

# REDISCOVER LILBURN

**2021 Annual Report**

## **Small Town, Big Difference**

As Lilburn lays out its priorities for 2022, take a look at what we accomplished last year!



# City Council



## BY THE NUMBERS

**22**

Started 22 neighborhood watch programs

**500+**

Processed more than 500 open records requests

**81**

Municipal Court sessions

**4**

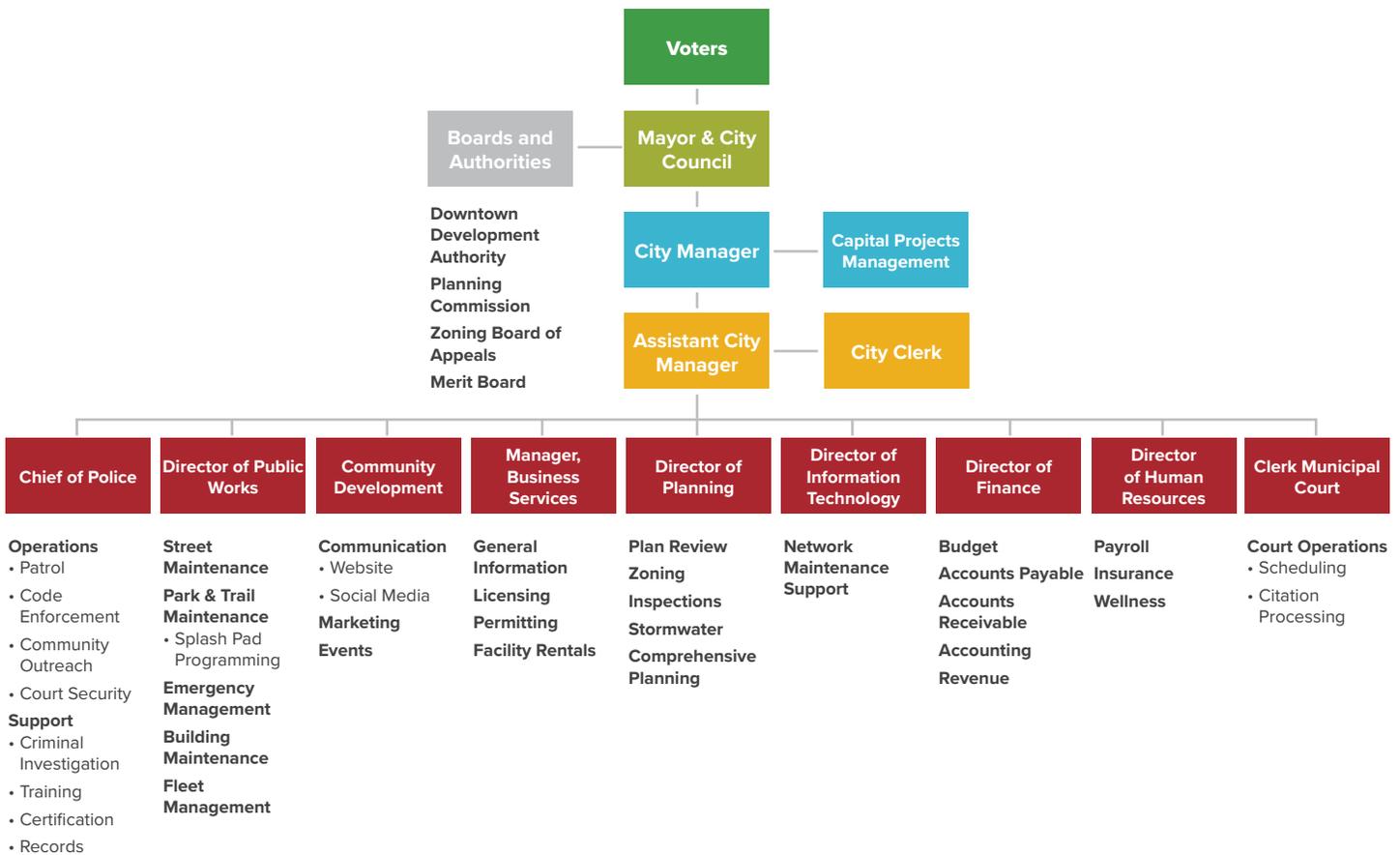
Teen Court sessions

**8**

Bench Trials/Hearings

# Organizational Chart

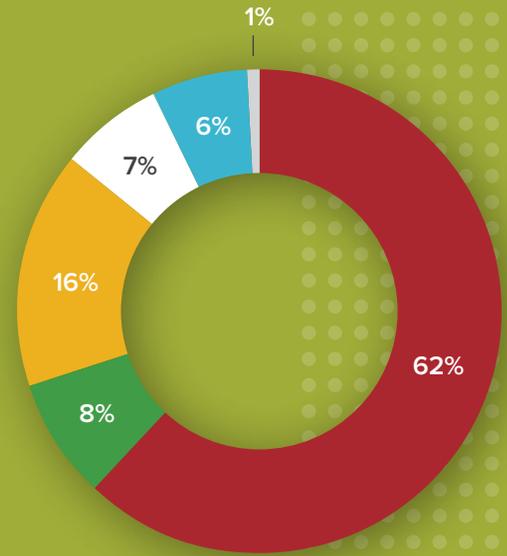
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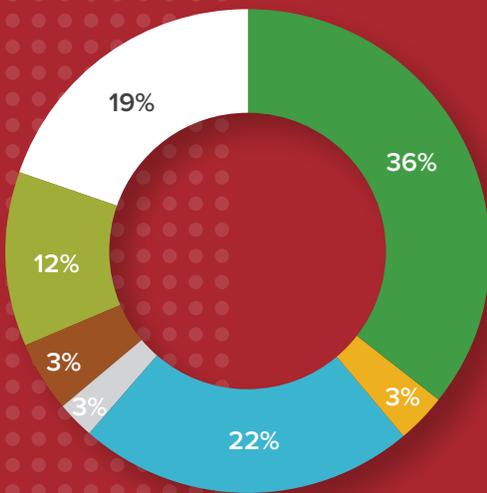
# Financials

## FY 20-21 City Revenues

<span style="color: #800000;">●</span> Taxes	\$6,115,603	62%
<span style="color: #008000;">●</span> Licenses & Permits	\$796,720	8%
<span style="color: #FFA500;">●</span> Intergovernmental	\$1,555,022	16%
<span style="color: #FFFFFF;">●</span> Charges for Services	\$676,186	7%
<span style="color: #00B0F0;">●</span> Fines and Forfeitures	\$628,602	6%
<span style="color: #A9A9A9;">●</span> Investment & Misc. Income	\$73,363	1%
<b>TOTAL REVENUES</b>	<b>\$9,845,496</b>	<b>100%</b>



## FY 20-21 City Expenditures



<span style="color: #008000;">●</span> Police	\$3,517,174	36%
<span style="color: #FFD700;">●</span> Courts	\$321,561	3%
<span style="color: #00B0F0;">●</span> General Government	\$2,207,806	22%
<span style="color: #A9A9A9;">●</span> Parks, Events & Marketing	\$261,327	3%
<span style="color: #8B4513;">●</span> Planning, Zoning & Economic Development	\$460,954	5%
<span style="color: #90EE90;">●</span> Streets	\$1,161,449	12%
<span style="color: #FFFFFF;">●</span> Contribution to Fund Balance	\$1,915,225	19%
