



POLK
COUNTY

**FY 2024/2025
Proposed Budget**

EXPENDITURES BY FUND GROUP

	FY 23/24 Budget	FY 24/25 Budget	FY 25/26 Plan
General Funds			
00100 General Fund	576,372,782	657,945,482	647,397,548
Special Revenue Funds			
10100 County Transportation Trust Fund	150,600,411	185,225,015	131,930,211
10150 Special Revenue Grants	78,864,981	104,662,666	28,083,935
12160 Tourism Tax Funds	37,691,991	38,236,298	33,986,783
12180 Lake And River Enhancement Trust Funds	3,818,832	2,900,923	1,660,499
12190 Fire Rescue Funds	70,860,150	77,872,763	75,089,343
12240 Impact Fees	142,966,593	217,734,515	124,771,694
14350 Emergency 911 Funds	5,920,890	7,231,502	5,551,321
14370 Hazardous Waste Funds	111,480	112,621	115,056
14390 Radio Communications Funds	5,004,265	5,457,565	5,732,919
14460 Local Provider Participation (Ord. No. 22-029)	37,485,000	70,000,000	70,000,000
14480 Polk County Florida Opioid Abatement Trust Fund	6,177,664	8,999,839	2,389,100
14490 Indigent Health Care Funds	163,244,765	154,433,213	131,973,163
14500 Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Funds American Rescue Plan	110,855,767	89,063,272	29,959,809
14850 Hazard Mitigation Grant Program Irma FEMA-DR-4337-FL	6,445,002	15,000	0
14930 Leisure Services MSTU Funds	40,765,548	44,425,096	26,786,301
14950 Libraries MSTU Funds	8,897,956	10,177,281	11,509,992
14960 Rancho Bonito MSTU Fund	65,870	55,387	47,499
14970 Transportation Millage Fund	128,392,710	137,462,570	128,734,169
14980 Emergency Medical Millage Fund	42,401,703	35,996,702	33,327,297
14990 Law Enforcement Trust Funds	946,077	1,354,812	1,469,938
15010 Land Management Nonexpendable Trust Funds	37,881,231	41,774,031	43,675,361
15250 Eloise CRA Trust-Agency Funds	1,010,001	909,610	671,611
15290 Harden Parkway CRA Funds	1,611,139	1,876,476	2,145,039
15310 Building Funds	21,843,861	18,574,680	13,443,183
15350 Affordable Housing Assistance Trust Funds	15,321,155	16,331,711	16,917,653
15550 Hurricane Irma Fund	2,000,000	0	0
15650 Hurricane Ian Fund	32,250,000	33,272,100	100,000
16000 Street Lighting Districts	3,459,347	3,939,757	3,939,757
18000 Stormwater MSTU	12,327,493	12,881,579	4,990,881
Debt Service Funds			
23500 Public Facilities Rev Ref Bonds, Series 2014 (Ref 2005)	9,380,915	10,032,946	7,026,450
23700 Public Fac Rev Note, S2015(Ref CFT 2006)	3,749,566	3,832,864	3,973,992
23800 Promissory Note 2020A	4,875,325	5,108,977	5,236,658
24000 Promissory Revenue Note, Series 2020 C	10,713,242	10,701,616	10,701,616
Capital Funds			
30200 Drainage and Water Quality Fund	2,202,791	2,205,623	310,710
30800 General Capital Improvement Funds	115,448,455	187,894,594	143,308,392
31200 Environmental Land Acquisition Funds	10,942,871	20,534,092	10,770,676
31900 Northeast Polk Roadway Fund	800	0	0
Enterprise Funds			
41010 Solid Waste Funds	111,453,514	124,872,821	82,165,199
41110 Landfill Closure Funds	73,626,115	78,628,404	81,393,156
41210 Universal Solid Waste Collection Funds	47,988,913	56,052,321	58,814,993
42010 Utilities Operating Funds	154,341,875	178,500,672	159,017,619
42110 Utilities Capital Expansion Funds	83,876,418	91,041,344	78,940,719
42432 Utilities Bonds	0	55,000,000	129,171,063
43110 Rohr Home Fund	1,795,749	350,170	0
Internal Service Funds			
50100 Fleet Maintenance Funds	12,710,079	15,275,947	16,182,200
50300 Employee Health Insurance Fund	104,376,278	110,619,743	110,619,743
51500 Fleet Replacement Funds	35,792,169	41,316,855	42,447,978
52000 Information Technology Fund	18,933,520	20,726,203	20,586,358
Total Funds	2,547,803,259	2,991,617,658	2,537,067,584

FUND TYPES

Polk County's budget is comprised of six types of funds, and each fund is limited to its appropriation. For accounting, budgeting, and management purposes, funds are named, numerically coded, and grouped according to use and appropriation as described below.

GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS

GENERAL FUND

The General 00100 Fund finances most of the County's functions. The major sources of General Fund revenue are Ad Valorem Tax, Half-Cent Sales Tax, and Public Service Tax. Smaller revenue amounts are received through fees from licenses and permits, fines, charges for services, interest earnings, and intergovernmental sources. The FY 24/25 proposed budgeted ad valorem revenue is based on a Countywide increase in property values of 11.39%.

SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS

Special Revenue Funds are revenues from specific sources that require separate accounting because of legal requirements, regulatory provisions, or administrative actions.

County Transportation Trust 10100 Fund – Most Transportation Trust Fund revenue is generated through gas taxes and used for transportation operations and roadway maintenance.

Special Revenue Grants 10150 Fund – This fund is comprised of various Federal and State awarded grants for needs such as recreational facilities, planning and development activities, affordable housing, and homeowner rehabilitation.

Tourism Tax 12160 Fund – Revenue is generated through the five-cent Tourism Tax on hotels and motels, also known as the "Bed Tax" and is used to promote tourism in Polk County.

Lake & River Enhancement Trust 12180 Fund – Revenue is generated through the annual State and County vessel registration fee. State fees are solely for providing waterway markers, public boat ramps, lifts and hoists, marine railways, and derelict/hazardous vessel removal. County fee proceeds are used for the patrol, regulation, and maintenance of bodies of water.

Fire Rescue 12190 Fund – Non-ad valorem special assessments are levied upon real estate parcels containing any building or structure to provide fire protection services to unincorporated areas of the County.

Impact Fees 12240 Fund – Impact fees are payments required by local governments of new development for the purpose of providing new or expanded public capital facilities required to serve that development. The fees typically require cash payments in advance of the completion of development. The Board's impact fees include Transportation, Emergency Medical Services, Correctional Facilities, Parks, Libraries, Fire Rescue, Law Enforcement, and School Board.

Emergency 911 14350 Fund – Revenue for this fund is the apportionment of the E911 fees levied on telephone service subscribers by telephone service providers as defined in the Florida Emergency Communications E911 Act, which authorized the Florida Emergency Communications E911 Act Board to levy up to \$0.50 per month per subscriber. This revenue may be utilized for the acquisition, implementation, and maintenance of public safety answering point equipment and 911 service features.

Hazardous Waste 14370 Fund – Revenues are derived from a 3% tax on gross receipts of hazardous waste recovery companies as described in Section 403.7215 of the Florida Statutes. The primary purpose of this tax is to fund hazardous waste operations such as additional security, inspections, contingency plans development, and road construction within 1,000 feet of the hazardous waste facility.

Radio Communications 14390 Fund – Revenue is received from a \$12.50 per offense moving traffic violation penalty as described by Section 318.21 of the Florida Statutes. Additionally, in October 2013, the Board adopted a resolution to supplement this fund through user fees. This fund is used for the intergovernmental radio communication program or local law enforcement automation.

Local Provider Participation (Ord. No. 22-029) 14460 Fund – Funding is generated through levying a non-ad valorem special assessment on public and private hospitals. Revenue is used for intergovernmental transfers to draw down additional State and Federal funds as a pass-through to close the gap in Medicaid reimbursements.

Polk County Florida Opioid Abatement Trust 14480 Fund – Funding is generated through settlement proceeds resulting from legal action filed by the State (re: National Prescription Opiate Litigation, MDL No. 2804). Proceeds are used to fund and implement the Polk County Florida Opioid Abatement Plan.

Indigent Health Care 14490 Fund – This fund was established to provide extended healthcare services to low-income residents. This revenue is generated through a half-cent discretionary sales surtax initially approved in 2004 and re-approved in 2016 for 25 years.

Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery 14500 Fund – American Rescue Plan – Funding was received during FY 20/21 through the American Rescue Plan Act. Funds must be obligated by December 31, 2024 and expended by December 31, 2026.

Hazardous Mitigation Grant Program IRMA 14850 Fund – Revenue was established in FY 19/20 from a federal grant program with a 75% federal cost share and a 25% local cash match to mitigate future damages from natural disasters.

Leisure Services-Parks MSTU 14930 Fund – Revenue is generated through a 0.5286 mill ad valorem assessment levied in unincorporated Polk County to fund parks, recreation facilities, leisure services, and programs.

Libraries MSTU 14950 Fund – Revenue is generated through a 0.1985 mill ad valorem assessment levied in unincorporated Polk County to fund library facilities and services.

Rancho Bonito MSTU 14960 Fund – Revenue is generated through a 9.1272 mill ad valorem assessment on the parcels located in the Rancho Bonito area of unincorporated Polk County in order to minimally assist in the funding of law enforcement services and various improvements.

Transportation Millage 14970 Fund – Revenue is generated through a 1.2000 mill ad valorem assessment designed to narrow the transportation infrastructure gap. Projects addressed by this fund include roads resurfacing, stabilization of unpaved roads, roadway drainage, roadway capacity, and substandard roads.

Emergency Medical Millage 14980 Fund – This fund was established through a Countywide millage increase of 0.2500 mill to cover operating and capital costs associated with Emergency Medical Services (EMS) throughout the County.

Law Enforcement Trust 14990 Fund – Revenue is generated through a domestic violence violation surcharge, cash forfeitures, and the sale of property and equipment confiscated by the Sheriff in accordance with Chapter 932 and Chapter 938 of the Florida Statutes. Funds may be utilized for specified law enforcement purposes.

Environmental Lands Management Non-Expendable Trust 15010 Fund – This fund was established for the preservation of water, wildlife, and wilderness resources and was funded through an ad valorem assessment approved by voters in 1994 that sunset in 2015. In November 2022, voters approved a 0.2000 mill for environmental lands first assessed in FY 23/24. The funding is split between this fund and the Land Management Non-Expendable Trust Fund.

Eloise Community Redevelopment Area (CRA) 15250 Fund – This CRA was established for neighborhood revitalization activities in the Eloise Community. Revenue is generated through an incremental increase in ad valorem taxes with the base year of 1999.

Harden Parkway Community Redevelopment Area (CRA) 15290 Fund – This CRA was established for transportation improvement activities in the Polk Harden Community. Revenue is generated through an incremental increase in ad valorem taxes with the base year of 2003.

Building 15310 Fund – The Building Fund is dedicated to building inspection-related activities and is funded by building permit fees and radon surcharge fees.

Affordable Housing Assistance Trust Fund (SHIP) 15350 Fund – The State Housing Initiatives Partnership (SHIP) Grant provides funds to local governments as an incentive to create partnerships that produce and preserve affordable homeownership and multi-family housing to very low-income to moderate-income families.

Hurricane Irma 15550 Fund – The fund was established in FY 17/18 to track Countywide expenditures resulting from Hurricane Irma damages. This fund collected revenue from State and Federal agencies for recovery costs. This fund was closed out in FY 22/23 with no money budgeted in FY 23/24 or beyond.

Hurricane Ian 15650 Fund – The fund was established in FY 23/24 to track Countywide expenditures resulting from Hurricane Ian damages. This fund collects revenue from State and Federal agencies for recovery costs.

Street Lighting Districts 16000 Fund – Revenue is generated through annual assessments to property owners within established street lighting districts for the costs associated with providing and maintaining streetlights. Districts are created by ordinance and the assessment is determined by the number of parcels located within the district.

Stormwater MSTU 18000 Fund – Revenue is generated through an ad valorem assessment of 0.0941 mill levied in unincorporated Polk County to enable the County to provide mandated services linked to the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) National Pollution Discharge Elimination System Permit program. Mandated services include water quality monitoring and cleanup, maintenance, and improvement of drainage systems in unincorporated Polk County.

DEBT SERVICE FUNDS

Debt Service Funds 23500 – 24000 – These funds are used to account for the accumulation of resources for payment of County long-term debt not payable from Enterprise Fund operations. Pursuant to Section 200.181, Florida Statutes and the Florida Constitution, there is no legal debt limit imposed on county governments in the State of Florida.

