

# ***CITY REPORT***



**APRIL 2024**

**Week 1<sup>st</sup>-5<sup>th</sup>**

*"The Regional crossroads and destination that offers small-town Charm while providing big-city opportunities"*

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# CITY REPORT



## Executive Summary

The City of Waycross is integrating and training staff to enhance customer service and increase capability, while collecting and utilizing data driven analytics to drive future decision making. Additionally, the city is reassessing all procedures, processes, and programs to ensure proficiency & compliance and is adequately postured to better serve the community.

The City of Waycross is reevaluating the Capital Improvement plan to ensure it better aligns with the Operating budget to meet future requirements and deliverables as outlined in the Strategic Business Plan (working). Additionally, the Commission's priorities are to ensure safety, create a prosperous business climate, and to govern with transparency and effective communication.

Honorable Mayor



Mr. Michael-Angelo James

District 1  
Commissioner



Mr. Norman Davis

District 2  
Commissioner



Ms. Sheinita Bennett

District 3  
Commissioner



Ms. Katrena Felder

District 4  
Commissioner



Mrs. Diane Hopkins

District 5  
Commissioner



Mr. Alvin Nelson

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# ***CITY REPORT***



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## **Priorities**

The City's priorities remain connected to enhancing customer service and communication, community engagement & development, and economic growth.



<https://www.facebook.com/p/City-of-Waycross-Government-100069328174806/>

## **Week's Priorities:**

1. Continuous evaluation of city processes and systems that lead to better efficiency and customer service.
2. Community Clean up.
3. Budget review execution.
4. Infrastructure Revalidation execution.
5. Community interaction/engagement (2).
6. Swamp Fest.

**Funding Updates:** None.

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**Mayor, Commission, City Manager Travel & Training:** None.

## **Projects:**

Community Volunteer Program execution.

Community Clean-up program execution.

Citizens in-need energy conservation training execution.

**Decision Required:** None.

**Miscellaneous:** City updated Priorities, Vision, and Mission.

### Service Delivery:

- Effective Communication
- Customer Service
- Efficiency & Proficiency
- Business Models & Practices
- Data Driven

### Infrastructure:

- Streets and Roads
- Buildings
- Overpass & Bridges
- Canals & Alleys
- Retention Ponds & Stormwater

### Quality of Life:

- Affordable Housing
- Job Creation
- Recreation Programs
- Outreach Programs
- Community engagement & Partnership

### City Workforce:

- Development
- Pay
- Morale
- Training
- Promotion

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## Vision:

*The city of Waycross is a dedicated workforce enhancing quality of life while driving service excellence in support of its citizens and communities.*

## Mission:

*To provide open, honest, and fiscally responsible quality public services to the citizens of Waycross.*

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## **Marc Hawkins Community Improvement Director**



<https://www.waycrossga.gov/community-development.php>

### **Week's Priorities:**

Systems and procedures modernization execution.

Blighted properties execution.

Land Bank Tax sale execution.

BOZA meeting execution.

**Funding Updates:** None.

**Travel & Training:** None.

**Projects:** None.

**Decision Required:** None.

**Miscellaneous:**

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**Week of – 03/22/2024 – 3/27/2024**

## **Building Permit (turned in / pending approval)**

Residential

Location: 1500 Darling Ave / Fence

Contractor: Wright Fencing

Job Valuation: n/a

Permit Fee: pending

## **Building Permit (approved)**

Residential

Location: 1416 Carswell Ave

Contractor: Ramz Construction

Job Valuation: \$ 8500.00

Permit Fee: \$ 70.00

Residential

Location: 1107 Cherokee Drive / Fence

Owner: Ray Adams

Job Valuation: n/a

Permit Fee: \$ 30.00

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**Trixie still needs a new home!!!**

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## **Patrick Simmons Business Integration & Information Director**



**Systems**<https://www.waycrossga.gov/business-integration-information-systems.php>

### **Week's Priorities:**

Budget meeting execution.

