



# **TOWN COUNCIL BUDGET WORK SESSION | FEBRUARY 18, 2025**

February 18, 2025 at 5:30 PM

4229 Edmonston RD, Bladensburg, MD 20710

## **AGENDA**

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Public Access Virtual via live stream of the Town's Facebook and YouTube pages:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCoflhVTBeID3c9oH8GYSW0g>

<https://www.facebook.com/Bladensburgmd>

1. **Call to Order – 1 min**
2. **Approval of Agenda – 1 min**
3. **Approval of Minutes**
  - [A.](#) Town Council Closed Session Minutes | January 28, 2025
  - [B.](#) Emergency Town Council Closed Session Minutes | January 30, 2025
  - [C.](#) Emergency Town Council Closed Session Meeting | February 10, 2025
4. **Presentations**
  - [A.](#) FY 2026 Budget Presentation | Town Council and Town Events
5. **Adjournment**



# TOWN OF BLADENSBURG

## Closed Session Meeting - Summary Notes

January 28, 2025 | 6:00 PM

Bladensburg Town Hall

**Council Roll Call:** Mayor James, CM Brown, CM Blount, CM McBryde, CM Dixon

**Staff and Consultant Present** TA Michelle Bailey Hedgepeth, Town Treasurer Vito Tinelli, TC Watson, Police Chief Tyrone Collington, and Jarryd Hawkins (Economic Development).

**I. CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order by Mayor James at 6:02 PM

**II. MOTION TO ENTER INTO CLOSED SESSION:** Moved by CM Blount, seconded by CM Brown. Vote: Ay 5, Nay 0

1. Pursuant to the General Provisions Article §3-305 (b) (7) to consult with counsel to obtain legal advice” and (8) to consult with staff, consultants, or other individuals about pending or potential litigation and (Consultation with Legal Counsel) and (Consultation with staff, consultant and/or others)

**III. CLOSED SESSION:**

1. **Consultation with Legal Counsel:** Sought advice from Legal Counsel regarding pending litigation matters and receipt of the legal notices.  
**Consultation with staff, consultants, and/or others:** Discussion of pending annexation matters.

**IV. END CLOSED SESSION:** Moved by CM Blount, seconded by CM McBryde - Vote: Ay 5, Nay 0 at 7:20 PM

**V. RETURN TO OPEN SESSION:**

**VI. APPROVAL OF MEETING SUMMARIES**

1. Closed Session January 23, 2025, | Moved by CM Dixon, seconded by CM McBryde - Vote: Ay 5, Nay 0

### Actions Taken:

1. Council approval to continue to engage the RDA on a Letter of Agreement (LOA) to include the de-annexation of Hospital Hill.

**VII. ADJOURNMENT:** Moved by CM Dixon, seconded by CM Brown - Vote: Ay 5, Nay 0 at 7:22 PM



# TOWN OF BLADENSBURG

EMERGENCY CLOSED SESSION - Summary Notes

January 30, 2025 | 12:00 PM

PHONE CALL

**Council Roll Call:** Mayor James, CM Brown, CM Blount, CM McBryde, CM Dixon

**Staff:** TA Michelle Bailey Hedgepeth

Move into Closed Session: Motion CM McBryde and Second CM Blount (5-0) 12:05 PM

1. Pursuant to the General Provisions Article §3-305 (8) to consult with staff, consultants, or other individuals about pending or potential litigation (Consultation with staff, consultant, and/or others)

Move to Open Session: 12:34 PM

1. Notify Annexation Counsel of the updated Council direction for the January 30, 2025, Hearing

Meeting Closed 12:35 PM



# TOWN OF BLADENSBURG

## Closed Session Meeting - Summary Notes

February 10, 2025, 8:35 p.m.

Bladensburg Town Hall

**Attendance:** Mayor James, CM Brown, CM Blount, CM McBryde, CM Dixon, TA Bailey Hedgepeth, TC Watson, Treasurer Tinelli, Chief Collington, John O'Connor, Jarryd Hawkins and Attorney Kevin Best.

