

## CITY'S STRATEGIC APPROACH



Tallahassee has stood as a center of influence as Florida's Capital City for more than 200 years. Today, Tallahassee is fueled by a growing population and a thriving economy;

it is a place where residents and visitors enjoy an exceptional blend of history, innovation and natural beauty.

In January 2019, the City Commission took a bold step, approving development of the City of Tallahassee's first overarching five-year strategic plan. This plan set the framework that would steer policy setting

and budget decisions, chart progress toward achieving our collective aspirations and solidify the City as the national leader in the delivery of public service. With the plan as a guide, the City achieved incredible success, meeting or exceeding more than 90 percent of the 2019-2024 plan's targets and initiatives.

Efforts did not go unnoticed. We were voted the #1 Public Utility in America for a third time and recognized for having the strongest economy in the nation. Tallahassee

was named one of the Best Mid-Size Cities in the United States by HGTV and included in the Top 100 Places to Live, Top 100 Places to Retire, 50 Most Affordable Places to Live in the Southeast and Top 10 Cities for Career Opportunities, just to name a few.

Building on the significant progress of the previous five-year plan, the City Commission recently approved the 2025-2029 Strategic Plan. With a continued focus on Economic Development, Impact on Poverty, Organizational Effectiveness, Public Infrastructure, Public Safety, Public Trust and Quality of Life, the plan's goals and objectives underscore the City's commitment to Tallahassee residents.

The newly approved plan reflects the City organization's collective commitment to smart growth, innovation and excellence. It charts a course toward an even brighter future and further positions Tallahassee as the best city in the nation for residents, businesses and visitors alike. The seven priority areas serve as foundational pillars to guide City efforts to address the evolving needs of Tallahassee's growing and diverse community.

As we look forward, the City's strategic direction is clear: blend tradition with innovation, preserving its rich heritage while embracing modern solutions. With continued focus on thoughtful planning, sustainable growth and a high quality of life, our community is set to shine even brighter in the years ahead. Learn more at [Talgov.com/StrategicPlan](https://Talgov.com/StrategicPlan).



*Sustainability Tip*

You may not be thinking about cooling costs this winter, but now is a good time to plan ahead and plant shade trees. Good shade can reduce your summer air conditioning costs significantly.



# CAPITAL CITY SENIOR GAMES



Let the games begin! The ever-popular Capital City Senior Games return Feb. 26 to March 18. Presented by the City of Tallahassee, the games help keep local seniors active and healthy. Sports enthusiasts age 50-90+ are encouraged to get involved. Registration is available online now at [Talgov.com/SeniorGames](http://Talgov.com/SeniorGames) or by phone at 850-891-3875.

Last year 702 athletes from 12 states participated in 19 different sports and 59 events! Seventy-nine athletes were 80-89 years-old, and eight athletes age 90-plus participated.

The fee to register for the first event is \$15 and includes a t-shirt and two tickets to the closing Celebration of Athletes dinner. Each additional event is \$3. Venue fees apply for some events (check registration form). For dates and times of each competition, visit [Talgov.com/SeniorGames](http://Talgov.com/SeniorGames).

The games feature competitions designed for all fitness levels. The list of events includes archery, bag toss, basketball, bowling, cycling, golf, horseshoes, mountain biking, pickleball, powerlifting, racquetball, swimming, table tennis, tennis and track & field. Bocce, bowling, pickleball and table tennis offer opportunities to compete in singles, doubles and mixed doubles; tennis offers doubles and mixed doubles competition. Non-competitive fun events are water aerobics, mountain biking and a one-mile fun walk.

Like the Olympics, the Capital City Senior Games begin with a torch run and end with a celebration of athletes. The Torch Run and first event Fun Walk kick things off on Wednesday, Feb. 26, at 6 p.m. at Cascades Park, 1001 S. Gadsden St. The Celebration of Athletes is on Tuesday, March 18, at 5:30 p.m. at the Tallahassee Senior Center, 1400 N. Monroe St. Participating athletes are encouraged to bring a guest. Learn more at [Talgov.com/Seniors](http://Talgov.com/Seniors).

## RAIN GARDEN GRANTS



Just in time for spring, rain garden grants are again available through the City's Think About Personal Pollution (TAPP) program. A rain garden is a landscaped area that is designed to capture and hold excess rainwater for a short period of time, allowing it to soak

into the soil and recharge the groundwater. They help slow the flow of water from a yard during and after a storm, which helps reduce water pollution to area waterbodies. Grant applications will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. Only owners of property located within the Tallahassee City limits are eligible, and first-time applicants will receive priority. Access the application and more information at [TAPPwater.org](http://TAPPwater.org).

## SAFETY TIP - LOCK IT UP



Did you know that the easiest way to prevent your car from being burglarized is to simply lock your doors? There are criminals who walk parking lots and neighborhoods looking for only unlocked vehicles. They simply skip the locked ones and take whatever they want from your unlocked car. Do yourself a favor: Lock it. Hide it. Keep it. Learn more from the Tallahassee Police Department at [Talgov.com/Police](http://Talgov.com/Police).

For all City of Tallahassee utility related inquiries, please call 850-891-4968 or visit [Talgov.com](http://Talgov.com).

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Insight is published monthly to inform citizens about City services and related items of interest. If you require an accommodation because of a disability in order to participate in a program, service or activity, please contact the City's ADA/Title VI Coordinator at least two business days prior to the event at 850-661-3235 or [Kathleen.Wright@Talgov.com](mailto:Kathleen.Wright@Talgov.com). For persons using a TDD, please call 711. Sign language interpreters require 10 days advance notice.

## MEETINGS IN MARCH

Visit [Talgov.com](http://Talgov.com) for the current list of Tallahassee City Commission, Community Redevelopment Agency, Capital Region Transportation Planning Agency and Blueprint Intergovernmental Agency meetings and workshops. Call the Department of Communications at 850-891-8533 for more information and view the current meeting agendas online at [Talgov.com](http://Talgov.com).

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