



FISCAL YEAR 2020: YEAR IN REVIEW

Amid extreme circumstances, the City of Tallahassee progressed during Fiscal Year 2020 (FY20). Major infrastructure projects, like alleviating flooding along Weems Road, breaking ground on a state-of-the-art water quality lab and constructing the Bond Linear Park, moved forward. Among earning national awards for our Natural Gas Utility and Fleet Management departments, Southern Living Magazine named us as one of the South's Best Cities.

Employees also executed a swift pivot amid the COVID-19 pandemic to maintain routine operations, including implementing virtual residential building inspections, streaming online programs for the Tallahassee Senior Center and installing plexiglass barriers to protect StarMetro drivers. To mitigate the community impact of COVID-19, the City set up the state's

first drive-up testing site and provided direct relief to residents, local businesses and non-profits.

Despite revenue losses, the City was aggressive in efforts to maintain a balanced budget for Fiscal Year 2021 (FY21), which began Oct. 1. This balanced budget includes maintaining the millage rate at 4.1000 mills - the same as it has been for the past five years - keeping our community among the most affordable places in the state to live.

As the largest provider of municipal services in our area, the City met the challenges of 2020 head on, while ensuring the delivery of vital, best-in-class services to citizens. See what we've accomplished together as a community by downloading our 2020 Year In Review at [Talgov.com/YearInReview](https://www.talgov.com/YearInReview).

MEETINGS IN DECEMBER

Visit [Talgov.com](https://www.talgov.com) for the current list of Tallahassee City Commission, Community Redevelopment Agency, Capital Region Transportation Planning Agency and Blueprint Intergovernmental Agency meetings and workshops.

Call the Department of Communications at 850-891-8533 for more information and view the current meeting agendas online at [Talgov.com](https://www.talgov.com). Follow @CityofTLH on Twitter for City news.



CONSERVE NOW, SAVE LATER

Every April, the City re-sets your residential Maximum Sewer Charge based on your prior winter's water usage. The City calculates your Sewer Max based on the second highest month of metered water usage as billed during December through March, which is when most customers use the least amount of water. Little efforts to conserve water in winter can result in big savings later! For more information, visit [Talgov.com/YOU](https://www.talgov.com/YOU).

Set a reminder for 9 p.m. each evening to ensure all your home's windows and doors are locked.



CITY OF
TALLAHASSEE
POLICE DEPARTMENT

#9PMROUTINE





ADOPT A TREE

Every year, the City provides and plants trees for eligible homeowners in an effort to increase the urban forest canopy. The trees, depending on the species, are between 5 and 8 feet in height and are species native to the southeast. Eligible homeowners living in the City limits may request up to two trees to be planted in the front yard within 100 feet of the centerline of the roadway (within the City limits) and must agree to keep each tree watered for one year.

Tree species offered this year include:

‘Okame’ Cherry is a quick-growing, low-maintenance, understory tree whose leaves and blooms put on a show in fall, late winter and early spring. Due to limited quantities, properties with overhead utilities will be given priority for this species.

‘D.D. Blanchard’ Southern Magnolia is a magnificent evergreen tree and the largest of all the magnolia varieties. It has a very straight trunk and fragrant flowers, though few, that bloom from late spring through the summer.

Southern Live Oak is Tallahassee’s official shade tree and quite majestic. This native evergreen’s limbs are usually covered in Spanish Moss, and their acorns are enjoyed by many animals. This tree needs plenty of room to grow – the trunk can become more than six feet in diameter!

Visit [Talgov.com/AdoptATree](https://www.talgov.com/AdoptATree) for more information. Questions can be answered by calling 850-891-5300 or emailing AdoptaTree@Talgov.com.

Sustainability Tip

Proper insulation in the attic will cut heat loss in the winter. To help, the City offers ceiling insulation grants. Call 850-891-4968 for details.



FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE

If you’ve fallen behind on your City utility payment, financial assistance is available. As an individual, you may be eligible for up to \$5,000 (one-time) to bring past due utility bills current as part of the federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act. To apply for emergency financial assistance, visit [LeonCountyCares.com](https://www.leoncountycares.com) or call 855-203-6584.

If you need assistance completing the application process, our specially trained customer care representatives are here to help. Visit us at the Frenchtown Renaissance Center, located at 435 N. Macomb St., Monday through Friday between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m.



BOX IT, BAG IT OR BUNDLE IT

With fall upon us, many residents are sprucing up their lawns, resulting in piles of yard debris left curbside for collection. Yard debris refers to vegetative fragments like tree trimmings, grass clippings, pine straw and leaves. Residential yard debris is collected at the curb in front of each residence every other week, per the Red/Blue Week schedule.

When disposing of yard debris, place it within three feet of the curb and away from low-hanging wires, trees or other obstacles, such as mailboxes, fences, etc. Clippings and pine straw may be placed in clear bags or boxes. For shrubs and limbs, piles should be no larger than 6 feet long, 4 feet wide and 4 feet high. The maximum size for limbs is 6 feet long and 4 inches in diameter. Separate yard waste piles from bulky items set out for pickup. For more information on how to properly dispose of your yard debris, visit [Talgov.com](https://www.talgov.com).

INSIGHT is published monthly to inform citizens about City services and related terms of interest. If you require an accommodation because of a disability in order to participate in a program, service or activity, please contact the appropriate City department. For persons using a TDD, please call 711. Requests should be made at least seven hours in advance. Sign language interpreters require 10 days advance request.

For all City of Tallahassee utility related inquiries, please call 850-891-4968 or visit [Talgov.com](https://www.talgov.com).

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