

Greeting from Mayor Maria Johnson,



We have made it to another year and, thus, another state of the City Address. This evening is about results. Over the past three years, the City of Shively has moved forward through strong leadership, responsible decision-making, and the dedication of those who work every day to serve our residents. Tonight, through this State of the City Address, I will outline accomplishments that reflect progress achieved through action, accountability, and a clear focus on what is best for our community.

The budget for the current fiscal year, July 1, 2025, to June 30, 2026, anticipates \$17,685,727 in revenue and authorizes expenditures of \$17,687,462. The breakdown is listed below:

Total revenue for the year ending 2025: \$11,302,068.00
Total expenditure for the year ending 2025: \$5,052,895.00

Department Expenditures

Government: **\$3,841,379**

Fire Dept: **\$4,170,604**

Police Dept: **\$6,178,040**

Public Works Dept: **\$2,576,962**

Golf Course: **\$10,000**

Parks Dept: **\$543,210**

MAP (Municipal Aid Program) Expenditures

Street Paving: **\$100,000**

Snow Removal: **\$40,000**

MAP Allowable Expenses: **\$225,532**

I am excited to present the City of Shively's achievements from January 1, 2023, through December 31, 2025. While this overview is detailed, I encourage each of you to read it in its entirety, as it reflects the hard work, dedication, and commitment of our city employees and those you elected to serve, and the great City of Shively

Mayor Johnson

Completed Past-Due Audits: All **past-due audits for 2020, 2021, and 2022** have been completed, bringing the City into full compliance with KRS 91A.40 and restoring access to federal funds.

Brown-Forman Good Neighbor Initiative: The city purchased and distributed 800 bottles of 30-Second Outdoor Cleaner and 400 Kraft paper yard waste bags. Funds were also used to repair sidewalks, purchase new garbage cans, and support the splash pad in Shively Park.

Tutoring and Community Programs: I collaborated with **DuPont Manual High School National Honor Society** and **Laquiesha Bond**, Principal at Mill Creek Elementary School, to **initiate an after-school tutoring program** for students at Mill Creek Elementary. Implemented the **Shively Community Development Corporation 501(c)(3)**, and Shively **Hip-Hop Dance**

Community Events: Hosted the **Annual Pancake Breakfast, Senior Citizens Halloween Party, Food Truck Fridays**, and Purvis **“Mr. P Praise”** Walk. Providing opportunities for residents of all ages to come together, celebrate, and strengthen community connections.

Railroad Crossing: I contacted the Paducah and Louisville Railroad and had the **railroad crossing replaced**, improving safety and transportation flow for residents and commuters.

Speedway on Dixie Highway: I collaborated with the District Manager at Speedway, 3915 Dixie Highway, and had them **pave their parking lot**, improving safety and accessibility for customers and the community.

Personnel: From 2023 through 2025, the city hired a new ABC Agent, ABC Administrator, and Grant Writer.

Shively Emergency Operations Plan: All department heads collaborated to develop guidelines and procedures for the City of Shively’s Emergency Operations Plan, which has been completed.

New Shively Library: I have been in communication with Louisville Metro leaders and District 3 Metro Councilwoman Shameka Parrish-Wright regarding a new library for the City of Shively. We are continuing to work together to bring this important community resource to our city.

Golf Course: The Shively Driving Range has reopened under new management, offering residents and visitors an improved experience with updated facilities and services

Grocery Store: I have assembled a dedicated search team to bring a grocery store to the Shively area, and we are continuing our efforts to enhance convenience and access to fresh produce for our residents.

Council Chamber Remodel: The city remodeled the Council Chamber, installing a new council bench and department head bench, upgrading the flooring on the 1st and 2nd floors at City Hall, and adding a 98-inch television in the council chamber, creating a more modern and functional space for city meetings and public engagement.

Community Advocacy: Residents actively participated in city meetings, **signed petitions**, and shared their voices on matters affecting our community, **including the consideration of additional liquor licenses in Shively**. Their engagement demonstrates the power of civic involvement and a shared commitment to shaping our city's future.

Shively Neighborhood Plan: The Shively Neighborhood Plan has been completed, providing a strategic roadmap for future development, infrastructure improvements, and community enhancements that reflect the needs and priorities of our residents

Community/Partnership

BearFruit Gardening: The Farmers & Artisans Market -2023

City Hall

Community Events: City Hall and the Mayor's Office hosted and supported a wide range of community initiatives, including Chair Yoga, Zumba, Free Shred-It events, the Easter Egg Hunt, Petting Zoo, Trick-or-Treat in Shively Park, Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) for free income tax filing, the AARP Kentucky Old Tyme Ice Cream Social, Light Up Shively, Toys for Tots, Text My Gov, the Halloween Home Decorating Contest conducted by **City Hall** and **Wendell Vincent**, and the Christmas Home Decorating Contest conducted by the **Shively Police Department**.