- I. **CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order by Mayor James at 8:35 PM
- II. **MOTION TO ENTER INTO CLOSED SESSION:** Moved by CM Dixon, seconded by CM Brown  
Vote: Ay 5, Nay 0
  1. Pursuant to the General Provisions Article §3-305 (b) (4) of the Maryland Code, the Mayor and Council will meet in a Closed Session to consider a matter that concerns the proposal for a business or industrial organization to locate, expand, or remain in the State. (Annexation and Economic Development)
  2. Pursuant to the General Provisions Article §3-305 (b) (7) of the Maryland Code, the Mayor and Council will meet in a Closed Session to consult with counsel to obtain legal advice. (Annexation and Economic Development)
- III. **CLOSED SESSION:** Began at 8:36 PM:
  1. **Economic Development and Annexation:** Discussion regarding pending annexation and de-annexation with Town consultants and staff.
  2. **Consultation with Legal Counsel:** Sought advice from Legal Counsel regarding annexation and other pending matters.
- IV. **END CLOSED SESSION:** Moved by CM McBryde, seconded by CM Brown - Vote: Ay 5, Nay 0
- V. **ADJOURNMENT:** 9:58 PM Moved by CM McBryde, seconded by CM Brown - Vote: Ay 5, Nay 0





# Agenda Item Summary Report

<b>Meeting Date:</b> February 18, 2025	<b>Submitted by:</b> Michelle Bailey Hedgepeth Vito Tinelli, Treasurer
<b>Item Title: FY 2026 Budget Overview   Town Council and Town Events</b>	
An update on the FY 2026 Budget preparations and discussion of Town Council and Town Events line items.	
<b>Work Session Item [X]</b> <b>Council Meeting Item [X]</b>	<b>Documentation Attached:</b> Constant Yield FY 2025 Council Budget FY 2026 Community Events PowerPoint FY 2026 Budget Session 2
<b>Recommended Action:</b>	
This is a report for the Council and residents on the Town Budget on the Town Council and Town Events.	
<b>Budget Overview Summary:</b>  The Town of Bladensburg has officially begun preparing for the FY 2026 Budget. Town Treasurer Mr. Vito Tinelli provided a report on the budget through January 2025 as part of this initial phase at the 2/10/25 Council meeting. This presentation will serve as a preliminary overview and the first step in the Council Budget and Community Events.  <b>Key Highlights:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Preliminary Revenue Estimates:</b> We have included the preliminary estimates for 2025.</li><li>• <b>Overview of Council Budget and Community Events:</b> This will include Town Events that are funded under Administrative Budgets</li><li>• <b>Next Update:</b> March 2025, Administrative Functions.</li></ul> The Town is committed to a transparent and inclusive budget process, ensuring that all stakeholders are informed and engaged as we work toward fiscal priorities for the upcoming year.  Staff will be available to answer any questions.	
<b>Budgeted Item:</b> Yes [ ] No [ ] <b>Budgeted Amount:</b> <b>One-Time Cost:</b> <b>Ongoing Cost:</b>	<b>Continued Date:</b>
<b>Council Priority:</b> Yes [ ] No [ ]	<b>Approved Date:</b>



# FY 2026 Budget Introduction Session #2





# Topics for Tonight

- Information Slides
- Revenue Estimates and Options
- Events Budget
- Council Budget
- Other Items
- Next Steps





# Revenue Estimates

- Town Staff is developing estimates that take into account the changes in assessed evaluations and previous income tax estimates
- We are looking at all available sources of new revenues from services





# Revenue Estimates

## Real Estate Taxes

- Residential and Commercial Assessed values increasing 4% to \$418M.
- Current tax rate of \$.74 results in revenues of \$3.1M.
- Estimated \$120K increase in revenues as compared to FY25.

## Apartments and multi-unit housing

- Residential and Commercial Assessed values increasing 4% to \$206M.
- Current tax rate of \$.80 results in revenues of \$1.65M.
- Estimated \$65K increase in revenues as compared to FY25.

## Other Items

- Other Taxes – No changes to Business Property and Income tax.
- Slight increase of 5% in Highway User Funds.
- Reduced projected revenues generated by Automated Traffic Enforcement by \$1M.





