



2024-25 BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS



Fostering Prosperity for Everyone: Moving Rochester forward with historic cuts to property tax rates, investments in rising prosperity, support for vulnerable neighbors.

PRIORITY AREA BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS

Public Safety

- Proposes initial steps in implementing first response alternatives to emergency medical incidents, including increasing community engagement and education efforts and expanding RFD treatment capabilities
- Builds upon success of Person in Crisis (PIC) through work with Law Enforcement Action Partnership (LEAP), exploring an alternative first-response model
- Enhances recruitment by amplifying marketing, dedicating an RFD position to facilitate recruitment and support of firefighter candidates, funding two RPD recruit classes and an RFD recruit class, and funding summer internship programs
- Adds Director of Violence Prevention to the Mayor's Office and continues the Advance Peace: Peacemaker Fellowship program
- Continues the Gun Involved Violence Elimination (GIVE) Initiative

Strengthening Neighborhoods

- Adds personnel and supplies to implement Respect Rochester, a new beautification and litter removal initiative modeled on "Adopt A Block"
- Reimagines neighborhood engagement, building upon the original Neighbors Building Neighborhoods (NBN) program
- Invests in affordable homeownership through construction of new homes and rehabilitation of existing structures, and the continuation of successful programs like Buy the Block
- Funds the popular roofing repair program in addition to the NYS Targeted Home Improvement Program, supporting critical repairs for low- and moderate-income homeowners
- Funds a pilot participatory budgeting program, giving the community a voice in how public dollars are spent

Building Towards a Prosperous Future

- Adds a Chief Data Officer and support staff to further data-driven decision making and strategy development
- Funds design of Public Market indoor market space and events center
- Combines City and CDBG funds to develop a Parks and Recreation Master Plan with particular emphasis on inclusion and equity
- Includes City and ARPA funding to continue modernization and replacement of critical technology infrastructure

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Malik D. Evans, Mayor
City of Rochester, NY • Rochester City Council



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Youth Development

- Fully funds and expands Raising a Reader program, instilling a passion for reading in children and enhancing literacy activities for families
- Continues Pathways to Peace collaboration with RCSD, providing support and non-violent alternatives to settling disputes
- Adds a full-time Pool Supervisor to oversee Aquatics operations, reinforcing the importance of swimming as a life skill
- Funds phase II and III of the Roc City Skatepark, including additional skating area, restroom/concession space, and event staging area
- Builds upon efforts to make the city more active and playable through development of the Maplewood Nature Center and Playground Project
- Continues social-emotional health support in neighborhood R-Centers

Economic Empowerment

- Adds interns to inspire the next generation of public servants
- Adds a position in Finance to expand awareness and sign-ups for property tax exemptions
- Provides funds for database infrastructure for the Children's Savings Account pilot and continues support of the Financial Empowerment Center's financial counseling
- Provides workforce development and entrepreneurship training to youth and adults across the skilled trades and in small businesses

Promoting Equity, Inclusion and Social Justice

- Funds conversion of 11 less-than-full-time positions to permanent full-time, providing viable career paths and financial stability for these City employees
- Continues City, ARPA, and Bi-partisan Infrastructure Law funding for lead service water line replacements, many of which impact our most disadvantaged neighborhoods
- Continues the Tree Beautification Initiative with an emphasis on disadvantaged neighborhoods to close historic disparities

