



# Naperville Connected

## Naperville's 2024 Budget

The City Council unanimously passed Naperville's \$613.74 million budget in late November, providing the financial means to improve resident services and reinvest in City buildings, roads and major equipment this year.

The 2024 budget is a 1.6% increase from last year, less than the current consumer price index. No new taxes, fees or revenues are needed to support this financial plan, an achievement possible thanks to years of conservative financial planning, an effort to reduce debt and rebuild cash reserves and guidance from Naperville's mission statement and strategic priorities.

The City also anticipates the lowest property tax rate in 55 years. This means that a resident with an average home cost of \$433,000 would pay approximately \$50 less on the City portion of their tax bill than last year, assuming all other factors are equal and there is no increase in their property assessment.

Besides continuing all existing City services, this year's budget includes dollars to address emerging or ongoing service challenges that require additional resources, such as new personnel, to solve.

The Police Department, Public Works and Transportation, Engineering and Development group will onboard new employees to help with downtown police patrol, increased police strategic response, faster concrete restoration, specialized transportation studies and projects and reduced building permit processing times. Departments that support these operational groups, including Human Resources, IT and Finance, will also receive resources to enhance their efforts.

Major capital projects funded in 2024 include the next phase of downtown streetscape improvements along Washington Street, construction of the North Aurora Road underpass, reconstruction of Columbia Street, reinvestments in electric and water infrastructure and the next phase of the multi-year improvements to the Springbrook wastewater treatment plant.

You can view the entire 2024 operating budget and capital plan at [naperville.il.us/budget](http://naperville.il.us/budget).

## All Train Station Parking Now Daily Fee

Naperville's train station parking lots transitioned to all daily fee parking on Jan. 1. Quarterly commuter parking permits are no longer being accepted.

All spaces now cost \$3 per day, with discounts available for paying by the week or month. Weekly parking costs \$14.25 (5% discount), while monthly parking costs \$54 (10% discount). Commuters use their license plate number when paying for a spot. Payments may be made at a pay station kiosk or through the PayByPhone mobile app.

A limited number of designated parking spaces for seniors and expectant mothers are now available on a first-come, first-served basis. A daily rate applies to these spaces. For more information, please visit the daily fee parking webpage at [naperville.il.us/park](http://naperville.il.us/park).

**Explore Your Community.** Naperville is a great place to live, work and play. Check out our Explore the Community page at [naperville.il.us/enjoy-naperville/explore-the-community](http://naperville.il.us/enjoy-naperville/explore-the-community) to see how our partner organizations bring fun to you and your family. You may find a new favorite place or activity to explore!

## AARP Smart Driver Program

The Naperville Police Department is partnering with AARP to offer a Smart Driver program. With a newly updated curriculum, this classroom driver refresher course, designed for drivers age 50 and older, has assisted millions of mature drivers in staying safe.

Program topics include understanding the effects of aging on driving and how to compensate, driving strategies for the mature driver, identifying the most common crash situations, and updates on the rules of the road, vehicle accessories and local traffic hazards.

Classes are on Feb. 27 and 28, 2024 from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Naperville Police Department, 1350 Aurora Ave. Participants must attend both days. A \$25 fee for the course (\$20 for AARP members) is payable to AARP by check the first day of class. Space is limited. Please register online at [naperville.il.us/aarpsmartdriver](http://naperville.il.us/aarpsmartdriver) or by calling (630) 420-8479 by Feb. 23, 2024.

## Resolve to Have a Sustainable New Year

It's the start of a new year, and now is a great time to begin (or keep on) reducing your carbon footprint. Make your New Year's resolution a sustainable one with the following tips.

**Create an Empower account.** This free, secure online dashboard lets Naperville's residential and commercial electric customers view their energy usage data. Empower can help you evaluate your energy use to make energy-saving changes all year. Learn more and create an account at [naperville.il.us/empower](http://naperville.il.us/empower).

**Weatherize your home.** In the winter, reduce household energy costs by caulking and weatherstripping around leaky doors and windows and turning down your thermostat while asleep. Visit [naperville.il.us/what-can-i-do](http://naperville.il.us/what-can-i-do) for more energy and cost-saving ideas.

