



Financial Budget FY 2026

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City of Riverside

CITY OF RIVERSIDE
COUNTY OF ST. CLAIR
STATE OF ALABAMA

RESOLUTION 2025-0915 FISCAL YEAR 2026 MUNICIPAL BUDGET

WHEREAS, Section 11-43-57, Code of Alabama 1975, states that in all cities under the mayor-council form of government, the mayor-council shall appropriate the sums necessary for the expenditures of the several city departments, the interest on municipal indebtedness; the council shall not appropriate, in the aggregate, an amount in excess of ten percent of its estimated revenue; and,

WHEREAS, a line-item budget itemizes the appropriations to be made to each department or agency of the municipality. Generally, it is a detailed summary of all the various expense accounts in each department with an allotment for each; and,

WHEREAS, the Mayor has presented the Proposed Financial Budget for Fiscal Year 2026 to the City Council of the City of Riverside, Alabama, for deliberation and consideration; and,

WHEREAS, all purchases of the City shall be properly charged to the department and line item authorizing same and are authorized to request payment on such items so properly charged.

BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of Riverside, Alabama, does hereby adopt the Fiscal Year 2026 Financial Budget (v.91025.B) as proposed.

ADOPTED on this 15th day of September , 2025 .



Rusty Cessup, Mayor

ATTEST: 

Candace Smith, City Clerk

BUDGET MESSAGE

Comprehensive Theme

The general objective and theme of this budget centers on preserving the character of our small town while building a stronger, more resilient future. It reflects our effort in encouraging slow, deliberate growth that protects our natural spaces, enforces cleanup and maintenance efforts, invests in services that enhance quality of life, and safeguards the community assets that make our City a unique place to live.

Policy & Objectives-

The annual municipal budget allocates money across multiple departments for the purposes of:

- Financing departmental operations; and
- Providing public services to Residents

While a budget provides a financial plan for the upcoming year, it also guides plans for the future of the community.

Two types of budgets are incorporated into Riverside's municipal budget: 1) The operating portion of the budget lists expenditures necessary for day-to-day operations and are listed toward the top of each departmental budget chart. 2) The capital portion, listed under Misc. Department of each budget chart, includes financials for long-term expenditures as well as departmental improvements, facilities, and equipment goals.

A closer look at these expenditures and goals can be found in the Appendix sections of the report. Annually, at the request of the Mayor, the City Clerk/Treasurer prepares the budget for presentation to the council on or before the first meeting in September. In a Mayor-Council form of government, adopting a budget is a responsibility of the municipal governing body; Therefore, the Mayor is unable to prepare the budget due to constitutional requirements of separation of power. Department Heads of the City are required to adhere to an operating budget that is based on the prior year's finances and also accounting for any projected cost increases. As part of the initial budgeting process, departments submit their goal requests for any additional needs which fall outside of the normal operating budget. Department Heads submit, in order of priority, their goal requests for any additional needs which may fall outside of the normal operating budget. Informative and financial documentation included with their request is compiled by the City Clerk and included as part of the preliminarily draft of the budget submitted to the Mayor for review. Department heads then discuss with the Mayor their upcoming fiscal year budget, significant changes he deems necessary. Once the Mayor has completed his departmental meetings and budget review, the City Clerk incorporates the Mayor's noted recommendations into the official proposed Budget. At the next meeting of the City Council, the Mayor presents the official proposed Budget. After any deliberation, the final budget, as modified for any subsequent additions or deletions, is enacted by City Council as the adopted budget on or before the last City Council meeting in September.

The final adopted budget becomes effective on October 1st at the start of the new fiscal year. The City's fiscal year runs from October through September of each year. This document is prepared for the fiscal year October 1, 2025, through September 30, 2026, thereby being the Fiscal Year 2026 Budget.

General Financial Status

The City enters Fiscal Year 2026 in a stable but cautious financial position. Revenues remain steady, supported by moderate growth in property and sales tax collections. Our revenues have previously met budgetary targets, positioning us to respond to unforeseen economic fluctuations. However, nationwide inflationary pressures and rising service demands require disciplined spending.

Highlights & Challenges

This budget represents a responsible and forward-looking financial plan that balances community character with sustainability. While this budget addresses immediate service priorities, we must continue to explore revenue sources for road and facility maintenance. With this budget, the City of Riverside is committed to preserving essential services, responding to community needs, and investing in the future of our City.

-- Candace Smith, City Clerk, City Clerk



City of Riverside
MUNICIPAL BUDGET FY2026

| Department | Estimated Income | Proposed Budget |
|-------------------|------------------|-----------------|
| General | \$361,000.00 | \$324,900.00 |
| Police Department | \$589,000.00 | \$530,100.00 |
| Fire Department | \$235,000.00 | \$211,500.00 |
| Water Department | \$960,600.00 | \$864,500.00 |
| Parks & Rec | \$30,000.00 | \$27,000.00 |
| Road | \$145,000.00 | \$130,500.00 |

CAPITAL OUTLAY

Capital Outlays are the expenditures for items with an estimated useful life of more than two years and of a substantial cost (more than \$5,000).

| DEBT | Beginning FY25 Balance | 2026 Payments | Maturity Date |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| Police Loan 21- Tahoe | \$10,000.00 | \$10,000.00 | 2026 |
| Police Loan 23 - Tahoes* | \$37,000.00 | \$24,000.00 | 2027 |
| Water Loan 23 - F150* | \$17,000.00 | \$12,000.00 | 2027 |
| DWSRF Bond | \$777,832.50 | \$76,170.00 | 2034 |
| 09 GO Bond | \$191,137.50 | \$38,456.25 | 2029 |
| Rescue Pumper Loan | \$105,579.50 | \$19,491.60 | 2030 |
| | \$1,138,549.50 | | |

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DEBT SERVICE

Debt service is the amount of money needed to pay principal and interest on borrowed funds for a specified period.

| Payment | Amount | General | Police | Fire | Water | Total |
|------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|------------|-------------|-------------|
| SCC Dispatch | \$56,000.00 | \$17,000.00 | \$17,000.00 | \$7,000.00 | \$15,000.00 | \$56,000.00 |
| 09 GO Bond | \$36,918.75 | \$3,459.37 | | | | \$36,459.37 |
| | | \$15,000.00 | | | \$18,000.00 | |
| DWSRF | \$79,638.75 | | | | \$72,717.50 | \$79,638.75 |
| | | | | | \$6,921.25 | |
| Audit | \$16,000.00 | \$8,000.00 | | | \$8,000.00 | \$16,000.00 |
| Liability (AMIC) | \$69,000.00 | \$25,000.00 | \$27,000.00 | \$7,000.00 | \$15,000.00 | \$74,000.00 |
| Workmans Comp | \$17,000.00 | \$3,000.00 | \$5,500.00 | \$3,000.00 | \$5,500.00 | \$17,000.00 |

Estimated

