

### Crisis Hotlines

In the event of an **emergency** or an **overdose**, **CALL 911 IMMEDIATELY**

**988 SUICIDE & CRISIS LIFELINE**

**Veterans Crisis Line**  
DIAL 988 then **PRESS 1**

If you or someone you know needs support now, call or text **988** or chat **988lifeline.org**

**2-1-1** **United Way**  
Get Connected. Get Help.  
Call 2-1-1 (or visit [www.se211.org](http://www.se211.org)), anytime, 24 hours a day, 365 days a year to link to vital services in your community

**NAMI**  
National Alliance on Mental Illness  
NAMI Helpline: Monday - Friday 10am - 10pm  
CHAT: [nami.org/help](http://nami.org/help)  
CALL: 1-800-950-NAMI (6264) TEXT: 62640  
EMAIL: [info@nami.org](mailto:info@nami.org)

According to the CDC, if you or someone you know is overdosing:

1. CALL 911 IMMEDIATELY
2. If available, administer Naloxone
3. Try to keep the person awake and breathing
4. Lay the person on their side to prevent choking
5. Stay with them until First Responders arrive.

South Carolina Good Samaritan Law  
The Good Samaritan Law (S.C. Code Ann. § 15-1-30) and The South Carolina Overdose Prevention Act (S.C. Code Ann. § 44-130-50) protects a caregiver who gives Naloxone to a person whom the caregiver believes in good faith is experiencing an opioid overdose from civil or criminal liability. (NaloxoneSC.org)

### You are worth Recovery, YOU MATTER

Drug addiction is a **chronic** and **complex disease** characterized by drug seeking and use that is compulsive, or difficult to control, despite harmful consequences. The initial decision to take drugs is voluntary for most people, but repeated drug use can lead to brain changes that challenge an addicted person's self-control and interfere with their ability to resist intense urges to take drugs. According to [JustPlainkillers.com](http://JustPlainkillers.com), Opioid Dependency can occur in as little as 72 hours by altering an individual's brain chemistry. Despite being aware of these harmful outcomes, many people who use drugs continue to take them, which is the nature of addiction. **Drug addiction is treatable and can be successfully managed.**

(Source: National Institute on Drug Abuse; National Institutes of Health; U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.)

If you or someone you know is suffering from problematic substance misuse, please contact a Community Support Team member.

### Contact Information

Jude Bauccio, CPSS  
Office: (843) 918-1602  
Cell: (843) 655-2932  
[JBauccio@cityofmyrtlebeach.com](mailto:JBauccio@cityofmyrtlebeach.com)

Robert Meaney, CPSS  
Office: (843) 918-1603  
Cell: (843) 957-3096  
[RMeaney@cityofmyrtlebeach.com](mailto:RMeaney@cityofmyrtlebeach.com)

Michelle Smith  
Program Coordinator  
Phone: (843) 918-1601  
[MLSmith@cityofmyrtlebeach.com](mailto:MLSmith@cityofmyrtlebeach.com)

### Community Support Team

Myrtle Beach Fire Department

[opioid@cityofmyrtlebeach.com](mailto:opioid@cityofmyrtlebeach.com)  
(843) 918-1600  
921-B N. Oak Street  
Myrtle Beach, SC 29577

Compassionate Connection to Care

**City of Myrtle Beach South Carolina**

## Opioid program offers help for addiction in Myrtle Beach

Are you addicted to opioids, or do you know someone who is struggling with substance use? The Myrtle Beach Fire Department's Opioid Response Program can help.

Thanks to opioid settlement funds, the city has a community support team that reaches out to people in need. An opioid program coordinator and two certified peer support specialists are available to help individuals struggling with substance use.

The support team uses three pathways to connect with those in need. The first is through self-referral. The staff accepts contact from any community member who struggles with substance use. The second pathway is through community response, where our team responds in real time with Myrtle Beach's first responders to suspected overdose calls.

The third pathway is post-overdose outreach. With assistance from the Police Department, the support team initiates home visits to individuals who have survived a suspected overdose.

Through empathy, compassion and informational guidance, the team's mission is to help break the cycle of addiction. With "lived experience," two certified peer support specialists can meet you where you are to help start your chosen path to recovery.