## Real Estate Taxes – What's a penny of tax worth to fund Town services?

### Next Budget Year

- FY26 Residential and Commercial Assessments = \$418,000,000 (estimated)
- Every Penny of tax is worth \$41,800 of tax revenues to the Town
- \$41,800 x our tax rate of 74¢ per \$100 of assessed value = \$3,093,200 which is our projected Residential and Commercial Real Estate Tax Revenues for FY26.
  - Any penny of change to the tax \$.74 tax rate would generate an additional \$41,800 of revenues.
  - (Example \$.06 increase x \$41,800 = \$250K increase in revenues).





## Real Estate Taxes – What's a penny of tax worth to fund Town services?

### Next Budget Year

- FY26 **Apartment** Assessments = **\$206,000,000** (estimated)
- Every Penny of tax is worth **\$21,600** of tax revenues to the Town
- $\$41,800 \times \text{our tax rate of } 80\text{¢ per } \$100 \text{ of assessed value} = \mathbf{\$1,648,000}$   
which is our projected Apartment Real Estate Tax Revenues for FY26.
  - Any penny of change to the tax \$.80 tax rate would generate an additional \$21,600 of revenues.
  - (Example \$.05 increase  $\times$  \$21,600 = \$103K increase in revenues).





# Revenue Options

## Increase Residential tax rate

- Increase tax rate 6 cents from \$.74 to \$.80.
- Results in additional \$165K of revenues

## Increase Industrial and Commercial tax rate

- Increase tax rate 6 cents from \$.74 to \$.80.
- Results in additional \$86K of revenues

## Increase Apartment tax Rate

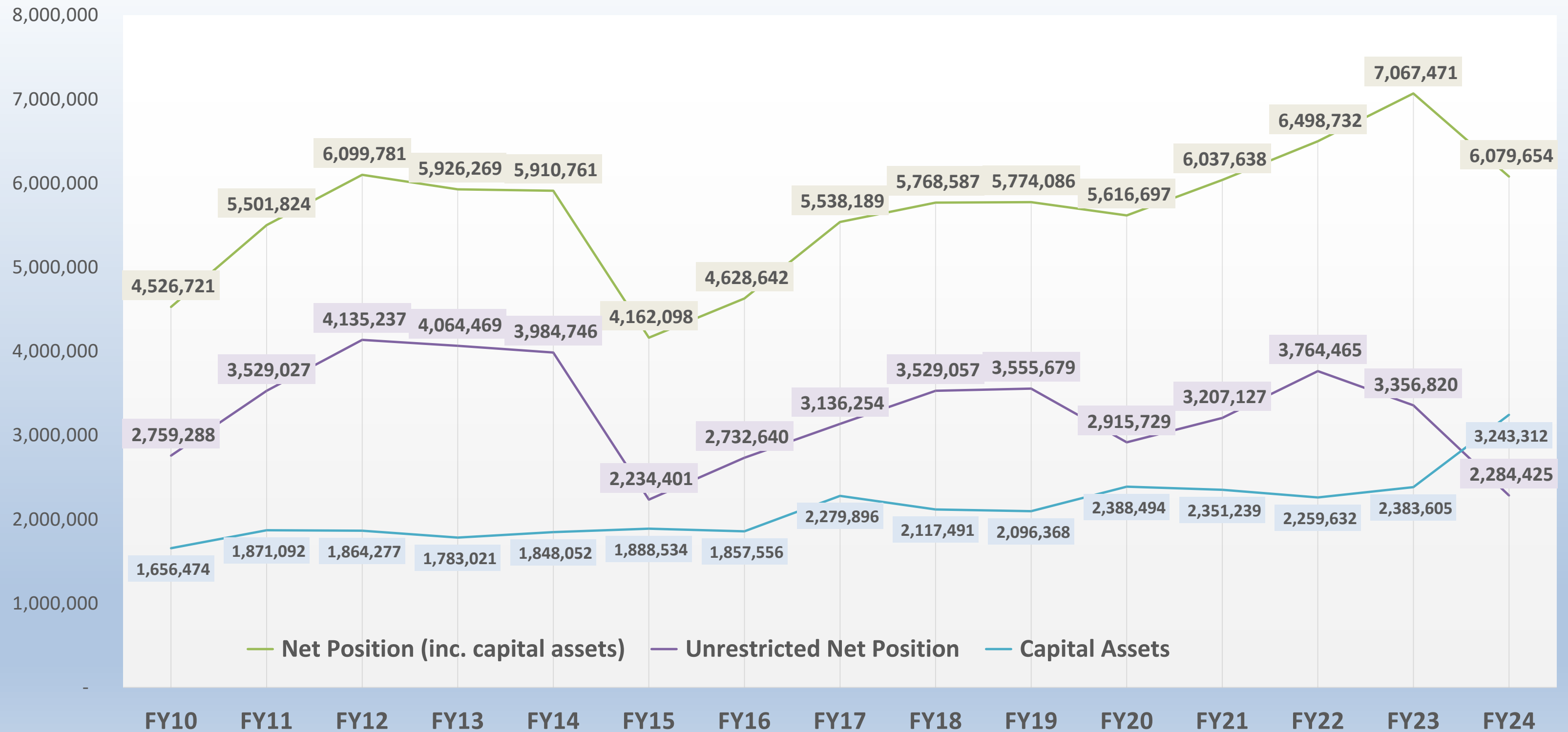
- Increase tax rate 5 cents from \$.80 to \$.85.
- Results in additional \$103K of revenues

