



# OurRenton

Community News, Programs, and Events

## BUDGET ADOPTED

City Council approves Mayor's budget for 2023 and 2024

**MAYOR ARMONDO PAVONE'S BUDGET** for 2023 and 2024 was passed unanimously by the city council last month.

"My thanks to the council and our staff for their work during the budget process," he said. "We also benefited from the diverse and critical community input provided by my Budget Advisory Committee. Their ideas and feedback helped sharpen our focus."

The committee's input was in addition to that provided by residents and conversations with councilmembers and city staff. In addition, it reflects the priorities of the mayor and city council, as stated in the city's 2023–2028 Business Plan.

The mayor focused on four primary areas in developing the budget: public safety, business development and downtown revitalization, human services, and communication.

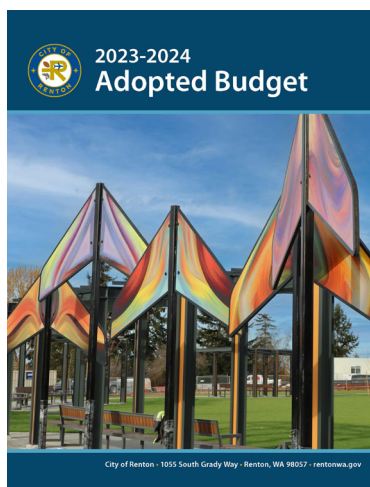
The budget calls for \$581.2 million in

expenditures and \$584.5 in projected revenue over the next two years.

Among the highlights:

- Four additional commissioned police officers to create a new policing district in the downtown core. Their presence will help restore a sense of safety downtown and throughout the city by enabling more time to patrol and engage with our residents and businesses.
- Additional code compliance inspector and three new park maintenance workers to improve the city's appearance and prevent crime. The latter will lead encampment cleanups on city-owned property and perform landscape maintenance explicitly designed to assist in crime-prevention efforts. These positions will impact the city's visual appeal and create a bridge with our Human Services service providers and programs to affect those more vulnerable community members.

- Contract with FDCARES, a partnership between Renton Police Department and Renton Regional Fire Authority, to provide new ways to respond to emergency calls for those suffering from mental health and addiction issues.
- Funding increased by \$500,000 to direct service support for rental assistance, utility bill debt forgiveness, and emergency feeding programs. This funding is in addition to the nearly threefold increase in the city's human and social services funding in the last two years.
- Additional staff to increase our connection, accessibility, and responsiveness with all community members. The new positions include a communications & engagement manager in the police department, an equity manager in Equity, Housing, and Human Services, and additional city communications and engagement staff.
- Funding to better apply available data. Using this data allows us to make informed decisions, increase transparency, and provide easily accessible information to the community.



*continued...*

Like our residents, cities also deal with increasing costs for goods and services. To help pay for the initiatives and services in the budget, the council passed ordinances increasing tax rates.

“We’re very aware of the effect any increase in taxes has on a family’s budget,” said Mayor Pavone. “We feel our budget provides a balance between access to the most requested services without a dramatic increase in taxes.”

Rates for water service remain unchanged for the next two years. Wastewater rates will increase by 3% per year and 4% per year for surface water.

The increases are in response to increased operating and construction costs due to inflation and increased costs

for labor and benefits. In addition, two major capital improvement projects, the Kennydale Lakeline Sewer Upgrade and the Monroe Avenue NE and NE 2nd Street Infiltration Facility Improvement, will receive funding.

For a typical single-family residence, the monthly increase for city water, wastewater, and surface water utility services is \$1.58 for 2023 and \$1.63 for 2024.

“Strong partnerships and relationships throughout our community make Renton successful,” said the mayor. “We will continue to work with individuals and agencies that go above and beyond for us, just like we aim to do for them. That’s what makes Renton great.”



## Start the new year with a bang! Or a brrrrrrrrrr!

Bring your friends and family and usher in 2023 with a dip into Lake Washington from the south beach at Gene Coulon Memorial Beach Park. Polar Bear Plunge returns after a two-year absence. Sunday, Jan. 1, 10 a.m.

## City Hall Hours

**Municipal Court & Passports**  
Monday–Friday  
8:30 a.m.–12 p.m. and 12:30–4 p.m.  
*Passports: Tuesday mornings.*  
Call 425-430-6550 to schedule.

**Finance Counter, Utility Bills, License & Tax Counter**  
Monday–Friday, 8:30 a.m.–4 p.m.

**Building & Permit Counter**  
Monday, Wednesday and Thursday  
9–11:30 a.m. and 1–4 p.m.

**Police Counter**  
Monday–Friday, 8:30 a.m.–4 p.m.

## City Contacts

General Information . . . . 425-430-6400  
Mayor . . . . . 425-430-6500  
Building Permits . . . . . 425-430-7200  
City Council . . . . . 425-430-6501  
City Clerk . . . . . 425-430-6510  
Code Enforcement . . . . 425-430-7373  
Parks & Recreation . . . . 425-430-6600  
Licensing & Taxes . . . . . 425-430-6851  
Municipal Court & Passports . . . . . 425-430-6550  
Police (business line) . . . . 425-430-7500  
Regional Fire Authority . . 425-271-7900  
Utility Billing . . . . . 425-430-6852

**EMERGENCY . . . . . 911**  
**Non-Emergency . . . . . 425-235-2121**

The City of Renton provides reasonable accommodation upon request.



**rentonwa.gov**

Email: [communications@rentonwa.gov](mailto:communications@rentonwa.gov)



## Register for winter recreation activities

Registration for winter recreation classes and activities opens on Dec. 19 at [rentonwa.gov/register](http://rentonwa.gov/register). Our winter edition of *Let's Go Renton!* includes a complete list of activities and events. Find it at [rentonwa.gov/recreation](http://rentonwa.gov/recreation).

- Community Events
- Dance & Music
- Sports Leagues & Classes
- Youth Camps & Workshops
- Adaptive Recreation
- Emergency Preparedness
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