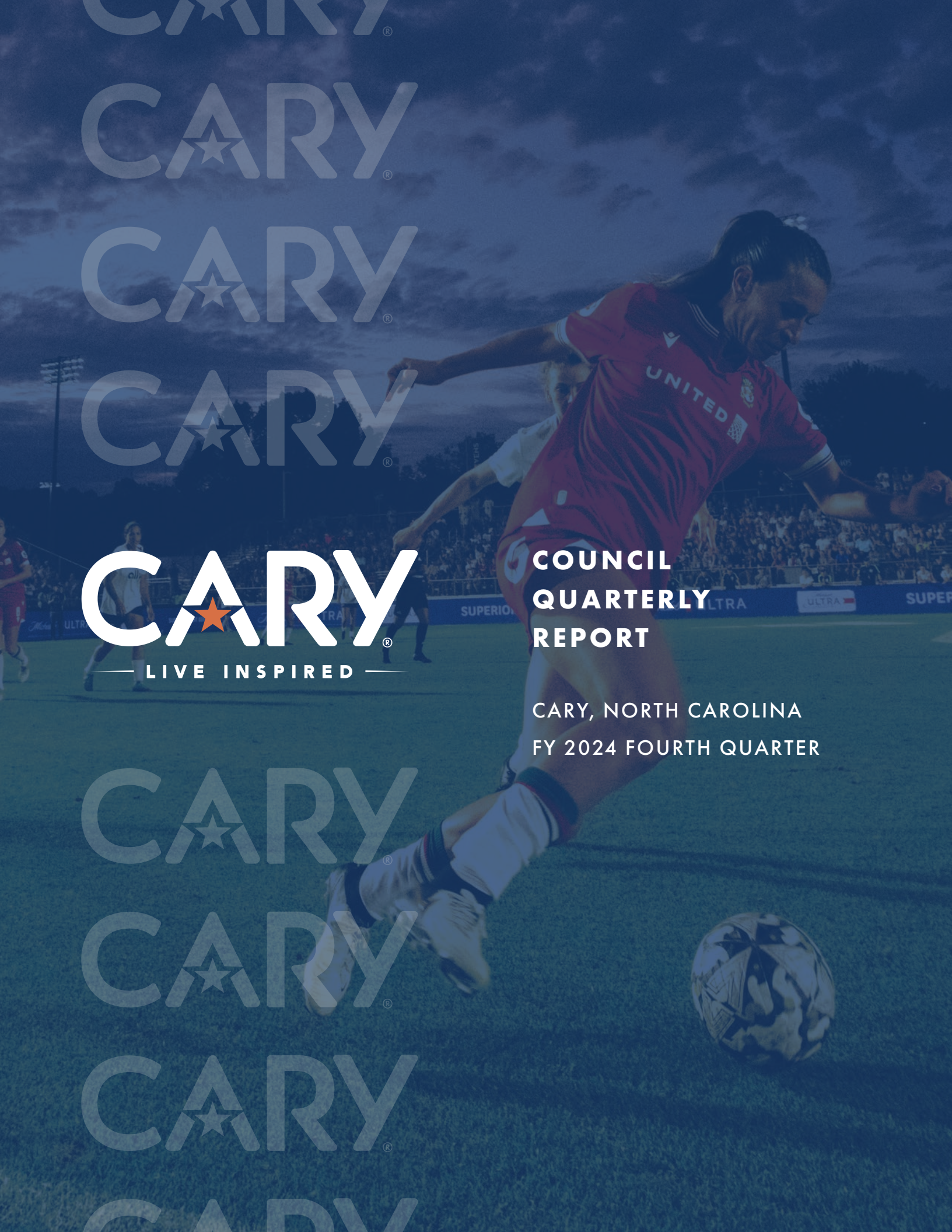




**COUNCIL
QUARTERLY
REPORT**

CARY, NORTH CAROLINA
FY 2024 FOURTH QUARTER



CARY MAYOR & COUNCILMEMBERS

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED LEADERSHIP, VISION, AND SETTING THE CULTURE OF EXCELLENCE FOR OUR ORGANIZATION AND COMMUNITY. WE LOOK FORWARD TO WORKING WITH EACH OF YOU TO KEEP CARY CARY.



Mayor
Harold Weinbrecht



Mayor Pro Tem
Jennifer Bryson Robinson



Councilmember
Carissa Kohn-Johnson



Councilmember
Jack Smith



Councilmember
Lori Bush



Councilmember
Michelle Craig



Councilmember
Sarika Bansal

On the cover: More than 42,000 soccer fans from around the world attended The Soccer Tournament in June at WakeMed Soccer Park, where players competed for a \$1 million winner-take-all prize.

AS WE CLOSE OUT THE FOURTH QUARTER, FY 2024 REFLECTS CARY'S NEW ERA OF MATURATION AND THE ASSOCIATED FINANCIAL REALITIES PROJECTED IN THE IMAGINE CARY COMMUNITY PLAN.

For many years, we relied on revenue generated by unprecedented development growth to fund new projects and initiatives for the community. While development in Cary continues, and redevelopment becomes more prevalent, revenue in these areas is strong but not comparable to what we've experienced in the last three decades. Additionally, market conditions are resulting in increased costs for core services, as well as reduced revenue growth. Reflecting on this quarter and year, it is clear we have entered a new financial reality, one that will continue to shape our future, bringing both challenges and opportunities for us as a community.

In this new landscape, managing our expenditures is paramount. This is reflected in our FY 2025 budget, which focuses on ensuring Cary remains well-positioned for the future, including investment in priority areas without further expansion, while maintaining services. These priorities, determined by Council and citizens, included housing, parks, and environmental sustainability in Q4.

A major milestone this quarter was adopting the Urban Forest Master Plan, a 10-year strategy for stewarding and growing our tree canopy. This plan underscores our commitment to enhancing our urban environment and engaging our citizens through programs like My Tree, Our Tree, which added 1,000 trees to our canopy this spring. Additionally, Council approved a plan for over \$7.2 million for affordable housing, facilitating the construction of new units and preserving existing homes to ensure a high quality of life for all residents.

We also celebrated the opening of the USA Baseball Training Facility, a state-of-the-art venue built with sustainability in mind. This facility promises to be a hub for player development and community engagement. Furthermore, the conversion of fields 3 and 4 to artificial turf marks a significant upgrade, allowing for increased usage and reduced maintenance. All upgrades to the USA Baseball National Training Complex leveraged private dollars from community partners. Cary's commitment to sports excellence was also highlighted by hosting The Soccer Tournament at WakeMed Soccer Park for the second year in a row. This, among other events held this quarter, showcases our top-tier facilities.

As we move into the next budget year, we must ask ourselves difficult questions about our priorities and be willing to adapt our behaviors to align with our financial realities. It is through this introspection and prudent decision-making that we will continue to thrive as a community. In the spirit of resilience and forward-thinking that defines Cary, I am confident we can navigate these changes together, ensuring that Cary remains a great place to live, work, and play.

We look forward to sharing more updates at our next quarterly meeting on Aug. 8 at Courtyard by Marriott.

In appreciation,

Sean R. Stegall

Sean R. Stegall
Town Manager



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FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

FY 2024

Q4

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This financial snapshot presents a general overview of the financial operations through Q4 of fiscal year 2024, ending June 30, 2024. The financial summaries provide comparative data for revenues and expenditures for the General and Utility funds. The data shows year-to-date information as of the same period the prior year. The results in this report are unaudited and will vary from the results in the FY 2024 Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR), which is distributed to Council in December. The following results are limited by the data available at the time, as not all revenues for the year will be known until late summer. This reality is consistent with previous Q4 financial reports.

In Q4, trends were consistent with projections discussed in previous quarters, particularly regarding the slowdown in sales tax revenue growth and a decrease in revenue from permits and fees. At the same time, expenditures increased from the previous year due primarily to inflation’s impact on operations and personnel costs. All the while, the results have remained within budget boundaries. These patterns align with expectations and have been factored into the development of the FY 2025 budget. Significant changes from the previous year are mentioned in this report.

Despite these signs that Cary is becoming a more mature community, we remain committed to investing in key priority areas, including housing, public safety, parks, stormwater management, and environmental initiatives. These areas are critical to the community’s well-being and sustainability, and Cary is dedicated to maintaining support for these community values.

The FY 2025 budget, adopted on June 27, was a focus this quarter. To recap, the \$497.4 million budget adjusts Cary’s tax rate to \$0.325 per every \$100 of assessed valuation. On the Utility Fund side, the budget includes a 3% increase in utility rates.

Cary’s proactive adjustments in the FY 2025 budget demonstrate commitment to fiscal responsibility while still addressing the needs of the community. By aligning our budget with the current economic realities, Cary aims to provide stability and continued investment in the areas that matter most to residents. Cary’s team continues to consider the holistic financial picture, of past and present performance, which strengthens the ability to develop a recommended budget that Cary can sustain into the future.



GENERAL FUND

FY 2024 Q4 GENERAL FUND SUMMARY

	FY 2024 YTD ADJ BUDGET	FY 2024 YTD ACTUAL	% OF BUDGET	FY 2023 YTD ACTUAL	CHANGE FROM PRIOR YEAR (\$)	CHANGE FROM PRIOR YEAR (%)
REVENUES	\$ 297.5	\$ 241.1	81%	\$ 207.7	\$ 33.4	16%
EXPENDITURES	297.5	254.2	85%	249.2	5.0	2%
TOTAL REVENUE OVER/(UNDER) EXPENDITURES	\$ -	\$ (13.1)	-	\$ (41.5)	\$ 28.4	-68%

*The above and following tables are represented in millions. Revenues, authorized expenditures, and transfers between funds are classified and summarized differently for the Council budget ordinance and for accounting and reporting purposes. Individual line items are consistent. The annual budgets referred to throughout this report reflect the budget as of the quarter end as adjusted (ADJ) by Council action or staff action where authorized.