## Other Items

- Increase Income Tax revenues based on projections to be released in March.
- Add a Rental License Program which could generate an additional \$30K.
- Increase Automated Traffic Enforcement revenues based on Red Light Camera activity later this spring.



# Net Position History







# Events Budget





# Council Budget

## Compensation Changes

- Health Insurance increase estimated at 17% based on coverages and projected 4% increase.
- COLA and Merit included, if added for staff.

## Council Travel and Events

- Increased Professional Development and Travel for additional training opportunities.

## Community Events

- Increased for expanding our current list of events.

		<b>FY24 Budget</b>	<b>FY25 Budget</b>	<b>FY26 Budget</b>	<b>% inc.</b>	<b>Notes to Line Items</b>						
6000 · Compensation												
6010 · Regular Pay		60,008	62,708	64,055	2%	Compensation for the Mayor and (4) Council Members						
6030 · FICA		4,591	4,797	4,900	2%	7.65% employer tax on total pay						
6040 · Health Insurance		40,468	45,651	53,369	17%	Health, Dental, Vision insurance based upon enrollment in plans						
6050 · Pension		6,559	6,854	5,600	-18%	Contribution to MD State Retirement System						
6060 · Workers Comp		2,000	500	500	0%	Required liability insurance						
Total 6000 · Compensation		113,626	120,510	128,424	7%							
6145 · Council Business Development		22,000	26,000	30,000	15%	Attendance for meetings and conferences to MML, NLC, PGCMA, AAMA						
6160 · Employee Recognition		8,000	15,000	15,000	0%	Staff recognitions, lunches, awards, and Christmas.						
6210 · Council Projects		2,500	2,500	2,500	0%	Discretionary funding for local organizations and projects						
6225 · Community Grants												
6226 · Fire Department Donation		30,000	30,000	30,000	0%	Annual donation to Bladensburg VFD						
6227 · Scholarships		5,000	5,000	5,000	0%	Bladensburg students to attend college or vocational school/studies						
6225 · Community Grants - Other		12,000	12,000	12,000	0%	\$2,000 grants given on an application basis						
Total 6225 · Community Grants		47,000	47,000	47,000	0%							
6230 · Community Events		66,000	66,000	75,000	14%	Events such as Fireworks, Yule Log, BHM Celebration, Boys/Girls Club, etc.						
6235 · Senior Citizen Projects		4,500	4,500	4,500	0%	\$1,500 donation given to the three Senior Housing Communities to fund events						
6255 · Town Meetings		5,000	6,000	-	-100%	Video productions and refreshments - move to Town Administrator budget						
6320 · Wireless Communications		4,800	-	-								
6420 · Computer Expense		-	-	-								
6550 · Insurance - Liability		3,000	2,000	3,000	50%	Elected official liability insurance through LGIT						
6825 · Membership		13,000	20,000	20,000	0%	MML, National League of Cities, PGCMA, Metro Washington Council of Govts., etc.						
6835 · Travel			14,000	20,000	43%	Travel and accommodations associated with meetings and conferences						
<b>Total Expense</b>		<b>289,426</b>	<b>323,510</b>	<b>345,424</b>	7%							





