

Sustainable Actions

Strategy-Focused

STAFFORD
Virginia

Proposed

Budget FY2023

February 15, 2022

[illegible]

Stafford continues to maintain a AAA bond rating from Moody's Investors Services, Standard & Poor's and Fitch Ratings.

A new wayfinding initiative was implemented at the Government Center campus.

The County worked to expand broadband access through new partnerships and in receiving the VATI Grant.

Stafford's public safety department worked with the health district to institute a weekly vaccine clinic for residents, supplying personnel to counsel and give the vaccines.

Stafford launched a new website, a move designed to make the information on the website more accessible via mobile devices, the way most citizens access the website.

Stafford improved water and sewer systems including the replacement of neighborhood water systems, upgrades to water and wastewater treatment facilities and rehabilitation of County sewer pumping stations.

Establishment of Stafford Cares to help businesses and purchase gift cards from restaurants to provide to needy families.

Board adopted a Healthy Growth strategy that limited growth in rural areas by directing growth to areas with established infrastructure.

Board of Supervisors created and established a Diversity Advisory Coalition, composed of community members, to address concerns regarding equity and race in the community.

Board passed the first phase of Downtown Stafford, and Stafford worked with Virginia and many private vendors to open a testbed facility next to its Government Center.

Road Safety Road Improvements Bond efforts were completed on Andrew Chapel Road, Decatur Road, Stefaniga Road, Hartwood Road, Mountain View Road and Winding Creek Road.

\$111,108
MEDIAN INCOME

STAFFORD COUNTY

COUNTY PROFILE

\$346,100
MEDIAN HOME
MARKET VALUE

\$6.1B
GROSS DOMESTIC
PRODUCT

71,321
CIVILIAN LABOR
FORCE

POPULATION

159,247

↑ **1.5%**

UNEMPLOYMENT

2.5%

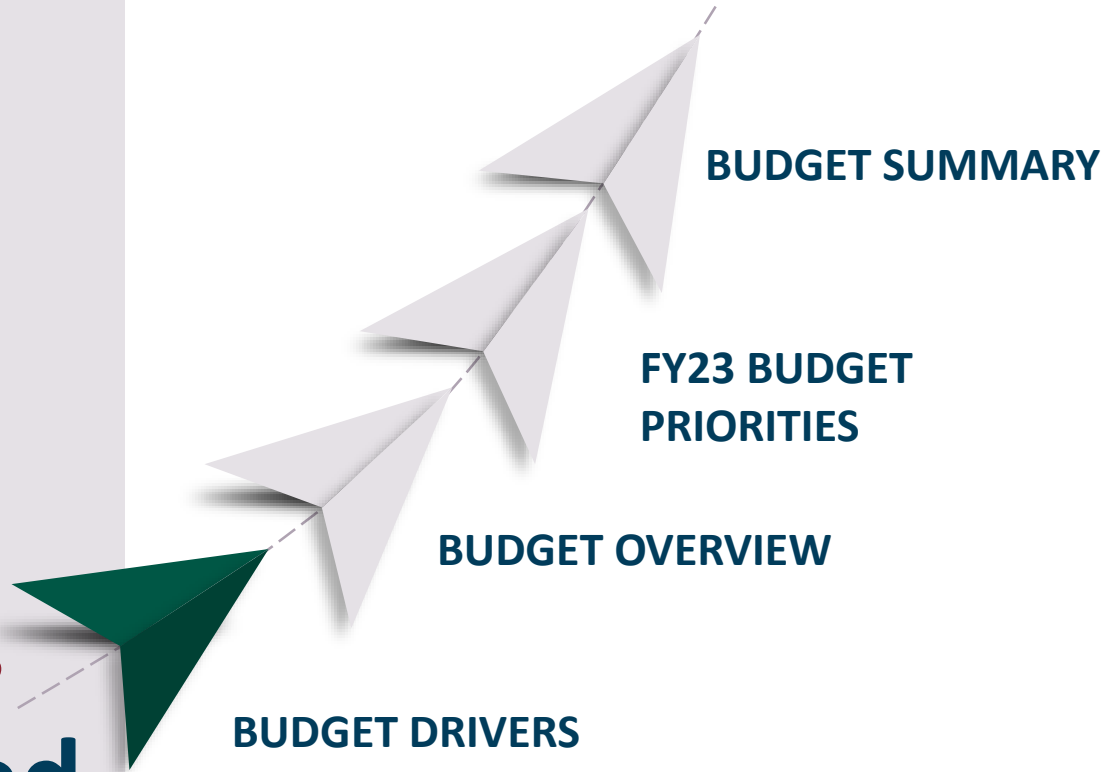
↓ **43%**

MEDIAN HOME
MARKET PRICE

\$445,000

↑ **16%**

Sustainable Actions Strategy-Focused



GROWTH PRESSURES

18.7%

Stafford's percentage of school students per population is higher than comparative localities