Overall, General Fund net results improved significantly compared with Q4 of last year. Based on previously highlighted revenue and expenditure trends that will become the new norm, financial management has committed to a timelier reconciliation of accounts to prepare sooner for year-end. Significant changes within the General Fund are discussed in the following section.



FY 2024 Q4 GENERAL FUND REVENUES

	FY 2024 YTD ADJ BUDGET	FY 2024 YTD ACTUAL	% OF BUDGET	FY 2023 YTD ACTUAL	CHANGE FROM PRIOR YEAR (\$)	CHANGE FROM PRIOR YEAR (%)
PROPERTY TAX	\$ 122.2	\$ 122.4	100%	\$ 119.4	\$ 3.0	3%
OTHER TAXES & LICENSES	66.0	46.4	70%	45.4	1.0	2%
INTERGOVERNMENTAL	12.0	11.0	92%	10.0	1.0	10%
PERMITS & FEES	5.7	3.7	65%	4.7	(1.0)	-21%
SALES & SERVICES	26.2	26.0	99%	24.6	1.4	6%
MISCELLANEOUS	2.3	2.0	87%	2.1	(0.1)	-5%
OPERATING REVENUES	234.4	211.5	90%	206.2	5.3	3%
NONOPERATING	63.1	29.6	47%	1.5	28.1	>100%
TOTAL GENERAL FUND REVENUES	\$ 297.5	\$ 241.1	81%	\$ 207.7	\$ 33.4	16%

General Fund revenues saw an increase of 16%. While most revenues remained fairly consistent, Permits and Fees revenue saw an overall decline.



Property Tax revenue, the largest revenue source for the General Fund, representing 41% of the budget, saw an increase of 3% compared with Q4 of last year. Taxes are based on an ad valorem tax levy on real and personal property. Real property taxes were billed in July 2023 and due no later than Jan. 5, 2024. Cary has realized 100% of budgeted revenue as of Q4. These collections were based on the \$0.345 property tax rate.

Sales Tax, included with Other Taxes and Licenses, is the second largest revenue source in the General Fund’s budget, comprising nearly 25% of total budgeted revenues. Cary is beginning to see a slowdown in sales tax revenue after several years of double-digit growth. Municipalities receive final sales tax distributions about two and a half months after year-end. Current sales tax projections suggest this revenue will end the year at \$58.2 million, which would be a 2% increase over FY 2023 collections and a 7% decrease from the FY 2024 budget. Moving forward into the FY 2025 budget, staff has budgeted a conservative 3% growth rate to recognize the significant downturn of sales tax revenue growth over the past year.

Intergovernmental revenue increased by 10% over the prior year. Utility sales tax, seized drug fund, and school resource officer revenue increased by about \$1 million over the same period last year. Cary received about \$33,000 more per school resource officer than in FY 2023. Also, as the federal government is working through the COVID-19 backlog, revenue from seized drug funds has grown in FY 2024.

Permits and Fees revenue decreased by 21% due mainly to a recent state law change that prohibits Cary from collecting watershed maintenance fees.



FY 2024 Q4 GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURES

	FY 2024 YTD ADJ BUDGET	FY 2024 YTD ACTUAL	% OF BUDGET	FY 2023 YTD ACTUAL	CHANGE FROM PRIOR YEAR (\$)	CHANGE FROM PRIOR YEAR (%)
GENERAL GOVERNMENT	\$ 73.7	\$ 62.2	84%	\$ 45.9	\$ 16.3	36%
PUBLIC SAFETY	76.1	77.4	102%	67.2	10.2	15%
OPERATIONS (PW & PRCR)	69.4	64.2	93%	59.7	4.5	8%
DEVELOPMENT & INFRASTRUCTURE	23.6	17.9	76%	16.0	1.9	12%
OPERATING EXPENDITURES	242.8	221.7	91%	188.8	32.9	17%
NONOPERATING	34.0	32.5	96%	60.4	(27.9)	-46%
TOTAL GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURES	\$ 276.8	\$ 254.2	92%	\$ 249.2	\$ 5.0	2%

Overall General Fund expenditures increased by 2% over last year and are currently at 92% of the FY 2024 budget. A 17% increase in operating expenditures was offset by a 46% decrease in nonoperating expenditures. Operating expenditures include items such as personnel, contracted services, and vehicles. General Government expenditures increased primarily due to Downtown Cary Park operations at \$5.3 million, additional Research and Development and Marketing contractor services at \$4.6 million, and additional IT contractor services at \$3 million. These contractor expenditures are primarily related to townwide system enhancements and staffing of the Information Technology group. The increase in Public Safety is primarily from the timing of new police vehicle purchases and additional police department head count versus FY 2023.

Nonoperating expenditures include items such as fund transfers to and from capital and debt, based largely on the timing of projects. The decrease this year is directly linked to the timely reconciliation/close of capital projects and funds being transferred back to the General Fund.

Encumbrances represent funds that have been reserved to satisfy a commitment to make a purchase. After considering year-to-date spending and outstanding encumbrances listed on the following chart, the General Fund is about \$8.2 million less than budget.

**GENERAL FUND OPERATIONS —
FY 2024 REMAINING
ENCUMBRANCES (Q4)**

GENERAL GOVERNMENT	\$	6,869,968
PUBLIC SAFETY		456,703
OPERATIONS (PW & PRCR)		4,520,531
DEVELOPMENT & INFRASTRUCTURE		1,527,643
NONOPERATING		979,346
TOTAL ENCUMBRANCES	\$	14,354,191



UTILITY FUND

FY 2024 Q4 UTILITY FUND SUMMARY

	FY 2024 YTD ADJ BUDGET	FY 2024 YTD ACTUAL	% OF BUDGET	FY 2023 YTD ACTUAL	CHANGE FROM PRIOR YEAR (\$)	CHANGE FROM PRIOR YEAR (%)
REVENUES	\$ 105.3	\$ 87.3	83%	\$ 84.6	\$ 2.7	3%
EXPENDITURES	105.3	90.9	86%	85.9	5.0	6%
TOTAL REVENUE OVER/(UNDER) EXPENDITURES	\$ -	\$ (3.6)	-	\$ (1.3)	\$ (2.3)	>100%

*The above table is in millions. Revenues, authorized expenditures, and transfers between funds are classified and summarized differently for the Council budget ordinance and for accounting and reporting purposes. Individual line items are consistent. The annual budgets referred to throughout this report reflect the budget as of the quarter end as adjusted (ADJ) by Council action or staff action where authorized.

Overall, the Utility Fund’s net results through Q4 have declined by \$2.3 million compared with FY 2023 since the increase in expenditures exceeded the growth in revenues.

FY 2024 Q4 UTILITY FUND REVENUES

	FY 2024 YTD ADJ BUDGET	FY 2024 YTD ACTUAL	% OF BUDGET	FY 2023 YTD ACTUAL	CHANGE FROM PRIOR YEAR (\$)	CHANGE FROM PRIOR YEAR (%)
WATER SERVICE	\$ 34.8	\$ 32.6	94%	\$ 32.2	\$ 0.4	1%
SEWER SERVICE	53.6	50.6	94%	49.2	1.4	3%
PERMITS & FEES	2.0	2.3	115%	2.1	0.2	10%
OPERATING REVENUES	90.4	85.5	95%	83.5	2.0	2%
NONOPERATING	14.9	1.8	12%	1.1	0.7	64%
TOTAL UTILITY FUND REVENUES	\$ 105.3	\$ 87.3	83%	\$ 84.6	\$ 2.7	3%

Utility Fund operating revenues increased slightly from FY 2023. This is expected due to the 3% water and sewer rate increase included in this year’s budget. The new rate equates to an estimated \$2.57 per month increase in a family of four’s total utility bill.

Nonoperating revenues also increased slightly this fiscal year due to more investment earnings as interest rates have risen compared with FY 2023.



FY 2024 Q4 UTILITY FUND EXPENDITURES

	FY 2024 YTD ADJ BUDGET	FY 2024 YTD ACTUAL	% OF BUDGET	FY 2023 YTD ACTUAL	CHANGE FROM PRIOR YEAR (\$)	CHANGE FROM PRIOR YEAR (%)
ADMINISTRATION	\$ 14.7	\$ 12.1	82%	\$ 10.5	\$ 1.6	15%
FIELD OPERATIONS	21.9	18.9	86%	17.3	1.6	9%
WASTEWATER (NET OF APEX)	17.8	12.9	72%	11.2	1.7	15%
WATER TREATMENT FACILITY (NET OF APEX)	13.5	10.4	77%	10.3	0.1	1%
OPERATING EXPENDITURES	67.9	54.3	80%	49.3	5.0	10%
NONOPERATING	37.4	36.6	98%	36.6	0.0	0%
TOTAL UTILITY FUND EXPENDITURES	\$ 105.3	\$ 90.9	86%	\$ 85.9	\$ 5.0	6%

Utility operating expenses increased 10% this fiscal year, mainly due to inflation-related increases in supplies and wage costs in Administration, Field Operations, and Wastewater. Overall, current utility fund expenditures ended the year at 86% of budgeted amounts.

