

**Budget In Brief**  
*FY 2026 May 1, 2025 - April 30, 2026*

## CITY MANAGER BUDGET MESSAGE

I am pleased to present the City of Bloomington's budget for Fiscal Year 2026, a budget intentionally created to meet the priority needs identified by the community in conjunction with the City Council. It is a balanced plan that reflects an emphasis on investing in the City's infrastructure, delivering improvements in services our residents need and deserve. With over \$81M allocated for capital projects, this budget is strategically designed to address the infrastructure and quality of life needs that will allow our community to prosper and grow.

The FY2026 Budget totals \$317.9M. Adjusting for projects, strategic additions, and non-recurring items, the City's operating expenses have grown approximately 2.71% per year over the last ten years. City staff recognizes it has a responsibility to manage the public's funds appropriately for the benefit of the community and operates accordingly. Given this, the budget incorporates many initiatives put forward by the Council and the community including funding public safety pensions at 100%, paying cash for equipment in the General Fund (removal of dependence on borrowing), continued emphasis on streets / sidewalks and flood management related to sewer and storm water projects, and a strong focus on the Water distribution system upgrade and lead line replacement with nearly \$21.5M budgeted for that fund. In addition, to infrastructure, there are many improvements related to quality-of-life needs including a \$3.3M Sunnyside Park upgrade, executed in partnership with the Bloomington Normal Water Reclamation District (BNWRD). These initiatives represent the continued execution of the future vision set forth by the community.

On behalf of the City Council and Staff, we present this Budget in Brief. FY2026 will be an exciting year. Downtown will be transformed with the execution of Phase I of the Downtown Streetscape and the redevelopment of the historic State Farm building. The Water department will continue its generational systemwide improvement plan. And Public Safety will be more capable given its needs for full staffing being addressed. These are just a few examples of actions that address the needs of the community, and demonstrate that Council, Staff and Residents always find a way to come together - with the goal of Making Life Better!

Thank you,

Jeff Jurgens

City Manager

## FORECASTING THE FUTURE

While every attempt is made to accurately project the City's finances and set aside appropriate levels of reserves, the City continually monitors both internal and external financial activities, with an emphasis on:

- Rising prices related to inflation and supply chain issues.
- State imposed unfunded mandates and regulations impacting local governments.
- Stability of the City's large employers.
- Escalating housing crisis and the impacts of a growing unhoused population.

These issues pose potential obstacles to the growth and prosperity of the City. However, through the unified efforts of the City's Council, Staff and Residents, courses of action will be determined that will keep the City on a solid path of success and fulfillment for its members.

# THE BUDGET PROCESS

The City of Bloomington adopts its budget in accordance with Chapter 65 of the Illinois Compiled Statutes. The City's Fiscal Year runs from May 1-April 30. Formulation of the budget is a critical & difficult process that involves analyzing resident input & data, projecting available revenue sources, identifying priorities, allocating resources & expenditures, reviewing City performance data, negotiating & anticipating department budgets, & establishing the fees, charges, & taxes necessary to provide adequate levels of services to the residents of Bloomington. The budget process is continual year-round.



## WHERE THE MONEY COMES FROM (Full Budget Revenues)

Revenues Combined by Source		
Property Taxes	\$ 29,825,765	9.38%
Home Rule & State Sales Taxes	\$ 52,246,496	16.44%
Other Taxes	\$ 43,672,132	13.74%
License & Permits	\$ 1,702,000	0.54%
Intergovernmental Revenue	\$ 13,666,707	4.30%
Charges for Services	\$ 96,001,305	30.20%
Fines & Forfeitures	\$ 1,852,500	0.58%
Investment Income	\$ 3,743,967	1.18%
Misc. Revenue	\$ 24,309,084	7.65%
Sale of Capital Assets	\$ 26,320	0.01%
Capital Lease Proceeds	\$ -	0.00%
Contribution Revenue	\$ 50,503	0.02%
Transfers In	\$ 13,483,696	4.24%
Use of Fund Balance	\$ 37,273,861	11.73%
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$ 317,854,336</b>	<b>100.00%</b>

Revenues by Fund Type		
General	\$ 136,969,051	43.09%
Special Revenue	\$ 46,041,911	14.49%
Debt Service	\$ 5,544,522	1.74%
Capital Projects	\$ 19,962,735	6.28%
Enterprise	\$ 86,375,140	27.17%
Internal Service	\$ 22,110,977	6.96%
Fiduciary	\$ 850,000	0.27%
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$ 317,854,336</b>	<b>100.00%</b>