4th

Stafford's rank as one of the fastest growing counties in Virginia of counties with populations over 50,000

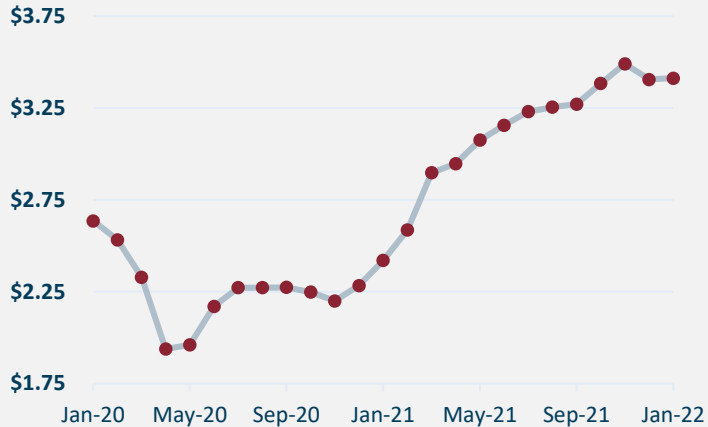
1st

Stafford's rank as one of the most congested traffic hotspots in the United States



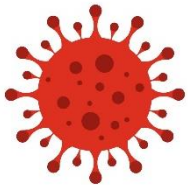
Growth Impacts to Stafford

Economic Impacts to Stafford



Gas Prices

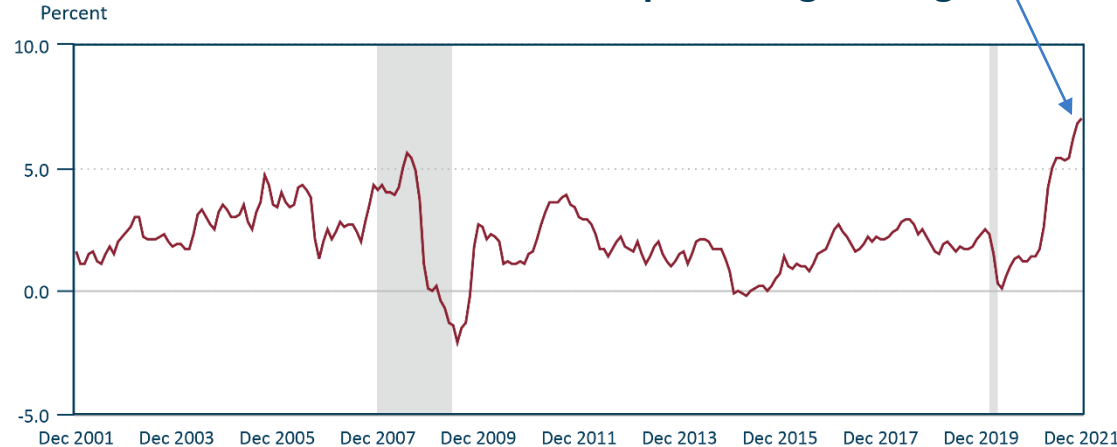
75% increase in national gas prices since April 2020



COVID-19 continues to unpredictably impact the economy and market

The Consumer Price Index at **7%** is the highest increase in 20 years.