CAPITAL PROJECT FUNDS

Capital Funds 30200 – 31900 – In accordance with the Community Investment Program, these funds are designated for capital improvement, construction, or acquisition projects.

Drainage & Water Quality Projects 30200 Fund – This fund was created for drainage and water quality projects and was originally funded through Public Service Tax Revenue; it currently has no active revenue stream and is only funded through the carryforward of fund balance.

General Capital Improvement 30800 Fund – This fund is generally used for building asset management projects. The General Fund ending fund balance currently funds projects in this fund.

Environmental Lands Acquisition 31200 Fund – This fund was established for the preservation of water, wildlife, and wilderness resources and was funded through an ad valorem assessment approved by voters in 1994 that sunset in 2015. In November 2022, voters approved a 0.2000 mill for environmental lands first assessed in FY 23/24. The funding is split between this fund and the Land Management Non-Expendable Trust Fund.

Northeast Polk Roadway 31900 Fund – This fund was created from the remaining fund balance of the North Ridge CRA Fund, which sunset in FY 14/15. This fund is closed with no remaining balance or money budgeted in the current or plan years.

PROPRIETARY FUNDS

ENTERPRISE FUNDS

Enterprise Funds are associated with operations that are financed and function similarly to private business enterprises. The operations provide products or services to the general public in exchange for payment sufficient to fund the cost of providing the products or services.

Solid Waste Management Fund 41000 – This fund was established to account for the activities associated with providing solid waste management services, such as waste collection, landfill operations, and landfill cell closure and maintenance.

Utilities Fund 42000 – This fund was established to provide water and sewer services in certain unincorporated areas of Polk County.

Rohr Home 43110 Fund – This fund was established to provide skilled long-term nursing care for needy residents. The facility has permanently closed, with its residents transferred to other nursing facilities as of mid-June 2024.

INTERNAL SERVICE FUNDS

These funds are used to account for financing costs for reimbursable goods and services provided by or to a division, agency, or government.

Fleet Maintenance 50100 Fund – This fund was established to provide maintenance services for County equipment and vehicles. Fleet maintenance services are also provided to the cities of Auburndale, Fort Meade, and Lake Wales through Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs).

Employee Health Insurance 50300 Fund – This fund was established to provide health benefits to County employees and their dependents through the County's Self-Insurance Program.

Fleet Replacement 51500 Fund – This fund was established to provide funding for the replacement of aging vehicles and equipment.

Information Technology 52000 Fund – This fund was established to provide open accountability related to costs associated with providing telecommunication and computer services to County divisions.