After a brief assessment, the team provides support and guidance and can help make a connection to care that you feel is most appropriate. Loved ones who support someone struggling with substance use often can benefit from support, too.

The team provides informational guidance and connections to community resources, including family-centered mutual aid groups and counseling services.

For more information, email [opioids@cityofmyrtlebeach.com](mailto:opioids@cityofmyrtlebeach.com) or call 843-918-1600. See the detailed brochure above for direct contacts for each team member.

843-918-1600  
**Community Support Team**



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

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](mailto:dearcitycouncil@cityofmyrtlebeach.com).



## PROGRESS REPORT

Autumn 2023

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# PROGRESS REPORT

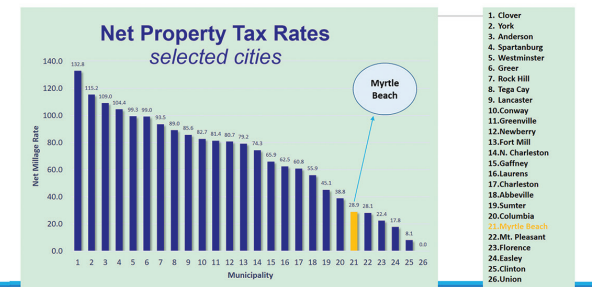
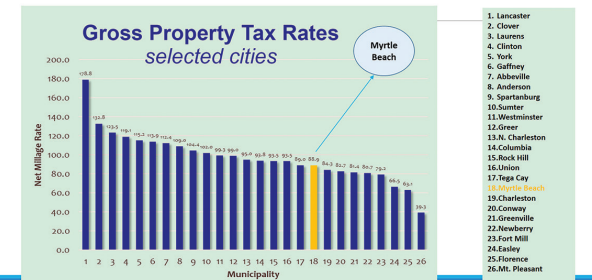
## Annual Report: Fiscal Year 2022-23

### Taxes remain flat in 2023-24 after boost in 2022 for police

Myrtle Beach's total budget for Fiscal Year 2023-24 is \$358.2 million, achieved without a property tax increase. The city's *ad valorem* tax rate remained stable in the new year, although some fees did increase beginning July 1.

The previous year's budget of \$292 million saw a 10 mill tax increase to fund 25 new police officers and 22 other positions to accommodate growth. Still, Myrtle Beach's property taxes are among the lowest in the state.

#### Property Tax Comparison



This year, the property tax rate remains unchanged at 88.9 mills, and owner-occupied homes continue to receive the 67.45 percent credit on their taxes. That's \$600 per year in savings on a home valued at \$250,000, courtesy of the Tourism Development Fee.

Sign up for the weekly **Friday Fax** email to receive meetings and agendas for the coming week, along with city-related news and events. Visit <http://eepurl.com/idi4uX> to put your address on the Friday Fax list. Like and visit our Facebook page, too: [www.facebook.com/myrtlebeachcitygovernment](https://www.facebook.com/myrtlebeachcitygovernment).



The former Broadway movie house and two retail stores will become a 300-seat theater on Main Street in the A&I District as part of Myrtle Beach's Downtown Master Plan.

## Infrastructure work begins for A&I District

Work is underway on a \$34 million infrastructure project for Myrtle Beach's Arts & Innovation District. The project lays the groundwork for transformation into a lively destination for both residents and visitors.

You won't see much yet, as the first two projects are a stormwater pond off Balsam Street and a sewer pump station on Sixth Avenue North. The public is likely to notice limited road work and detours later this fall, when underground utility work begins.

The four-year scope of work covers new streetscapes, underground utilities and the realignment of Oak Street as the throughway, replacing Broadway Street. Also included in construction are new water and sewer lines and stormwater systems to handle growth.

...see A & I Work, page 3



ARTS & INNOVATION  
MYRTLE BEACH



## FY 2022-23 capital projects improved public spaces

During the fiscal year which ended June 30, 2023, the City of Myrtle Beach budgeted \$62.5 million for new capital projects. The total includes roads, utilities, a downtown theater, building maintenance and more, but last year’s work was most visible in our parks, playgrounds and other public spaces, as the following list illustrates.