Tyler Tech Scope Alignment meeting execution.

Social Media Platform expansion execution.

Wi-Fi upgrade City Hall and Public Works execution.

Popcast launch execution.

MyCivic (Tyler Tech App) Meeting execution.

Toastmaster Roundtable meeting execution.

Swamp-fest Kickoff event execution.

**Funding Updates:** None.

**Travel & Training:** None.

### **Projects:**

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Partnership with AKAs - Entrepreneur Training Series: Build Your Business Toolkit.

District Dashboard.

**Decision Required:**

**Miscellaneous:**

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## **David Eddins Protective Service (Fire) Chief**



<https://www.waycrossga.gov/fire-department.php>

### **Week's Priorities:**

FY25 budget execution.  
New Hire Training execution.  
Spring Cleaning execution.

**Funding Updates:** None.

**Travel & Training:** None.

### **Projects:**

Annual Business Pre-Plans review execution.  
Annual small equipment maintenance execution.

**Decision Required:** None.

### **Miscellaneous:**

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Type of Incident	February	Year To Date
Structure Fire	3	6
Vehicle Fire	5	7
Brush & Other Outside Fire	5	13
Medical Assist	34	74
Vehicle Wrecks, Other	16	32
Hazardous	3	9
Service Call	19	45
Good Intent	16	30
False Alarm	9	30

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<b>District</b>	<b>February</b>	<b>Year To Date</b>
District 1	18	40
District 2	19	41
District 3	26	61
District 4	29	59
District 5	18	41
Mutual Aid	0	4

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## **Tommy Cox Protective Services (Police) Chief**



<https://www.waycrossga.gov/police-department.php>

### **Week's Priorities:**

Major Case review execution.

Citizen's Police Academy assignments execution.

Swamp-fest Security Event planning execution.

**Funding Updates:** 3K grant execution.

**Travel & Training:** None.

### **Projects:**

Special Operations Renovation execution.

**Decision Required:** None.

### **Miscellaneous:**

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## **Court Cases**

### **Current month/Year to Date**

Driving under the Influence	<b>6</b>	<b>15</b>
Traffic Warning	13	31
All other Traffic Citations	228	391

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## **Marissa Hendrix Human Resources Director**



<https://www.waycrossga.gov/human-resources.php>

### **Week's Priorities:**

Workforce Onboarding execution.

Georgia Cities Week execution.

Tyler Tech HRIS demo execution.

ADP error mitigation execution.

RelyMD utilization execution.

**Funding updates:** None.

**Traveling and Training:** None.

### **Projects:**

Georgia Cities week April 22-26.

**Decision Required:** None.

**Miscellaneous:** None.

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Please check out our Facebook page Monday-Thursday for a chance to win a prize by answering our Trivia Questions!

**Georgia CITIES WEEK**  
APRIL 21ST-29TH

<b>MON 22</b>	<b>CAREER DAY</b> Ware County High School
<b>TUES 23</b>	<b>CLEAN-UP DAY</b> "Keep America Beautiful" Month of April Celebration
<b>WED 24</b>	<b>ART CONTEST</b> City Elementary Schools
<b>THUR 25</b>	<b>JOB FAIR</b> City Auditorium

**Waycross Ware 150**  
www.waycrossga.gov (912) 287-2900  
417 Pendleton Street, Waycross, GA 31501

Please check out our Facebook page Monday-Thursday for a chance to win a prize by answering our Trivia Questions!

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<b>THUR 25</b>	<b>JOB FAIR</b> City Auditorium
<b>FRI 26</b>	<b>EMPLOYEE LUNCHEON</b> Thank You for All You Do!

**Waycross Ware 150**  
www.waycrossga.gov (912) 287-2900  
417 Pendleton Street, Waycross, GA 31501



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## **Greg Smith Finance Director**



<https://www.waycrossga.gov/finance.php>

### **Week's Priorities:**

Future Projects cost estimate execution.

FY23 Audit execution.

FEMA update execution.

Water rate study execution.