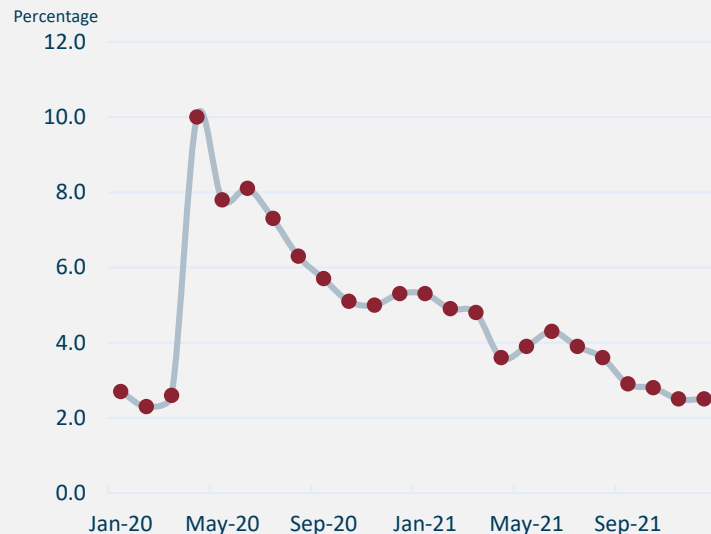
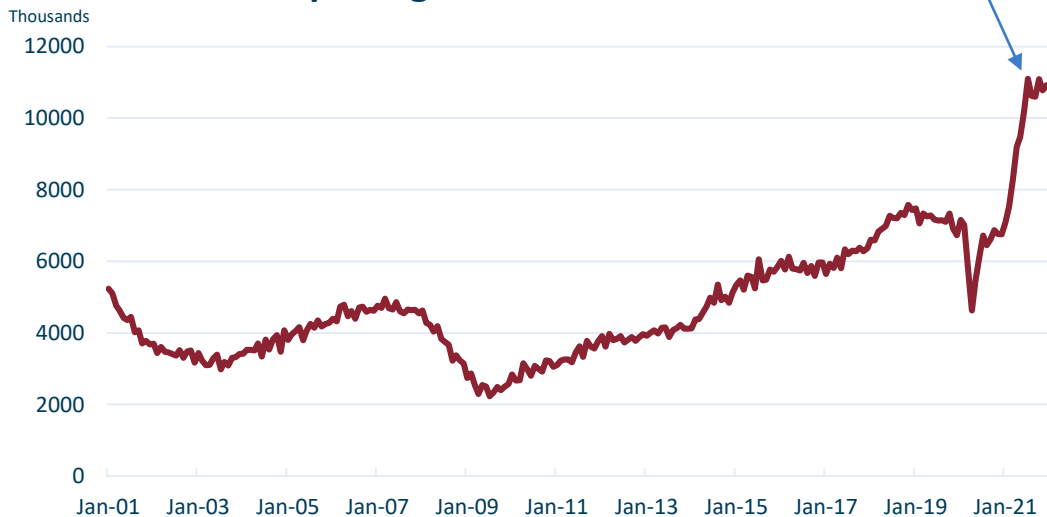
Consumer Price Index - 12-month percentage change



Market Impacts to Stafford

At **11M job openings**, the past few months have been the largest increase in position openings in the last 20 years.

