



May 3, 2018

Dear Mayor Weinbrecht and Members of Town Council:

Attached please find the 2019 Recommended Budget in the amount of \$347 million. This budget provides for a continuation of the service levels that our citizens have come to enjoy. Years of judicious resource management combined with investments in quality of life initiatives allow me to report that the Town enters the 2018-2019 Fiscal Year in a strong financial position.

This budget builds upon past practices while also providing a platform to launch future-oriented service delivery models. It has been designed to continue to shift the organization away from an "event" oriented process to one that allows for on-going budget decision-making by the Town Council. As such, approximately \$1.8 million has been left unallocated to allow for continued engagement with the Town Council on community needs during the budget process and throughout the year.

During the preparation of the 2019 Recommended Budget, I have had the opportunity to reflect on the most pressing issues facing our community and how we must adapt to turn potential liabilities into strengths. It is a great privilege and responsibility to serve as Town Manager in order to drive the sustainable, long-term growth to **Keep Cary Great**.

Many, if not most, local governments are failing to prepare for the future, on issues ranging from retirement and infrastructure to automation and worker retraining. Not in Cary. We are investing in our services like never before, by investing in our people to prepare them for the challenges that lie ahead. Our citizens' expectations of us have never been greater.

**2019 BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS**

<b>Property Tax Rate Unchanged</b>	\$0.35 per \$100 of Assessed Valuation
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<b>Total Budget (Operating &amp; Capital)</b>	\$347 Million
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<b>Fee &amp; Rate Adjustments</b>	Vehicle Sticker, \$15 - \$30
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Water Rate Increase	3.0%
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Recycling Fee	\$16- \$17
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Without a sense of purpose and vision, no organization, either public or private, can achieve its full potential. It will ultimately lose the license to operate from key stakeholders. It will succumb to short-term pressures and, in the process, sacrifice investments in employee development, innovation, and capital expenditures that are necessary for sustained growth and prosperity.

The Town’s budget is an important document where the community’s vision and needs are translated into the resources, personnel, and projects needed to support those efforts. This budget presents a strong operational plan to support the services of the Town and a capital program that responds to the most urgent needs. The budget I present to you underscores the Town’s commitment to strategic fiscal stewardship and innovation.

Values bind the Town of Cary together and give us confidence in the future; it requires a personal commitment to excellence and a close linkage to the real world – particularly the citizen’s world. Great ideas, and great people building their own dreams at the Town of Cary will ensure that we continue to deliver.

I want to thank the Department Directors, Budget Staff, the members of my office, department fiscal managers, and all other employees who contributed to the formulation of this document. As a community, we are working together to ensure Cary is ready for the future by making fiscal decisions that position us well as our community prospers. Finally, without the leadership provided by the Town Council none of this would be possible. Thank you for making Cary an amazing community and place to work, grow, and prosper.

Sincerely,

Sean R. Stegall  
Town Manager

**2019 BUDGET  
HIGHLIGHTS**

<b><i>Increased Investments in:</i></b>	<i>Sidewalks</i>
	<i>Public Safety</i>
	<i>Employee Development</i>

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