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>\$9,845,496</b>	<b>100%</b>

# Lilburn: A Small Town Making a Big Difference



## STATE OF THE CITY

With Mayor Tim Dunn

For all of us, 2021 has been a challenging year, but exceptional staff and elected officials met the challenges and opportunities head on.

In Lilburn City Park, we built the new Calvin Fitchett pavilion on the site of the old City administration complex, with tables and seating, restrooms, and a green room for performers at city concerts.

The new splash pad will get a full season of use in 2022. We'll add shade and seating.

Repaving of city streets did not slow down in 2021. SPLOST will continue to fund these improvements in 2022.

Streetscaping in Old Town was planned and funded in 2021. Phase one will be parking, sidewalks, pedestrian crossings, landscape plantings, a four way stop at First and Main, and an upgrade to the water main on Railroad Avenue.

Phase two will be streetscape improvements on Railroad Avenue, a road connection from

Railroad to First, stormwater improvements, and even more parking.

On the Greenway Trail, we are replacing wooden bridges with durable material that extend the life of the trail up to 75 years.

Signage along the Highway 29 corridor has been enhanced through our partnership with the Lilburn Community Improvement District and the Lilburn Downtown Development Authority. Unique signage into Old Town, which attracts from across the state, is a priority.

The Lilburn Police Department has involved citizens in Neighborhood Watches, Citizen Police Academies, and frequent presentations to civic organizations. Our crime statistics are down as much as 38% over the last 5 years.