- Installed new modular restrooms at Valor Memorial Garden and Midway Memorial Park.
- Replaced dune walkovers damaged by Hurricane Ian, in addition to regular crossover replacements each winter.
- Installed a Splash Pad, new playground, walking trail, fitness equipment and Story Walk at Futrell Park.
- Created New Town Bark Park, with separate areas for large and small dogs.
- Created Swashbuckler Disc Golf Course at Withers Swash.
- Replaced field turf on three fields at Grand Park Complex.
- Funded several new murals in the Arts & Innovation District.
- Improved both of the city-owned cemeteries, with new fencing and landscaping.



JOIN THE

CITY OF MYRTLE BEACH'S

EMERGENCY ALERT SYSTEM

MB Alerts

Powered By: Regroup

Mass Notification

register now

SCAN QR CODE OR VISIT [www.myrtlebeachfire.com/copy-of-emergency-manager](http://www.myrtlebeachfire.com/copy-of-emergency-manager)

## Emergency alert system welcomes subscribers

In its first year, 5,700 people have signed up for Myrtle Beach Alerts, our citywide alert system. The customizable program sends alerts by text message, email, phone call or all three, if that’s what you want.

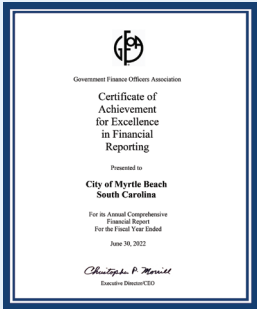
The free service alerts subscribers to information on 12 different subjects, including hurricanes, tropical storms, other severe weather, public safety, public health, public works, road closures and beach alerts.

MB Alerts is available in more than 80 languages, and users can select “quiet times,” through account preferences, to avoid disturbances at specific hours.

To subscribe to MB Alerts: Powered by Regroup, visit <https://bit.ly/MBAlertsSignUp> or follow the QR code on the graphic above.

## Myrtle Beach Awards and Recognitions

- ◆ Charlie’s Place was named to the **Beach Music Hall of Fame** during the 28th annual Beach Music Awards Ceremony in November 2022. The Hall of Fame is for groups and individuals who promote and preserve Beach Music.
- ◆ The City of Myrtle Beach received its 26th annual **Tree City USA Award** in December 2022. 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 will receive its 35th annual “**Certificate for Excellence in Financial Reporting**” from the Government Finance Officers Association for the city’s Comprehensive Annual Financial Report for 2021-22.



## Water & Sewer Rate Comparison

Based on ¾ inch meter and 7,500 gallons used per month

Utility/Community	Water	Sewer	Total
Sullivan's Island	\$55.82	\$111.09	\$166.90
Isle of Palms	\$44.63	\$87.13	\$131.75
Charleston Water System	\$30.45	\$104.86	\$135.31
Mt. Pleasant Waterworks	\$51.16	\$73.24	\$124.39
Dorchester County	\$53.54	\$56.20	\$109.74
Beaufort-Jasper	\$37.00	\$65.78	\$102.78
Berkley County	\$44.58	\$44.00	\$88.58
Hilton Head Island PSD	\$27.53	\$33.50	\$61.03
North Myrtle Beach	\$31.61	\$33.12	\$64.73
City of Myrtle Beach	\$21.67	\$35.95	\$57.62
Summerville Public Works	\$26.35	\$24.00	\$50.35
Grand Strand Water & Sewer	\$22.73	\$27.88	\$50.70

Average cost for other communities...  
Average cost for City of Myrtle Beach...

Water \$40.64 Sewer \$63.33 Total \$103.97  
Water \$21.67 Sewer \$35.95 Total \$57.62

Myrtle Beach’s water and sewer rates compare favorably with other jurisdictions’ rates. These totals include our blended 4.6 percent rate increase, which took effect this fiscal year.