**Improve your recycling habits.** Need a reminder on what you can and can't recycle? Download the Groot Recycling and Waste mobile app and use the Waste Wizard to quickly find out how to properly dispose of certain items. Visit [naperville.il.us/curbsiderecycling](http://naperville.il.us/curbsiderecycling) or [naperville.groot.com](http://naperville.groot.com) for more information.

Learn more about how to be an environmentally sustainable resident at [naperville.il.us/napersustainability](http://naperville.il.us/napersustainability).

## Holiday Lights and Wrapping Paper Recycling

Recycle your holiday lights year-round at the Electronics Recycling Center, 156 Fort Hill Drive, which is open on weekdays from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. Accepted lights include mini-lights (Italian lights), C7, C9, rope and LED in all colors and lengths, as well as extension cords. Lighted lawn ornaments and pre-lit artificial trees are not accepted. For additional information, visit [naperville.il.us/electronicrecycling](http://naperville.il.us/electronicrecycling).

As the gift-giving season wraps up, please recycle paper gift wrap, cardboard shipping boxes and paper-board product packaging (e.g., boxes for cereal/crackers, toys, home goods and gadgets, etc.). Foil, metallic and heavily laminated wrapping paper should be thrown away instead of recycled.

**GOVERNMENT MEETINGS:** Meeting locations and how to listen and participate are noted on each upcoming meeting's agenda. Please refer to the Government Meetings calendar at [naperville.il.us](http://naperville.il.us) or scan the QR code below to access the calendar directly and for any changes or meeting cancellations. Watch City Council, Planning and Zoning Commission and Transportation Advisory Board meetings on WCNC (Astound – Ch. 6, AT&T U-verse – Ch. 99, or Comcast – Ch. 10) or stream at [naperville.legistar.com/Calendar](http://naperville.legistar.com/Calendar).

**City Council: 7 p.m. | Jan. 16, Feb. 6 & 20, March 5 & 19**  
**Planning & Zoning Commission: 7 p.m. | Jan. 17, Feb. 7 & 21, March 6 & 20**  
**Transportation Advisory Board: 7 p.m. | Jan. 4, Feb. 1, March 7**

**Government Meetings  
At-a-Glance:**  
Point your phone's camera at this QR code to go straight to our board and commissions meeting calendar!



## Making Naperville 'A Safer Naper'

The Naperville Police Department's Safer Naper campaign continues in 2024 to inform you of timely crime prevention and safety strategies.

Each month, the department will focus on a different topic along with some background information about the NPD sections and staff involved with that month's theme. For example, this year you'll learn about the financial crimes unit while also learning how to spot and avoid scams.

Visit [naperville.il.us/ASaferNaper](http://naperville.il.us/ASaferNaper) each month for information and tactics you can use to help protect your family and to get to know a little more about how our Naperville Police Department employees keep you safe in those different areas of focus.

The campaign begins this month with general information about the department and how to contact NPD when you need help or information from its staff.

The Naperville Police Department consists of three divisions – patrol, investigations and administrative services – that each provide specific and critical services to the community.

- The **patrol division** responds to calls for service and provides routine patrol and traffic enforcement.
- The **investigations division** is responsible for conducting follow-up investigations of crimes, implementing community programs and conducting crime analysis.
- The **administrative services** division is made up of civilian employees in the areas of emergency communications (PSAP), records, information technology and accreditation.

Reaching these different sections is as easy as calling 9-1-1 in an emergency or (630) 420-6666 for non-emergency issues. There are also times when texting 9-1-1 or utilizing the department's online reporting system might also be useful. Learn all this and more in January at [naperville.il.us/ASaferNaper](http://naperville.il.us/ASaferNaper).

## Make Fire Safety a Priority This Year

The Naperville Fire Department is asking everyone to make home fire safety a top resolution this year. Protect your household with these safety tips to help fulfill that resolution and protect your home from becoming a statistic.

- Ensure you have working smoke and carbon monoxide alarms on each level of your home.
- Develop an escape plan and practice it.
- If your smoke alarms were installed before Jan. 1, 2013, replace them; smoke alarms have a life expectancy of up to 10 years.
- Keep fires from starting in the first place: never leave cooking food or burning candles unattended and don't overload electrical sockets.
- Test your smoke detectors once a month to ensure you and your loved ones have more time to escape should a fire occur.