## WHERE THE MONEY GOES (Full Budget Expenditures)

Expenditures by Class Code		
Salaries	\$ 75,622,287	23.79%
Benefits	\$ 18,703,140	5.88%
Contractuals	\$ 70,122,740	22.06%
Commodities	\$ 23,434,965	7.37%
Capital Expenditures	\$ 80,628,079	25.37%
Principal Expense	\$ 7,454,927	2.35%
Interest Expense	\$ 2,419,436	0.76%
Intergovernmental	\$ 21,295,832	6.70%
Other	\$ 4,689,236	1.48%
Transfers Out	\$ 13,483,696	4.24%
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$ 317,854,336</b>	<b>100.00%</b>

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<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$ 317,854,336</b>	<b>100.00%</b>

Intergovernmental	
Police & Fire Pensions	\$ 15,747,097
McLean County Mental Health	\$ 3,066,327
Public Transportation	\$ 1,740,140
Other (At Risk Youth, Township, etc.)	\$ 315,268
Convention & Visitors Bureau	\$ 327,000
B-N Economic Development Council	\$ 100,000
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$ 21,295,832</b>

Transfers Out	
Capital Improvement Fund	\$ 3,950,000
Bond & Interest Funds	\$ 3,609,562
General Fund Charges to Enterprise Funds	\$ 3,740,156
Arena Fund	\$ 1,843,878
SOAR	\$ 206,789
Community Enhancement	\$ 95,000
Recreation	\$ 25,000
Sister City	\$ 13,311
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$ 13,483,696</b>

# THE GENERAL FUND OVERVIEW

The General Fund is the primary operating fund of the City. Included are police & fire protection, parks & recreation, legal, planning, economic development, general administration of the City, & any other activity for which a special fund has not been created. The water, solid waste, sewer, storm water, golf operations, Arena, & Abraham Lincoln parking funds are expected to be self-supporting, so the revenue from & expenses incurred by these funds are excluded from the General Fund. Revenues that exceed the cost of providing General Fund services are added to the General Fund Unreserved Fund Balance. This excess revenue can be used to finance future capital improvements & provides a reserve for emergencies.

General Fund Revenues by Type		
Taxes	\$ 107,006,686	78.12%
Licenses	\$ 700,500	0.51%
Permits	\$ 953,500	0.70%
Intergov Revenue	\$ 873,883	0.64%
Charges for Services	\$ 17,506,963	12.78%
Fines & Forfeitures	\$ 795,500	0.58%
Investment Income	\$ 1,251,000	0.91%
Misc Revenue	\$ 490,269	0.36%
Sale of Capital Assets	\$ 25,500	0.02%
Transfer In	\$ 4,080,256	2.98%
Use of Fund Balance	\$ 3,284,994	2.40%
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$ 136,969,051</b>	<b>100.00%</b>

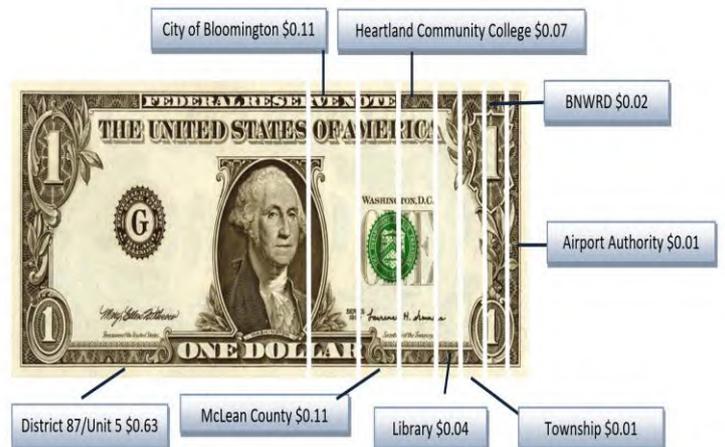
General Fund Expenditures by Department		
General Fund Transfers	\$ 5,807,189	4.24%
Information Technology	\$ 7,560,092	5.52%
Fleet Management	\$ 4,395,531	3.21%
McLean County Mental Health	\$ 3,066,327	2.24%
Economic Development	\$ 1,578,209	1.15%
Human Resources	\$ 2,267,528	1.66%
Non Departmental	\$ (1,100,000)	-0.80%
Legal	\$ 1,640,216	1.20%
Public Transportation	\$ 1,740,140	1.27%
Finance	\$ 1,737,752	1.27%
Administration	\$ 1,757,753	1.28%
Facilities Maintenance	\$ 1,432,806	1.05%
Billing	\$ 1,138,402	0.83%
City Clerk	\$ 496,302	0.36%
Gov Center Bldg Maintenance	\$ 853,991	0.62%
Collections	\$ 390,650	0.29%
Sister City	\$ 37,450	0.03%
<b>Total General Government:</b>	<b>\$ 34,800,338</b>	<b>25.41%</b>
Public Safety	\$ 74,448,734	54.35%
Parks, Recreation & Cultural Arts	\$ 16,211,125	11.84%
Highways & Streets	\$ 10,954,913	8.00%
Governmental Parking	\$ 553,941	0.40%
<b>Governmental Parking:</b>	<b>\$ 553,941</b>	<b>0.40%</b>
<b>General Fund Total Expenditures:</b>	<b>\$ 136,969,051</b>	<b>100.00%</b>