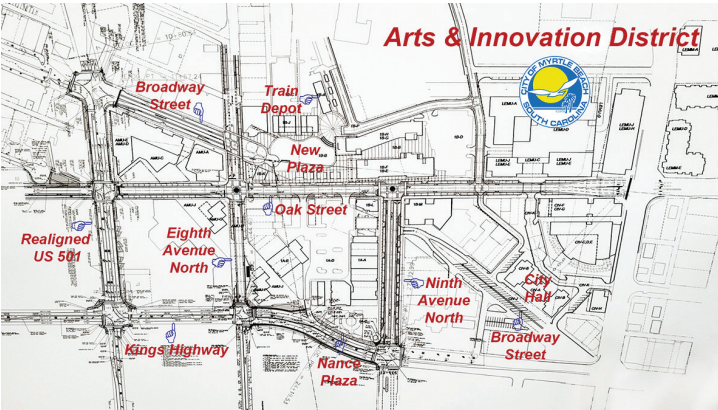
## A&I work creates new spaces and opportunities downtown

...continued from page 1

Streets and sidewalks will be transformed, too, for greater walkability and multimodal uses. Final paving surfaces throughout the district are expected in Spring 2026.

The realignment of US 501 will occur simultaneously with this work, beginning in early 2024. US 501’s straightening is a RIDE III project, managed by the SC Department of Transportation.

The Arts & Innovation District will include city offices, a museum or two, a 300-seat theater and a new city park for events and activities. Vibrant destinations will generate additional customers to support new dining, retail, living and entertainment options.



Realigned roads, new streetscapes and underground utilities will transform the Arts & Innovation District in the next few years.

Starting Tuesday, 10/3/2023

Residential Convenience Center Hours

Tuesday - Friday 3pm-6pm

Saturday 10am-2pm

MUST PROVIDE PROOF OF RESIDENCY

Current Utility Bill and Drivers License OR Current Parking Decal

Self-Load

3221 Mr. Joe White Ave Myrtle Beach, SC 29577

A partir del martes, 10/3/2023

Horario del Centro de Conveniencia Residencial

Martes - Viernes 3pm-6pm

Sábado 10am-2pm

DEBE PROPORCIONAR PRUEBA DE RESIDENCIA

Factura de servicios públicos actual y Licencia de conducir

Autocarga

3221 Mr. Joe White Ave Myrtle Beach, SC 29577

## Hours extended at Jake Abraham Transfer Station

Residential customers now have greater access to the Jake Abraham Solid Waste Transfer Station. Hang tags shown above appeared on solid waste pelicans to announce the change.

Myrtle Beach residents may use the transfer station at 3221 Mr. Joe White Avenue from 3:00 to 6:00 p.m., Tuesday through Friday, and from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. on Saturdays.

This allows city residents more time to drop off recyclables, bulky junk, yard waste and similar items on their own schedule, rather than waiting for weekly pickup at curbside.

You must provide proof of residency to use the transfer station. Just show your current utility bill and driver’s license or parking decal.

Previously, the transfer station was open to the public only on Friday. For more information about Solid Waste services, call 843-918-2160.



## WWII Memorial rising

A World War II Memorial is taking shape at Warbird Park. The 2,000-square-foot project honors the men and women of the “greatest generation” for defending freedom globally.

It also recognizes Myrtle Beach’s role in the war effort from 1941-1947, when the city hosted the Myrtle Beach Army Air Field.

Dedication ceremonies for the completed memorial will be held in early November 2023.

## Hear local history first-hand from our citizens who lived it

Myrtle Beach’s oral history series, “Through the Lens of Time,” is back for a second year with a new lineup of local guest speakers.

Here’s your chance to learn about Myrtle Beach’s early days from the people who lived through them.

Former City Council member Wayne Gray kicked off the fall program in September with a packed house at Chapin Memorial Library. He kept the audience spellbound for 90 minutes.

The history program features one speaker per month, through May 2024. See the speakers’ names and dates, below.

All presentations are at 2:00 p.m. on a Wednesday at Chapin Memorial Library. The program is free, of course.

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

THROUGH THE LENS OF TIME: MYRTLE BEACH HISTORY SERIES

Wednesdays at 2:00 p.m.

Chapin Memorial Library, 14th Avenue North

Wayne Gray, September 20

Edgerton Burroughs, January 17

Tom Davis, October 18

Carolyn & Russ Mates, February 21

Jasper Ramsey, November 15

Cecil Patrick & Family, March 20

Kathryn Hedgepath, December 6

John Skeeter, April 17

Bo Bryan, May 15, 2024