



Theresa Lynch, widow of Rivers Lynch, talks about his life and legacy during naming ceremonies in September at the Rivers. F. Lynch Tennis Center. The 10-court center is jointly owned by the City of Myrtle Beach and Horry County Schools.

Tennis Center named for late MBHS coach, Rivers F. Lynch

To Myrtle Beach High School Seahawks and the Grand Strand community, the late Rivers Lynch was best known as an outstanding tennis coach. From 1991 to 2009, his teams won 11 state tennis championships. Lynch also served as a positive force in his students' lives, in the classroom and both on and off the tennis courts.

Rivers Lynch died suddenly in 2019, and this September, the 10-court tennis complex near the high school was renamed in his honor as The Rivers F. Lynch Tennis Center. The center is jointly owned by the Horry County Schools and City of Myrtle Beach.

Son-in-law John Cahill, the Seahawks' athletic director, said Rivers always had a smile on his face and made every student or adult he encountered feel like the most important person. "All it takes is all you've got," is what Lynch told his teams.

Lynch was recognized for his coaching with the following awards: SC Tennis Coach of the Year (1992); USTA Tennis Family of the Year (1994); SC Athletic Coaches Association Hall of Fame (2007); National Tennis Coach of the Year (2009); and, High School Sports Report Lifetime Achievement Award (2009).

Boardwalk has new decking

The City of Myrtle Beach's iconic boardwalk has a new, colorful decking made out of composite material for longer life. The wood-looking surface replaced the original Southern yellow pine, installed in 2010.

The \$3.7 million re-decking project was completed in late summer. The boardwalk renovation also included four selfie stations, where visitors can take photos with the ocean as a backdrop. The deck replacement extends from Plyler Park to Eighth Avenue North.



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

Sign up for Myrtle Beach's weekly news and events email. The **Friday Fax** provides upcoming meetings and agendas. Send your address to info@cityofmyrtlebeach.com.

2022 Solid Waste Holiday Schedule

Veterans Day Week (November 7-11)
Regular Monday-through-Thursday collection schedule.

Thanksgiving Week (November 21-25)
Service on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday. No service on Thursday.

Christmas Weeks (December 19-30)
Regular Monday-through-Thursday collection schedule.



City Council wants to hear from you! We created an email address specifically to encourage public input to the Myrtle Beach City Council. Send your email message directly to Council at dearcitycouncil@cityofmyrtlebeach.com.

PROGRESS REPORT Autumn 2022

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PROGRESS

REPORT

Annual Report: Fiscal Year 2021-22



This image of how Ninth Avenue North's streetscape may look in the future is from the Viewbook for Myrtle Beach's new Arts & Innovation District. Expect road and utility construction to begin next spring.

New vision for Myrtle Beach's downtown area comes to life

Myrtle Beach is ready for the next phase of redevelopment downtown, as the Arts & Innovation District comes alive with plans.

Construction wrapped this summer on previous parking to serve Ninth Avenue North and Nance Plaza. Look for announcements soon of tenants to occupy renovated historic buildings.



ARTS & INNOVATION
MYRTLE BEACH

Construction begins in Spring 2023 to make Oak Street an artery, along with upgrades to utilities and creation of a new events plaza near the Myrtle Beach Train Depot. The plaza's oval shape is reminiscent of a Carolina Bay, for which the area is famous.

Plans call for a new library and children's museum adjacent to the plaza. The current Broadway Street will end at Eighth Avenue North, where the plaza begins. Work also is expected in 2023 on a performing arts center on Main Street.

COVID recovery poses budget challenges

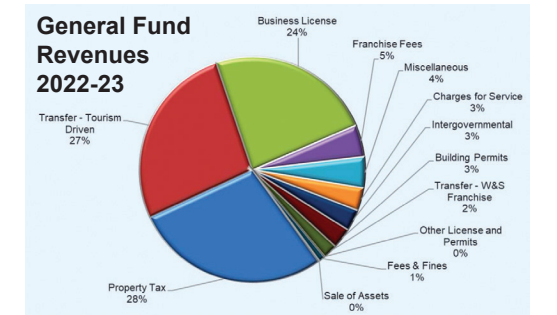
Coming out of COVID, the City of Myrtle Beach kept property taxes flat in fiscal year 2021-22, even though the annual budget climbed to \$292 million, where it is today.

Last year's spending increase was possible thanks to an unexpectedly robust economy, post-COVID, and resolution of the Hospitality Fee dispute, which provided new revenue.

Public safety remained Myrtle Beach's top priority last year, with 10 new police officers in the FY 2021-22 budget. That trend continues in the current fiscal year, with funding for 25 more police officers and 22 other positions to respond to current and future growth demands.

In 2021-22, the city also resumed capital projects which had been delayed by COVID, including boardwalk renovation and installation of pedestrian railings on Ocean Boulevard. Both were completed early in 2022-23.

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Sign up for emergency notifications

Residents and businesses are encouraged to sign up for a new notification system to quickly learn about emergencies and other events that can affect the city. Called Regroup, the system is the quickest way to stay up-to-date during hurricanes, special events and other need-to-know occasions.

Users can choose which notifications to receive via text, email and/or phone call. Use the QR code in the graphic to sign-up for selected alerts.

In addition to hurricanes, the system can alert residents to large special events that may affect traffic, as well as any urgent public safety messages and changes in city service schedules.





Pedestrian rails installed

Decorative pedestrian railings now are in place on Ocean Boulevard between Seventh and 12th Avenues North. As shown in this busy nighttime photo, the new railings help separate vehicles from walkers, while keeping the bicycle lane free for bicyclists.

The City of Myrtle Beach received a \$250,000 grant from the State of South Carolina to help pay for the \$1 million project. The wrought iron-style railings feature a wave design, plus a leaping dolphin motif.

