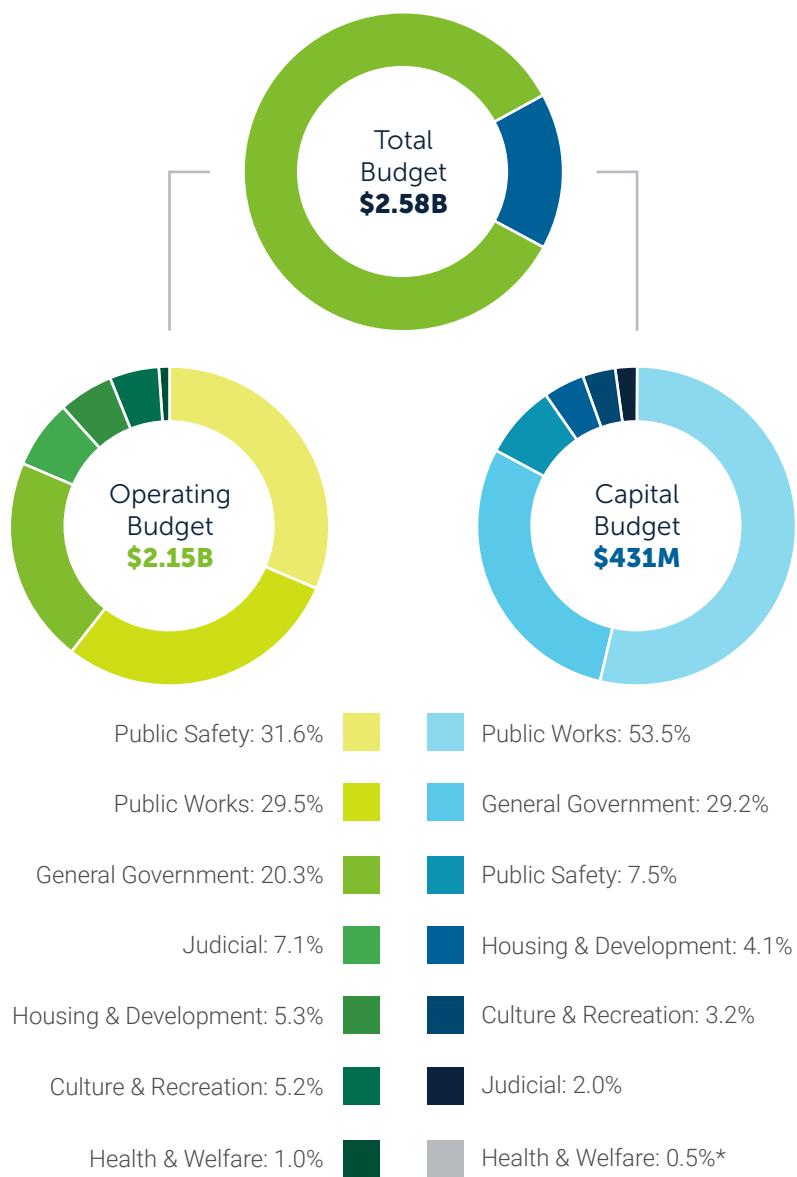


# Where the Money is Going

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.

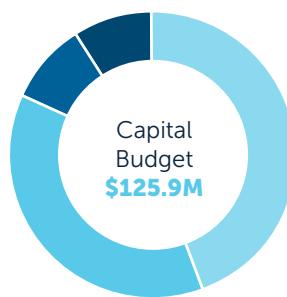
**Capital Budget:** The portion of the budget that allows for the purchase, construction, or other acquisition of property or equipment with a life expectancy greater than a year. The capital budget pays for new facilities, roads, and parks as well as maintenance for existing assets and infrastructure.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



## General Government



- Human Resources: \$133.3M
- Information Technology: \$75.6M
- Non-Departmental: \$51.3M<sup>1</sup>
- Support Services: \$45.1M
- Financial Services: \$34.0M
- County Administration: \$27.6M
- Voter Registration & Elections: \$22.7M
- Tax Commissioner: \$22.3M
- Communications: \$10.1M
- Law: \$4.6M<sup>3</sup>
- Economic Development: \$3.5M<sup>3</sup>
- Intergovernmental: \$3.1M<sup>3</sup>
- Board of Commissioners: \$3.0M<sup>3</sup>
- Subsidies: \$1.2M<sup>3</sup>