New Businesses: From 2023 to 2025, **72 new businesses** opened in the City of Shively, reflecting continued economic growth, investment, and confidence in our community.

Personnel: From 2023 through 2025, we hired a new part-time Custodian, a new part-time Human Resources Director, Treasurer, and a full-time Administrative Specialist.

Code Enforcement Department

From 2023 through 2025, the Code Enforcement Department addressed a total of 4,120 cases, including 1,419 in 2023, 1,583 in 2024, and 1,118 in 2025. These enforcement efforts improved neighborhood conditions and resulted in the collection of \$244,157.13 in fines and penalties

Grant Writer

The City of Shively leveraged professional grant writing support to secure **\$100,000 in external funding** for the **splash pad project** without using City operating funds, while also supporting public safety, officer wellness initiatives, and ongoing grant research shared with city leadership. Grant assistance further supported the Shively Community Development Corporation, an independent nonprofit, through grant submissions and community programming, with all nonprofit funds remaining separate from City finances. As funding becomes increasingly competitive, these efforts have strengthened the City's ability to secure outside resources, reduce administrative burden, and advance community priorities without increasing operational costs.

ABC Department Highlights (2025)

In 2025, the Shively ABC Department strengthened compliance and enforcement through inspections, hearings, and coordinated investigations with State ABC, Metro ABC, and the Shively Police Department. The department launched the **MASC (Minor Alcohol Sales Check) Program**, which has already **cited 9 locations** for alcohol sales to minors; implemented a new **Emergency Suspension Order (ESO)** notice sign for transparency; and **collected \$33,000 in fines** from enforcement actions.

Fire Department

Shively Fire Statistics: From 2023 through 2025, the Shively Fire Department responded to a total of 7,368 calls for service, with annual runs steadily declining from 2,545 in 2023, to 2,443 in 2024, and 2,380 in 2025. Medical responses consistently made up nearly three-quarters of all calls, highlighting the department's critical role in emergency medical services, while continuing to respond to structure fires, automobile accidents, hazardous situations, and service calls to keep our community safe.

Administration/Community Awareness: From 2023 through 2025, the Shively Fire Department made significant progress in strengthening administration, policy, and community safety initiatives. The Department modernized its Policies and Procedures and Rules and Regulations by making them accessible on all devices to all members. Fire continued implementing and fully using the IROL Fire Inspection Program, enabling digital tracking and assignment of business fire inspections and providing automated alerts when violations are identified by commercial fire alarm companies. The Department also **completed a district-wide hydrant painting initiative**. The Department's partnership with Louisville Metro Public Health & Wellness and Shively Fire expanded and maintained naloxone access for those in need through an access box located at 3930 Park Drive. Additionally, the Department worked with Metro Codes & Regulations and CERT to address unsafe properties, including **demolishing the old bowling alley and securing a former business college to prevent vandalism and unsafe conditions**.

Training: From 2023 through 2025, training remained a major focus of the Shively Fire Department as the City continued investing in professional development and public safety excellence. The Department developed and implemented a formal Driver's Certification Program, providing structured driver training for all members from the start of employment through their two-year anniversary. Fire expanded training requirements by implementing Fire Officer and Driver Operator Training Programs as mandatory for promotion to Captain or Sergeant. Members also received specialized training, including advanced auto extrication and electric vehicle response, rope rescue, fire prevention inspection, live-fire instruction, peer support, and CPR instruction. The Department strengthened its internal training capacity with Kentucky State Fire Instructors, who provided both internal and external firefighter training, while members also participated in leadership development through the Derby City Leadership Workshop. **Looking ahead, Shively Fire is planning to expand its impact by offering community-wide CPR training in 2026.**

Fire Prevention/Inspection: From 2023 through 2025, the Shively Fire Department conducted more than 1,190 business and commercial inspections to ensure compliance and improve safety throughout the community. In addition, the Department installed 73 in-home smoke detectors, helping protect residents and prevent fire-related injuries. Fire personnel worked closely with Louisville Metro Codes and Regulations on inspections related to renovations, new construction, and commercial properties, and investigated 21 code violations over the three-year period. Fire crews completed company inspections and pre-planning walkthroughs of local facilities to better prepare for large-scale incidents and improve response readiness. In 2025, the Department further strengthened public safety efforts by participating in a Food Truck Inspection Blitz alongside the Health Department and Metro ABC, inspecting 54 food trucks over a three-day event.

Crusade For Children: From 2023 through 2025, the Shively Fire Department proudly supported the **WHAS Crusade for Children, raising a combined total of \$33,900.33 over three years.** This included \$10,152 for the 70th Annual Crusade in 2023, \$9,400 for the 71st Annual Crusade in 2024, and \$14,348.33 for the 72nd Annual Crusade in 2025, demonstrating the Department's continued commitment to serving children and families throughout our community.

