



METROPOLITAN GOVERNMENT OF NASHVILLE AND DAVIDSON COUNTY

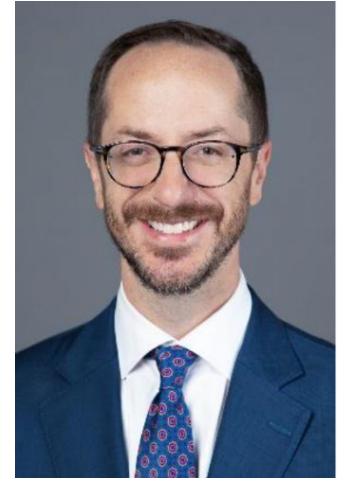
FREDDIE O'CONNELL
MAYOR

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Nashville,

As I file my recommended budget for FY2027, I am guided by a simple belief: Nashville should be a city of belonging: a city we can afford, where we feel safe, and where we can all achieve the better future we imagine for ourselves. Each day our work is guided by this pursuit. My recommended FY2027 budget reflects these values and is designed to keep that strength moving forward with purpose.

The recommended FY2027 budget prioritizes affordability, quality schools, reliable services, neighborhood safety, and long-term financial stability. It reflects the realities of the current fiscal environment, including flat local revenues, continued inflation, increased fuel costs, volatility in financial markets, the end of federal COVID-era relief funding, and ongoing uncertainty around federal funding. Being good stewards of Nashville's growth means being good stewards of government's growth as well, and the budget tasks Metro with making modest reductions while preserving the services Nashvillians rely upon.



The proposed \$3.8 billion budget balances core operational needs with key investments that make life a little easier for the people who make this city work. It reduces the local grocery tax, makes Nashville's largest-ever local investment in housing, fully funds the employee pay plan, and continues our commitment to schools, services, and safety.

Affordability

No matter where you live in the United States right now, you hear one word: affordability. Nashville is not immune to those pressures, but we can lead with practical, creative solutions that lower costs and expand opportunities.

This budget proposes reducing the local option sales tax rate on groceries by a half cent, from 2.25% to 1.75%. Reducing our grocery tax doesn't just change a line on a receipt; it acknowledges that feeding your family shouldn't be treated like a luxury. So, at a time when everything costs more, in Nashville, this cut to the local grocery tax means it will cost a little less to feed your family.

Housing

The only cost larger than transportation for the average Nashville family is housing. The FY2027 recommended budget includes a total investment of \$69 million into the Unified Housing Strategy (UHS). This is the city's largest ever cumulative investment in housing and one and a half times the first-year investment in the UHS. It also includes the largest allocation of general fund dollars into the Barnes Affordable Housing Trust Fund, with \$22 million dedicated to creating and preserving affordable housing.

This budget also introduces a new housing tool. The recommended \$7 million subordinate debt pilot creates a revolving loan program that will help make affordable housing projects financially viable when available debt and equity are not enough to cover total construction costs. Unlike a grant, these funds are repaid and can be used again for future affordable housing projects. This pilot is an important next step in building the foundation for a durable affordable housing bond.



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The budget also sustains housing programs previously supported with federal COVID relief dollars through new local general fund investments, including staffing to house people experiencing homelessness and support for eviction right-to-counsel. It continues support for anti-displacement strategies, permanent supportive housing, rapid rehousing, and MDHA's PILOT program, including a new permanent supportive housing PILOT.

Schools and Children

This budget continues our strong commitment to Metro Nashville Public Schools and to the programs that help Nashville's youngest residents build a strong foundation.

Metro Schools will receive an additional \$55.9 million in FY2027, a 4% increase over the prior fiscal year. This increase will fund pay restructuring for teachers, recruitment, retention and workplace readiness, before and after care school programming, and provide support for new school start times. This fall, following unanimous approval by the Metro Nashville Board of Education, MNPS will implement new high school start times. The change follows evidence showing more sleep supports better student mental health and overall performance.