The following table shows the outstanding encumbrances for the Utility Fund. After accounting for year-to-date spending and encumbrances, the Utility Fund has about \$9 million in the budget for use for the remainder of the year.

UTILITY FUND OPERATIONS —
FY 2024 REMAINING
ENCUMBRANCES (Q4)

ADMINISTRATION	\$ 1,050,121
FIELD OPERATIONS	1,038,754
WASTEWATER (NET OF APEX)	310,626
WATER TREATMENT PLANT (NET OF APEX)	2,698,558
NONOPERATING	255,245
TOTAL ENCUMBRANCES	\$ 5,353,304

CAPITAL PROJECTS

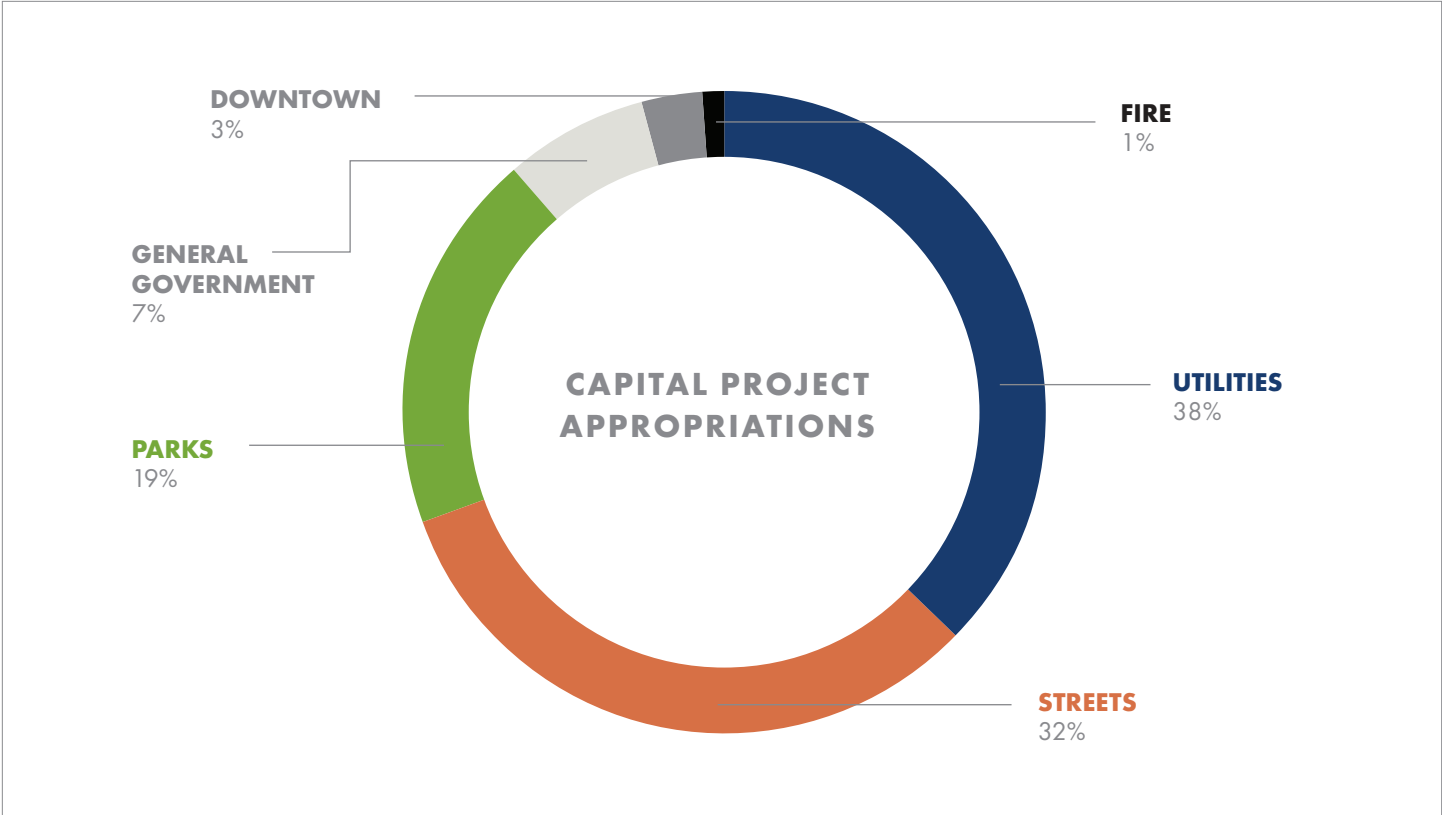
Cary has 545 active capital projects. General capital projects, with a total budget of \$699.4 million, make up 62% of the capital projects budget, and utility capital projects, with a total budget of \$421 million, make up 38%. This fiscal year Cary has spent \$156.8 million on capital projects.

The four largest capital investments this fiscal year are:

- \$21.3 million for the downtown Cary multimodal transit facility.
- \$12.7 million to build a parking deck at the corner of West Chatham Street and South Harrison Avenue in downtown Cary.
- \$10.5 million to build the Winding Pine Regional Pump Station. This station will replace the aging Kit Creek Pump Station that serves the northwest region of Cary.
- \$7 million to implement a new Oracle enterprise resource planning system. Oracle will consolidate and modernize Cary’s various information systems and is scheduled to go live in phases beginning in the fall of FY 2025.

CAPITAL PROJECT SPENDING THROUGH Q4 (IN MILLIONS)

	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024
DOWNTOWN	\$ 1.4	\$ 1.1	\$ 1.0	\$ 6.7	\$ 14.4
FIRE	5.4	1.9	1.8	0.2	4.3
GENERAL GOVERNMENT	6.2	10.6	5.7	12.2	26.3
PARKS	20.3	24.8	30.1	55.4	27.1
STREETS	11.7	21.3	22.5	24.5	47.4
UTILITIES	33.5	31.3	24.4	31.8	37.3
TOTAL	\$ 78.5	\$ 91.0	\$ 85.5	\$ 130.8	\$ 156.8



BUDGET

MIDYEAR APPROPRIATIONS

The FY 2024 operating budget includes \$1 million to support emerging or unforeseen needs arising during the fiscal year. These funds were not used during FY 2024. Additionally, Q4 saw no appropriations of General or Utility Capital Reserve fund balance for capital needs.

Q4 DELEGATED BUDGET AUTHORITY ACTION

Throughout the fiscal year, challenges and opportunities develop that warrant financial resources not included in the original budget. Staff can redirect existing resources to address the highest-priority initiatives. The budget ordinance authorizes the town manager to approve inter-functional budget adjustments and requires reporting to Council. The following table details end-of-year interfunctional transfers. These transfers within the General Fund represent a redirection of contingency funding in the nondepartmental function to all other functional areas to ensure that they would not exceed their budgetary authority.

BUDGET PUBLIC INPUT AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Citizens are invited to share their budget priorities throughout the year, including via social media, voicemail, and email. There were five public comments in support of affordable housing in the FY 2025 budget, five public comments regarding opposition to the FY 2025 budget’s effective tax rate increase, and one noted public comment against the future bond referendum.

PUBLIC INPUT

Citizens are invited to share their thoughts and priorities related to the budget through:

- Email: budgetinput@carync.gov
- Phone: 311
- X: [@caryncgov](https://twitter.com/caryncgov)
- Facebook: facebook.com/carync.gov
- Public Speaks Out during a regular Council meeting

Q4 INTER-FUNCTIONAL BUDGET ADJUSTMENTS

BUDGET TRANSFER FROM		BUDGET TRANSFER TO	
NONDEPARTMENTAL	\$ (17,364,148)	OPERATIONS (PW & PRCR)	\$ 5,666,712
		GENERAL GOVERNMENT	5,585,064
		DEVELOPMENT	1,706,007
		PUBLIC SAFETY	4,406,365
TOTAL 4TH QUARTER INTER-FUND AND INTER-FUNCTIONAL TRANSFERS	\$ (17,364,148)		\$ 17,364,148

CASH AND INVESTMENTS

Cary's cash and investments totaled about \$444 million for Q4, including approximately \$20.5 million of bond proceeds. Cary maintains daily liquidity accounts across different banking partners to ensure it has immediate access to funds. The bond proceeds are also maintained in daily liquidity accounts to support large bond-funded capital expenditures. The balance of Cary's investments is in fixed-income securities that, first, ensure the safety of the principal; second, provide quick access to additional funds for any unforeseen needs (liquidity); and finally, earn the maximum interest income. These securities are scheduled to mature in regular increments over the next three to four years to match projected disbursements for payroll and expenditures.

Cary's cash and investment program is overseen by a fixed-fee independent consultant. The financial advisors compile the weekly cash flow forecast and provide market insights, advice, and reporting quarterly.

DEBT

On June 20, 2024, Cary closed on an installment financing for approximately \$11.7 million to reimburse Cary for the purchase of vehicles. Cary has historically used installment financing to purchase vehicles, with the most recent examples occurring in 2018 and 2020. As a part of staff's routine review of fiscal activity, staff determined that funding 2024 purchases with short-term installment debt is a prudent financial action. Installment purchase financing, which is authorized under NCGS 160A-20, does not require voter approval as Cary's taxing power is not pledged as security for the debt.

