

# CITY OF KINGSTON

## Office of the Mayor

mayor@kingston-ny.gov



Steven T. Noble  
Mayor

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18 October 2021

Dear President Shaut,

I am proud to present my 2022 Recommended Budget for the Common Council's review and consideration. After two budget cycles of scaled-back spending and fiscal restraint, we are steadily recovering from the economic uncertainty of the pandemic.

During the height of the pandemic, we asked Department Heads to cut spending by up to 20%. We asked each and every City worker to do more with less – with fewer resources, with more job vacancies, and with a reduced budget. City staff stepped up and kept our community running. We were able to maintain all essential services through the most difficult times and under the most stressful circumstances. Now, I believe it is time to reinvest in our staff and our equipment - to not only return to our previous levels of employment and maintenance, but to build upon and grow the services we provide to our community.

The Recommended Budget includes \$1.5 million in equipment and a new recruitment and retention program for our CSEA workforce that will provide significant salary increases for our lowest paid employees. These well-deserved increases to support our lowest paid employees will provide a living wage and will improve recruitment and retention. A few of the key highlights include:

- 23 new full-time positions
- New recruitment and retention program for CSEA
- Tax rate decreases for seventh year in a row
- Tax levy remains at \$17,650,940 for the seventh year in row
- Decrease in homestead rate from \$8.99 to \$8.82 (per thousand)
- Decrease in non-homestead rate from \$14.17 to \$14.11 (per thousand)
- Low Fiscal Stress Score (1.7 out of 100)
- Continued major infrastructure improvements at Waste Water Treatment Plant, Dietz Stadium, and citywide safer streets initiatives

By investing in proper equipment, our staff will have the resources needed to better serve our residents, keeping our City clean, healthy, safe, and thriving. City employees helped us weather the pandemic, and I believe, with the necessary support, they will continue to aide in our recovery, making our community stronger than ever.

I appreciate the Council's thoughtful consideration of my recommended budget and look forward to working together for our community.

Respectfully Submitted,

Steven T. Noble  
Mayor

**City of Kingston  
Capital Plan - 2022 Budget**

<u>Department</u>	<u>Description</u>		<u>Amount</u>
Police Department	In Car Video Systems	\$ 30,000	
Police Department	Narcotics Analyzer	\$ 30,000	
Police Department	HVAC Units (2)	\$ 30,000	
Police Department	Police Vehicles (4)	\$ 208,000	
			\$ 298,000
Engineer	Sewer Camera and Equipment	\$ 60,000	
			\$ 60,000
Fire Department	Crew Cab Pickup	\$ 47,500	
			\$ 47,500
Building Department	Hybrid AWD Vehicles	\$ 76,000	
			\$ 76,000
Department of Public Works	Pickup Trucks(2)	\$ 80,000	
Department of Public Works	Equipment (Trailer, Mower, Snow Blower)	\$ 50,000	
Department of Public Works	4X2 Large Dump with Spreader and Plow	\$ 185,000	
Department of Public Works	4X4 Swap Loader with Plow	\$ 115,000	
Department of Public Works	Water Tank Trailer	\$ 10,000	
Department of Public Works	4X4 1 Ton Regular Cab Utility with Plow	\$ 60,000	
Department of Public Works	Fork Lift with Garage	\$ 35,000	
Department of Public Works	20 Yard Refuse Packer	\$ 175,000	
Department of Public Works	Snow Blower Attachment For Loader	\$ 95,000	
			\$ 805,000
WWTP	Equipment (Lamps, UV, Belt Pess Control Panel, Pump)	\$ 95,000	
			\$ 95,000
Parks and Recreation	Compact Utility Tractor with Bucket	\$ 50,000	
Parks and Recreation	Utility Vehicle with Heat and A/C	\$ 21,000	
Parks and Recreation	Tractor with Loader and Attachments	\$ 88,000	
			\$ 159,000
Totals			\$ 1,540,500