



Naperville Connected

Naperville's 2026 Budget: Money with a Mission

Each December, the City Council passes the annual operating budget and capital program for the coming year. The \$685.34 million 2026 budget supplies the means to continue providing high-quality services to the community and reinvest in our infrastructure.

The 2026 budget is a 6.8% increase over last year; however, the City's property tax rate for this year is anticipated to be the lowest in 56 years. This means that a resident with an average home valued at \$579,200 would pay approximately \$70 less on the City portion of their tax bill than last year, assuming all other factors remain equal and there is no increase in their property assessment.

In preparing the budget, the goal was to ensure that funds "had a mission," meaning that funds were allocated to projects or services that had adequate resources and could be completed within the budget's timeframe. The City's budget team also worked with departments to identify areas of underspending that could be reduced or eliminated, ultimately saving \$1.5 million across several departments. Even with this conservative mindset, several initiatives and projects will begin – or continue – this year, including:

- The establishment of a full-time Mobile Crisis Intervention Team in the Police Department, providing dedicated resources to address mental health-related calls for service as well as a pilot Drones as First Responders program.
- The first stages of a project to improve the City's website to align it with future federal accessibility regulations and current service expectations.
- Initiating a special study of a to-be-determined location, such as the I-88 corridor or 5th Avenue area, to advance ongoing efforts.
- Continuing multiyear Water and Electric capital improvements, including the Springbrook water treatment center improvements, electric cable replacements, and roadway improvements like the North Aurora Road Underpass.

You can view the entire 2026 operating budget and capital plan at naperville.il.us/budget.

Co-Chairs Sought to Lead Bicentennial Celebration

Naperville will mark 200 years of history in 2031 when the city celebrates the bicentennial of its founding. A planned bicentennial celebration will be an exciting opportunity to honor the city's rich history, culture and growth.

The City seeks two volunteers to serve as co-chairs of the 2031 Bicentennial Committee by guiding the development of community celebrations/projects from 2026 until the bicentennial. The co-chairs will work together to create an inclusive, community-wide celebration and build a team of community members to assist.

Applicants must reside in Naperville and may not currently hold elected government office. Applications will be accepted from Jan. 5 to Feb. 13. This is an unpaid volunteer position. Visit naperville.il.us/bicentennial to download the application.

Enroll Now in the New eBill Portal

The City's new and improved eBill portal is officially live, offering a simpler, more user-friendly way to receive and pay your utility bill online.

Reminder for previous eBill users: If you used the City's old eBill system but did not re-enroll before Jan. 1, you've been switched back to paper bills. The old system is no longer available, and previous users must re-enroll in the new portal with a new username and password to continue receiving paperless bills.

Why enroll?

- **It's easier to use.** A cleaner, more user-friendly design makes it easy to navigate.
- **Save time with autopay or saved payment methods.** Set up payment methods in minutes and avoid missed due dates and late fees.
- **Quick Pay option.** In a hurry? Quick Pay lets you make a payment without signing up. Just use the information on your statement to pay instantly.
- **Enhanced security options.** More flexible password requirements help you create a secure yet easy-to-remember password.
- **More access to billing history.** You'll soon be able to view up to 13 months of statements as they become available. That's more than double the six months offered in the previous system.
- **Improved bill format.** View and download digital copies of your bill featuring our clean, easy-to-read layout, first introduced to paper billing customers in summer 2024, to make understanding billing details easier than ever.
- **Go paperless and manage your account anytime.** Access your account details when it is convenient for you while reducing mail clutter and wasted paper.

While system changes can be inconvenient, we're committed to supporting customers through this transition. Have questions about the new portal? Contact the Finance Department at 630-420-6059, between 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, or visit the Help Center and submit an Ask a Question inquiry at naperville.il.us/helpcenter. More information about the new portal is available at naperville.il.us/ebill.

Smart Driving is Safe Driving

The Naperville Police Department is partnering with the American Association of Retired Persons (AARP) to offer a Smart Driver program designed for drivers aged 50 and older.

Course topics include, but are not limited to, understanding the effects of aging on driving, identifying common crash situations and an update on the Rules of the Road.

Classes will take place from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. on March 17 and March 18 at the Naperville Police Department, 1350 Aurora Ave. Participants must attend both days. The course is \$25 (\$20 for AARP members) payable to AARP by check on the first day of class.

Register at naperville.il.us/aarpsmartdriver by March 10 or call 630-420-8479.

Resolve to make Naperville 'A Safer Naper'

The Naperville Police Department's Safer Naper campaign continues in 2026 to inform you of timely crime prevention and safety strategies.

Visit naperville.il.us/asafernaper each month for information and tactics you can use to help protect your family. Topics will range from scam and burglary prevention to internet safety and domestic violence resources. The campaign starts this January, explaining how to contact the police department when you need help or have something to report.

Reaching us is as easy as calling 911 in an emergency or 630-420-6666 for non-emergency issues. There are also times, however, when texting 911 or using the department's online reporting system might be useful. Learn all this and more during January at naperville.il.us/asafernaper.