# Next Steps

## Budget Sessions:

Throughout March – May  
2025

Next Session | March 10,  
2025

**Budget Ordinance:** First  
Reading: Regular Meeting –  
April 14, 2025

## If there are changes to the Real Estate Tax Rate:

- Need at least one week to  
advertise for a hearing
- The earliest advertisement date  
would be April 7, 2025, or May 5,  
2025

## Tax Rate Hearing (Tentative)

- Week of April 14, 2025, or
- May 12, 2025, Budget Session

**Final Budget Session #5**  
Monday, April 29, 2025  
(if needed)

## Final Budget Adoption

Monday, May 12, 2025.  
Alternative Budget Adoption  
date, Monday, June 9, 2025.

- Budget Ordinance Adoption



# Thank You



## State of Maryland

Department of Assessments and Taxation

February 14, 2024

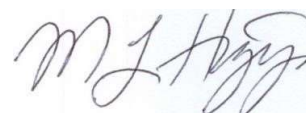
## 2024 Constant Yield Tax Rate Certification

Taxing authority: **Bladensburg**  
in Prince George's County

1	1-Jul-2023	Gross assessable real property base	\$	566,078,977
2	1-Jul-2023	Homestead Tax Credit	-	<u>1,773,996</u>
3	1-Jul-2023	Net assessable real property base		564,304,981
4	1-Jul-2023	Actual local tax rate (per \$100)	x	<u>0.7400</u>
5	1-Jul-2023	Potential revenue	\$	4,175,857
6	1-Jul-2024	Estimated assessable base	\$	602,595,045
7	1-Jan-2024	Half year new construction	-	0
8	1-Jul-2024	Estimated full year new construction*	-	600,000
9	1-Jul-2024	Estimated abatements and deletions**	-	<u>1,885,565</u>
10	1-Jul-2024	Net assessable real property base	\$	600,109,480

11	1-Jul-2023	Potential revenue	\$	4,175,857
12	1-Jul-2024	Net assessable real property base	÷	600,109,480
13	1-Jul-2024	<b>Constant yield tax rate</b>	\$	<b>0.6958</b>

Certified by



Director

\* Includes one-quarter year new construction where applicable.

\*\*Actual + estimated as of July 1, 2024, including Homestead Tax Credit.

Form CYTR #1



# COMMUNITY EVENTS FY26

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FY26

Section 4, Item A.

# TOWN OF BLADENSBURG EVENTS SCHEDULE

## July

Wednesday, July 2: **2024 Bladensburg Fireworks** – Bladensburg Waterfront Park – 6:00pm to 9:30pm

TBD: **Peace Cross 100th Anniversary Ceremony** – with MNCPPC

## September

Tuesday, September 9: **Senior Gathering** – Bladensburg Waterfront Park – 10:00am to 2:00pm

## October

Saturday, October 4: **Domestic Violence Awareness** – Bladensburg Town Hall – 10:00am to 12:00pm

Saturday, October 18: **Growing Green with Pride** – Bladensburg Town Hall – 9:00am to 12:00pm

Saturday, October 25: **Bladensburg Day** – David C. Harrington Park – 10:00am to 3:00pm

## November

Tuesday, November 11: **Veterans Day** – Peace Cross Memorial – 11:00am to 12:00pm

Saturday, November 22: **Bladensburg Turkey Distribution** – Bladensburg High School – 10:00am to 12:00pm

Thursday, November 27: **Turkey Trot** – Bladensburg Waterfront Park – 7:00am to 9:00am

## December

Friday, December 5: **Yule Log** – Bladensburg Town Hall – 6:00pm to 9:00pm

Thursday, December 11: **Senior Gala** – Bladensburg Community Center – 10:00am to 2:00pm

Saturday, December 13: **Bladensburg Holiday Meal Distribution** – Bladensburg High School – 10:00am to 12:00pm

## January

Monday, January 19: **MLK Day of Service** – Bladensburg Waterfront Park – 9:00am to 12:00pm

## February

Saturday, February 7: **Black History Month** – Bladensburg Community Center – 2:00pm to 4:00pm

## April

Green Event – TBD

## May

Mental Health Awareness - TBD

Monday, May 25: **Memorial Day Ceremony** – Memorial Grove Park – 11:00am to 12:00pm