US Job Openings



Stafford Unemployment Rate

75% decrease in Stafford's unemployment since April 2020

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BUDGET DRIVERS

BUDGET OVERVIEW

**FY23 BUDGET
PRIORITIES**

BUDGET SUMMARY

Financial Planning Process



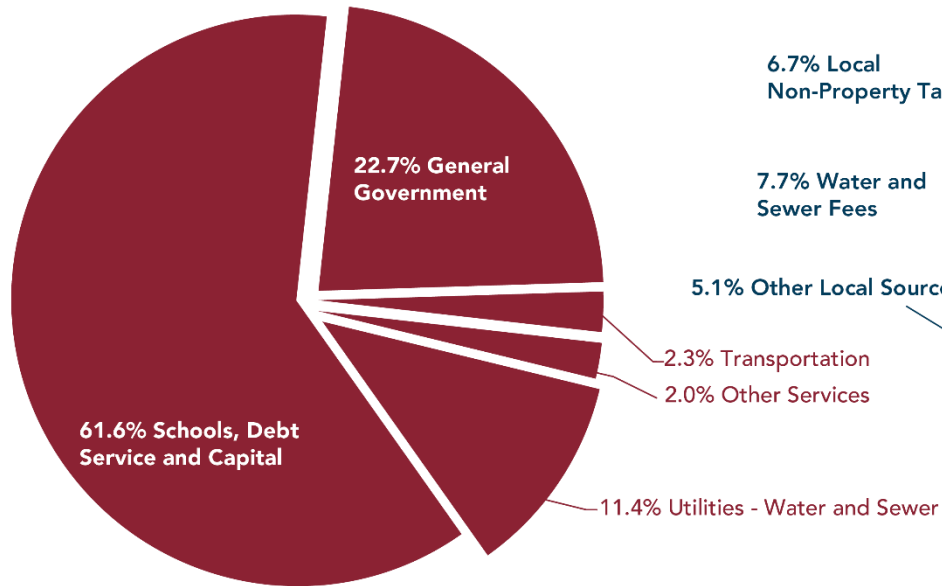
Five Year Financial Plan Review

FY19-20	FY2020 Tax Rate \$1.01				
	FY21	FY22	FY23	FY24	FY25
	\$1.01	\$1.01	\$1.02	\$1.05	\$1.07
FY20-21	FY2021 Tax Rate \$0.97				
	FY22	FY23	FY24	FY25	FY26
	\$1.01	\$1.03	\$1.03	\$1.09	\$1.09
FY21-22	FY2022 Tax Rate \$0.97				
	FY23	FY24	FY25	FY26	FY27
	\$0.91	\$0.98	\$0.98	\$1.02	\$1.02

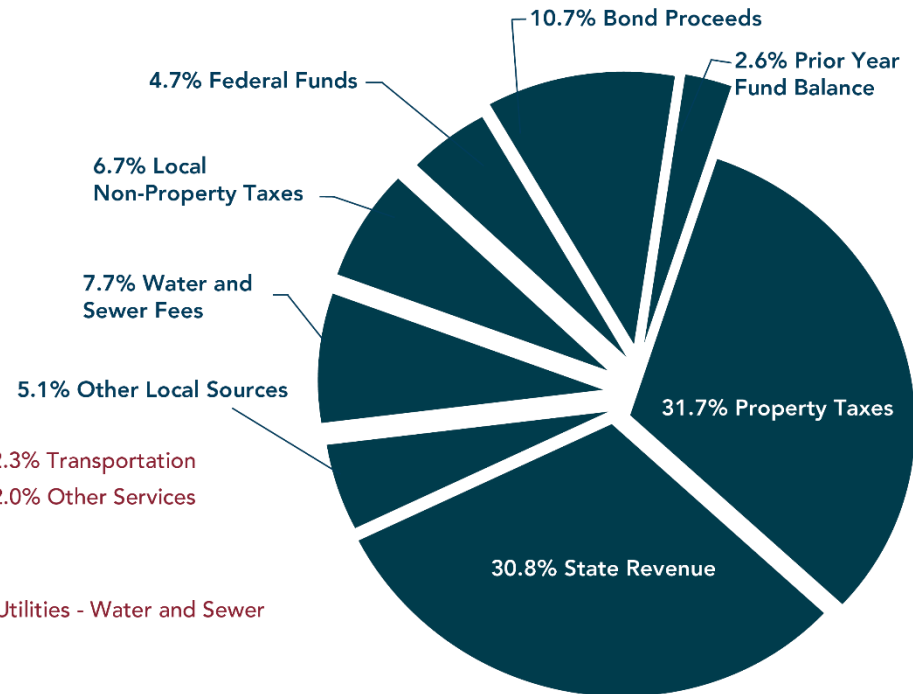
Stafford County Board of Supervisors continues to implement prudent planning with a fiscally responsible approach.

Budget Overview – All Funds

FY2023 Proposed Budget All Fund Expenditures



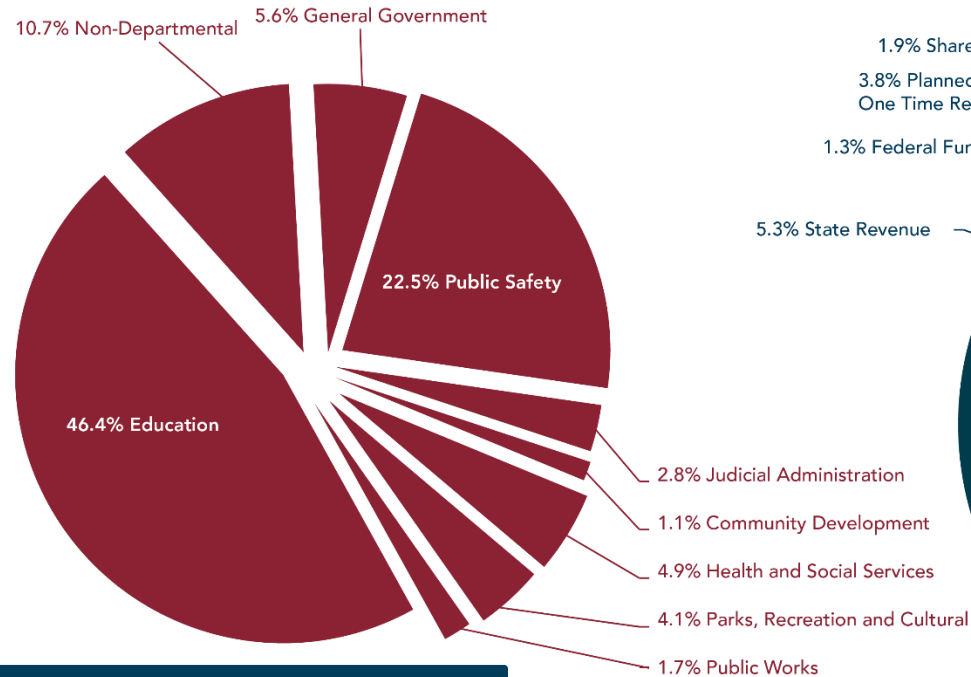
FY2023 Proposed Budget All Fund Revenues