The purchased vehicles will serve as collateral to secure the debt that was issued. These vehicles include 80 vehicles for Public Safety, 22 vehicles for Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Resources, 22 vehicles for Public Works, and nine vehicles for Inspections and Permits. This financing also reimbursed Cary for the purchase of two pumper fire trucks.

Cary intends to use installment financing to purchase future vehicles, and installment financing has been budgeted for FY 2025.





LIVE

FOSTERING STRONG NEIGHBORHOODS





AFFORDABLE HOUSING FUNDING

PHOTOGRAPHED BELOW

In April, Cary Town Council approved the 2024–2025 Cary Housing and Community Development Block Grant Annual Action Draft Plan, which recommends awards totaling over \$7.2 million. This blend of federal and local funds will facilitate the construction of 226 new affordable-housing units and the preservation of 29 existing affordable homes. The awards will also assist 446 people in maintaining housing stability and build organizational capacity for Cary nonprofits focusing on housing and community development. Cary submitted the draft plan to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development and received approval, including an increase in Cary’s federal funding this year. Rooted in partnerships and a people-first approach, this investment will further the goals of the Cary Housing Plan and the Imagine Cary Community Plan and ensure all Cary residents can enjoy the high quality of life Cary has to offer.





RESIDENTIAL PERMITS

Cary issued 109 permits for new detached residential homes and townhouses in Q4. The top subdivisions permitted were Alston Landing (20), Young Farm (17), Courtyards at Lochmere (17), and Mews at Preston Ridge (16). Although permits for detached homes and townhouses increased slightly, by three permits or 3%, from Q4 of FY 2023, overall permits decreased 28.29% compared with the three-year Q4 median of 152.

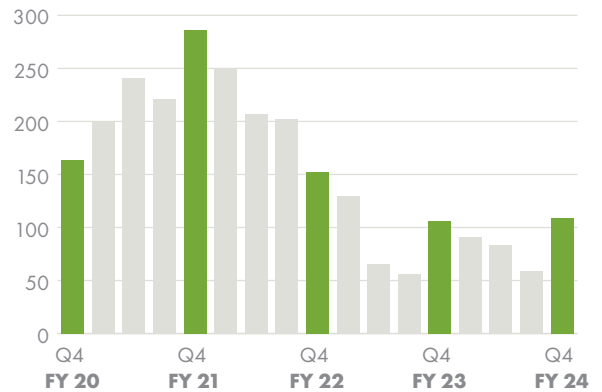
Cary issued 78 certificates of occupancy (COs) in Q4, an average of 1.2 certificates per workday. This number is 23.5% less than the 102 COs issued in Q4 of FY 2023 and less than half of the three-year Q4 median of 223. The subdivisions receiving the most COs were Courtyards at West Cary (9708 Morrisville Parkway) with 24, Young Farm (404 Gilmore Bridge Drive) with 19, and Courtyards at Lochmere (5100 Lilly Atkins Road) with 11.

Cary also issued two permits for 143 multifamily units. These permits were for two of the eight planned buildings at the Alston Apartments site at 3025 Alston Manor St. — Building 1 (65 units) and Building 3 (78 units).

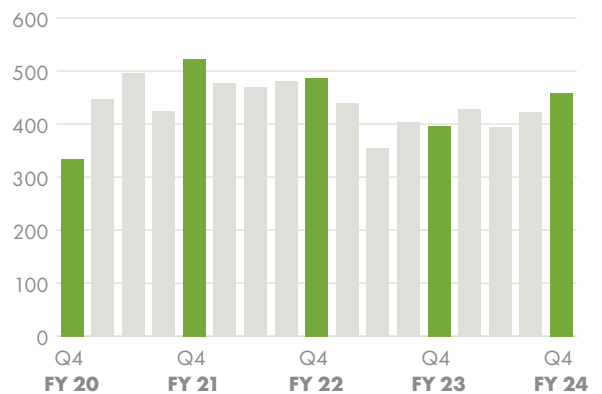
RESIDENTIAL ALTERATIONS AND ADDITIONS PERMITS

In Q4, Cary issued 483 permits for alterations and additions to existing single-family structures with the scope of these projects totaling 176,914 square feet. This is an increase of 62 permits, or 16.2%, from Q4 of last year. The average estimated construction cost, which is supplied by the contractor, was \$51,372, an increase of 2.2% from the three-year median of \$48,240.

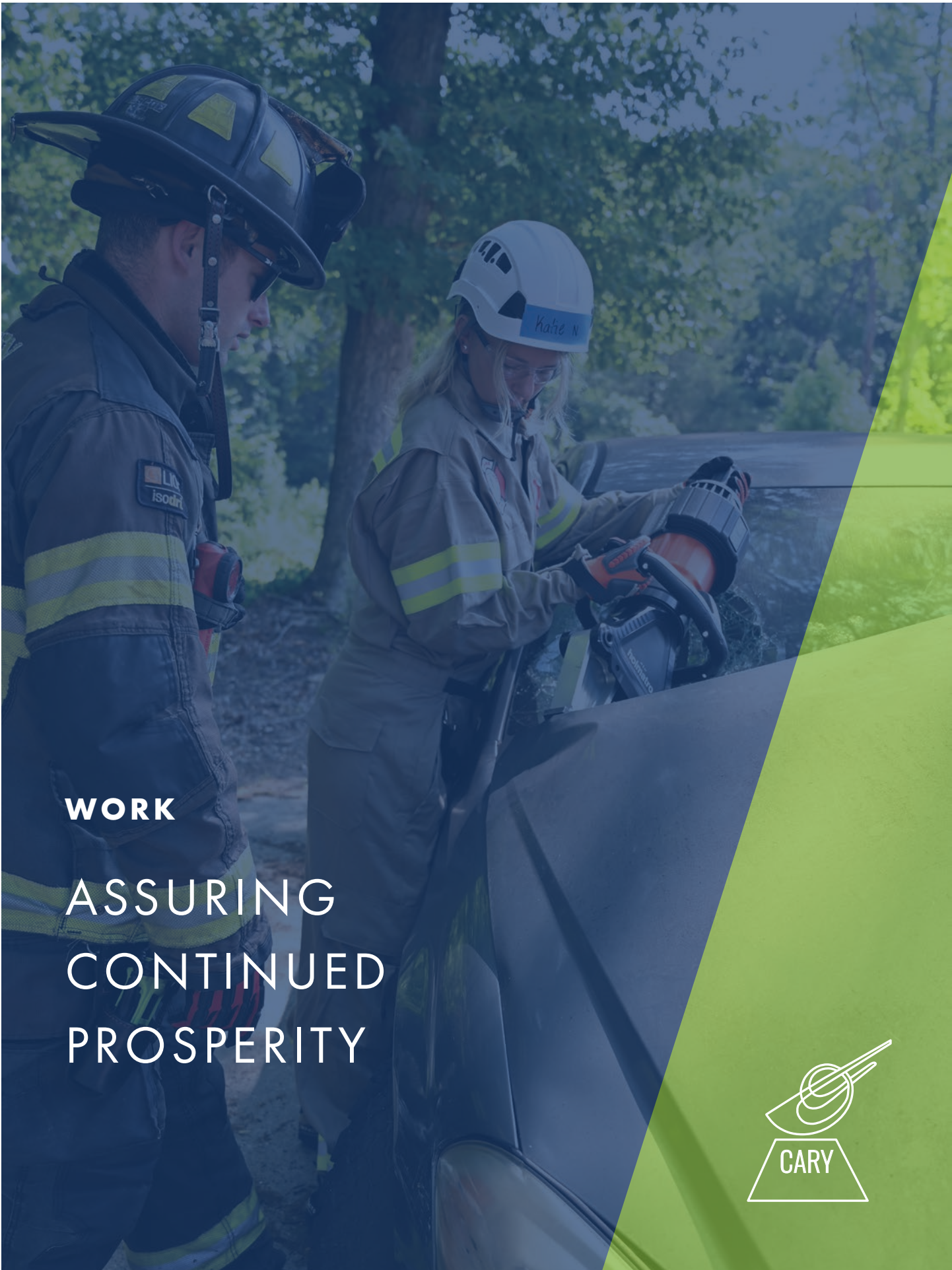
DETACHED RESIDENTIAL & TOWNHOUSE PERMITS ISSUED
5-YEAR COMPARISON



RESIDENTIAL ALTERATIONS & ADDITIONS
5-YEAR COMPARISON







WORK

**ASSURING
CONTINUED
PROSPERITY**





APPRECIATE THE BEST

PHOTOGRAPHED BELOW

This quarter, hundreds of employees enjoyed Cary's employee appreciation event, called Appreciate the Best, at the Cary Tennis Park. This special day was full of fun, appreciation, and camaraderie with games, food, visits from local mascots, including Wool-E-Bull and Ms. Wuf, and a slideshow honoring 169 staff members commemorating service milestones in 2024.





ENGAGE

EXPERIENCING THE
CARY COMMUNITY





CARY URBAN FOREST MASTER PLAN ADOPTED

A milestone moment for Cary's Urban Forestry program occurred this quarter with the adoption of the Urban Forest Master Plan. More than two years in the making, the 10-year strategy sets the framework for the future of Cary's trees and forests, identifying priorities and providing guidance on stewarding and growing Cary's tree canopy.



This strategy aims to improve the quality of trees and forests within Cary while promoting partnerships and collaborations that will engage citizens. My Tree, Our Tree this spring helped add 1,000 trees to Cary's urban canopy, bringing the total trees distributed through the program to over 5,900 trees.