Services and Small Business

Reliable services are the backbone of a government people can trust. This budget maintains essential services while asking departments to operate with increased fiscal discipline. I have asked departments to carefully evaluate their budgets and make modest reductions to expenditures where appropriate. Being good stewards of our city's growth means being good stewards of government's growth as well. Metro employees need to afford this city, too, and wages are a key part of affordability. The budget includes fully funding the employee pay plan approved by the Civil Service Commission. The combined across-the-board increase plus merit is expected to provide a total pay increase of 3.7% for most employees and raises the minimum hourly rate for full-time entry-level jobs with Metro to \$22.50 per hour. Improving employee pay is a key strategy to recruit and retain the Metro employees who deliver services across Nashville every day.

The budget continues investments that support health, safety, and well-being. It transitions \$385,000 for the Office of Family Safety's partnership with the Nashville Children's Alliance from federal COVID funding to local dollars. The Nashville Children's Alliance is the only authorized provider of forensic interviews for children who experience abuse and the entity providing therapy to severely abused children. The Office of Family Safety will also receive local funding to continue four high-risk case manager positions that support victims experiencing the most severe forms of interpersonal violence.

This budget also expands support for Nashville Strong Babies, a Metro Public Health Department program that supports mothers and babies from pregnancy through the child's first 18 months of life. Since countywide expansion, the program has not lost a single mother or child. With federal funding reduced, Metro stepped in to sustain this work, and the FY2027 budget includes an additional \$250,000 to support the successful doula program.

The Metro Public Health Department budget includes \$396,000 for the Mental Health Cooperative to support REACH, Partners-In-Care, and crisis services for people experiencing a mental or behavioral health crisis.



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Safety

One of the highest calls of government is to keep people safe and answer the call when help is needed. Nashville is safer than it was two years ago, and last year crime was down in every category and in every police precinct in the city.

The FY2027 budget maintains funding for the Nashville Fire Department, the Metro Nashville Police Department, and the Department of Emergency Communications. It increases funding for the Office of Emergency Management by \$423,000, or 16%, to support warning siren maintenance and critical emergency preparedness positions.

The budget also includes \$8.5 million for the Davidson County Sheriff's Office to address an increased number of inmates. Metro continues to address the financial and operational impacts of the state's lack of compliance with court orders to assume custody of certain inmates and is considering separate legal action to recoup related costs.

Safety takes many forms and requires many partners. From emergency response and domestic violence intervention to mental health crisis support, youth safety, and neighborhood infrastructure, this budget continues to invest in the systems and people that help Nashvillians feel secure.

Fiscal Stability in the Years Ahead

The FY2027 recommended budget reflects our commitment to preserving Metro's strong financial foundation while responding to the realities of the current fiscal environment.

Metro will continue to maintain healthy fund balances and strengthen financial reserves. These safeguards protect taxpayers, preserve operational stability, and support Metro's highest-ever bond ratings, allowing our tax dollars to stretch farther and reducing the cost of borrowing for critical public investments.

This budget makes deliberate choices that support our shared goals and values. It reduces the cost of groceries, invests nearly twice as much funding toward housing, supports Metro employees, maintains essential services, and continues progress on schools, transportation, health, safety, and neighborhoods. Every decision in this budget – to cut the grocery tax, to fund childcare, to support small businesses, to build more housing, to invest in our employees – is a statement about who this city is for. It's for all of us.

Best,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Freddie O'Connell".

Freddie O'Connell
Mayor
Metropolitan Nashville & Davidson County



Executive Summary

Introduction

The FY 2027 Operating Budget reflects a continued commitment to responsible stewardship, operational stability, and affordability. Developed during a period of minimum revenue growth, persistent cost pressures, and ongoing economic uncertainty, the budget prioritizes affordability, quality schools, reliable services, neighborhood safety, and long-term financial stability.