**Funding updates:** None.

**Traveling and Training:** None.

### **Projects:**

Line of Credit research execution.

Meter replacement software execution.

Water Rate Study execution.

Audit FY23 execution.

Retirement benefits study execution.

**Decision Required:** None.

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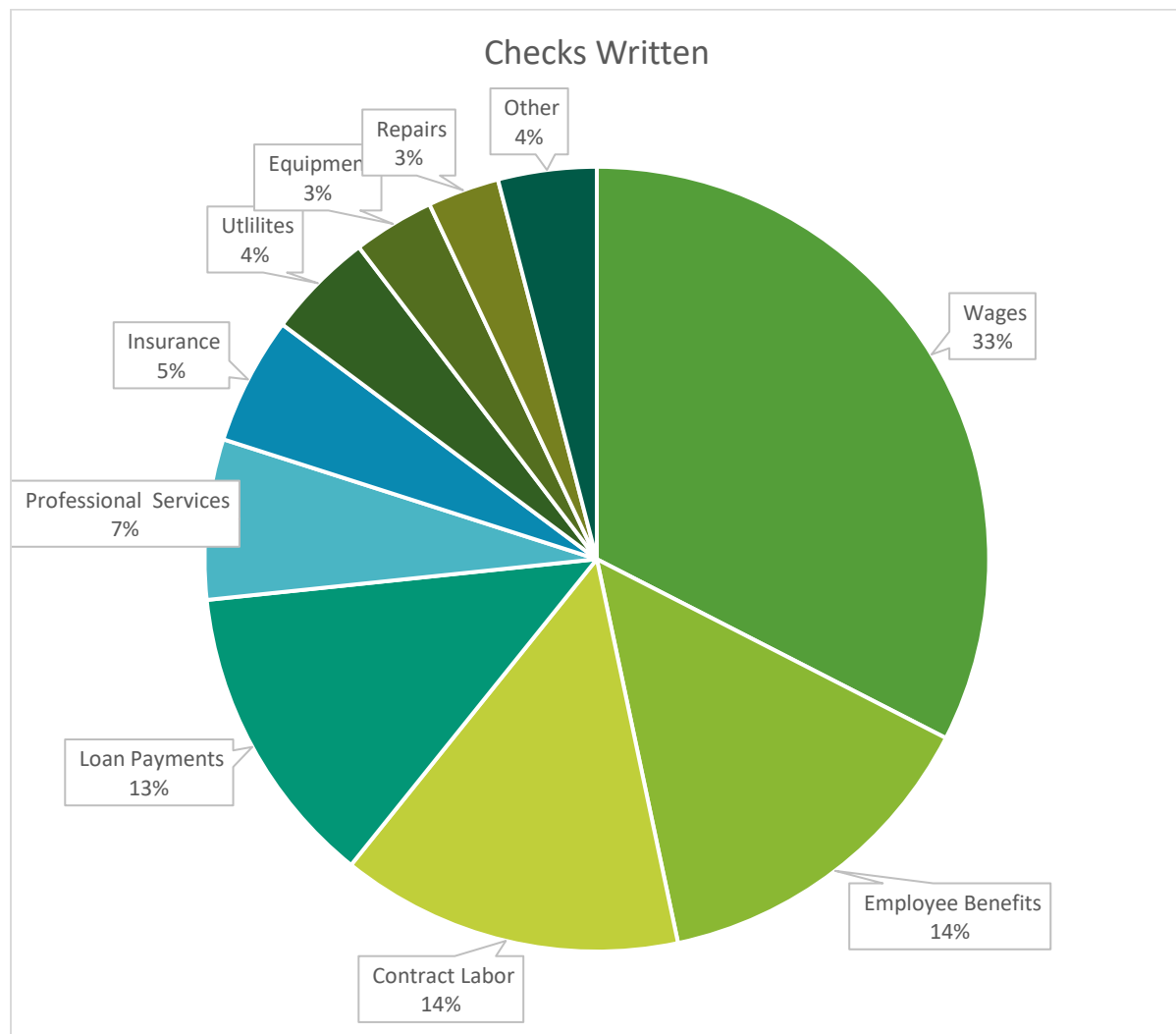
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Miscellaneous: None.