**Polk County Board of County Commissioners
Adopted Budgets and Millage**

Fiscal Year	Total Budget	General Fund Millage	Comm Health Care	Roads & Bridges	Public Health	NE Gov't Center	Emergency Medical	Env Land Purchase	Env Land Mgmt	Env Land Debt Service	Roads	County-Wide Total	Unincorporated Polk County			Grand Total	Rancho Bonito MSTU
													Parks MSTU	Libraries MSTU	Storm Water MSTU		
85/86	\$196,474,261	3.8330	0.8640	0.1550	0.1200	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	4.9720	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	4.9720	0.0000
86/87	\$203,544,668	4.7740	0.7760	0.0000	0.1800	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	5.7300	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	5.7300	0.0000
87/88	\$198,594,922	4.7870	1.0440	0.0000	0.1490	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	5.9800	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	5.9800	0.0000
88/89	\$216,146,612	5.0390	1.0490	0.0000	0.1020	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	6.1900	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	6.1900	0.0000
89/90	\$250,101,793	5.4885	1.3115	0.0000	*0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	6.8000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	6.8000	0.0000
90/91	\$311,744,893	5.6920	1.4080	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	7.1000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	7.1000	0.0000
91/92	\$342,497,639	5.7750	1.3250	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	7.1000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	7.1000	0.0000
92/93	\$336,538,725	6.1650	0.9350	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	7.1000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	7.1000	0.0000
93/94	\$362,911,048	6.8420	0.9350	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	7.7770	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	7.7770	0.0000
94/95	\$377,630,609	6.8420	0.9350	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	7.7770	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	7.7770	0.0000
95/96	\$394,975,432	7.0900	0.6870	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.1130	0.0870	0.0000	0.0000	7.9770	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	7.9770	0.0000
96/97	\$399,353,826	7.3800	0.3070	0.0900	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.1190	0.0810	0.0000	0.0000	7.9770	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	7.9770	0.0000
97/98	\$495,450,738	7.4710	0.3060	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.1260	0.0740	0.0000	0.0000	7.9770	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	7.9770	0.0000
98/99	\$559,175,524	7.4730	0.3040	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.1280	0.0720	0.0000	0.0000	7.9770	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	7.9770	0.0000
99/00	\$668,036,988	7.4970	0.2800	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.1250	0.0750	0.0000	0.0000	7.9770	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	7.9770	0.0000
00/01	\$813,376,215	7.2470	0.2800	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.1250	0.0750	0.0000	0.0000	7.7270	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	7.7270	0.0000
01/02	\$848,185,080	7.2470	0.2800	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.1250	0.0750	0.0000	0.0000	7.7270	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	7.7270	0.0000
02/03	\$873,278,602	7.2470	0.2800	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.1250	0.0750	0.0000	0.0000	7.7270	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	7.7270	0.0000
03/04	\$884,142,451	7.5270	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.1250	0.0750	0.0000	0.0000	7.7270	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	7.7270	0.0000
04/05	\$999,869,798	7.5270	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.1000	0.1000	0.0000	7.7270	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	7.7270	0.0000
05/06	\$1,334,590,533	7.5270	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.1000	0.1000	1.0000	8.7270	0.5000	0.2500	0.0000	9.4770	0.0000
06/07	\$1,605,458,844	7.1330	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.1350	0.0050	0.0600	1.0000	8.3330	0.5000	0.2500	0.0000	9.0830	0.0000
07/08	\$1,824,850,291	5.6665	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.1350	0.0050	0.0600	1.0000	6.8665	0.4219	0.2109	0.0000	7.4993	0.0000
08/09	\$1,723,830,226	5.6665	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0600	0.0800	0.0600	1.0000	6.8665	0.4219	0.2109	0.0000	7.4993	0.0000
09/10	\$1,612,347,876	5.6665	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0100	0.1300	0.0600	1.0000	6.8665	0.4219	0.2109	0.0000	7.4993	0.0000
10/11	\$1,335,672,994	5.6665	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0110	0.1290	0.0600	1.0000	6.8665	0.4219	0.2109	0.0000	7.4993	0.0000
11/12	\$1,332,812,964	5.6665	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0165	0.1235	0.0600	1.0000	6.8665	0.4219	0.2109	0.0000	7.4993	0.0000
12/13	\$1,307,285,766	5.6665	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0101	0.1899	0.0000	1.0000	6.8665	0.4219	0.2109	0.0000	7.4993	0.0000
13/14	\$1,260,445,237	5.6665	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0035	0.1965	0.0000	1.0000	6.8665	0.4219	0.2109	0.1000	7.5993	0.0000
14/15	\$1,267,695,161	5.6665	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.2000	0.0000	1.0000	6.8665	0.4219	0.2109	0.1000	7.5993	9.2672
15/16	\$1,274,091,691	5.6815	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	1.1000	6.7815	0.5619	0.2109	0.1000	7.6543	9.1272
16/17	\$1,294,572,907	5.6815	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	1.1000	6.7815	0.5619	0.2109	0.1000	7.6543	9.1272
17/18	\$1,349,801,229	5.6815	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	1.1000	6.7815	0.5619	0.2109	0.1000	7.6543	9.1272
18/19	\$1,553,503,591	5.6815	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.1250	0.2500	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	1.1000	7.1565	0.5619	0.2109	0.1000	8.0293	9.1272
19/20	\$1,686,978,906	5.6815	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.1250	0.2500	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	1.1000	7.1565	0.5619	0.2109	0.1000	8.0293	9.1272
20/21	\$1,779,123,645	5.5490	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.2500	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	1.1000	6.8990	0.5619	0.2109	0.1000	7.7718	9.1272
21/22	\$2,132,844,075	5.4490	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.2500	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	1.2000	6.8990	0.5619	0.2109	0.1000	7.7718	9.1272
22/23	\$2,436,087,123	5.2420	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.2500	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	1.2000	6.6920	0.5450	0.2046	0.0970	7.5386	9.1272
23/24	\$2,547,803,259	5.0352	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.2500	0.1500	0.0500	0.0000	1.2000	6.6852	0.5286	0.1985	0.0941	7.5064	9.1272
24/25	\$2,991,617,658	5.0352	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.2500	0.1500	0.0500	0.0000	1.2000	6.6852	0.5286	0.1985	0.0941	7.5064	9.1272
25/26**	\$2,537,067,584	5.0352	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.2500	0.1500	0.0500	0.0000	1.2000	6.6852	0.5286	0.1985	0.0941	7.5064	9.1272