## June

Thursday, June 18: **Juneteenth** – David C. Harrington Park – 6:00pm to 8:00pm

## July **FY26 / FY27**

July TBD: **Bladensburg Fireworks: 250 Years of America** – 6:00pm to 9:30pm

**Total Projected Budget: \$65,500**

\*Distribution events not included

# MID-SIZE EVENTS

## BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Item	Cost
Refreshments	\$2,000
Entertainment	\$1600
Giveaways	\$400
Transportation	\$1,000
Total	\$5,000

**Total Budget = \$5,000**

## MENTAL HEALTH/ DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

Item	Cost
Resources and Vendors	\$1,000
Transportation	\$550
Total	\$1,550

**Total Budget = \$2,000**

## JUNETEENTH

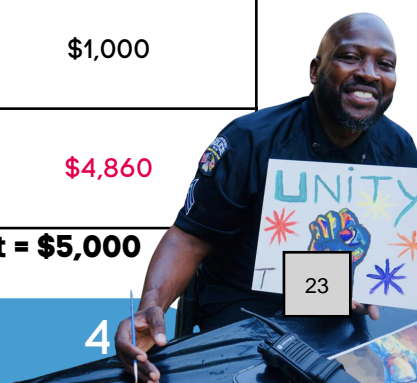
Item	Cost
Entertainment	\$400
Paint Supplies	\$200
Face Painting	\$800
Transportation	\$550
Total	\$1,950

**Total Budget = \$2,000**

## YULE LOG

Item	Cost
Refreshments	\$2,000
Supplies	\$710
Entertainment	\$1,150
Transportation	\$1,000
Total	\$4,860

**Total Budget = \$5,000**



# GREEN EVENTS

## MLK DAY OF SERVICE

Item	Cost
Supplies	\$0
Total	\$0

Total Budget = \$0

## GROWING GREEN WITH PRIDE - SPRING

Item	Cost
Supplies	\$500
Dumpster	\$1,000
Shredding Truck	\$1,000
Refreshments	\$100
Total	\$2,600

Total Budget = \$3,000

## GROWING GREEN WITH PRIDE - FALL

Item	Cost
Supplies	\$500
Refreshments	\$100
Total	\$600

Total Budget = \$1,000



# SENIOR EVENTS

## SENIOR GATHERING

Item	Cost
Refreshments	\$1,200
Entertainment	\$1,150
Supplies	\$350
Transportation	\$1,000
Total	<b>\$3,700</b>

**Total Budget = \$4,000**

## SENIOR GALA

Item	Cost
Refreshments	\$2,000
Entertainment	\$1,000
Supplies	\$350
Transportation	\$1,000
Total	<b>\$4,950</b>

**Total Budget = \$5,000**



# LARGE SCALE EVENTS

## BLADENSBURG FIREWORKS

Item	Cost
Fireworks	\$10,000
Entertainment	\$9,960
Restrooms	\$1,230
Lighting	\$4,000
Transportation	\$1,000
Supplies	\$700
Total	\$26,890

**Total Budget = \$27,000**

## BLADENSBURG DAY

Item	Cost
Stage	\$1,500
Entertainment	\$6,000
Supplies	\$2,500
Transportation	\$1,000
Total	\$11,000

**Total Budget = \$11,000**





# PATRIOTIC EVENTS

## MEMORIAL DAY

Item	Cost
Refreshments	\$250
Total	\$250

**Total Budget = \$250**

## VETERANS DAY

Item	Cost
Refreshments	\$250
Total	\$250

**Total Budget = \$250**

## BLADENSBURG FIREWORKS

(INCLUDED ON LARGE SCALE EVENTS PAGE)



# OTHER EVENTS FOR DISCUSSION

Section 4, Item A.

## THANKSGIVING MEAL DISTRIBUTION

Item	Cost
Refreshments	\$200
Meals	\$20,000
Total	\$20,200

**Total Budget = \$20,500**

## TURKEY TROT

Item	Cost
Shirts	\$500
Refreshments	\$100
Total	\$600

**Total Budget = \$1,000**

## HOLIDAY MEAL DISTRIBUTION

Item	Cost
Refreshments	\$200
Meals	\$20,000
Total	\$20,200

**Total Budget = \$20,500**