New residential parking decals available early

Two-year parking decals are available now to city residents who have personal vehicles or motorcycles that “live” in the city limits and on which city property taxes have been paid. The registration period began early this year to accommodate the inflow of requests and outflow of decals.



The city counts the property taxes paid on vehicles as a parking payment, whether or not the owner ever uses public parking. Everyone pays for parking, just in different ways.

Residents need an up-to-date South Carolina vehicle registration, driver’s license and current Horry County vehicle property tax receipt for each vehicle.

Submit requests online or in person at the Reef Parking Office in the Pavilion Parking Garage, 914 North Kings Highway, 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Residents who own a qualifying golf cart will need to bring the South Carolina Golf Cart permit number issued by the South Carolina Department of Motor Vehicles (SCDMV).

Each decal is specific to each vehicle; decals are not interchangeable or transferrable. After processing, parking decals are mailed to the registered address.

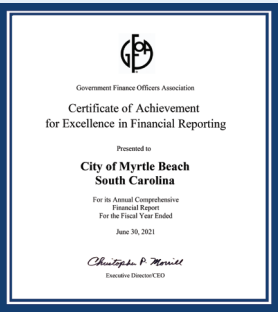
To receive decals in person, bring the materials above to the Pavilion Parking Garage. Residents who have not had a parking decal in the past will need to apply in person.

For online registration, visit the Parking Decal webpage at www.cityofmyrtlebeach.com.

Myrtle Beach Awards and Recognitions

◆ The City of Myrtle Beach received its 25th annual **Tree City USA Award** in December 2021. Sponsored by the National Arbor Day Foundation, the US Forest Service and the National Association of State Foresters, the Tree City USA award recognizes efforts to protect and preserve Myrtle Beach’s urban forest.

◆ The city’s Financial Management & Reporting Department received its 34th annual “**Certificate for Excellence in Financial Reporting**” from the Government Finance Officers Association for the city’s Comprehensive Annual Financial Report for 2019-20.



◆ The City of Myrtle Beach received a **\$30 million grant** from the State of South Carolina for the next deepwater ocean outfall at 24th Avenue North. The grant was included in the state’s budget for FY 2022-23.

Budget provides 25 more police officers, higher pay

...continued from page 1

In the current budget year, post-COVID, City Council approved an unusually strong 10 mill tax increase to hire 25 additional police officers, increase stagnant wages and provide greater service in other departments.

City Council implemented a class-and-compensation study for FY 2022-23 to raise staff wages to market rates, after several years of falling behind.

Council believes that keeping and hiring talented staff, especially police officers and other public safety positions, is critical to good service.

One of the capital projects completed in the Arts & Innovation District is parking for Nance Plaza and Ninth Avenue North. The pervious paving system allows stormwater drainage.



Myrtle Beach has Council-Manager form of government

Myrtle Beach city voters adopted the Council-Manager form of government in 1973 by a four-to-one margin. Under this system, City Council is the legislative body, setting policy and direction for city government. Essentially, Council is the board of directors.

A professional manager is appointed by Council and serves as the chief executive and administrative officer for the city. The city manager handles the daily operations of the corporation and its services through the executive staff and city department heads.

City Council is composed of a mayor who serves as the presiding officer and six equal members. The mayor and Council are elected at-large to four-year terms in staggered, biennial elections. All seven are non-partisan, meaning they do not seek office or serve under any party name or affiliation.



The City of Myrtle Beach is both a public agency and a multi-million dollar corporation. The city’s budget for fiscal year 2022-23 totals \$292.2 million. It includes a 10-mill property tax increase

to pay for 25 new police officers and 22 other positions.

South Carolina requires that local governments adopt balanced budgets, providing sufficient revenues and other financing sources to offset expenditures authorized for the fiscal period. Myrtle Beach has such a balanced budget.



Bridge named for Myrtle Beach Officer

Our memories of Myrtle Beach Police Officer Jacob Hancher will live on with a prominent bridge named in his honor. On August 5, the City of Myrtle Beach dedicated the “Patrolman Jacob Hancher Overpass” on Harrelson Boulevard at US 17.

Officer Hancher was a five-year veteran when he was killed in the line of duty October 3, 2020, while responding to a domestic violence call. In the photo above, his sister looks up at the bridge sign after its unveiling.

How much do you pay, and what do you get for your money?

When all of the usual City of Myrtle Beach fees, property taxes and monthly service charges are considered, the typical residential household will pay an estimated \$163.28 per month for all city services in FY 2022-23.

Included in that cost are property taxes on a house valued at \$295,000 and two automobiles valued at \$34,746, along with monthly fees for 7,500 gallons of treated water, monthly fees for curbside solid waste and recycling service each week and the monthly stormwater fee.

Consider, then, that the monthly cost for city services (including police, fire, parks, public works, planning and more) is about the same as three tanks of gas or one month’s bill for telephone, cable and internet service.

And that’s before calculating the 67 percent property tax credit that owner-occupied homes receive from the Tourism Development Fee.

Typical monthly cost for ALL city services? Just \$168.

City of Myrtle Beach's
Seniors Advisory Committee
& Chapin Memorial Library present...

Through the Lens of Time: Myrtle Beach History Series

2:00 p.m., Various Tuesdays and Wednesdays,
October 4, November 1, January 11, February 7,
February 21, March 9 and April 4

Speakers include Jack Thompson, Dino Thompson,
Victor Shamah, Buddy Styers, Ruth Trask Gore,
M. "Cookie" Canty Goings and Buz Plyler!

Learn about Myrtle Beach’s history from locals who lived through it! Diane DeVaughn Stokes emcees the programs, through Spring 2023.