All Funds Total: \$820,841,754

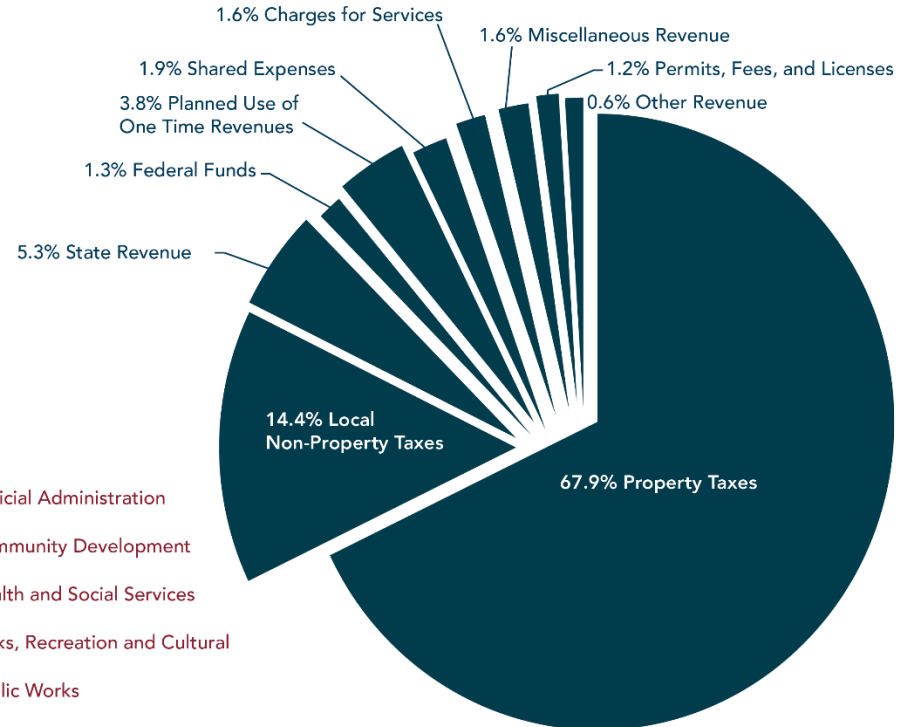
Budget Overview – General Fund

FY2023 Proposed Budget General Fund Expenditures



General Fund Total: \$385,453,055

FY2023 Proposed Budget General Fund Revenues



Budget Overview

Revenues

- FY2022 \$0.97 to Proposed FY2023 \$0.885
- 21% Reassessment Increase
- 7.1% Property tax revenue increase
 - 40% increase in Exonerations
 - 60% increase Disabled Veterans Tax Relief
 - 2% increase in Elderly Tax Relief
- 19.8% Consumption tax revenue increase
- Average assessed home value - \$386,000
- Average tax bill – \$3,416

Expenditures

- 8.5% Overall General Fund increase
- 6.1% Overall School Fund increase

GF Operating Budget Drivers

- | | |
|-------------------------|--------|
| • Public Safety Support | \$9.0M |
| • Education Funding | \$8.4M |
| • Transportation | \$4.9M |
| • General Gov. Support | \$3.3M |

Sustainable Actions Strategy-Focused

BUDGET DRIVERS

BUDGET OVERVIEW

**FY23 BUDGET
PRIORITIES**

BUDGET SUMMARY



FY2023 Budget Priorities

Budget Commitments

Continuing the commitment to community partners while also meeting ongoing and increasing mandates.

Sustainable Positioning

Viable actions require maintaining a balanced budgeting approach to address market and economic impacts alongside growth.