*Ad Valorem funding of the Polk County Health Department was moved to the General Fund from the Health Unit Fund

**FY 24/25 proposed budget is a part of a two year budget; FY 25/26 is a proposed plan

TAX AND MILLAGE INFORMATION

The following information is provided on the millages levied by Polk County. Polk County has, in addition to its Countywide tax millage, additional millages and assessments that are levied in special taxing districts encompassing territory smaller than the overall County. These special taxing districts provide services ranging from street lighting to the provision of fire rescue services by the Polk County Fire Rescue Division.

Under Florida law, counties are required to sum all ad valorem revenues derived from the countywide levy and all special taxing districts (excluding voted levies and taxing districts independent of the county) and divide this revenue by the countywide tax roll. This is called the "aggregate millage" and is the one that determines whether or not the county is required to advertise its intent to increase taxes.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

1. What is included in the Countywide millage?

For FY 24/25, the Countywide millage of 6.6852 consists of four components: General Fund (5.0352), Emergency Medical (0.2500), Transportation (1.2000), and Environmental Lands (0.2000).

2. What is included in the unincorporated area millage?

In addition to the millage listed in item 1, the unincorporated area has Municipal Services Taxing Units (MSTUs) for Parks (0.5286), Libraries (0.1985), and Stormwater (0.0941).

Effective October 1, 2014, the Board established an MSTU encompassing the Rancho Bonito area (9.1272) to minimally assist in the funding of law enforcement services and various improvements.

3. How are property taxes calculated?

All taxes are computed based upon taxable value.

$$\frac{\text{Taxable value}}{1,000} \times \text{millage rate} = \text{property tax}$$

Example:

Assessed value: \$150,000
Less Homestead Exemption: - (\$50,000)
Taxable value: \$100,000

Countywide

Unincorporated

$$\frac{100,000}{1,000} = 100 \times 6.6852 = \$668.52$$

(Countywide millage)

$$\frac{100,000}{1,000} = 100 \times 7.5064 = \$750.64$$

(Countywide plus MSTUs)

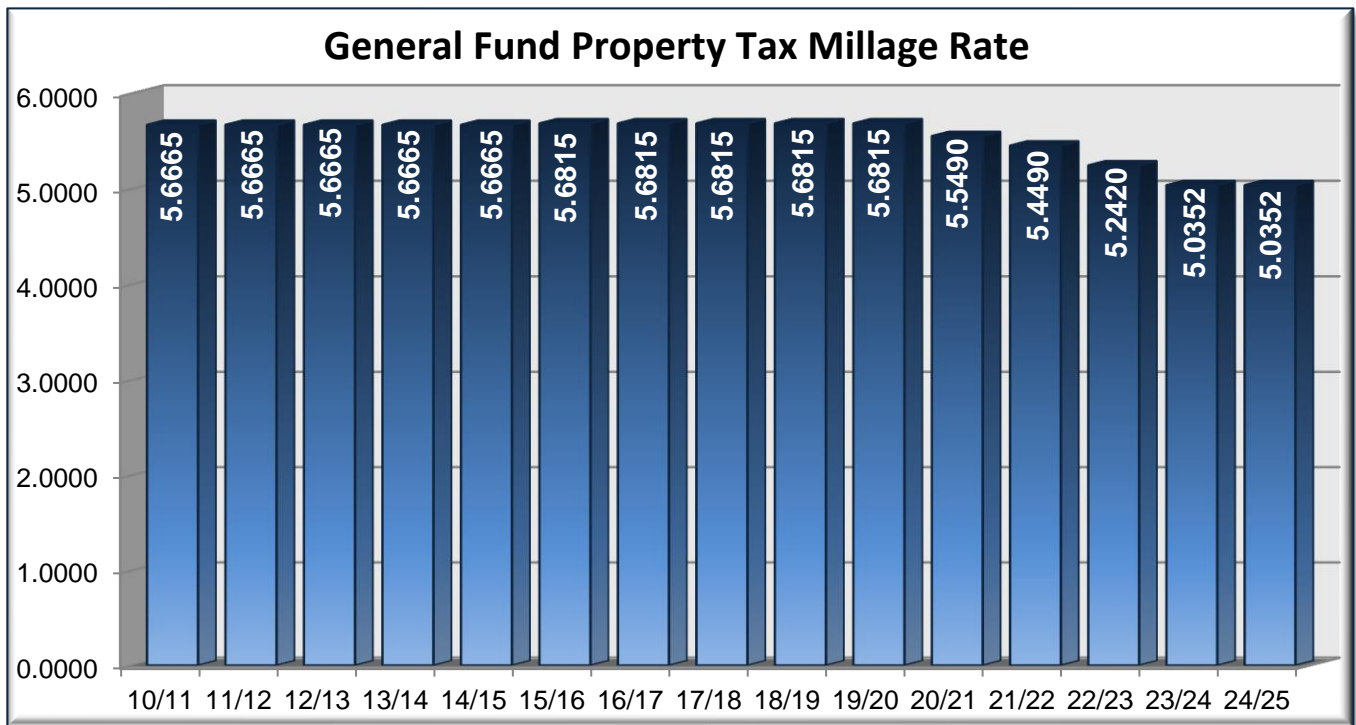
4. Common Terms Used in Budgeting:

