

Where does your tax dollar go?



56 percent

of every tax dollar goes toward public safety

22 percent

of every tax dollar goes toward public works/streets

22 percent

of every tax dollar goes toward legislative/executive duties, elections, library, financial administration, judicial services, economic development as well as planning and zoning

While February is best known to many for Valentine's Day, for the City of Loganville, it marks the beginning of the budget process.

The Fiscal Year 2017 budget will take effect July 1, but when it comes to balancing the needs of a growing city and prudent use of taxpayer's money, it is a process that essentially begins with a wish list from each of the city's 12 departments. In most instances this entails requests for personnel and equipment, which in the earliest phases of the budget process is always whittled down through meet-

ings over the span of a few weeks between City Manager Bill Jones and the heads of the respective departments.

In recent years, as the economy has slowly improved — though home values have been slower in reaching pre-2009 levels — the budget process has been one of getting by with bare necessities. The Loganville City Council approved a Fiscal Year 2007 general fund budget of \$13 million that was described "as lean as it gets." Ten years later, in May the city's elected leaders will consider an initial general fund budget totaling \$10.4 million.

Once the FY17 budget is set, in the fall the Loganville City Council will approve a millage rate, the tax assessed to homeowners based on 40 percent of the value of their home. This rate has fluctuated in recent years but has not strayed far from the rate of 10 mills assessed back in 1966, when the city had fewer than 1,200 people. Loganville is now home to more than 11,000 residents and a millage rate of 10.18.

The general fund is the budget comprised of monies generated from property and

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The millage rate for Loganville residents

in 1966 was

10 mills

The millage rate for Loganville residents

in 2016 was

10.18 mills

Talking trash in Loganville

Steve Edwards with Advanced Disposal recently presented the city with a check for \$10,000 to help with the Groovin' on the Green concert series.

Advanced Disposal took over trash service inside city limits last fall. Here are a few notes for residents about trash collection in Loganville:

- Available garbage receptacles : 65-gallon cart and 95-gallon cart. Additional garbage receptacles are \$10 each and billed monthly on your utility bill.
- Place at curb the night before your service day or by 7 a.m. on your service day.

Household bulk items that will not fit in the garbage can need to be placed next to the can on service day. Any type of construction debris will have to be disposed of by the home owner. You may call our Public Works Department at 770-466-0902 for removal of carpet, padding and porcelain toilets.

Brown lawn bags are for leaves and lawn clippings (no limbs, sticks, dirt or rocks). Up to 10 bags will be removed



by Advanced Disposal on your service day. For limb removal, our Public Works Department runs limb routes weekly.

- Available recycle receptacles : 18-gallon tote bin and 65-gallon cart. Additional recycle receptacle carts are \$10 each and billed monthly on your Utility bill.
- Place at curb the night before your service day or by 7 a.m. on your

service day.

Recyclable items include paper, plastic, books, newspaper, aluminum cans and cardboard. Cardboard boxes must be broken down into 2-foot by 2-foot pieces and placed in your bin or cart.

Items that are not recyclable include aerosol cans, batteries, clothing, electronics, food, glass, mirrors, steel, metal items, styrofoam, waxed or laminated cardboard and wood.

See Click Fix

A better Loganville starts with its residents. And the city is continuing to utilize a tool for better communication and work management.

See Click Fix utilizes both online and mobile phone capabilities for residents to improve the quality of life in Loganville. See a pothole in the road? Report it. Graffiti? Let us know. Find litter? We can take care of it.

How? Visit the City of Loganville website at www.loganville-ga.gov. On the home page you will see a link for a Citizen Response and Request Form. From there you can download the city's app or file the report through the website.

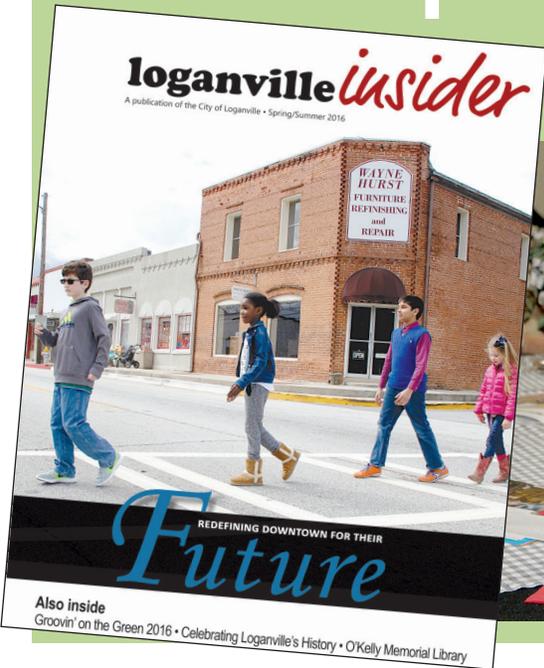
There are a variety of service request categories and abilities. When submitting issues via mobile app, for example, residents can provide locational, descriptive, and photographic information as they see the issue in real time. Once the resident submits an issue, the reporter, the city as well as anyone else "watching" the area will receive an alert. The city can then acknowledge the service request, route it to the proper department and update the request once it's been resolved.