The FY 2027 budget was developed with these realities in mind. The budget reflects a disciplined approach that aligns recurring expenditures with recurring revenues, preserves financial flexibility, prioritizes affordability and supports essential government operations and measurable community outcomes. While strategic investments remain necessary, this year's budget process placed significant emphasis on evaluating operational readiness, long-term affordability, service impact, and organizational sustainability.



The \$3.85 billion operating budget balances core operational needs with investments in key service areas while maintaining prudent financial management practices. The budget also includes reducing the local option sales tax rate on groceries by a half cent, from 2.25% to 1.75%. Major investments support public education, public safety, transportation and infrastructure, housing initiatives, and essential neighborhood services. At the same time, Metro continues efforts to modernize internal operations, strengthen accountability measures, improve financial forecasting, and enhance data-informed decision-making across departments.

The budget further advances implementation of Metro's Unified Housing Strategy through targeted investments intended to support housing stability, affordability, and coordinated long-term planning efforts. Additional resources are also directed toward maintaining service delivery across public safety, parks, libraries, waste services, youth engagement, and public health programs that contribute directly to the quality of life of Nashville residents.

Economic Outlook

Over the past several years, Nashville experienced accelerated economic growth fueled by post-pandemic recovery, strong development activity, tourism expansion, and elevated consumer spending. As the local and national economy transition toward more normalized growth patterns, Metro's budget is constructed to adapt to a fiscal environment defined by slower revenue growth, inflationary pressures, evolving federal and state funding conditions, and increasing demand for public services.

Budget Overview

The FY 2027 Operating Budget totals \$3.85 billion, representing a 1.3% increase from FY 2026. The budget targets strategic investments intended to preserve essential services, improve operational reliability, and support the long-term needs of Nashville residents and neighborhoods

Key investments include:

- **Public Education and Youth Support**
Continued investment in Metropolitan Nashville Public Schools to support classroom operations, educator compensation, student resources, and educational stability for families across the county.
- **Public Safety Service**
Funding to support police, fire, emergency response, and community safety operations, including personnel, equipment, training, and service readiness to meet increasing service demands.
- **Transportation and Infrastructure Improvements**
Continued implementation and operational support for the Choose How You Move transit initiative, along with investments in roadway maintenance, traffic operations, and transportation infrastructure improvements that affect daily mobility across Nashville.

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- **Parks, Libraries, and Community Spaces**
Ongoing operational support for parks, greenways, libraries, and community centers that provide residents with recreational access, educational resources, youth programming, and neighborhood gathering spaces.
- **Affordable Housing and Housing Stability**
Continued implementation of Metro's Unified Housing Strategy through investments intended to support housing availability, affordability, and coordinated long-term housing planning efforts.
- **Waste Collection and Neighborhood Services**
Investments supporting solid waste operations, recycling services, fleet reliability, and neighborhood maintenance services that directly affect day-to-day quality of life for residents.

Fiscal Responsibility

The FY 2027 Operating Budget continues Metro's commitment to long-term fiscal sustainability through disciplined financial management, responsible reserve practices, and a continued focus on operational efficiency across government operations.

As part of the FY 2027 budget development process, departments were directed to identify permanent operational efficiencies equal to approximately 1.5% of General Fund-supported expenditures. This initiative resulted in approximately \$20 million in ongoing budget reductions across the General Fund and reflects Metro's broader effort to align spending with long-term financial sustainability while continuing to support key mayoral priorities and essential government services.

The efficiency reduction strategy was intentionally focused on operational improvements, process evaluation, vacancy management, organizational streamlining, technology utilization, and other administrative efficiencies rather than reductions to core resident-facing services. Departments were encouraged to evaluate how services are delivered, identify opportunities to improve effectiveness, reduce redundancy, and prioritize resources toward essential functions and measurable community outcomes.

This approach recognizes that sustainable government operations require continuous evaluation of both spending and service delivery models, particularly during periods of moderating revenue growth and increasing operational costs. The FY 2027 budget reflects a balanced effort to maintain service reliability for residents while strengthening Metro's long-term financial position and organizational resilience.