## UNDERSTANDING PROPERTY TAX

Property tax is based on the fair cash value of your home as identified by the Township Assessor. The Property Tax Code states that each property shall be assessed at 33.33% of fair cash value. The City of Bloomington's 2024 tax rate payable in 2025 is 0.90408. Therefore, City taxes collected in FY 2026 on a \$165,000 home total \$497.20 based on the adopted tax rate. The total amount of property taxes paid based on a \$165,000 home is \$4,458.95, as seen below:

Tax Rate Calendar 2024, Collected Calendar 2025 which is City of Bloomington FY 2026

Taxing Body	Certified Tax Rate	Percentage	Amount Collected
District 87 (Unit 5 = 5.06696)	5.10000	62.90%	\$ 2,804.74
City of Bloomington	0.90408	11.15%	\$ 497.20
McLean County	0.88371	10.90%	\$ 485.99
Heartland Community College	0.58262	7.19%	\$ 320.41
Bloomington Library	0.27654	3.41%	\$ 152.08
B-N Water Reclamation District	0.15374	1.90%	\$ 84.55
Central Illinois Regional Airport	0.11197	1.38%	\$ 61.58
City of Bloomington Township	0.09529	1.18%	\$ 52.40
<b>Total:</b>	<b>8.10795</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>\$ 4,458.95</b>



# FISCAL YEAR 2026 CAPITAL PROJECTS

Ward	Project	Adopted FY 2026
2	Fox Creek Road Bridge & Road Improvements: Danbury Drive to Beich Road - Construction	\$ 17,986,592
1, 2, 8	Hamilton Road Project	\$ 15,338,097
Citywide	US 51 Water Main Replacement - Construction	\$ 9,805,000
Citywide	Census Tract 59 WMR & LSLR Project - Phase 1 - Construction	\$ 4,500,000
6	Purchase of a Downtown Parking Complex	\$ 3,950,000
7	Sunnyside Park Sustainability Initiative OSLAD Grant	\$ 3,270,400
Citywide	Multi-Year Sidewalk, Curb & Gutter Replacement	\$ 2,800,000
Citywide	Multi-Year Street & Alley Resurface Program	\$ 2,750,000
Citywide	Mutli-Year Sanitary Sewer Rehabilitation	\$ 2,000,000
Citywide	High Pressure Slurry Seal	\$ 1,500,000
1	East Street Basin Phase 5 Land Acquisition, Design, Construction-Sewer & Storm Water	\$ 1,297,000
Citywide	IL Route 9 Corridor Improvements (Empire) - Lee to Towanda (City Share)	\$ 1,000,000
Citywide	Water Main Replacement and Upgrades - Design	\$ 1,000,000
Citywide	Water Treatment Plant / Lake Evergreen Electrical Rehabilitation Design	\$ 1,000,000
Citywide	US 51 Water Main Replacement - Design	\$ 980,500
6	Fire Station 1 HVAC Replacement	\$ 825,000
Citywide	Water Treatment Plant Powdered Activated Carbon (PAC) Storage & Feed Facility - Design & Construction	\$ 825,000
6	Downtown Streetscape Lead Service Line & Water Main Replacement	\$ 750,000
Citywide	Lake Parks Maintenance Building - Construction	\$ 750,000
Citywide	Multi-Year Street, Alley & Sidewalk Repairs	\$ 700,000
1	Highland Park Club House Design & Construction	\$ 695,000
3	Airport Rd & Cornelius Dr Traffic Signal Improvements - Design & Construction	\$ 611,000
6	Downtown Streetscape Phase 1 Construction-Underground Detention-Storm Water	\$ 600,000
Citywide	Street Lighting Charges	\$ 500,000
Citywide	IL Route 9 Corridor Improvements (Locust) - Hinshaw to Center (City Share)	\$ 500,000
6	Police Department HVAC System	\$ 500,000
1	Miller Park Zoo Katthoefer - Building Upgrade	\$ 500,000
8	Hershey & Hamilton Road Trail and Ireland Grove Road Sidewalk Improvements	\$ 500,000
Citywide	Water Treatment Plant Hydrated Lime Design	\$ 500,000
6	Dasherboard and Glass Replacement	\$ 365,000
1, 2	Constitution Trail Extension: Lafayette St to Hamilton Rd - Land, Construction & Inspection	\$ 314,000
6	Police Department Elevator Improvements	\$ 300,000
3	Fire Station 3 HVAC Replacement	\$ 280,000
Citywide	Reclamite	\$ 250,000
6	Downtown Streetscape Phase 1 Construction-Sewer Separation-Sanitary Sewer	\$ 212,500
6	Downtown Streetscape Phase 1 Construction-Sewer Separation-Storm Water	\$ 212,500
1	Zoo - Kitchen Roof Replacement	\$ 200,000
Citywide	Census Tract 59 Water Main & Lead Service Line Replacement Project Phase 1 - Design	\$ 200,000
2	Trail-Resurfacing Morris Avenue to Bellas Landscaping 4,303'	\$ 193,635
County	Route 66 Trail - Funk's Grove to McLean - Construction	\$ 130,000
1	Fire Station 4 Kitchen Remodel	\$ 100,000
Citywide	Facilities Department-Unforeseen Major Facility Repairs	\$ 100,000
6	Fire Station 1 Sprinkler Addition	\$ 50,000
Citywide	Parks & Recreatgion-Unforeseen Major Repairs	\$ 50,000
2	Westwood Playground - Install playground and develop park	\$ 50,000
Citywide	Multi-Year Consultant Leak Detection for Water Loss Prevention	\$ 50,000
6	Upgrade Refrigeration in small HVAC Units (year 2 of 5)	\$ 50,000
Citywide	Multi-Year GIS Consultant Services	\$ 38,750
7	O'Neil Aquatics Center - Concessions Shade Sail	\$ 25,000
County	Route 66 Trail-Towanda to Lexington-(Phase 1)	\$ 13,700
<b>Total Projects All Funds:</b>		<b>\$ 81,118,674</b>