In 2021, Lilburn began to handle the billing of our own property taxes and fees. This will result in better management of records

# STATE OF THE CITY CONTINUED

and a cost savings in the long run. Despite the pandemic, we issued 242 building permits for new homes. We continued critical public safety services from police patrols to municipal court, and code enforcement. Public Works handled its usual heavy workload.

Old Town Lilburn Townhomes has 30 of 55 townhomes completed; another 22 are permitted for construction.

The Cottages at Noble Village senior living community has 38 of 68 units completed; nine more are under construction.

Main Street Townes at Lilburn has 80 Townhomes planned, and 15,000 square feet of commercial endeavors. Building permits for 11 homes facing Main Street, across from City Hall, have been issued. In 2021, Blackbird Farms Brewery was welcomed; Gloss Car Wash is nearly complete, and there have been major renovations at McDonald's, Berkmar High, and the former Cole's Service Station.

Across from 1910 Public House is a .77-acre tract that will house three commercial buildings, including a restaurant with rooftop dining.

Our DDA has signed a development agreement to repurpose 57 Railroad Ave., (formerly Builder's Steel), into a brewery with retail space & food hall. Moreover, our DDA is reviewing development proposals for 2.73 acres at First & Main that will include a new restaurant.

Station Master's House at First & Main has been sold to a private developer. We expect plans from them soon to make this a new restaurant.

Despite challenges in 2021 we have carried on making Lilburn a place to thrive and enjoy life.

In January our elected officials, city staff, and our DDA will meet to cast a vision for Lilburn's future.

Some key projects for 2022 include:

- Expansion of Lilburn City Park into a 22-acre, city owned property currently leased to a concrete plant.
- Improving road access between Railroad Avenue and Lawrenceville Highway.
- Realignment and signalization of Hood Road at a new entrance for Bryson Park on Lawrenceville Hwy., including a roundabout on the Bryson Park side.

Lilburn's leaders and involved citizens have great plans for our future. We're the small town that makes a big difference.

*- Mayor Tim Dunn*

# A Tough Year, Yet Still a Good Year

## // 2021 Economic Milestones



### 1. The city opened the Calvin Fitchett Pavilion in Lilburn City Park in Fall 2021.

The open-air pavilion is located where the former City Hall/Police Headquarters facility was located in Old Town. Lichty Commercial Construction, Inc., was the construction contractor for the \$1,040,000 project funded by the city's Capital Project Fund. The new facility features public restrooms with changing areas and storage and a green room in the basement.

### 2. The city opened a new splash pad in Lilburn City Park in Fall 2021.

The 1,256 square foot pad features a heritage sculpture, 12 arch jets, and 6 LED stream jets that circulate 100 gallons of recycled water per minute. Waterworks was the construction contractor for the \$174,650 project, funded by the city's Capital Project Fund and the Public Art Fund.

### 3. The city repaved local roads in the Stoneview Acres subdivision including Bailey Drive, Stoneview Drive and Lockring Road.

Joy Lane will be repaved in 2022. The funding sources for the repaving projects include 2017 SPLOST and 2021 LMIG.

### 4. Precision Planning completed the design and engineering documents for streetscape improvements on Main Street and Railroad Avenue.

Construction of the streetscape improvement project will take place in two phases. Phase I will include construction of public parking, sidewalks and streetlights on the North side of Main Street, and a new four-way stop at Main and First with new pedestrian crossings on Main Street. Additionally, the water main under Railroad Avenue will be upsized from 8" to 12." Phase II will include the construction of streetscape improvements along Railroad Avenue such as sidewalks and streetlights, a new public road connection between Railroad Avenue and First Avenue, stormwater improvements and additional public parking. Funding sources for the design and construction of this project include the 2017 SPLOST, TAD Fund, Stormwater Fund, and ARPA Fund.

### 5. The city continued its plan to replace the wooden bridges on the greenway trail with Permatrak, which extends the useful life of the pedestrian bridges to 75 years.

The funding source for the project is 2017 SPLOST.

### 6. The city partnered with the LCID and the Lilburn DDA on a directional signage project along the US Highway 29 corridor.

Improvements completed in 2021 include blade signs at intersections, banner signs on telephone poles, and directional signage. The project is scheduled to be complete in 2022.



# Lilburn, A Great Place to Call Home



“

**Scott Batterton**  
*Post 2 Councilman*

The city of Lilburn has retained the support of its citizens in an age in which there's a lack of confidence in government. The City Council will welcome two new members during our annual retreat in January. We have a great staff that's available to the citizens and council at all times. And we can't say enough about our Police Department and its outstanding officers. We look forward, God willing, to the best year ever in 2022.