***Millage:** The rate charged per \$1,000 of taxable value. On a house with a taxable value of \$100,000, each mill would equal \$100 in taxes.

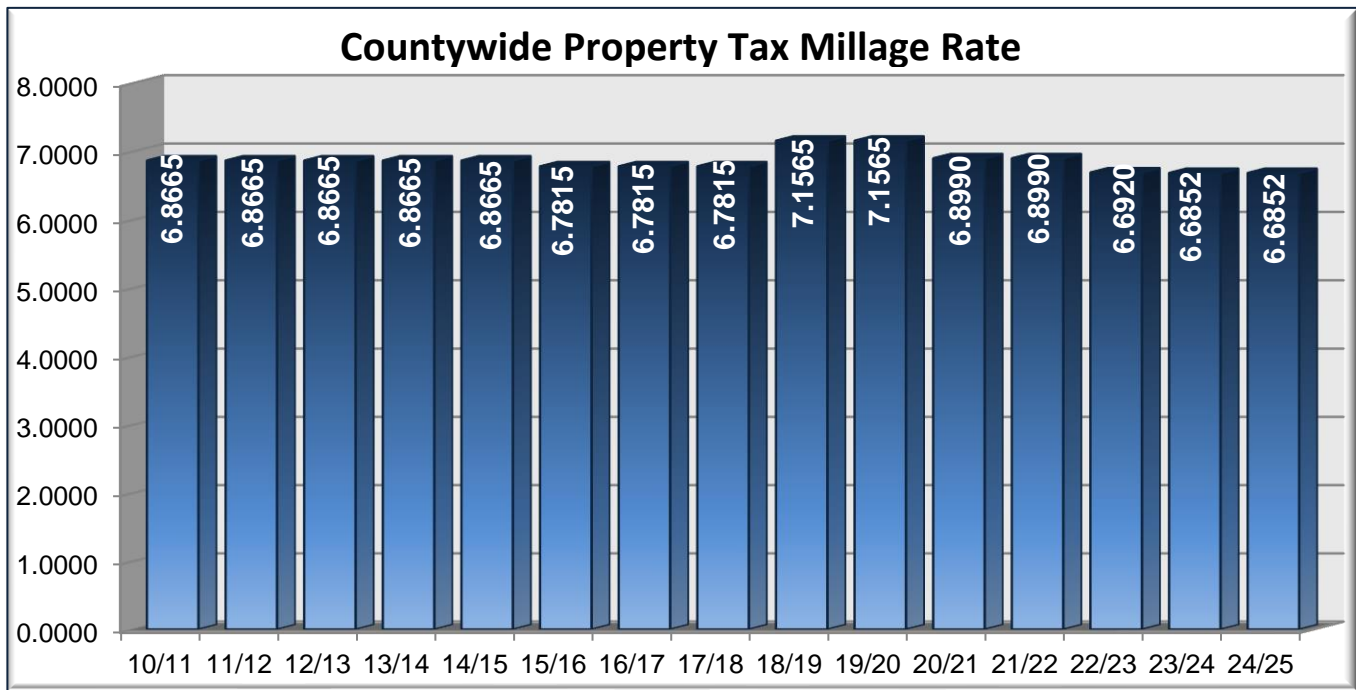
***Tax Base:** The total value of land and personal property on which a taxing entity, such as the County, can levy property taxes. Because some property is partially or completely exempt from taxes, the tax base is usually smaller than the actual value of the property in the county.