- Financial Services: \$56.5M
- Support Services: \$47.1M
- Non-Departmental: \$11.1M<sup>2</sup>
- Information Technology: \$11.1M
- Communications: \$0.1M<sup>3</sup>
- Voter Registrations & Elections: <\$0.1M<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup>This amount includes Transfers to Capital, Transfers to Transit, and contingency reserves

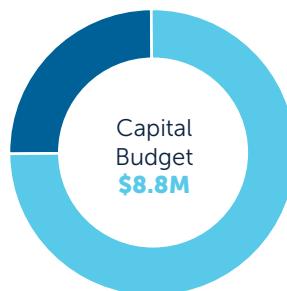
<sup>2</sup>This amount is mostly for capital contingency reserves

<sup>3</sup>Value is too small to appear in the chart

## Judicial



- Judiciary: \$56.5M
- District Attorney: \$30.7M
- Clerk of Court: \$26.0M
- Solicitor General: \$14.2M
- Juvenile Court: \$8.2M
- Child Advocacy & Juvenile Services: \$7.1M
- Probate Court: \$5.5M
- Recorder's Court: \$2.5M\*
- Clerk of Recorder's Court: \$2.3M\*



- Judiciary: \$6.0M
- District Attorney: \$2.1M
- Solicitor General: \$0.4M\*
- Support Services: \$0.3M\*
- Child Advocacy & Juvenile Services: <\$0.1M\*

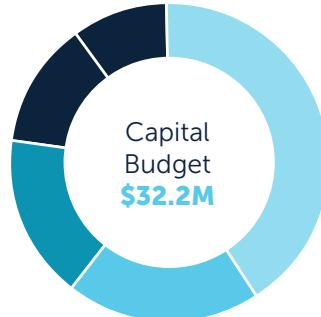
\*Value is too small to appear in this chart

\*Value is too small to appear in this chart

## Public Safety



- Police Services: \$220.1M
- Fire & Emergency Services: \$216.7M
- Sheriff's Office: \$175.2M
- E911/Communications: \$32.9M
- Corrections: \$26.8M
- Animal Welfare & Enforcement: \$7.4M



- Police Services: \$13.2M
- Fire & Emergency Services: \$6.3M
- Sheriff's Office: \$5.3M
- Support Services: \$4.1M
- Information Technology: \$3.1M
- Non-Departmental: \$0.2M\*
- Corrections: <\$0.1M\*

\*Value is too small to appear in this chart

## 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



Water Resources: \$521.6M  
Solid Waste: \$62.6M  
Transportation: \$50.8M



Water Resources: \$173.0M  
Transportation: \$57.4M  
Solid Waste: <\$0.1M\*

\*Value is too small to appear in this chart

## 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



Community Services: \$13.5M  
Subsidies: \$8.3M



Support Services: \$1.7M  
Community Services: \$0.4M

## Highlights

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

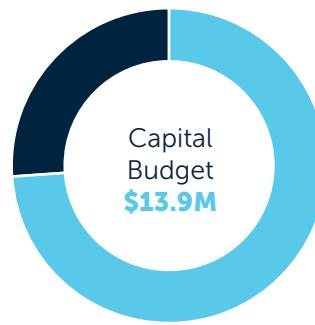
The Community Services budget includes funds to expand the Dacula Park Community Recreation Center and to complete the Gwinnett Community Resource Center at Grayson Highway. Together, these projects reflect our commitment to equity, accessibility, and fostering stronger, more connected communities across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

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

## Culture & Recreation



- Parks & Recreation: \$70.1M
- Libraries: \$27.9M
- Community Services: \$10.7M
- Stadium \$3.0M



- Parks & Recreation: \$10.2M
- Libraries: \$3.6M
- Support Services: \$0.1M\*
- Non-Departmental: <\$0.1M\*

\*Value is too small to appear in this chart

## 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



- Planning & Development: \$66.4M
- Transit: \$22.6M
- Tourism: \$19.0M
- Economic Development: \$3.2M
- Airport: \$2.1M
- Subsidies: \$0.5M\*
- County Administration: <\$0.1M\*



- Non-Departmental: \$17.4M
- Transportation: \$0.3M
- Planning & Development: \$0.1M\*

\*Value is too small to appear in this chart

\*Value is too small to appear in this chart

# 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