Strategic Prioritization

A focused strategy propels the County forward, ensuring that we meet the community's expectations and the Board's priorities.



Budget Commitments

Whether it is supporting the community, meeting new mandates or honoring fiscal policy practices, the components of the Budget always include several obligations.

Regional Obligations

Committing over **\$800K** to the Rappahannock Regional Jail and the Juvenile Detention Center

Expected Staffing Increases

Funding new Minimum Wage and Overtime law terms, retirement and insurance increases and FY22 mid-year Board-directed position additions

Partner Commitments

Investing **\$700K** to support community programs with partners like the Library and community nonprofits

Ongoing Costs

Maintaining current debt service for community investments and capital assets insurance costs

Policy Requirements

Adhering to financial policies approved by the Board for capital, contingency and preservation programs

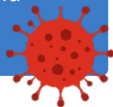
Sustainable Positioning

Market Impacts

Market-Based Pay Increases

A pay increase is essential for general government and public safety to withstand current market conditions and competition, including a **2%** pay increase for general government and a **2.75%** for public safety

The ongoing impacts from the Coronavirus produced new ways of operating and serving the customer but also created new market and economic challenges.



Economic Impacts

Cost of Doing Business

Efforts must continue to mitigate inflationary pressures by including a **4.5%** increase to the salary scales for general government and a **3.75%** for the public safety step plan

Operating costs will increase due to gas, materials and other expenses, along with the need to restore FY21 budget reductions totaling **\$1.45M**

Growth Impacts

Population Growth

To keep up with growth, support response times and fulfill ongoing Board commitment, this Budget includes:

EMS Crew (12)

F&R Battalion Chiefs (3)

Sheriff Deputies (5)

Family Services Specialist III

Strategic Prioritization



Dedicated transportation funding for Road Bond projects from Personal Property and capital construction resource support.



Continuing Board-supported efforts by funding **\$95K** for Historic Port of Falmouth seasonal staffing and major community events.



Environmental and Cultural assets are prioritized with a land conservation partnership, conservation grant program and Cultural Resource Specialist position alongside support for the stormwater grant program.

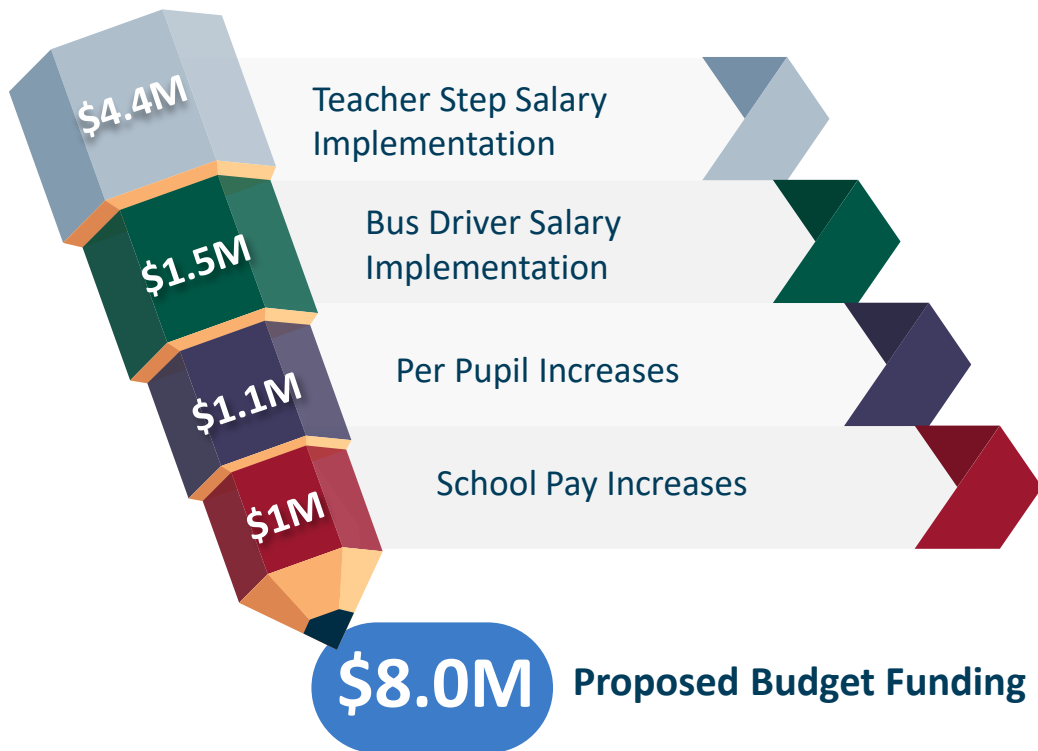


Funds new Economic Development programs and ongoing Virginia Smart Community Testbed operational costs.