“

**Bruce Hedley**  
*Police Chief*

Over the years, we have success by connecting with the community we serve. Since 2011, we have increased our neighborhood watch programs to 22 and have significantly increased our services to the community. When members of our community are involved in our programs - and understand who we are and what we stand for - they are more willing to become involved when crimes occur in the community.

Crime is down significantly in our city, and we remain committed to having one of the safest cities in Georgia. We will continue to be wise with our allocation of manpower. Patrol operations are our highest priority, along with incorporating throughout our city some of the latest and most effective crime-fighting technology. We are dedicated to serving our community in an honorable and ethical manner as we pursue this mission.



“

**Emil Powella**  
*Post 4 Councilman*

Lilburn has the wonderful combination of a small town with access to metro Atlanta. Our dining options, entertainment and services are all world class, and we live our day- -to-day lives in a 21st century, diverse small town. The park and trail system give us nearby outdoor amenities. Safety is something we all desire and we have a fine police force. City services are delivered in an excellent manner.

The growth trajectory seems appropriate and balanced for who we want to be. There's an excellent working relationship among the city, CID, DDA, and the business community to deliver services and growth desired by the residents.

# 2021 Milestones & Accomplishments

## Planning Department

Reviewed **425** residential and commercial building plans

Processed **2** requests for rezoning and map amendments, **4** special use permits, **1** change in conditions, and **6** ordinance text amendments

Conducted **387** site inspections

Managed **3,838** building inspections

Resolved **24** drainage, erosion control, and stormwater code complaints

## Business Services

Issued **1,389** Occupational Tax Certificates/business licenses, with **209** being new business licenses issued since 1/1/2021.

Issued **372** building permits, **6** demolition permits, **6** telecommunication permits, **31** utility permits, **33** permanent sign permits, **32** temporary sign permits, and **12** temporary use permits

Processed **217** server permits  
Issued **70** alcohol licenses  
Managed **126** rentals of city facilities

## Code Enforcement

**Residential:** The most common complaint at **26.7%** is “exterior trash and debris.” The least common complaint, at **.6%** is water pollution.

**Commercial:** The most common complaint at **33.3%** is “zoning.” The least common complaint at **1.5%** is junk vehicles.

## Public Works/Fleet Management

Picked up tree debris for at least **2,100** residential properties during 2021

Cleaned up a dump site behind the Harbor Freight shopping center by utilizing an EPD grant

Maintained **45** road miles and right-of-way

Captured every road mile on video and entered it into the Robotics evaluation system

Maintained **1,500** street signs

Completed more than **266** vehicle repairs.

Conducted logistics for more than **1,600** vehicle parts.

Performed administrative sanitation services for nearly **4,000** residences.

## Community Development

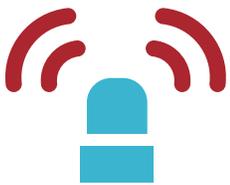
Hosted 20 events, attended by an estimated **50,000** people.

Launched the Old Town Lilburn website.

## Finance Department

This year, the city expects to receive **\$4.7 million** in American Rescue Plan funding. To date, it has received **\$2.3 million** and expects the remainder around July 2022. Last year was the first time in many years that city staff performed billing and collection services for ad valorem property taxes, streetlights, and solid waste fees. The function was previously performed for the city by the Gwinnett County Tax Commissioner via contract for services.

# 2021 Crime Statistics at a Glance



**24,356**

Calls Received in 2021

Calls received include telephone and radio calls received through the E-911 Communications Center, emergency and non-emergency, calls from the public and all self-initiated activity from an officer

Numbers of Part 1 Crimes	2021	2020	%
Aggravated Assault	15	21	▼ 28.57%
Robbery	9	13	▼ 30.77%
Burglary	27	44	▼ 38.64%
Larceny	303	208	▲ 45.67%
Motor Vehicle Theft	17	32	▼ 46.88%
Homicide	0	1	▼ 100%
Rape	2	0	N/A
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>373</b>	<b>319</b>	<b>▲ 16.92%</b>