USA BASEBALL TRAINING FACILITY OPENS



On April 13, Cary and USA Baseball officially opened a training facility at USA Baseball National Training Complex. The facility includes about 22,000 square feet of covered, full-sized infield that can be converted into eight pitching/batting lanes, 14,000 square feet of office and warehouse space, and 5,000 square feet to include Cary staff offices, a classroom, and other facility support spaces.

Following Cary's Green Initiatives, the project included 301 solar roof panels to reduce energy consumption by 60%, low-flow plumbing features and landscaping to reduce water consumption by 35%, and utilities to make 54 parking spaces ready for electric vehicle charging stations. Looking ahead, this facility promises to be instrumental in shaping the future of baseball and softball, serving as a hub for player and coach development, personalized instruction, and clinics, as well as exploring opportunities beyond baseball and softball.



USA BASEBALL TURF CONVERSION



With the help of inter-local and capital project funding, Cary built the 40,000 square foot USA Baseball National Training Complex at Thomas Brooks Park in 2007 to serve as the premier training venue in the United States for all youth baseball and softball skill levels. The facility also hosts elite amateur teams for spring training, tournaments, and professional exhibitions. Many of the participating teams are transitioning from grass to artificial turf to reduce maintenance costs, create schedule flexibility, and increase annual usage. This quarter, the conversion of fields 3 and 4 to artificial turf wrapped up. Work included the replacement of the underground drainage system, replacement of the bullpens and outfield fencing, and soil stabilization to reduce future maintenance costs.

Since opening in March and April, fields 3 and 4 have hosted the National High School Invitational, the end of the William Peace University baseball schedule, Cary youth leagues, NCAA practices for the Division II National Championship, and about 40 USA Baseball games. The two fields will increase baseball usage annually as well as provide other sporting possibilities, since existing grass fields can't sustain year-round play.

NEW AMENITIES AT MILLS PARK



Crews working on behalf of Cary recently completed phase 2 work for Mills Park to include new play features and restrooms. Because of the proximity of the middle school, Cary engaged the Cary Teen Council in the development of the design of the playground amenities. Design centered on creating spaces relevant to teens as well as younger children. The playground features a modern design using the landforms to spark interest and define spaces.





MISTING SCULPTURE AT CARPENTER FIRE STATION NEIGHBORHOOD PARK

PHOTOGRAPHED BELOW

In early April, the misting sculpture at Carpenter Fire Station Neighborhood Park was officially turned on for the season, to the delight of many of the neighborhood children and families. Oh, Deer! is freestanding artwork that is a geometric interpretation of the negative space of a deer spine found on-site when the artist and project team walked the parkland during the master plan stage in 2018. The sculpture is a series of seven hexagonal arches that parkgoers can walk through. The arches' brightly colored palette is derived from local deer-resistant flowers: marigolds, phlox, petunias, snapdragons, zinnias, and begonias. The sculpture is made of powder-coated steel, and each arch has a water-misting element that is activated by pressing a button on each arch.

The artwork reflects the community's wish to have nature featured in a colorful, modern way in the new park. Over the years, there was input from multiple community engagement sessions with local groups ranging from Green Hope High School students and Cameron Pond neighborhood residents to public open calls. In addition to the request for an overall modern, "fresh" vibe, there was repeated interest in incorporating a water feature in the artwork. Additionally, GHHS students requested that the artwork be "Instagrammable," or visually eye-catching for photographing and posting on social media.





THE SOCCER TOURNAMENT



June's six-day extravaganza of TST was nothing short of a triumph. The air buzzed with excitement as 42,436 soccer fans from around the world were immersed in a whirlwind of activities, from team activation areas to up-close player interactions. Behind the scenes, the sports turf team ensured the playing surfaces were first class and that setup and teardown ran smoothly before quickly transitioning to replacing the stadium field turf before the North Carolina Courage match on June 15.

NCAA DIVISION II BASEBALL NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

PHOTOGRAPHED BELOW

This quarter, Cary, the University of Mount Olive, USA Baseball, and the Greater Raleigh Sports Alliance hosted the NCAA Division II Baseball National Championship (World Series) for the 14th time in the past 16 years, and each year gets better. On June 8, in front of a crowd of 1,500 fans, Tampa University won the National Championship over defending champion Angelo State University. This eight-day event is a long week for staff. About 40 employees devoted hundreds of hours and a lot of sweat to make this one of the great feathers in Cary's cap. Fun facts: 20 home runs were hit over the weekend, and this makes the University of Tampa's ninth national championship in baseball.





DIVISION I WOMEN'S LACROSSE CHAMPIONSHIP

PHOTOGRAPHED RIGHT

Over Memorial Day weekend, WakeMed Soccer Park, in partnership with the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and the Greater Raleigh Sports Alliance, hosted the 2024 NCAA Division I Women's Lacrosse Championship. Staff from several departments teamed up to ensure this championship was a success. Boston College won the 2024 National Championship in front of 9,192 fans.



SPRING DAZE

PHOTOGRAPHED RIGHT

On April 27, over 15,000 attendees made their way to Bond Park for the 31st Spring Daze Arts and Crafts Festival. This year's festivities showcased the talents of 170 North Carolina-based artists, offerings from 17 Triangle-based food vendors, and all-day entertainment on three stages. Cary worked with food vendors to embrace an expanded low-waste initiative, supplying compostable service ware and deploying 20 new compost bins in addition to three staffed waste stations to ensure the success of the festival's green goals. Cary's Bike Valet, shuttles, and GoCary buses simplified the journey toward a greener footprint for attendees and vendors. The greenways booth emphasized user safety and etiquette. In an exciting addition to the Spring Daze lineup, Community Cove made its debut, uniting 15 local nonprofits to engage festivalgoers with interactive activities. Hundreds of Cary staff and community volunteers made Spring Daze not just an event but a celebration of community, creativity, and sustainability.





MEMORIAL DAY



On Memorial Day, hundreds of Cary residents gathered at Veterans Freedom Park to remember and honor the U.S. military personnel who have served or are still serving. Mayor Harold Weinbrecht read the proclamation, joined by Councilmembers Michelle Craig and Carissa Kohn-Johnson. Councilmember Jack Smith emceed the event, and Congressman Wiley Nickel delivered remarks. The event included a formal dedication of a Gold Star Families Memorial at the park coordinated by the Cary Garden Club, with powerful tributes by Gold Star mothers.

RITMO LATINO



On May 11, the 21st annual Ritmo Latino Festival brought Latin beats and delicious eats to downtown Cary as over 5,000 attendees enjoyed the beautiful weather and vibrant festival atmosphere. Presented by Diamante Arts and Cultural Center in partnership with the Cary, the Ritmo Latino Festival celebrates Latino/Hispanic cultures and offers music, dancing, food, and experiences to share these cultures with the Cary community.

PRIDE MONTH

Cary celebrated Pride Month in June with a host of programs and activities. Everyone could partake in the colors of Pride with the lighting of the Cary Arts Center façade and Downtown Cary Park. The Cary Theater highlighted the themes of acceptance and love with its Allies and Icons film series. Families had several opportunities to celebrate together, including an LGBTQ Night Market and Family Pride Picnic in Downtown Cary Park, as well as a Family Pride Ride hosted by Trek Cary and a special Pride Night at a North Carolina Courage game.

On June 18, Councilmembers Lori Bush and Michelle Craig attended a special Pride Month event at the Page-Walker Arts and History Center. The program celebrated the legacy of longtime Cary resident Sally Zumbach, a leader in advocating for the LGBTQ+ community. Zumbach was president of the Raleigh-Durham/Triangle Chapter of PFLAG (Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays) in the 1980s and was instrumental in forming the Cary chapter. Mark Zumbach and Debra Zumbach Grannan, her children, shared information about her life and impact on Cary's LGBTQ+ community. Following the discussion, Bush presented a commemorative plaque to the Zumbach family to recognize Sally's service to the community. The program was a joint effort of the Historic Preservation Commission; the Friends of Page-Walker; and the Human Relations, Inclusion, and Diversity Task Force.



CHILDREN'S DAY FESTIVAL

PHOTOGRAPHED BELOW

Over 3,000 attended the Children's Day Festival on April 20 at Downtown Cary Park. The joyous community event showcased the talents of area youth from diverse cultures — a truly international celebration by kids for kids. Councilmembers Carissa Kohn-Johnson, Sarika Bansal, and Michelle Craig, as well as N.C. Sen. Gale Adcock, attended the event, presented by the American Turkish Association of North Carolina and in partnership with Cary Sister Cities and The Cary Theater. American Turkish Association presenter Buket Aydemir and Bansal read the proclamation.

WHEELS ON ACADEMY



On May 18, Cary hosted the 11th annual Wheels on Academy car show at its new location on North Academy Street. Despite the dreary weather forecast, around 2,500 spectators came out to enjoy the event, which included over 50 vehicles with model years ranging from 1931 to 2024. A new addition this year was the Explore-an-EV area, where staff invited the community to learn about electric vehicles. Spectators explored eight electric vehicles from Cary's award-winning green fleet and discovered the environmental benefits of EVs.





SHAPE

GUIDING
COMMUNITY
GROWTH





FENTON KEEPS ROLLING

Following strong leasing activity and some new occupancies in the first half of 2024, Fenton’s first phase is approaching full occupancy. The Allison at Fenton apartments are 93% leased and 85% occupied. Fenton’s office space is 80% leased, with Prologis, Cushman & Wakefield, and Surety Systems all opening offices in Q4. Fenton has a total of 10 office tenants, including the newest addition, engineering firm Burns & McDonnell, which is under construction and scheduled to open in mid-August.