Strategic Prioritization

Quality Educational Opportunities | Goal 4



- 📍 Largest Proposed Increase in Recent Years
- 📍 Additional **\$333K** Increase in Private and Public Day School Costs
- 📍 Meets Superintendent's Budget Request
- 📍 **6.1%** Increase Over Last Year's Budget
- 📍 Additional **\$150K** to support electric vehicle County/School program

Strategic Prioritization

Dedicated and Responsive Public Safety Team | Goal 6

\$187K

SHERIFF'S OFFICE

- New Staff Scheduling Software
- Fire Boat Training and Certification
- Cyclical Equipment Replacement



Communication Officers
4 Communication Officers



Evidence Technician
Sheriff's Office Support Position



Vehicle Replacement

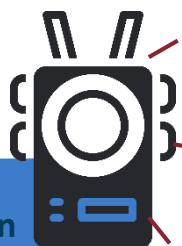
\$530K to Replace Vehicles and Cover Inflation



Animal Caretaker

Animal Caretaker II Position for the Shelter

Body Camera Implementation



3 Sheriff Positions

2 Record Specialists and 1 Deputy

3 Commonwealth Positions

1 Assistant Commonwealth Attorney, 1 Paralegal,
1 Legal Assistant

\$84K

First year operating costs

FIRE AND RESCUE

Strategic Prioritization

Organizational Excellence | Goal 7



The building blocks of a secure and risk-mitigating information technology environment requires proper resources and people to execute the plan.

RESOURCES

Devoting **\$500K** to major IT applications supporting public safety, the Commissioner of the Revenue, the budget process, human resources and office business software