Metro remains committed to maintaining fund balance levels consistent with adopted financial policies and preserving the financial flexibility necessary to respond to future economic uncertainty, operational demands, and community needs. Strong reserve practices, disciplined budgeting, and ongoing operational review continue to support Metro's financial stability and strong credit position

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Budget Priorities

Keeping the Fundamentals

Debt Service

Another factor in fiscal sustainability is ensuring that Metro’s obligations on all outstanding debt - both principal and interest – are fully funded in this budget. This also includes a planned bond issuance to take advantage of low interest rates. Additional details on debt service are provided in Section J.

Debt Service Budget			
(in millions)	FY 2026*	FY 2027	FY 2026-2027 Variance
GSD Debt	\$304.6	\$294.9	\$9.7
MNPS Debt	137.8	130.1	7.7
USD Debt	16.9	16.2	0.7
	\$459.3	\$441.2	\$18.1

*Includes amounts for fund balance restoration and budget sustainability.

Fiscal Responsibility

It continues to be our primary charge to deliver a balanced budget. This includes matching expenses with revenues and maintaining fund balances at least at minimum policy level. Fund balance policy-required minimum Unrestricted Fund Balances (committed and unassigned) of 17% of budgeted expenditures for operating funds and 50% of budgeted expenditures for debt service funds is achieved. In April of 2025, Metro adopted a revised Fund Balance policy that establishes a budget sustainability reserve. This reserve shall be a minimum of 1% up to 6% of the Budgeted Operating Expenditures and Budgeted Debt Service of each respective fund. The chart below is reflective of both the Fund Balance Reserve and Budget Sustainability Reserve.

Fund Balance – Unrestricted				
(in millions)	FY 2025 Year End	FY 2026 Projected	FY2027 Projected	FY 2026-2027 Variance
GSD	\$252.8	\$394.5	\$359.8	-\$34.7
GSD Debt	137.2	156.4	153.4	-3.0
MNPS	203.7	253.5	263.2	9.7
MNPS Debt	65.0	70.8	67.6	-3.2
USD	33.4	20.1	13.8	-6.3
USD Debt	10.9	10.2	8.7	-1.5
Total	\$703.0	\$905.5	\$866.5	-\$39.0

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Employees

The FY 2027 recommended pay plan provides a 1.7% across-the-board increase for eligible employees and an estimated 2% merit increase for those who qualify. This plan moves Metro government closer to alignment with peer cities in offering competitive pay and benefits, supporting both recruitment and retention across departments. The budget allocates approximately \$36.8 million, in GSD related funding to implement these compensation changes, reinforcing Metro's commitment to investing in its workforce and the essential services they provide.

How Nashville Moves

How Nashville Moves is about building a safe, modern, multi-modal transportation system that reduces Nashvillians' transportation costs and helps them get where they need to go. While Nashvillians have spent more than a decade weighing in on 70 plans and studies about how to improve the city's transportation system, the cost of transportation has grown, our commutes have been ranked as the worst in the nation, and the rates of traffic and pedestrian fatalities have increased. How Nashville Moves focuses on turning plans into action using data and the more than 66,000 points of input collected from Nashville residents.

Choose How You Move

Choose How You Move (CHYM) is Metro's ambitious transportation investment program, funded through a dedicated 0.5-cent sales tax to improve transit, multimodal infrastructure, and transportation technology across Nashville and Davidson County. The program continues to support major investments in transit service expansion, traffic management modernization, pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure, and project delivery capacity to improve mobility, safety, and reliability citywide.



The FY 2027 recommended budget continues funding and positions previously established for the Mayor's Office, Planning Department, Information Technology Services (ITS), Nashville Department of Transportation and Multimodal Infrastructure (NDOT), Metro Nashville Police Department (MNPd), and WeGo Public Transit. In addition, the FY 2027 recommended budget includes new CHYM-supported investments to expand staffing and operational support needed to advance project delivery and service expansion across departments.

