



CITY OF SHREVEPORT  
MAYOR TOM ARCENEUX

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

November 20, 2025

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**Mayor Arceneaux Proposes Pay Increases and Equipment Upgrades in 2026 Budget**

In response to City Council comments and requests at Council budget sessions, Shreveport Mayor Tom Arceneaux is proposing strategic investments in public safety equipment and employee compensation as part of the 2026 budget currently under review by the City Council. These proposals come following discussions by Council members during last week's budget review sessions about the need to support City workers and update essential service equipment.

The administration proposes financing \$8.5 million in equipment using certificates of indebtedness to be repaid over five years — a method currently in use from a plan adopted in 2024. The plan includes the purchase of approximately 60 police patrol vehicles, four new medic units, a tanker truck for Shreveport Fire, and the replacement of eight aging garbage packers.

A one-year, interest-only payment of approximately \$200,000 in 2026 would limit budgetary impact, with increased payments planned for 2030–31. Funding for the first year would come from increased estimated revenue from oil and gas royalties.

- To ensure fairness and long-term sustainability, the administration has developed a pay proposal that benefits every City employee and does not rely on unstable funding sources. The plan includes:
- A 3% pay increase for Police and Fire civil service employees, effective April 1, 2026, in addition to their annual 2% increase (total 5%)
- Doubling of the annual uniform allowance for Police and Fire personnel — from \$400 to \$800
- A 3% pay increase for all other City employees, also effective April 1, 2026
- \$500,000 in parity pay adjustments for certain General Fund departments such as Solid Waste, Public Works, and SPAR

These improvements total approximately \$4.4 million and would be funded through a combination of adjustments to revenue estimates, including oil and gas revenue, restored internal transfers, and a small amount of remaining American Rescue Plan funds.

The proposal maintains the City's critical 8% operating reserve — a commitment reinforced during recent bond rating agency discussions.

While the administration acknowledges the desire for larger pay increases — especially in public safety — it emphasizes that the proposal reflects what can be responsibly supported by recurring revenue.

“We are committed to improving compensation for our dedicated City workforce and giving our first responders and service departments the equipment they need to keep Shreveport safe and clean,” said Mayor Tom Arceneaux. “These priorities must be balanced with long-term financial stability and responsible budgeting.”

The City looks forward to continued collaboration with Council members ahead of the final 2026 budget adoption on December 9.

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