2026 Utility Rates

Naperville's Electric and Water Utilities provide high-quality, responsive service to approximately 63,000 customers. Utility rate changes take into consideration the cost of providing these services, including maintenance, replacement or upgrade of equipment.

These rates support electric cable and equipment maintenance to enhance service reliability, water main replacements and Springbrook Wastewater Treatment Facility improvements.

Here are the utility rate changes that went into effect on Jan. 1:

Electric Utility

The average City of Naperville residential electric utility customer will see an approximately \$6 increase on their monthly bill (\$121.87 average monthly bill), which is about 16% lower than ComEd's average bill. Naperville's average residential customer is defined as someone who uses 844 kilowatt-hours (kWh) of electricity per month.

Water and Wastewater Utility

The average City of Naperville residential water and wastewater customer will see a \$8 increase on their combined monthly water and wastewater bill. Naperville's average residential customer is defined as someone who uses 750 cubic feet of water per month.

Utility Assistance

If you are experiencing financial hardship and need assistance with your bills, the City offers financial assistance in partnership with Loaves & Fishes. Please visit naperville.il.us/utilityassistance for information.

For more details about your utility rates, visit naperville.il.us/electric-rates or naperville.il.us/waterrates.

Yard Waste Collection Program

It may feel like spring is far away, but it will be here before you know it! As trees blossom and flowers bud, your lawn can quickly become covered. Yard waste collection will resume on March 16 and continue through mid-December.

During this period, yard waste (e.g., grass, weeds, small branches and twigs) will be picked up at the curb during your regular garbage and recycling collection day. For more information about the program, visit naperville.il.us/yardwaste.

GOVERNMENT MEETINGS: Meeting locations and directions for listening and participating are noted on each upcoming meeting's agenda. Please refer to the Government Meetings calendar at naperville.il.us or scan the QR code below to access the calendar directly, as well



as for information about 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.

Apply to Serve on a Board or Commission

Due to term limits, there will be several board/commission vacancies at the end of May. If you have a passion for community involvement and live within Naperville city limits, consider applying!

How to apply

- Fill out an online application at naperville.il.us/boards. Select the name of the board/commission of interest and click Apply. If you require a paper application or assistance with the process, please call the Mayor's Office at 630-420-6018.
- Applications are active for 18 months, and applicants can submit for up to three boards/commissions.
- Use the Boards and Commissions Guide to learn more about each board/commission and the type of experience needed at naperville.il.us/boards.

What happens next?

- As vacancies arise, the Mayor reviews active applications. Upon review, the Mayor will interview selected candidates; the Mayor includes City Council liaisons, department directors and staff liaisons in the appointment process.
- Once a candidate is chosen, the recommendation goes to the City Council at least two weeks before the agenda date, when the appointment will be approved by the Council.

The City encourages attending at least one meeting of the board/commission you intend to apply for to help determine if it's a good fit.

2026 CPR and AED Classes

Learning cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and how to use an automated external defibrillator (AED) are two of the most important skills a person can have. Cardiac arrest can happen anywhere, and every second counts. When a heart stops, immediate CPR can double or even triple a person's chances of survival. Early chest compressions keep oxygen flowing to the brain and vital organs until emergency responders arrive.

AED is just as critical. Anyone can use these devices; clear voice instructions guide users through each step. A quick shock to restart the heart can mean the difference between life and death.

The Naperville Fire Department offers various types of CPR and AED programs throughout the year, including Silver CPR classes. Silver CPR sessions are for Naperville seniors aged 50 or older to learn the basics of CPR, AED use and choking intervention.

To view upcoming CPR and AED classes and register, visit naperville.il.us/firstaidcpr. To register for Silver CPR on Feb. 18, visit bit.ly/cpram2026 (10 a.m. session) or bit.ly/cprpm2026 (12:30 p.m. session).

By learning CPR and AED, you're not just gaining a skill; you're giving yourself the ability to help save a life.

Official City Website: naperville.il.us

Naper Notify: napernotify.com

Meetings: naperville.legistar.com/Calendar

Help Center: naperville.il.us/helpcenter

Facebook: facebook.com/NapervilleIL

X: x.com/NapervilleIL

YouTube: youtube.com/OfficialNapervilleIL

eNews: naperville.il.us/enews

Naperville Connected Editor: 630-420-6093

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: 911

Non-Emergency Police: 630-420-6666

Non-Emergency Fire: 630-305-5900

Electric, Street Light, Water & Sewer

Problems: 630-420-6060

WCNC Government Access TV:

Astound – Ch. 6, Comcast – Ch. 10,

AT&T U-verse – Ch. 99

Mayor: Scott A. Wehrli

City Council: Mary Gibson, Ian Holzhauer,

Supna Jain, Patrick Kelly, Josh McBroom,

Ashfaq Syed, Dr. Benjamin M. White and

Nate Wilson

City Manager: Doug Krieger