Residents following the issue will also get the update.



launch party

Local officials, guests, business representatives and other members of the community gathered on March 17 for the official release of the **loganville insider**, a magazine published by the City of Loganville. Free copies are available at City Hall and at local businesses through the city.



Loganville's concert series lineup announced

Get your dancing shoes ready as the Groovin' on the Green concert series will kick off in May and continue on the third Friday of each month through October at the Ray Nunley Pavilion on the Loganville Town Green.

There are some familiar faces and some new ones — as well as local talent — featured in this year's Groovin' on the Green. Among the new additions to this year's lineup are **The Return**, a Beatles tribute band who kickoff things May 20th. The group has re-created the early 1960s Beatles concert experience — from John Lennon's on-stage gum chewing to using exact replicas of the instruments and gear used by the Beatles.

On June 17th, the **Legacy Motown Revue** returns to the stage in Loganville. The band features four singers not scared to show off their dance moves and take the stage oftentimes with a six-piece horn band performing not only Motown but also soul and



beach music.

Too Much SylviA, which is embarking on its 25th year, has had three songs in the top five on beach music stations in the past three years, has four lead vocalists and will mix music from their own CDs with that of some beach, Motown, funky 1970s, retro 1980s and a few more recent hits into their musical set on July 15th.

The Embers return to Loganville for a show on August 19th. The Embers offer "music with a memory" and are credited with laying the groundwork for what has been dubbed "beach music" in the Carolinas, Virginias and Gulf Coast.

As Groovin' on the Green started with a new band, the final two shows

of the series are also new to the lineup. On September 16th, the **Haley and Alexis Band** will offer a mix of modern and traditional country music with a bit of bluegrass and even pop in the mix. Music sets vary from their own original music to that of Journey, Georgia Florida Line, Reba McEntire, Miranda Lambert and the Allman Brothers.

The final concert, on October 21st, will feature homegrown talent as **Presley Sullivan** will open up for **Jordan Rager**. Jordan has been touring but found time to cut a song with Jason Aldean titled "Southern Boy." The former "Voice" contestant is looking forward to returning to the stage in Loganville for the first time in six years.

The concerts are free and those interested in attending are encouraged to bring chairs or blankets as limited seating will be provided. For more information on the Groovin' on the Green concert series or any events in Loganville, visit www.loganvilleevents.com

SAVE the DATE

May

5 – National Day of Prayer event, noon, City Hall lawn

14 – Car show, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Town Green

20 – Groovin' on the Green, 7:30 p.m., Town Green, featuring Beatles cover band The Return

28 – Wing Fling, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Town Green

June

17 – Groovin' on the Green, 7:30 p.m., Town Green, featuring Legacy Motown Revue

July

2 – Independence Day celebration, opening ceremony at 9:45 a.m. at Town Green, parade at 10 a.m. along Main Street.

2- Fireworks display will begin at dusk. Residents encouraged to watch the show from the Ingles Shopping Center.

15 – Groovin' on the Green, 7:30 p.m., Town Green, featuring Too Much SyLvIA

Burn ban in effect May 1



Loganville residents are reminded that a burn ban goes into effect across the city from May 1 through September 30. The Georgia EPD imposes a ban on outdoor burning to comply with Federal Clean Air Regulations. During the summer months in Georgia, the ozone in the air we breathe can reach unhealthy levels. The Georgia EPD has identified open burning as a significant contributor of the pollutants that form ozone.

Public budget hearings scheduled

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and other taxes as well as some limited grant funding. Over the past decade, more than half of each tax dollar collected goes toward public safety — which is the police and fire departments. Personnel is the largest cost for these two departments, who have a total of 61 employees — each of which in addition to a salary the city must also cover costs associated with health care, training and other items.

About another 25 percent of each tax dollar goes toward public works and streets, leaving about 25 percent of each tax dollar to cover the legislative and executive duties, elections, funding to support the

library as well as financial administration, judicial services, economic development and planning and zoning needs.

Property taxes remain the single largest source of monies for the general fund and, while the economy has slowly recovered, the housing market has been slower to reach pre-2007 levels. Officials expect money collected through various taxes to decline an estimated \$200,000 over last year, due in large part to the number of appeals filed and granted to property owners on the assessed values of their homes. While there are a number of developments in the works for 2016, none are expected to impact the

coming fiscal year's tax digest.

Other funding related to the city comes in enterprise funds, which the Water and Sewer Fund and Solid Waste, as well as the Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax.

Over recent years, city leaders have chosen to dip into reserve funding offset subsidizing other tax breaks and are expected to finish the year with enough to run the city for six months, which leaders say is a minimum standard.

Public meetings on the proposed budget are scheduled for 6 p.m. on May 9th and 12th, with Loganville City Council to approve a final version June 9th.

About The Loganville Bulletin

The Loganville Bulletin is a quarterly newsletter published by the City of Loganville for its residents. All content is copyrighted by the City of Loganville © 2016. Let us know what information you thought was useful and what you would like to see in future issues by email at rschwartz@loganville-ga.gov or by calling 404-202-6720.