## Budget Charts

### City Year mid-point funding expenses



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City of Waycross  
The Eight Months Ended February 29, 2024

General Fund	Budget	Actual	%	Health Ins.	Budget	Actual	%
Revenue	\$ 16,078,617	\$ 10,481,218	65.2%	Revenue	\$ 2,027,029	\$ 1,463,520	72.2%
Expenditures	\$ 16,078,617	\$ 10,668,852	66.4%	Expenditures	\$ 2,027,029	\$ 1,321,251	65.2%
Rev. Over Exp.	\$ -	\$ (187,634)		Rev. Over Exp.	\$ -	\$ 142,269	
Water/Sewer	Budget	Actual	%	Workers Comp.	Budget	Actual	%
Revenue	\$ 7,211,000	\$ 5,829,558	80.8%	Revenue	\$ 485,000	\$ 297,000	61.2%
Expenditures	\$ 7,211,000	\$ 5,430,710	75.3%	Expenditures	\$ 485,000	\$ 891,427	184%
Rev. Over Exp.	\$ -	\$ 398,848		Rev. Over Exp.	\$ -	\$ (594,427)	
Storm Water	Budget	Actual	%	Retirement	Budget	Actual	%
Revenue	\$ 750,000	\$ 508,133	67.8%	Revenue	\$ 1,345,797	\$ 888,484	66.0%
Expenditures	\$ 750,000	\$ 353,926	47.2%	Expenditures	\$ 1,345,797	\$ 750,193	55.7%
Rev. Over Exp.	\$ -	\$ 154,207		Rev. Over Exp.	\$ -	\$ 138,291	
Waste Mngt.	Budget	Actual	%	Sp.LOST 2014	Budget	Actual	%
Revenue	\$ 2,672,225	\$ 1,732,414	64.8%	Revenue	\$ 1,400,000	\$ 15,318	1.1%
Expenditures	\$ 2,672,225	\$ 1,709,212	64.0%	Expenditures	\$ 1,400,000	\$ 315,615	22.5%
Rev. Over Exp.	\$ -	\$ 23,202		Rev. Over Exp.	\$ -	\$ (300,297)	
Garage Fund	Budget	Actual	%	T. SPLOST 2018	Budget	Actual	%
Revenue	\$ 432,594	\$ 288,396	66.7%	Revenue	\$ 6,915,462	\$ 740,450	10.7%
Expenditures	\$ 432,594	\$ 255,412	59.0%	Expenditures	\$ 6,915,462	\$ 1,294,253	18.7%
Rev. Over Exp.	\$ -	\$ 32,984		Rev. Over Exp.	\$ -	\$ (553,803)	
Hotel/Motel	Budget	Actual	%	R.T. SPLOST	Budget	Actual	%
Revenue	\$ 511,674	\$ 349,524	68.3%	Revenue	\$ 306,238	\$ 240,158	78.4%