Three new retailers also opened their doors in Fenton in 2024, including Rejuvenation (high-end furniture and fixtures), Johnny Was (premium women’s clothing brand), and Nail Kitchen (beauty and nail salon). Fenton’s retail space is currently 93% leased with three new restaurants and a spa in design or construction.

In March 2024, the developer launched the construction of a new parking deck on the western side of the development and south of the theater along Ridgeview Walk Drive. This deck is expected to be complete in February 2025. In the interim, a temporary surface parking lot has been constructed next to Fenton Main Street and a valet service is being provided to all office tenants.

Fenton also announced a deal for a new hotel along Fenton Gateway Drive. The hotel will include about 180 rooms, a restaurant, café, and a rooftop pool terrace overlooking Fenton Main Street. The developer’s hotel partner, Mainsail, submitted its first design concept package to Cary for a pre-application meeting on June 5, 2024.

Finally, in early June, after completing the public bid process, Fenton retained Fred Smith Company to construct phase 2 of Quinard Road. This segment of Quinard will run from the existing roundabout at Ridgeview Walk and Quinard westward to Southeast Maynard Road. A grading permit for the project was issued on June 24, and construction is expected to be complete in the summer of 2025. Completion of this connection will provide important east-west access for both Fenton and the greater Eastern Cary Gateway Special Planning Area.





NONRESIDENTIAL PERMITS

In Q4, Cary issued permits for 10 nonresidential projects totaling 421,662 square feet. These projects represented an increase of 66.67% from the three-year median. The three largest projects were:

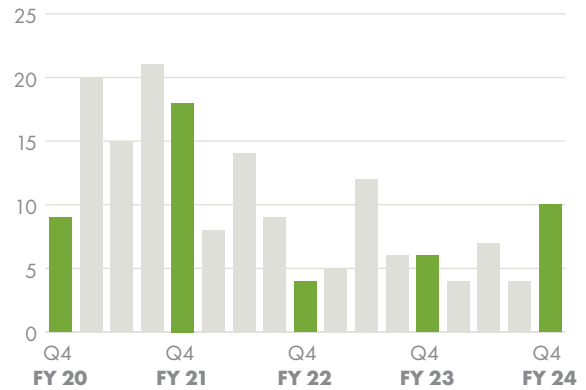
- Courtyard Residence Inn, 1623 N. Harrison Ave.: Seven stories and 185,667 square feet with 252 rooms.
- Cedar Street Parking Deck, 139 E. Chatham St.: Six stories and 115,746 square feet with 297 parking spaces and ground floor commercial.
- Residence Inn by Marriott, 103 Edinburgh South Drive: Five stories and 98,919 square feet with 122 rooms.

NONRESIDENTIAL ALTERATIONS AND ADDITIONS PERMITS

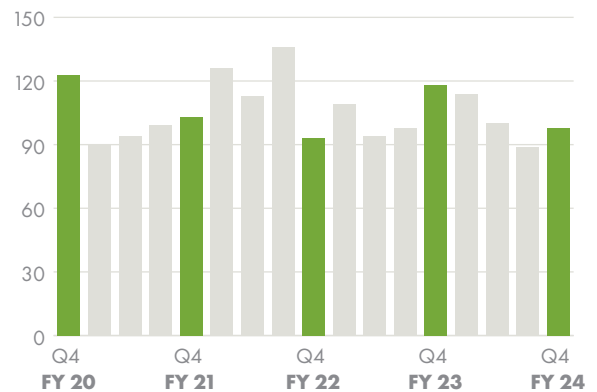
Cary issued 114 alteration and addition permits to existing nonresidential structures in Q4. The largest projects include:

- Accreditation Commission for Health Care (ACHC) offices, 139 Weston Oaks Court: Four-story addition and expansion adding 72,489 square feet.
- Glenaire, 5500 Glenhope Court: Large-scale renovations to a 28,969-square-foot building.
- Chick-fil-A, 1000 Valleystone Drive: Addition and alterations totaling 6,138 square feet.
- Cary Academy, 1500 N. Harrison Ave.: Renovation of a 39,073-square-foot middle school building.

NONRESIDENTIAL PERMITS ISSUED
5-YEAR COMPARISON



NONRESIDENTIAL ALTERATIONS & ADDITIONS
5-YEAR COMPARISON





REZONING

During Q4, two new rezoning cases were submitted and five cases were approved, totaling 80 acres:

- 22-REZ-04, Bel Canto at Green Level Destination Center PDP: 35.31 acres rezoned from Residential-40 to Mixed Use Development, allowing for a mixed-use development consisting of up to 700 multifamily dwelling units, 20,000 square feet of commercial, and 100,000 square feet of office.
- 22-REZ-14, Carpenter Fire at Highcroft PDD: 14.60 acres rezoned from Residential-40 to Planned Development District (Minor), allowing for a mixed-use development consisting of 300 multifamily units and 5,000 to 10,000 square feet of office.
- 22-REZ-23, Wackena Towns: 18.82 acres rezoned from Residential-8 Conditional Use to Transitional Residential Conditional Use, allowing for the development of 72 townhomes.
- 23-REZ-06, Woodfield Walnut PDP: 9.19 acres rezoned from General Commercial and Residential-40 to Mixed Use Development, allowing the development of up to 330 residential dwelling units.
- 23-REZ-11, 2500 Piney Plains Road: 2.08 acres rezoned from Residential-40 to Transitional Residential Conditional Use, allowing for the development of nine townhomes.

At the end of Q4, 25 active rezoning cases were at various points in the review process.

DEVELOPMENT PLANS

In Q4, Cary approved 34 development plans. Notable plans include:

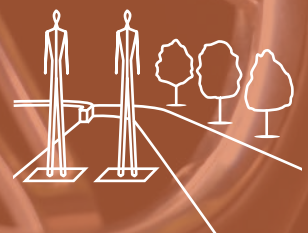
- Rose Park Manor (24-DP-6920), 128 S.W. Maynard Road: 81-unit multifamily development.
- Apollo 55 Townhomes (21-DP-5659), Howard Road and N.C. 55: Mixed-use development with 91 townhomes.
- Residence Inn Parkside Town Commons-Lot 8 (23-DP-2899), 1245 Parkside Main St.: Six-story, 134-room hotel.
- Twyla Road South – Commercial Outparcel (23-DP-8348), 6115 Morrisville Parkway: 2.03-acre commercial development.
- Lightbridge Academy (23-DP-5787), 655 Reedy Creek Road: Commercial outparcel for an 11,500-square-foot day care.

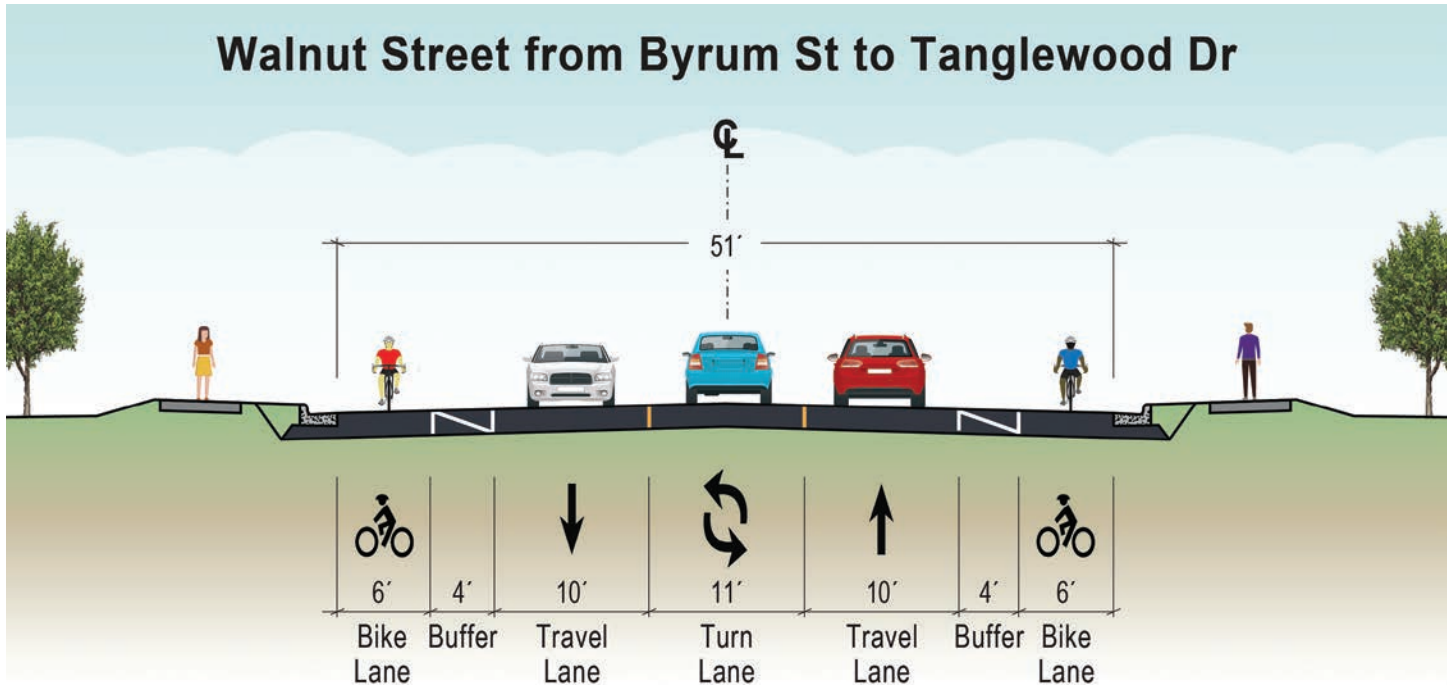
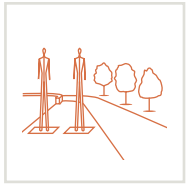


1952-1953
Wheels on Academy
Number: 6
Year: 1953
Make: Ford
Model: F100
Owner: Rawls, Chris

MOVE

PROVIDING TRANSPORTATION CHOICES





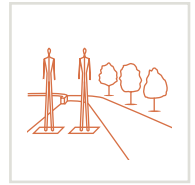
WALNUT STREET IMPROVEMENTS

PICTURED ABOVE

The initial phase of the Walnut Street Road Diet Project, which began this quarter, runs from Cary Towne Boulevard to Walker Street. The project is scheduled to be completed this summer and will enhance corridor safety with traffic-calming measures, such as reducing the number of vehicular lanes, providing buffered bike lanes to encourage alternate modes of transportation, and high-visibility pedestrian crossings. Future corridor improvements are also under consideration and will be developed as staff evaluates the effectiveness of the initial phase.