## Infrastructure Projects Dashboard City of Bloomington, IL

The City created the **Infrastructure Projects Dashboard** as a resource to keep the public informed about ongoing infrastructure projects. This tool provides a graphical representation of the work being done and the funds being invested to improve the community. To use the dashboard:

- Click on a **project name** on the left side of the map to zoom into its location and view project details.
- If a project does not have a specific location, it will appear at the **managing department's office**.
- Click on any **highlighted roadway** to access project information.
- Use the **filters** on the far left to sort by fiscal year, project type, or funding source.

Project details—including timelines, scope, and other relevant information—may change as needed. To reset the dashboard, click the reset icon in the bottom right corner of the page.

<https://cityblm.maps.arcgis.com/apps/dashboards/2f7164aa23ec445bb9e235e9c51ec234>

Infrastructure Projects Dashboard

Project type: No category selected
Fiscal Year: No category selected
Project Phase: No category selected
Funding Source: No category selected

Projects with locations not yet finalized will be shown at the managing department's location.

Projects: **88**      Projected Cost: **\$184.5M**

**Airport Rd & Cornelius Dr Traffic Signal Improvements**

E20240003

CIP: Fiscal Year 2026    Transportation

**Description**  
Project to include installation of new traffic signals at the intersection of Airport Road and Cornelius Drive. New sidewalk ramps will be installed at the intersection corners.

**Timeline**  
Planned: October 01, 2025 - April 01, 2026

**Contact**  
Phil Allyn  
(309) 434-2225  
pallyn@cityblm.org

**Phase:**

Plan	Design	Construction	Complete
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**Estimated budget:** \$611,000

**Funding sources**

Source	Amount
DCEO	\$600,000
CIP	\$11,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$611,000</b>

**Percentage of Funding Distribution**

**Construction Project Funding Sources**

**American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA)** - The American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) of 2021 is a \$1.9 trillion economic stimulus bill that provides funding to help the country recover from the COVID-19 pandemic.

**Asphalt and Concrete Fund** - Comprised of 100% of the receipts from the Local Motor Fuel Tax and 10% of the Home Rule Municipal Retailer's and Service Occupation Tax.

**Capital Improvement Plan (CIP)** - The Capital Improvement Program is funded from the City's general fund to make infrastructure improvements to the public system.

**Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)** - The Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program offered by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) provides annual funding to meet a wide range of community

Funding Descriptions    Totals by Project Type and Fiscal Year    Overall Totals by Funding Source    Totals by Fiscal Year



***Start Here.***

The City Services Hub (The Hub) is a centralized location to service your City needs. Most transactions can be completed over the phone, online, or at The Hub located at the Government Center, 115 E. Washington Street, Suite 103.

You can reach us at [\(309\)434-2509](tel:3094342509), Option 0, or [TheHub@cityblm.org](mailto:TheHub@cityblm.org)

## Here are a few examples of what you can do at The Hub:

- Make Payments, such as Utility Bills and Ordinance Violations
- Submit a FOIA Request
- Register for a Parks Program
- Apply for a License or Permit
- And so much more!