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<table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 15%;">Expenditures</td> <td style="width: 10%;">\$</td> <td style="width: 15%;">511,674</td> <td style="width: 10%;">\$</td> <td style="width: 15%;">393,755</td> <td style="width: 10%;">77.0%</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="6" style="border-top: 1px solid black;"></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Rev. Over Exp.</td> <td>\$</td> <td style="text-align: center;">-</td> <td>\$</td> <td style="text-align: right;">(44,231)</td> <td></td> </tr> </table> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; margin-top: 5px;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 15%;">Auditorium</th> <th style="width: 10%;">Budget</th> <th style="width: 15%;">Actual</th> <th style="width: 10%;"></th> <th style="width: 10%;">%</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Revenue</td> <td>\$</td> <td>43,000</td> <td>\$</td> <td>23,550</td> <td>54.8%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Expenditures</td> <td>\$</td> <td>43,000</td> <td>\$</td> <td>42,013</td> <td>97.7%</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="6" style="border-top: 1px solid black;"></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Rev. Over Exp.</td> <td>\$</td> <td style="text-align: center;">-</td> <td>\$</td> <td style="text-align: right;">(18,463)</td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Expenditures	\$	511,674	\$	393,755	77.0%							Rev. Over Exp.	\$	-	\$	(44,231)		Auditorium	Budget	Actual		%	Revenue	\$	43,000	\$	23,550	54.8%	Expenditures	\$	43,000	\$	42,013	97.7%							Rev. Over Exp.	\$	-	\$	(18,463)		<table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 15%;">Expenditures</td> <td style="width: 10%;">\$</td> <td style="width: 15%;">306,238</td> <td style="width: 10%;">\$</td> <td style="width: 15%;">14,470</td> <td style="width: 10%;">4.7%</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="6" style="border-top: 1px solid black;"></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Rev. Over Exp.</td> <td>\$</td> <td style="text-align: center;">-</td> <td>\$</td> <td style="text-align: right;">225,688</td> <td></td> </tr> </table> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; margin-top: 5px;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 15%;">SPLOST 2023</th> <th style="width: 10%;">Budget</th> <th style="width: 15%;">Actual</th> <th style="width: 10%;"></th> <th style="width: 10%;">%</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Revenue</td> <td>\$</td> <td>3,200,000</td> <td>\$</td> <td>2,650,176</td> <td>82.8%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Expenditures</td> <td>\$</td> <td>3,200,000</td> <td>\$</td> <td style="text-align: center;">-</td> <td>0.0%</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="6" style="border-top: 1px solid black;"></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Rev. Over Exp.</td> <td>\$</td> <td style="text-align: center;">-</td> <td>\$</td> <td style="text-align: right;">2,650,176</td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; margin-top: 5px;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 15%;">ARPA-3 Years</th> <th style="width: 10%;">Budget</th> <th style="width: 15%;">Actual</th> <th style="width: 10%;"></th> <th style="width: 10%;">%</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Revenue</td> <td>\$</td> <td>5,033,363</td> <td>\$</td> <td>5,091,394</td> <td>101%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Expenditures</td> <td>\$</td> <td>5,033,363</td> <td>\$</td> <td>2,524,555</td> <td>50%</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="6" style="border-top: 1px solid black;"></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Rev. Over Exp.</td> <td>\$</td> <td style="text-align: center;">-</td> <td>\$</td> <td style="text-align: right;">2,566,839</td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Expenditures	\$	306,238	\$	14,470	4.7%							Rev. Over Exp.	\$	-	\$	225,688		SPLOST 2023	Budget	Actual		%	Revenue	\$	3,200,000	\$	2,650,176	82.8%	Expenditures	\$	3,200,000	\$	-	0.0%							Rev. Over Exp.	\$	-	\$	2,650,176		ARPA-3 Years	Budget	Actual		%	Revenue	\$	5,033,363	\$	5,091,394	101%	Expenditures	\$	5,033,363	\$	2,524,555	50%							Rev. Over Exp.	\$	-	\$	2,566,839	
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## T-SPLOST & SPLOST

### Waycross & Ware County 2024 T-SPLOST Proposal

#### What is a Single County T-SPLOST?

- A Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax (SPLOST) is a sale tax used to fund capital projects proposed by the county and city governments. The Transportation Investment Act (TIA) or T-SPLOST is a regional sales tax for transportation purposes **ONLY**.
- 100% of the funds that are collected by this initiative will be spent on transportation projects in THIS COMMUNITY.