Fire Safety Fair: From 2023 through 2025, the Shively Fire Department continued to expand its community outreach efforts by hosting its 3rd, 4th, and 5th **Annual Fire Safety Fair & Chili Cook-Off during Fire Prevention Month and Fire Prevention Week.** Each year, the event grew in attendance and community engagement, attracting more than 300 residents in 2023 and continuing to increase annually. The 2025 event featured the national theme "Charge into Fire Safety," and all three events were supported by multiple partner agencies, making them a continued success in promoting fire safety education and strengthening community partnerships.

Apparatus & Equipment: From 2023 through 2025, the Shively Fire Department made significant updates to its apparatus and equipment to enhance operational readiness and community safety. In early 2024, the Department **placed a custom-built Seagrave fire engine into service** and received a **2024 four-wheel drive Dodge utility vehicle** to transport personnel and equipment throughout the district. Each platoon conducted multiple training sessions on the new engine and the upgraded Rescue Stabilization equipment, which supports the Department's large number of vehicle extrication responses. In November 2025, Fire began **refurbishing the 2001 Seagrave Reserve Quint**, extending the vehicle's life **and saving the city money on replacement.** Looking ahead, the Department plans to **restore** Shively's original 1938 Ahrens-Fox fire pumper, honoring the Department's long and proud history of service.

Personnel: From 2023 through 2025, the Shively Fire Department strengthened its team while honoring the service of its members. In 2023, we hired a new firefighter who completed the Louisville Fire Academy and became a Nationally Registered EMT, and we also welcomed a new Fire/Police Chaplain. The Department conducted a Civil Service hiring process in 2025 to establish a new list for two firefighters, both of whom are required to complete the Louisville Fire Academy and become Nationally Registered EMTs. In 2025, we celebrated the retirements of two members after 20 years of dedicated service and welcomed two new Firefighter/EMTs to the company, ensuring continued excellence in public safety and emergency response.

Police Department

Shively Police Statistics: From 2023 through 2025, the Shively Police Department responded to 49,370 service calls, reflecting its continued commitment to public safety and community protection.

Training: From 2023 through 2025, Shively police officers completed their required 40 hours of annual in-service training and participated in additional specialized training, including NORSE hands-on tactical training focused on vehicle approaches and building clearing. Officers also took part in active shooter training held at Western High School and received enhanced de-escalation training using a simulator provided by the Kentucky League of Cities (KLC), exposing officers to scenarios involving mental health crises and domestic violence situations. Sgt. Breitmeyer and Det. Martin and both certified instructors through the Federal Law Enforcement Training Academy led the active shooter training.

Enhanced Communication and Community Access: We strengthened communication with residents by launching the **CITYPROTECT** website, which allows users to submit tips, make non-emergency requests, access open records, and communicate directly with the department via text messaging. This platform enhances accessibility, responsiveness, and community engagement.

Equipment: From 2023 through 2025, the Shively Police Department upgraded critical equipment to enhance safety and effectiveness. Thanks to generous donations, officers received **riot gear and ballistic plates** for active shooter situations. We **updated body cameras and servers**, added 11 new Dodge Durango, and refreshed their graphics. To improve public safety, we installed **15 Flock cameras** and **15 digital radar speed signs**, including a **mobile unit**, to monitor traffic and assist in crime prevention.

Community Outreach: From 2023 through 2025, officers engaged in multiple programs, including the Shively Police Calendar, Toys for Tots Motorcycle Cruise, Thanksgiving and holiday food and coat drives, Angel Tree participation, school and church events, Texas Roadhouse events, health fairs, senior activities, and other community initiatives that strengthen connections and support families across Shively.

Peer Support Program: In 2025, the Shively Police Department launched a **Peer Support Program** to promote officer mental health and well-being. The program includes **Barney, our therapy dog**, and a partnership with **SWELL**, a mental health app providing confidential support and wellness resources. Officer Huffman and Barney were honored at the **Be at Ease Event**, and we also added **Percy, a 2-year-old Black Lab drug-detection dog** assigned to Detective Asad Zahir, strengthening our department's safety and enforcement capabilities.

Awards Banquet: From 2023 through 2025, we hosted the Shively Police Awards Banquet each year, honoring our officers and dispatchers for their dedication and hard work in serving the citizens of our community.

2025 Grants: In 2025, we successfully applied for and were awarded the **Kentucky Office of Highway Safety Grant**. This funding allows our officers to work overtime dedicated solely to traffic enforcement on the most dangerous streets in Shively, helping to keep our residents safe and reduce accidents.

Department Accomplishments: In 2023, the Shively Police Department underwent a **liability review** conducted by the Kentucky League of Cities (KLC). This review assessed our policies, procedures, and training across multiple categories, and I am proud to report that our department **received a perfect score of 100%**, reflecting our commitment to excellence, accountability, and public safety.