The Mayor's Office receives \$2.2 million and six positions to support coordination and expansion of CHYM programming. ITS receives funding for additional network operations staff to support transportation communication systems and future technology needs. NDOT receives funding for new positions supporting right-of-way acquisition, utility coordination, traffic management system operations, traffic engineering, project management, construction support, and related operational needs to advance CHYM infrastructure projects. MNPd receives funding to support the Transit Division, while WeGo receives \$10.5 million for transit service expansion, transit ambassador programming, and continuation of prior CHYM service enhancements.

For more information, see <https://www.nashville.gov/featured-initiatives/transit>.

Nashville Department of Transportation

The FY 2027 recommended budget supports the Nashville Department of Transportation (NDOT) with investments to strengthen operations, improve service delivery, and support the department's growing infrastructure and transportation responsibilities. The budget includes \$1 million in one-time funding for organizational, curb management, and Vision Zero studies.

To support operations, the budget provides \$1.1 million for increased brush and leaf debris disposal costs and \$960 thousand for additional vehicle and equipment storage space. The budget also includes funding for new traffic management, financial management, and human resources staff, including two positions to transition Traffic Management Center operations from grant-funded consultants to in-house staff.

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How Nashville Works

How Nashville Works is about services working well, making Nashville the city's premier customer service organization. Nashvillians want affordable housing, safe neighborhoods, and equitable educational opportunities. Underlying each of these issues – and decisions about other big topics that impact Nashvillians' quality of life – is the need for city services that work well. Metro Government should be accessible to all Nashvillians. Decisions about Metro policy should be open and transparent. Metro leaders should hold themselves accountable to Nashvillians. Increased coordination across Metro entities will help expedite solutions to issues Nashvillians face.

As part of the FY 2027 budget development process, departments identified permanent operational efficiencies equal to approximately 1.5% of General Fund-supported expenditures, resulting in approximately \$20 million in ongoing budget reductions. The reduction strategy focused on improving operational efficiency through process evaluation, vacancy management, organizational streamlining, technology utilization, and other administrative improvements rather than reducing core resident-facing services. Departments were asked to assess how services are delivered, reduce duplication, and prioritize resources toward essential functions and measurable community outcomes. This approach supports Metro's long-term financial sustainability by balancing service reliability with the need to address moderating revenue growth and rising operational costs while continuing to advance key mayoral priorities.

Sheriff

The FY 2027 recommended budget includes the addition of \$1.2 million for 12 new correctional officers and equipment that will support the critical operations of the Davidson County Correctional Facility. The continued operational support for the Annex, an inmate housing expansion, includes the addition of \$7.3 million for equipment and 55 new correctional officers. This budget also provides \$126 thousand for the Mobile Booking Unit to support operations in the Downtown Entertainment District and \$344 thousand for the addition of required armed security officers to be posted at the new Election Commission offices.

Juvenile Court

The FY 2027 recommended budget supports initial funding of \$2.5 million for the hiring, onboarding, and training of 78 new positions to join the Juvenile Justice Pretrial Housing Center at Nashville Youth Campus for Empowerment (NYCE), which is currently under construction. An additional \$1.8 million provides the initial funding for 55 new positions to be added to the Juvenile Court to assist with expanded services at NYCE. The added positions allow for continuity of services and deliver measurable benefits to youth, families, and the community.

Assessor of Property

The Assessor of Property Office is transitioning from a three-year appraisal cycle to a two-year cycle, following a recommendation from the Tennessee Comptroller's Office. This operational change is intended to create more consistent and up-to-date property assessments across Nashville. To support the accelerated appraisal schedule, the FY 2027 recommended budget supports the hiring of eight additional positions and increases overall operational funding by \$937 thousand. This investment is expected to reduce "sticker shock" for property owners by smoothing changes in assessed values over time, while also providing Metro Nashville government with greater stability and predictability in property tax revenues.