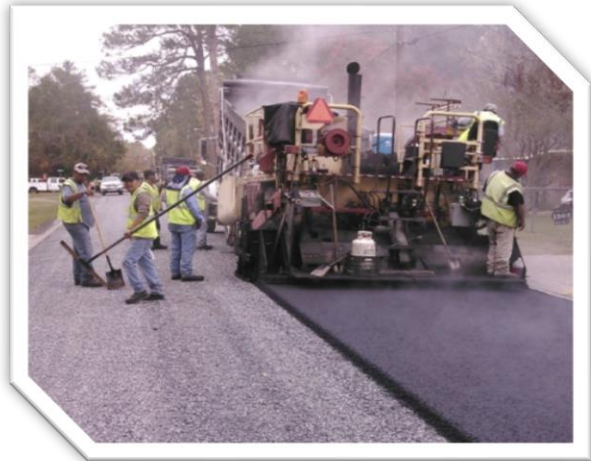


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## How much money will be raised with a Single County T-SPLOST?

- Assuming the max rate of 1.0% is leveraged for 5 years, it is projected that Waycross and Ware County will generate approximately \$45 Million from April 2024 to March 2029.
- These funds will be shared equally (50/50) between Ware County and the City of Waycross.



## How can the money be spent?

Funds can only be spent on transportation purposes, which is defined in O.C.G.A. Section 48-8-260(5) as:

*"...the tax are to be used in whole or part for capital outlay projects consisting of road, street, and bridge purposes, then authorized uses of the tax proceeds shall include: (A) Acquisition of rights of way for roads, streets, bridges, sidewalks, and bicycle paths; (B) Construction of roads, streets, bridges, sidewalks, and bicycle paths; (C) Renovation*

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*and improvement of roads, streets, bridges, sidewalks, and bicycle paths, including resurfacing; (D) Relocation of utilities for roads, streets, bridges, sidewalks, and bicycle paths; (E) Improvement of surface water drainage from roads, streets, bridges, sidewalks, and bicycle paths; and (F) Patching, leveling, milling, widening, shoulder preparation, culvert repair, and other repairs necessary for the preservation of roads, streets, bridges, sidewalks, and bicycle paths...”*

**Note:** A minimum of 30% of revenue generated must be consistent with the Statewide Strategic Transportation Plan.

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## **James Smart Public Works Director**



<https://www.waycrossga.gov/public-works.php>

### **Week's Priorities:**

Retention Pond, City ROW mower crew/tractor execution.

Cleaning Canals execution.

Swamp Fest execution.

Potholes & Grates execution.

**Funding Updates:** None.

**Travel & Training:** None.

### **Projects:**

Storm Drain cleaning execution.

Spring Cleanup District .

**Decision Required:** None.

**Miscellaneous:** None.

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## **Public Works City Services**

### **Sanitation Services**

**Garbage:** Only the rollout may be used for disposal of residential garbage. If one container is not sufficient, the city will provide an additional container for residential, \$6.99, and commercial, \$11.13. Your container must be curbside the evening before your collection day. After the collection, the emptied container must then be removed from the curbside and returned to your storage area. Call City Hall at 912-287-2900.

**Yard Trash:** Yard trash should be placed on the curb or city right of way in one large pile (not on the street). Your yard trash must be ready for collection by 7:00 AM on your collection day.

**Limbs should be cut in 8-foot lengths and be no larger than 8 inches in diameter.** Tree removal will not be collected; this includes limbs, tree trunks, stumps, or stump grindings. Do not place yard trash next to any immobile objects such as light poles, mailboxes, cars, etc. For further information, call the Public Works office at 912-287-2955.

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**Household Special Pickups:** This refers to the removal of large bulky items such as appliances, mattresses, furniture, carpet, and other household items. Customers may call weekly by Thursday at noon to schedule a pickup of five items or fewer. Collections are Friday of each week. Call the Public Works office at 912-287- 2955 to schedule your pickup.

**More than 5 Item Household Collections:** Customers having larger loads may call and request a special pickup. A special pickup fee of: ¼ load \$36.23, ½ load \$77.63, and full load \$155.25 must be paid in advance to City Hall. You will then be issued a pickup date on Tuesday or Friday. Call the Public Works office at 287-2955 to schedule a pickup.