Most fires are preventable, and the majority of all fire deaths occur in the home. Fulfill these simple resolutions to do your part to prevent fires and save lives.

## Winter Tips and Reminders

Naperville's Public Works Department is always staffed and ready to address winter road conditions as they occur. Crews begin applying salt to roadways when snow or ice accumulates. Crews begin plowing whenever two inches of snow have accumulated on paved surfaces and snow is still falling.

The City has established a priority plowing system for the more than 1,500 miles of roadway we maintain to ensure crews plow the main routes first. Our goal is to plow all streets within 12 to 15 hours after snow stops falling, but this often takes longer following significant snowfall.

During the first phase of snow removal, crews plow arterial and main streets; during the second phase, crews address residential side streets, cul-de-sacs, alleys and dead ends.

City plow drivers and contractors are careful to avoid damaging property. However, heavy snow and limited space to pile snow can sometimes make it hard to avoid. If your mailbox or sod is damaged during a snow event, please report it by filling out a damage report form at [naperville.il.us/mailboxes](http://naperville.il.us/mailboxes).

To assist with winter operations, please move cars off the street until snow removal is complete. Shoveling snow into the street is a City code violation and could create dangerous, slippery conditions. Instead, shovel snow from driveways onto the parkway. For safe walking conditions, please clear sidewalks of snow and ice and ensure that sump pump discharge hoses do not cause ice buildups. Business owners and tenants should make sure that snowy or icy awnings don't create safety hazards.

Visit [naperville.il.us/winterupdates](http://naperville.il.us/winterupdates) for information about how to stay informed about snow removal operations and garbage collection when winter weather strikes.

## Request a Police Presentation or Training

Awareness through education is one of the best ways to protect yourself against crime and assist in making Naperville a safe community.

Visit [naperville.il.us/policepresentations](http://naperville.il.us/policepresentations) to submit an online request to have a member of the Naperville Police Department (NPD) talk to your group about current crime trends, crime prevention or other law enforcement related topics. You can also request an officer friendly visit for kids or a police appearance at your community event.

Please check out the workshops, presentations and other opportunities NPD offers and complete the online request form to schedule your free event with NPD staff today.

**Animal Control Tip.** Did you know the state of Illinois requires pet owners to vaccinate all dogs and cats for rabies? The beginning of the year is a good time to make a vet appointment for your pet! If you have any questions regarding rabies, please contact Animal Control at 630-420-6178 or [animalcontrol@naperville.il.us](mailto:animalcontrol@naperville.il.us).

**Official City Website:** [naperville.il.us](http://naperville.il.us)  
**Naper Notify:** [napernotify.com](http://napernotify.com)  
**Meetings:** [naperville.legistar.com/Calendar](http://naperville.legistar.com/Calendar)  
**Facebook:** [facebook.com/NapervilleIL](https://facebook.com/NapervilleIL)  
**X, formerly known as Twitter:** [twitter.com/NapervilleIL](https://twitter.com/NapervilleIL)  
**YouTube:** [youtube.com/OfficialNapervilleIL](https://youtube.com/OfficialNapervilleIL)  
**eNews:** [naperville.il.us/enews](http://naperville.il.us/enews)  
**Naperville Connected Editor:** 630-420-6707

**General City Phone Number:** 630-420-6111  
**Office of the Mayor:** 630-420-6018  
**Office of the City Council:** 630-548-2983  
**City Manager's Office:** 630-420-6031  
**Emergency Ambulance, Fire and Police:** 9-1-1  
**Non-Emergency Police:** 630-420-6666  
**Non-Emergency Fire:** 630-305-5900  
**Electric, Street Light, Water & Sewer Problems:** 630-420-6187

**WCNC Government Access TV:**  
Astound – Ch. 6, Comcast – Ch. 10, AT&T U-verse – Ch. 99  
**Mayor:** Scott A. Wehrli  
**City Council:** Jennifer Bruzan Taylor, Ian Holzhauser, Patrick Kelly, Paul Leong, Allison Longenbaugh, Josh McBroom, Dr. Benjamin M. White and Nate Wilson  
**City Manager:** Doug Krieger