Personnel: Officers and Dispatchers: From 2023 through 2025, the Shively Police Department strengthened its ranks with new officers and dispatchers. In 2023, we hired six officers, including two lateral hires and four recruits, along with one dispatcher. In 2024, we added six more officers, again with two lateral hires and four recruits, and two dispatchers. In 2025, we welcomed four officers, one lateral hire, three recruits, and one dispatcher. These additions have helped ensure that our department remains well-staffed and capable of providing reliable, professional service to the Shively community.

Patrol Division Highlights: From 2024 through 2025, the Shively Police Department recovered **120 stolen vehicles**, made **65 arrests**, and addressed high-risk incidents, including robberies, burglaries, and domestic disputes. Officers responded to critical emergencies, located missing children, assisted accident victims, and intervened in active aggressor situations.

The department also conducted nuisance investigations, traffic enforcement, and collaborative operations with regional law enforcement, using tools like **Flock cameras** to solve crimes. In 2025 alone, officers completed **2,650 traffic stops**, recovered **63 stolen vehicles**, and seized firearms and narcotics. **Successfully shut down Louisville Manor**, a long-standing problem property that generated chronic calls for service and community complaints. These accomplishments demonstrate the **dedication, professionalism, and vigilance** of our patrol officers in keeping Shively safe.

Shively City Council

Monica Bizzle: - Hosted **Operation Winter Warm Up (2023-2024)**

Tiffany Burton-McBroom: - Hosted **Shakespeare in The Park (2023-2025)**

Kelly Gibson/Mayor Maria Johnson: - Hosted **Writing a will, a living will, and a Power of Attorney Workshop (2023)**

Sandra Gibson: - Hosted **Shively Health Fair (2025)**

Danielle Wakaba: - Hosted **Homeownership Expo (2023), Get Healthy Shively Art Workshop (2025)**

Works Department

Trash, Recycling, and Yard Waste: The Works Department **collected 15,854.88 tons of trash, 1,623.69 tons of recycling, and 1,452.98 tons of yard waste** over the past three years. The department also responded to off-schedule requests, serviced bus stop trash cans, and installed new trash cans at two locations

Property Abatements: The Works Department and Code Enforcement **abated** more than 483 properties, ranging from routine grass cutting to full property cleanups requiring heavy equipment. All abated properties were billed appropriately.

Drainage Improvements: The Works Department installed and replaced hundreds of feet of drainage pipe, **regraded** thousands of feet of drainage ditches, and repaired or replaced multiple catch basins to improve stormwater flow. Projects were completed in areas including Crum's Lane, Burrell Avenue, Bonny Lea Court, Wurtele Avenue, Mary Catherine, Neblett Avenue, Donna Road, Millcreek, and Loney.

Capital Improvements: The city invested over \$378,000 in road milling and paving, installed speed humps on San Jose Avenue and Keifer Road, and replaced over 700 feet of sidewalks. Facility upgrades were completed at City Hall, the Heritage Building, and Police/Fire facilities. The Works Department added a **new bucket truck, garbage truck, and snow removal truck**, and updated equipment and software for improved diagnostics (gas and diesel vehicles), as well as fire protection, lighting, and internet connectivity. In Shively Park, the city **installed new exercise equipment and picnic tables, resurfaced tennis courts, added a pickleball court, constructed new restrooms, and installed a new splash pad.**

Maintenance: The Works Department maintains all buildings, vehicles, roads, rights-of-way, park areas, trees, street signs, and more than 5,000 trash cans to ensure safe, clean, and functional city services

Personnel: From 2023 to 2025, the Works Department hired one Works Department Manager and four new Labor/Operator.

Special Thanks

I want to begin by thanking our City Attorney, Finn Cato, for his unwavering dedication, sound counsel, and continued commitment to serving the City of Shively with integrity and professionalism. His work is invaluable to the progress and stability of our city.

I am deeply grateful to our city employees, whose daily efforts often go unseen but never go unfelt. Your hard work, reliability, and pride in service keep Shively moving forward every day. To our department heads, thank you for your leadership and for consistently going above and beyond in service to our community. Your dedication truly makes a difference. I also want to thank the City Council for their support.

Most importantly, to the residents of Shively, thank you for your trust, your engagement, and the opportunity to continue serving as your mayor. It is an honor I do not take lightly. As we look ahead to 2026 and beyond, we remain committed to strengthening our neighborhoods, investing in infrastructure, supporting smart and responsible growth, and ensuring city operations remain efficient, transparent, and focused on the needs of our residents. Together, we will continue building a city where voices are heard, resources are used wisely, and opportunity reaches every corner of our community. Together, we will keep moving Shively forward, stronger, more vibrant, and united.

Grateful for the opportunity to serve,

Mayor Maria Johnson