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## **Engineering**

<https://www.waycrossga.gov/engineering.php>

### **Week's Priorities:**

7 LDA site inspections execution.

HWY 55 drainage execution.

GDOT Plant Avenue Canal execution.

WAWA Water Tap Installation execution.

Corporate Park water line installation execution.

**Funding updates:** None.

**Traveling and Training:** None.

### **Projects:**

2019 TSPLOST Multi-infrastructure Improvements –

Richmond Avenue – Complete

Beville Street – Striping

Jane Street – Complete

Hanover Street - Striping

Crawford Street – Complete

Design Phase for 2024 Road Paving Project execution.

Design of Parks – APRA execution.

Waycross Lead Service Line Project execution.

Utility Rate Study execution.

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- ***Construction can be lengthy; we do our best to not inconvenience citizens but there may be delays.***

**Decision Required:** None.

**Miscellaneous:**



# CITY REPORT



**“PIPE UP”  
AND HELP  
US GET THE  
LEAD OUT!**

**We are committed to providing our citizens with a **safe and reliable** water supply.**

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has established the Lead and Copper Rule (LCR) to protect public health and reduce exposure to lead and copper in drinking water. It is estimated that there are between 6 to 10 million lead service lines still in existence in our country. **The primary source of lead in drinking water, when present, is pipes.**

To help us determine whether your home might have lead-containing plumbing materials and if further testing is recommended—**we need your help.** Simply scan the QR code below using your smartphone’s camera or QR code reader app to participate in a brief survey.

**Your participation is greatly appreciated** and your input is vitally important.



[waycrossga.gov](http://waycrossga.gov)



*“The Regional crossroads and destination that offers small-town Charm while providing big-city opportunities”*

<https://www.waycrossga.gov/>

# ***CITY REPORT***



## **Water and Wastewater**

### **Week's Priority:**

#### **Collections and Distribution**

520 S GA PKWY sidewalk pour execution.

Alice St sink hole repair execution.

Swamp Fest water lines setup execution.

#### **MAINTENANCE**

Weekly preventative maintenance task execution.

Lift station inspections execution.

Temps- Water Plant spring cleanup.

#### **WWTP**

Lab permit and process control samples execution.

Regulatory paperwork execution.

#### **Water Plant**

Normal daily operations and well inspections.

**Funding Updates:** None.

**Travel and Training:** None.

#### **Projects:**

WWTP Upgrades

# ***CITY REPORT***



## **Community Calendar**

- Apr 1/May 3– Community clean-up.
- Apr 1/2– Working Session/Commission meeting.
- Apr 5/6– Swamp Fest.
- Apr 09–Chamber Rise & Shine - South GA State College.
- Apr 09 – City Codes Information Sharing session.
- Apr 11–Entrepreneurship Workshop - Business Plan.
- Apr 13–Golf Tournament - Southeast Ga Women’s Center.
- Apr 15/16– Working Session/Commission meeting.
- Apr 17– Property owners/Realtors Working Group session.
- Apr 18–Business After Hours - Auviously Glam.
- Apr 20–Okefenokee Color Run.
- Apr 21– Faith & Community Outreach/Mentorship meeting.
- Apr 23– Business Development meeting.
- Apr 25– City Update.

# ***CITY REPORT***



## **City Hall Meeting Community/Business Meetings**

These monthly meetings allow community members and local businesses to meet with the city manager and staff and discuss any concerns or ideas they may have. All interested parties are encouraged to attend these meetings, which will be held monthly. The meetings will be held in the commission chambers at City Hall and will provide an open forum for discussion.

**Codes Information Sharing Session every 2nd Tuesday monthly at 12:00 pm**

**Landlords/Realtors every 3rd Wednesday monthly at 12:00 pm.**

**Business Development every 4th Tuesday monthly at 1:00 pm.**

**Community/Faith Outreach every 3rd Thursday monthly at 12:00 pm.**

**Mentors of Waycross every 3rd Thursday monthly at 1:30 pm.**