Department of Emergency Communications

In the FY 2027 recommended budget, the Department of Emergency Communications receives \$194 thousand for additional staffing resources to strengthen management oversight and training functions. The addition of a Human Resource Manager enhances the department's capacity to provide comprehensive oversight of human resources operations. The budget also includes \$320 thousand for training resources to support the department's ability to deliver ongoing training and professional development. The department also receives an additional \$138 thousand in operating funding to support facility rent costs and special event response activities for public events.

Fire

The FY 2027 recommended budget for the Nashville Fire Department continues investments in public safety, emergency response, and departmental operations. The budget includes funding for two additional positions to support administrative services and finance operations, with an investment of \$212 thousand. To maintain critical emergency response infrastructure, the budget provides \$175 thousand for Motorola maintenance supporting the department's Computer-Aided Dispatch (CAD)

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system. The budget also includes \$1.7 million for facilities maintenance to support ongoing operational needs across department facilities. Additionally, the FY 2027 recommended budget invests \$79 thousand in Special Operations K9 training and care, supporting the department’s specialized emergency response capabilities and preparedness efforts. Finally, the budget includes \$544 thousand to address contractual increases and rising facility rental costs necessary to support ongoing departmental operations and service delivery.

Police

The FY 2027 recommended budget for the Metro Nashville Police Department (MNPDP) continues to prioritize school safety with an additional investment of \$1.2 million for MNPDP’s School Safety Initiative, the Rapid School Safety Team, and the school crossing guard program. The budget provides \$945 thousand to ensure officers continue to receive first-class training and have the proper equipment to carry out their duties. MNPDP’s Secondary Employment Unit, a program that lets community members and other Metro departments hire officers to perform security services, receives \$748 thousand to adjust officer pay to align with competitive market rates. This budget also supports the expansion of both the Alternative Police Response unit with the addition of \$322 thousand and 6 positions, and the Fugitive Transportation unit with the addition of \$280 thousand and 2 positions.

Office of Emergency Management

As part of the FY 2027 recommended budget, the Office of Emergency Management (OEM) receives \$232 thousand to fund two new positions. The first position will manage and maintain OEM’s technology, communications, and emergency response systems. The second position will focus on disaster recovery and business continuity planning for Metro agencies. In addition, OEM will receive \$238 thousand to fund the warranty on the siren contract.

Office of Family Safety

As part of the FY 2027 recommended budget, the Office of Family Safety receives \$387 thousand for four high-risk victim case managers. These positions provide life-saving services to victims of interpersonal violence who are statistically at the highest risk of homicide. These case managers are vital to Metro’s homicide prevention work and will reduce the burden to police, the courts, child welfare, and other emergency services. The budget also provides \$385 thousand to the Nashville Children’s Alliance to support therapists who perform forensic interviews for child abuse victims and deliver no-cost therapy to severely abused children.

Health

The FY 2027 recommended budget for the Health Department continues investments in programs and services that improve health outcomes for Nashvillians. This budget includes \$102 thousand for one additional position to support the Tuberculosis Elimination Program. The budget also provides continued support for the Nashville Strong Babies Program through a \$250 thousand investment in doula services aimed at improving maternal and infant health outcomes. To strengthen behavioral health services, the FY 2027 recommended budget includes a \$396 thousand increase for the Mental Health Cooperative’s REACH program, which deploys mental health professionals to respond to individuals experiencing crises. The budget also includes \$411 thousand to support contractual increases for key healthcare partners and addresses rising operational costs such as telecommunications services. Health also receives an additional \$13.9 million to support correctional healthcare for incarcerated citizens.

Waste Services

The FY 2027 recommended budget continues support for the expansion of Waste Services as a standalone department with investments focused on operational capacity, safety, technology, and service delivery. The budget includes \$2.6 million and 15 positions to support permitting, waste hauler oversight, contract management, and plan review activities required by code, which will be supported by additional program revenue.