CRABTREE CREEK GREENWAY

Cary’s Crabtree Greenway Project is currently underway with support from a \$1.57 million federal Locally Administered Projects Program, or LAPP, grant. Managed by Lanier Construction Company, construction began in March and is scheduled for completion by winter 2025. When complete, the greenway will extend northward from Bond Park, passing under Cary Parkway and alongside the Preston soccer fields. It will ultimately connect with High House Road and a proposed street-side trail. This project fills a critical gap in the Crabtree Creek Greenway corridor, with transit connections via a GoCary stop on High House Road, and enhances biking and pedestrian access to Bond Park, the hub of Cary’s greenway network.



HIGGINS GREENWAY – PHASE 3



Cary began construction on phase 3 of the Higgins Greenway in April. The existing greenway will be extended 0.86 miles from its current terminus at Union Street eastward to Kildaire Farm Road. This work will fill a gap in the greenway network and increase connectivity between downtown Cary and the surrounding neighborhoods. The project is anticipated to continue through summer 2025.

BLACK CREEK GREENWAY AND CARY PARKWAY

PHOTOGRAPHED RIGHT

Black Creek Greenway renovations and Cary Parkway sidewalk construction at Black Creek started on June 3. These projects will improve and rehabilitate Black Creek Greenway from West Dynasty Drive to Old Reedy Creek Road and complete a sidewalk gap along Cary Parkway over Black Creek. Construction is anticipated to take three years to complete and will take place in three phases to help minimize impacts to greenway users. Each phase will require closing and detouring that section of the greenway while the other sections of the greenway remain open. The first phase begins at West Dynasty Drive and ends at the North Cary Park access to the Black Creek Greenway.

GOCARY



The new GoCary Downtown Loop (DL) began June 1, providing more access to downtown attractions and parking options. Additionally, the microtransit feasibility study is wrapping up after 19 community engagement events and 1,270 survey responses. Staff will present future service recommendations to Council later this summer.





NEIGHBORHOOD TRAFFIC CALMING



Cary's Traffic Calming Program continues to be active with more than 40 neighborhoods engaged with staff in the process. The most visible aspect of Cary's Traffic Calming Program is often the construction of new devices, and this quarter was no exception. Cary installed 11 speed humps across three different communities: Glenkirk, Preston Village, and Whitford Place on Olde Weatherstone Way, Preston Village Way, and Weycroft Avenue.

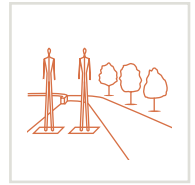
Also this quarter, Council approved a policy update that represents a notable evolution in Cary's program. The latest policy statement provides staff the opportunity to consider so-called "cut-through" traffic volume as a factor in determining funding for traffic-calming projects. Many residents note cut-through traffic as a concern in their communities, and this update will provide greater flexibility for Cary to respond.

IN-ROAD WARNING LIGHTS



This quarter saw an innovation in Cary's transportation system that is focused specifically on pedestrian safety, which has been top of mind for many residents. Cary installed In-Road Warning Light Systems at two existing crosswalk locations in the downtown area: Harrison Avenue at the Cary Depot and Walnut Street near R. S. Dunham Park. The systems consist of LED light "pucks" in the road surface paired with LED-enhanced signs and pedestrian-activated push-button devices. Together, these devices are intended to enhance the visibility of pedestrians using the crosswalk and allow pedestrians to signal their presence to drivers. This additional awareness is critical to promoting safer mobility for Cary's road users.

These systems are a first for Cary and much of North Carolina. The uniqueness of the equipment challenged both Cary staff and the contractor, but good collaboration allowed both systems to be installed successfully and with minimal disruption to residents. Cary staff will continue to study these two systems to help determine where additional installations could be effective.



BIKE MONTH



This May, National Bike Month had Cary on the move with community engagement and initiatives aimed at promoting biking as a safe, accessible, and fun transportation option. The celebration kicked off with Spring Daze’s popular Bike Valet service, providing hassle-free parking for attendees. Additionally, Cary debuted two new bike corrals strategically located downtown to offer convenient and secure parking near popular destinations. These efforts demonstrate Cary’s dedication to creating a biking network that supports residents of all ages and abilities from the beginning to the end of the trip.

Throughout Bike Month, Cary continued to prioritize community involvement and education. Events included Bike & Roll to School Day, when hundreds of students enjoyed Cary’s greenways and learned about bike safety. The month also featured “Bike to the Park,” an event that invited visitors to ride their bikes to Downtown Cary Park to engage with staff and other bike advocacy groups about the bike plan and bike safety. Later in May, the Bike Plan Focus Group participated in a downtown group ride, gaining valuable insights on street designs that impact biking comfort and safety. This input, along with feedback from the community, will be used to develop a draft bike plan later this year. Cary continues to enhance its reputation as a nationally recognized bike-friendly municipality committed to a sustainable transportation network.

COMPLETE 540



The North Carolina Department of Transportation is more than 90% finished with phase 1 of the Complete 540 project, which extends from the N.C. 55 bypass in Apex to the I-40/ U.S. 70 interchange. Opening this summer, phase 1 is more than 17 miles long with six travel lanes, a 70-foot-wide median, and a posted speed limit of 70 miles per hour. Tolling will operate the same as other tolled areas of N.C. 540. The eastbound ramps at the Bells Lake Road interchange in Cary will open toward the end of the year.

Throughout the project, Cary staff have collaborated with NCDOT to construct greenway facilities and to allocate space for future pedestrian and bike facilities at interchanges. On June 22, NCDOT hosted a 5K run, 10K cycling trial, and duathlon challenge on the highway for a unique experience before the highway opens. A ribbon-cutting ceremony is planned for mid-2024. Phase 2 will complete the last leg of N.C. 540. Full construction is anticipated in early 2025. Visit ncdot.gov/complete540 for more information.





SERVE

MEETING
COMMUNITY
NEEDS





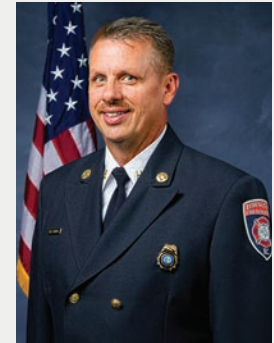
CAMP IGNITE



In June, female firefighters from Cary, Apex, and Morrisville created and hosted Camp Ignite, a free summer day camp for high-school-age girls, to introduce them to firefighting and public safety jobs and encourage empowerment, confidence, teamwork, and leadership. Versions of this weeklong camp exist in a few other cities, including Charlotte, Greensboro, and Chapel Hill, but this is the first one in Wake County. Twenty campers spent days at Cary Fire Station 7, Morrisville Fire Stations 21 and 22, Apex Fire Station 36, Crabtree Lake, and Bond Park. The majority of each department’s female firefighters participated and instructed, as well as female firefighters from Raleigh and Youngsville fire departments. Campers learned how to force doors, flow water from hose lines, climb the aerial truck ladder, and get victims out of cars using hydraulic tools, as well as various EMS skills, water rescue, land navigation, and so much more. They ended the week with fun on the Bond Park Challenge Course and their very own graduation at the Cary Senior Center. By the end of the week, eight campers stated that they wanted to become firefighters. Several said they had a lot more insight and appreciation for firefighters, and most expressed interest in returning to the camp in the future.

CARY KUDOS

FIRE CAPT. ALLEN MONDS



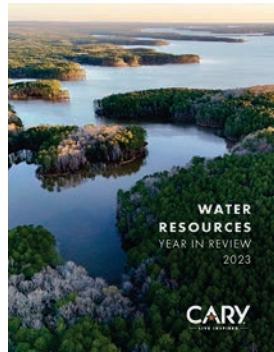
Retired this quarter, Monds was celebrated by the Cary Franklin-Sloan VFW Post 7383. Monds was selected as his recruit academy’s top recruit in 1996, developed future firefighters throughout his career as a shift training officer and recruit academy instructor, commanded the department’s Honor Guard for much of his career, and more recently served on the ground floor of both Cary’s interdepartmental drone team and the Cary-Apex-Morrisville fire departments’ Pipe and Drums team.