**1,873**

Crime/Incident Reports



**1,243**

Traffic Accident Reports Processed



**40**

Drug Cases Submitted



**\$382,750**

Stolen Property Recovered



**884**

Arrests Made



**247**

Cases Cleared

# Statistics Continued

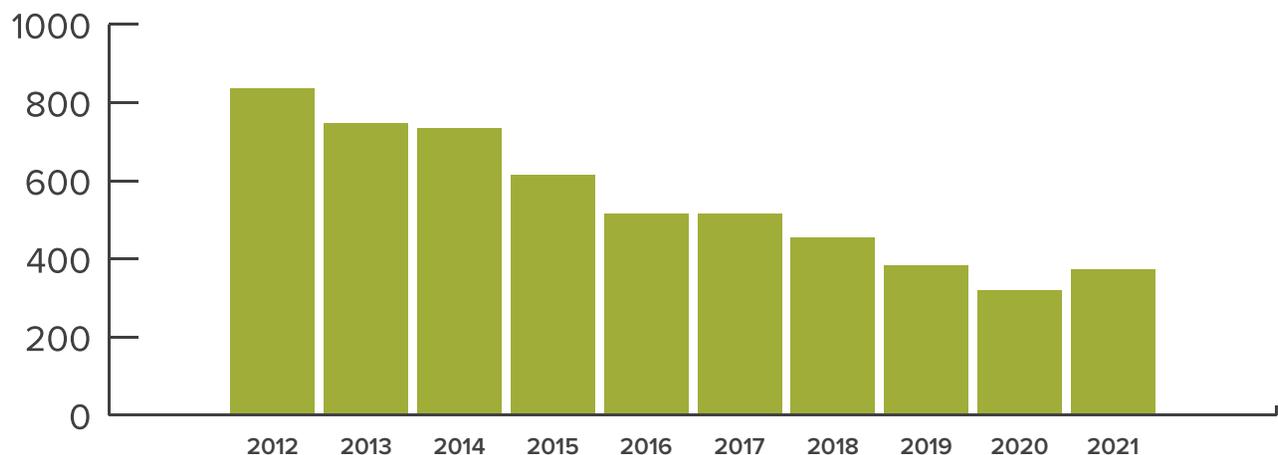
## Crime Decrease

The City of Lilburn crime statistics show a **55%** decrease in Part 1 crimes over the past decade. The Police Department continues to strive to promote a safe and secure environment, resolve problems, preserve the peace and uphold the law.

## 10-Year

### Part 1 Crime Totals

Numbers of Part 1 Crimes	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Homicide	0	1	1	2	1	1	1	0	1	0
Rape	3	0	1	0	4	1	2	2	0	2
Aggravated Assault	21	20	21	22	16	15	19	6	21	15
Robbery	22	16	19	14	15	19	25	8	13	9
Burglary	99	66	76	59	58	66	50	54	44	27
Larceny/Theft	657	619	584	483	401	391	326	273	208	303
Motor Vehicle Theft	33	26	33	34	21	22	31	41	32	17
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>835</b>	<b>748</b>	<b>735</b>	<b>614</b>	<b>516</b>	<b>515</b>	<b>454</b>	<b>384</b>	<b>319</b>	<b>373</b>



# REDISCOVER LILBURN!

Lilburn is in the midst of unprecedented community revitalization and renewal. Renewal takes leadership, vision and most of all, time. With these three key ingredients, revitalization tends to attract a myriad of investment opportunities.



## LEADERSHIP

Lilburn has been a bedrock of leadership within Gwinnett County and has remained ethical, steadfast, and forthright in its decision-making.



## VISION

Lilburn has a long history of visionary leaders who have remained focused and steadfast in their decisions.



## TIME

We often say that Lilburn is a 30 year “overnight” success story. The renewal of a city takes a focused leadership with decades of continuity and purpose.

It is often said that without a vibrant downtown, a city is earmarked for failure. With that in mind, leadership made the decision over a decade ago to invest in the downtown area. Improvements included: water and sewer additions and upgrades, assemblage of key properties for redevelopment, attraction of an anchor restaurant, transportation improvements, branding, as well as capital and public park space upgrades.

With city park centrally located within the downtown area, residents and visitors enjoy a central location for walking, resting and simply meeting other patrons. All which contribute to the success of a downtown revitalization. Moreover, the success of Old Town will have a “halo” effect and perpetuate development throughout the entire city.

There is much to celebrate as the city enters into 2022! 2022 brings the addition of new downtown restaurants, a brewery and marketplace, increased parking, and transportation improvements. Old Town will be a focal point for music, relaxation, and family outings. Development is springing up throughout the city as so many are eager to **Rediscover Lilburn!**

– **City Manager Bill Johnsa**