Additional investments include \$717 thousand for workforce safety, training, and educational resources, as well as \$562 thousand and two positions for technology improvements and inventory management software to improve service delivery. The budget also provides \$1 million for temporary labor to support collection services and \$2.4 million for increased hauling, recycling processing, and disposal costs.

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How Nashville Grows

How Nashville Grows is about building a better Nashville for Nashvillians and being intentional about that. Metro should invest in infrastructure, affordable housing, and other community assets in neighborhoods throughout Nashville.

Capital Spending Plan

The FY 2027 Capital Spending Plan contains \$531 million for numerous projects across Metro. Highlights include \$103 million for Metro Schools, \$54 million for the new Juvenile Justice Center, \$79 million for NDOT, \$37 million for East Bank infrastructure, \$11 million for Metro Transit, \$23 million for Parks, and \$145 million for General Services. Please see Appendix 3 - Capital for additional details.

Parks

The FY 2027 recommended budget supports Metro Parks through investments in public safety, expanded programming, and operational support across parks and community facilities. The budget includes \$255 thousand to reimburse MNPd for a Police Captain assigned to the Park Police Division and \$250 thousand for additional security services supporting expanded hours at regional centers, the opening of Old Hickory Regional Community Center, Centennial Art Center, and enhanced security at the Parthenon.

The budget also includes \$596 thousand and 8.92 FTE to support expanded hours at Metro Parks golf clubhouses, funded through increased program revenue, as well as \$102 thousand and one position to expand movement and fitness programming for youth and seniors at regional community centers. In addition, the budget provides \$150 thousand for increased telecommunication contractual costs.

Unified Housing Strategy

The FY27 recommended budget continues implementation of Nashville’s Unified Housing Strategy through coordinated investments in affordable housing, homelessness response, housing stability, and program administration across multiple departments. The Barnes Fund receives an additional investment of \$6 million, a total of \$22 million to support affordable housing development and preservation efforts. In addition, the FY2027 recommended budget includes a new tool to finance affordable housing. Seven million is included in the FY2027 recommended budget for a subordinate debt pilot which creates a revolving loan program that will build the foundation needed to initiate a durable affordable housing bond.

The Office of Homeless Services maintains 15 staff positions previously supported through American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding that provided critical programmatic support. OHS also receives \$3.25 million for operational support for community-based care and interim housing strategies to strengthen homelessness response efforts. The Planning Department continues prior housing investments, including \$1.75 million for anti-displacement strategies, and adds \$2.4 million for eviction right to counsel, \$150 thousand for a home-sharing program, \$25 thousand for housing dashboard enhancements, and \$96 thousand for a centralized grants management system to improve housing program oversight and service delivery.

All budget priority highlights mentioned are the year over year changes from the FY 2026 operating budget and are detailed in the “Budget Changes and Impact Highlights” section of each department’s narrative in this document. This information is also accessible online via the Citizens’ Guide to the Budget at www.nashville.gov/citizens_budget.



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FTE Adjustments

Local government remains the most direct and impactful form of service to residents, and Metropolitan Nashville and Davidson County are committed to delivering that service with stability and purpose. As federal COVID-era funding sunsets, the FY 2027 budget focuses on transitioning essential personnel into the general operating budget to preserve core services in the Office of Family Safety and Office of Homeless Services departments. Strategic staffing additions are proposed to support these priorities and ensure continuity in critical operations. FY 2027 added key staffing support for the implementation for the Nashville Youth Campus for Empowerment which is set to open in the fall of 2027. Staffing additions were also considered for the Davidson County Sheriff's Office for campus safety additions. Additionally, the Choose How You Move initiative represents major steps forward in managing our city's growth and mobility future.

The table below illustrates changes in full-time equivalent (FTE) counts for FY 2025 through FY 2027 budgets for positions funded by the general funds.

Additional position details can be found with each department's pages as well as the Expenditure Overview.