STAFFING

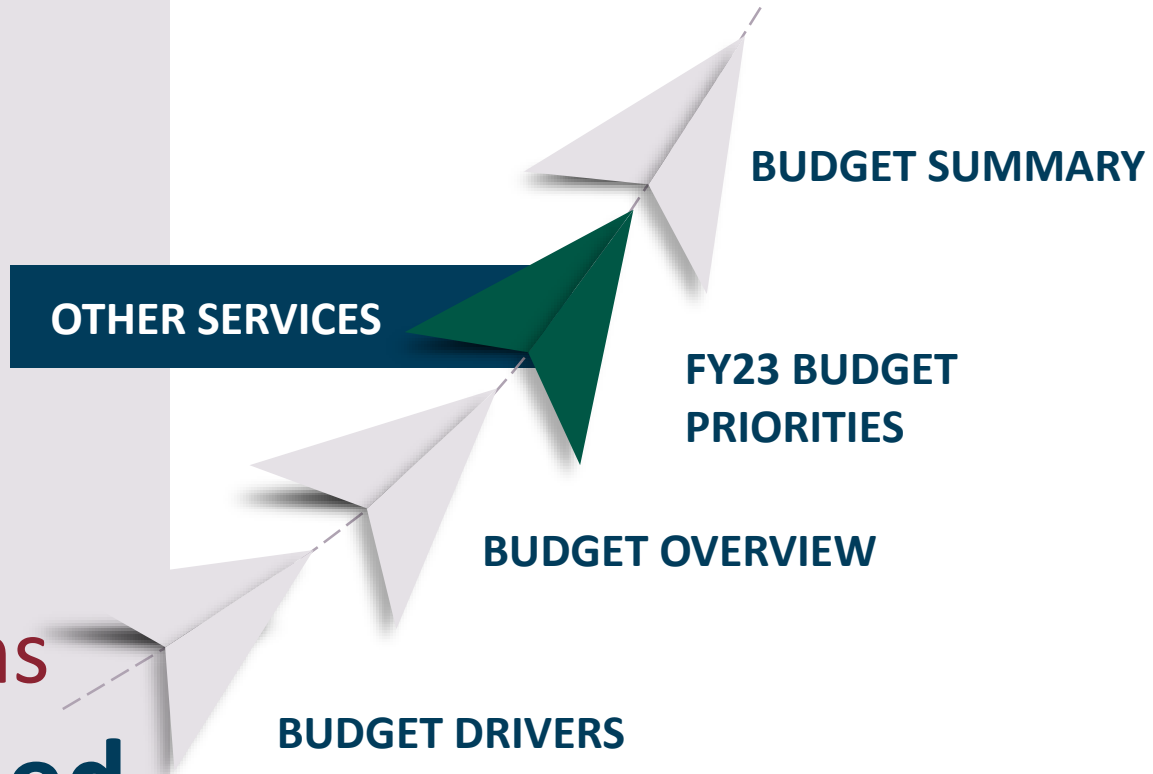
ERP Systems Accountant

ERP Systems Analyst II

Assistant Director of IT

Network Engineer

Sustainable Actions Strategy-Focused



Transportation Fund

Brooke Road Reconstruction
Mountain View Road Safety Widening
Stefaniga Road Intersection Improvements
Foreston Woods Drive Sidewalk
Salisbury Drive Sidewalk
Morton Road Safety Improvements
Staffordboro Boulevard Sidewalk



\$2.9M
**New and
Continuing
Road Projects**



\$7M
Bond Projects



IMPROVING ROADS FOR OUR COMMUNITY.

Garrisonville Road Widening
Shelton Shop Road Improvements
Onville Road Widening
Enon Road and Route 1 Improvements
Route 1 and Layhill Road Intersection Improvements
Leeland Road Widening
Roadway Safety/Widening Improvements

Personal Property Tax

\$6.10 → **\$5.49**
Current Rate Proposed Rate

- Alleviates unnecessary tax burden
- Manages historically-high new and used fleet values
- Keeps dedicated transportation funding intact



STAFFORD
Virginia

Capital Program



Rebuilds continue at Aquia Harbour and Rock Hill Fire and Rescue Stations along with apparatus replacement

\$5.5M



\$2.7M

As the population grows, so does the need for more court services, prompting the need to renovate the Courthouse and Courthouse Annex



\$67K

A community and meeting space suitable for expansion through the use of proffer funding

\$51M

Work begins on High School #6 as the largest investment in the Capital Improvement Plan

The Capital Program also dedicates funding of **\$7.8M** to school repair, restoration and rehabilitation projects

Following Board-adopted Utilities Fund Fiscal Policy, a **2.5% rate increase** is necessary to support continued system growth and vital rehabilitation projects, including managing the dramatic increases in material and chemical costs and significant market volatility.

2.5% →

Capacity Investments

New Positions:

- Water Plant Operator
- Project Manager

With nearly 20% of Utilities staff eligible to retire within the next five years, the priority is to identify those positions that will assist with the training and coordination of that loss of institutional knowledge.

Major Projects

Water Projects:

- Smith Lake Water Treatment Plant Facility Upgrade
- Ferry Farm Water Distribution System Rehabilitation
- County-wide Water Meter Upgrades Program

Sewer Projects:

- Little Falls Run Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade
- 36" Gravity Line to Austin Run Pump Station

Utilities Fund - \$101M

Sustainable Actions Strategy-Focused



BUDGET DRIVERS

BUDGET OVERVIEW

**FY23 BUDGET
PRIORITIES**

BUDGET SUMMARY



Sustainable Actions with a
Balanced Strategy for the Future

Effective Tax Rate

Budget Commitments

Sustainable Positioning

Strategic Prioritization

Feb
2022**15** | County Administrator Proposes FY2023 Operating Budget and FY2023-32 CIP**22** | Budget Work Session (BWS): General Fund Revenues and Expenditures**24** | BWS: Follow up to February 22, 2022 if neededMar
2022**01** | Joint Board and School Board meeting for the School Board/staff to provide School Board's FY2023 Budget request**01** | Advertise the FY2023 Budget, CIP, Virginia Public School Authority (VPSA), and Calendar Year (CY) 2022 Tax Rates**08** | BWS: Utilities, Transportation and Other Funds**10** | BWS: Follow up to March 8, 2022 if needed**15** | BWS: CIP and project status**17** | BWS: Follow up to March 15, 2022 if needed**22** | BWS: If neededApr
2022**05** | Public Hearing FY2023 Budget, CIP, VPSA, and CY2022 Tax Rates**12** | BWS: If needed**19** | BWS - as needed**19** | Adopt the FY2023 Budget, CIP, VPSA and CY2022 Tax RatesMay
2022**05** | Treasurer's Office Sends Bills to Tax PayersJune
2022**06** | Real Estate and Personal Property Tax Bills Due

Public Participation

FY2023 BUDGET CALENDAR

staffordcountyva.gov/budget

BWS – Budget Work Sessions