WATER RESOURCES YEAR IN REVIEW

The 2023 Water Resources Year in Review report provides meaningful snapshots and historical trends about Cary's excellent utility service. This year's report includes an update on Cary's per capita usage as well as the water demand of the overall Cary/Apex Water Treatment Facility service area. Cary has steadily reduced consumption from a record high of 72 gallons used per person per day since 1995. Last year's average of 48 gallons used per person per day is a consistent trend, and the average demand last year was 23.1 million gallons per day. Cary experienced its highest single-day demand of 30.5 mgd on Aug. 25. To learn more visit bit.ly/carywater2023.



ANNUAL WATER MAIN REPLACEMENT PROJECTS

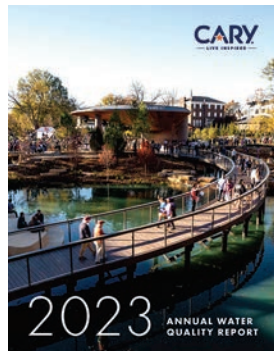
As the fiscal year came to a close, so did the Downtown Water Main Replacement Project. This project replaced 8,200 linear feet of water main within the downtown area. Additionally, infrastructure improvements to Cary's sanitary sewer, stormwater collection system, curb and gutter, sidewalks, and roadways were made on South Harrison Avenue, West Park Street, Page Street, West Street, and Byrum Street.

This spring also saw the completion of the Howland Avenue Water Main Replacement Project. After being identified for water main replacement, Howland Avenue experienced several water main breaks, resulting in the project being expedited. Construction of the 3,000 linear feet of water main began in January 2024 and was completed in just five months. Roadway resurfacing is occurring along Howland Avenue as part of Cary's FY 2024 Street Improvements Project.

Always trying to take a proactive approach, Cary kicked off the next Annual Water Main Replacement Project in June. It will pick up where the recently completed Howland Avenue project left off by replacing the remaining water mains in the Oakwood Heights neighborhood. It also includes water main replacement along Boyd Street and new connections along Downing Glen Drive, Midland Valley Way, and Elmhaven Way to support system resiliency. The project will replace approximately 4,100 linear feet of water main and is expected to take 12 months to complete.

ANNUAL WATER QUALITY REPORT

The 2023 Water Quality Report, summarizing hundreds of thousands of tests performed on Cary's drinking water, is now available at carync.gov/waterreport. The report highlights Cary's preparation for upcoming regulatory changes and showcases the efforts of dedicated staff, who ensure the production of high-quality tap water.



RENEWABLE PROPANE IN FLEET

This quarter, Cary introduced renewable propane to its fleet by installing propane fuel kits to 20 police vehicles. These kits will allow for seamless switching between gasoline and renewable propane, enhance operational flexibility, and serve as a key strategy to help reduce Cary's carbon footprint.



WESTERN WAKE REGIONAL WRF WELCOMES DELEGATION FROM JORDAN



Western Wake Regional Water Reclamation Facility was chosen as a state-of-the-art facility for visitors from Jordan to observe successful biosolids management operations. The visit by members of the Jordanian ministries of health, agriculture, and the environment was organized by Dr. Robert Rubin from North Carolina State University with support from the United States Agency for International Development. Cary staff gave its visitors a presentation on the benefits of biosolids reuse and a tour of the biosolids processing facilities.

MAYNARD INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS

This quarter, Cary completed the installation of a new water main and sidewalk along Northwest Maynard Road between High House Road and Old Apex Road. Anticipated to take 12 months to complete, Cary proactively worked with the contractor to finish four months early and remain within budget. The project closed an existing 1,700-foot gap in the sidewalk and improved pedestrian safety. The new 3,500 feet of 24-inch water main reinforces Cary’s water transmission capacity. The project also included roadway resurfacing, striping, and new curb along impacted areas.

CARY KUDOS

POLICE DET. MATT CULLEN

Police Det. Matt Cullen was celebrated by the Cary Franklin-Sloan VFW Post 7383 for his service as a task force officer on the Drug Enforcement Administration’s High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area Task Force.





EPA'S LEAD AND COPPER RULE REVISIONS

Cary has been hard at work identifying the pipe material of water system service lines to complete the service line inventory required by the Environmental Protection Agency's Lead and Copper Rule Revision. Since January, Cary has received a great response from residents, either identifying their privately owned pipe materials or requesting a complimentary inspection. Cary is also working with utility locators to physically verify the materials on Cary's side of water service line. Both the public (main to meter) and private (meter to structure) sides of all service lines must be identified. Over 1,100 water services have been fully verified on both the public and private side of the same service line. To date, there remain no known lead services in Cary.

While no lead services have been found, the service line inventory has identified seven private and seven public water service lines made of galvanized steel. Galvanized steel not only eventually rusts and becomes brittle, but it could potentially accumulate lead if there was ever lead present upstream of the system. Without records to confirm there was never lead upstream, the EPA requires galvanized steel water services to be replaced. Cary has already contracted to replace the ones on the public side and is working closely with the impacted property owners to coordinate the replacement of the private side.

EARTH DAY EDUCATION

As part of its Earth Day activities, Cary partnered with a local solar installer by hosting a virtual lunch and learn to Cary residents that provided education and awareness on the benefits of residential solar, including available tax credits and utility incentives. Since 2017, interest in solar generation has been growing in the community with 2023 having 354 permits issued, the largest number on record. Residents and businesses that opt to install solar on their property see reductions in monthly electric utility bills, take advantage of available utility and tax incentives, and actively contribute to reducing carbon emissions.

BIOFILTRATION CONVEYANCE, FIRST OF ITS KIND IN CARY



The entrance to Pirates Cove Greenway from Vickie Drive has required frequent maintenance due to excess stormwater runoff. The solution was to raise the greenway entrance, rebuild the curb and gutter with a built-in flume, and install a biofiltration conveyance (BFC) in the adjacent ditch. This BFC is the first of its kind in Cary and can be described as a cross between a bioretention device and a step-pool channel. In addition to solving this recurring maintenance issue, it benefits the Swift Creek Watershed by improving water quality, temporarily detaining runoff in the pools, and slowing stormwater before discharging to the creek below.





STORMWATER CONTROL MEASURE WORKSHOP

On May 10, Stormwater staff hosted stakeholders for a free informative workshop on how Cary regulates stormwater control measures in its jurisdiction. There were over 150 registered attendees, including developers, homeowners association board members, engineers, inspectors, and interested citizens. Staff presented topics such as design plan review, inspection and maintenance, construction turnover, and the enforcement process. Staff also provided a networking lunch and refreshments and received many kind words attesting to the workshop's value and positive reception.

CARY KUDOS

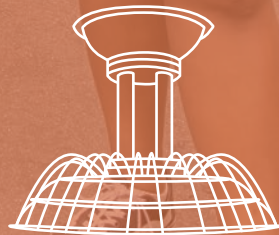
The North Carolina Sedimentation Control Commission presented Cary's stormwater division with the Local Program Award for excellence in Erosion and Sediment Control at its April 23 commission meeting. Stormwater Field Services Administrator Charles Brown presented at the workshop and provided information about Cary's program and how to make it sustainable. Cary preserves and protects the environment by requiring construction projects to control sediment and erosion. Whether new development or a renovation, there is an obligation to control sediment runoff from leaving the property.

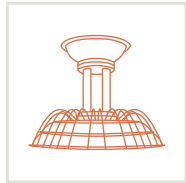




ACT

MOVING
FROM VISION
TO REALITY





MARKETING: CARY ON THE RISE

The mission of the Marketing division is to implement the vision of the Imagine Cary Community Plan to promote Cary throughout the world as a model of a highly regarded and well-managed community. In everyday conversations, Marketing likes to call this vision “Cary, USA.”

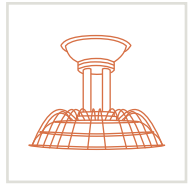
During the final quarter of FY 2024, Cary’s name was prominent in national and international spotlights, earning accolades, such as being named “South’s Best City on Rise” by “Southern Living,” and hosting for the second year The Soccer Tournament, the world’s only global soccer festival, which also features the world’s highest-stakes professional women’s tournament. These accomplishments stem from Cary’s renowned reputation for excellence and, additionally, serve as opportunities to expand brand awareness for Cary through strategic marketing efforts in social, paid, and earned media.

Cary also successfully launched its first e-commerce store at shop.carync.gov. This website offers a range of high-quality Cary-branded products, including notebooks, umbrellas, pint glasses, and more. The store offers a new channel for expanding the reach of the Cary brand, attracting customers from as far away as Florida.



IN Q4, CARY SAW REMARKABLE GROWTH IN KEY METRICS:

	Q3	Q4	% INCREASE
INTERNATIONAL WEB TRAFFIC TO CARYNC.GOV	10,777	15,357	42.5%
INTERNATIONAL SOCIAL MEDIA IMPRESSIONS	1,250,789	4,678,938	274%
POTENTIAL IMPRESSIONS FROM PAID MEDIA	1,414,238	2,108,824	49.1%



CARY 101

PHOTOGRAPHED BELOW

A group of 18 citizens graduated from the Cary 101 program after participating in a series of engaging presentations, activities, and facility tours over several weeks. Cary staff enjoyed sharing their work and passion with the group, and the students appreciated this opportunity to learn about Cary's values, operations, projects, and services. The Cary 101 program, formerly known as School of Government, has been offered annually since 2003.



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