FTE Growth Year over Year				
	FY 2025	FY 2026	FY 2027	FY 2026-2027 Variance
GSD	8,796.99	9,328.51	9,687.81	359.30



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At a Glance

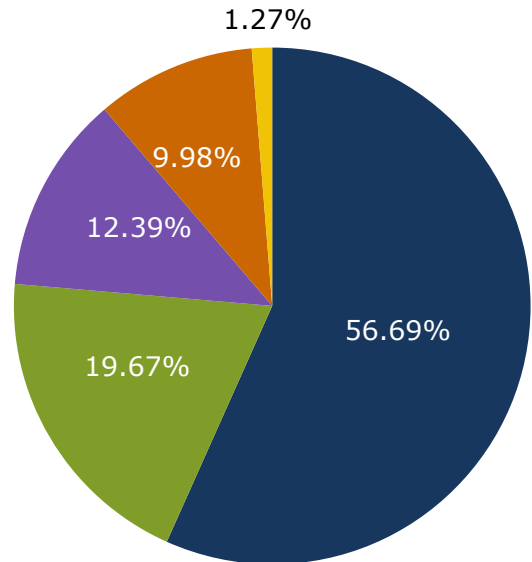
The \$3.85 billion FY 2027 recommended budget for the Metropolitan Government’s six budgetary (tax-supported) funds supports a wide range of public services. This budget represents a 1.3% increase from the FY 2026 budget.

Revenues

Where the Money Comes From-

Total \$3,848,620,900

Property Taxes	\$2,181,963,300
Local Option Sales Tax	756,930,700
Other Government Agencies	476,846,400
All Other Revenues	384,086,100
Fund Balance Appropriation	48,794,400

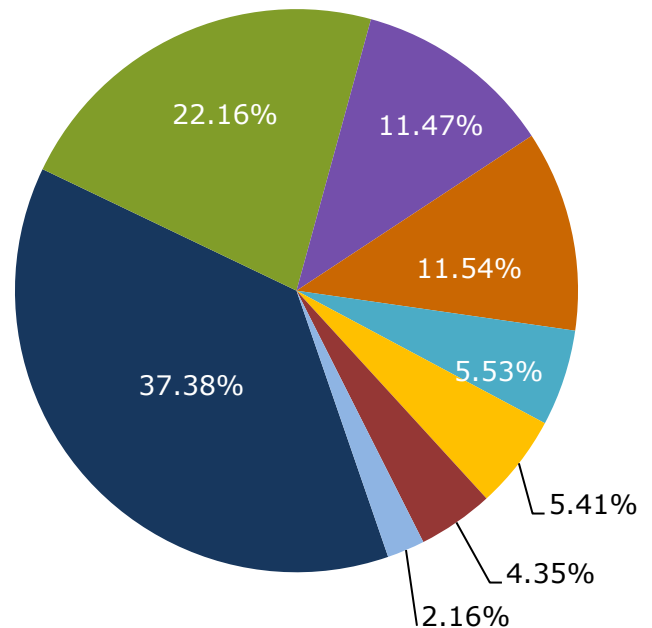


Expenditures

Where the Money Goes-

Total \$3,848,620,900

Education	\$1,438,449,800
Public Safety & Justice	852,927,600
Debt Service	441,319,300
General Government	444,011,700
Infrastructure & Transportation	212,825,900
Health & Social Services	208,189,700
Recreation & Culture	167,478,100
Other	83,418,800



Conclusion

The FY 2027 Operating Budget reflects a balanced and deliberate approach to governing during a period of evolving economic and operational conditions. While the budget continues to invest in essential services, community priorities, affordability, and long-term infrastructure needs, it also recognizes the importance of fiscal discipline, organizational accountability, and sustainable financial planning. Through continued focus on operational efficiency, strategic investment, and responsible stewardship of public resources, Metro remains committed to delivering reliable services, maintaining financial stability, and supporting the long-term well-being of the residents and neighborhoods of Nashville and Davidson County. The FY 2027 budget positions Metro to responsibly navigate current challenges while continuing to build a resilient, service-oriented government prepared to meet the needs of the community in the years ahead.