***Roll Back Rate:** The millage that, if levied, would bring in the same amount of tax dollars as the previous year's millage. The value of new construction is excluded from this calculation.

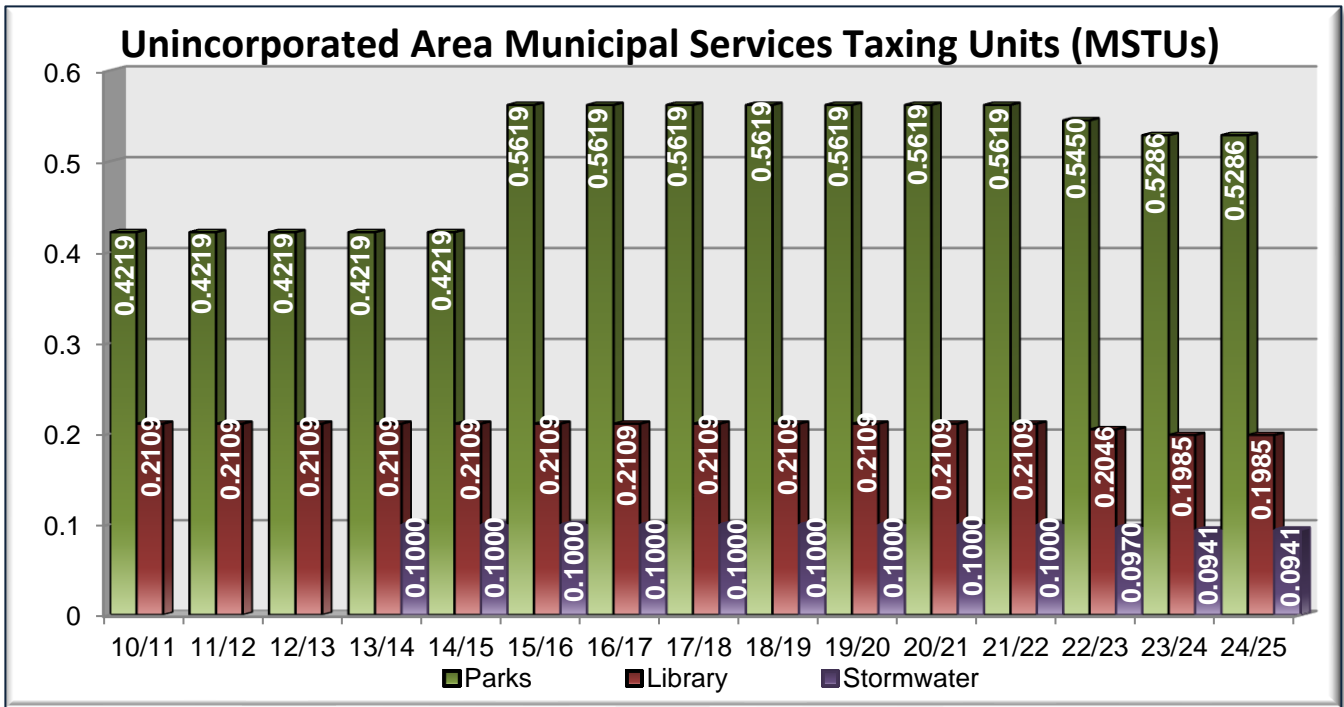
***Exemptions:** Exemptions are granted by the state, and they either lower the taxable value of property or remove the property from the tax rolls completely. Exemptions include \$50,000 Homestead Exemption, \$500 Disability Exemption, \$500 Widow or Widowers Exemption, up to \$50,000 low-income Senior Citizen Exemption, and other disability and military service exemptions.



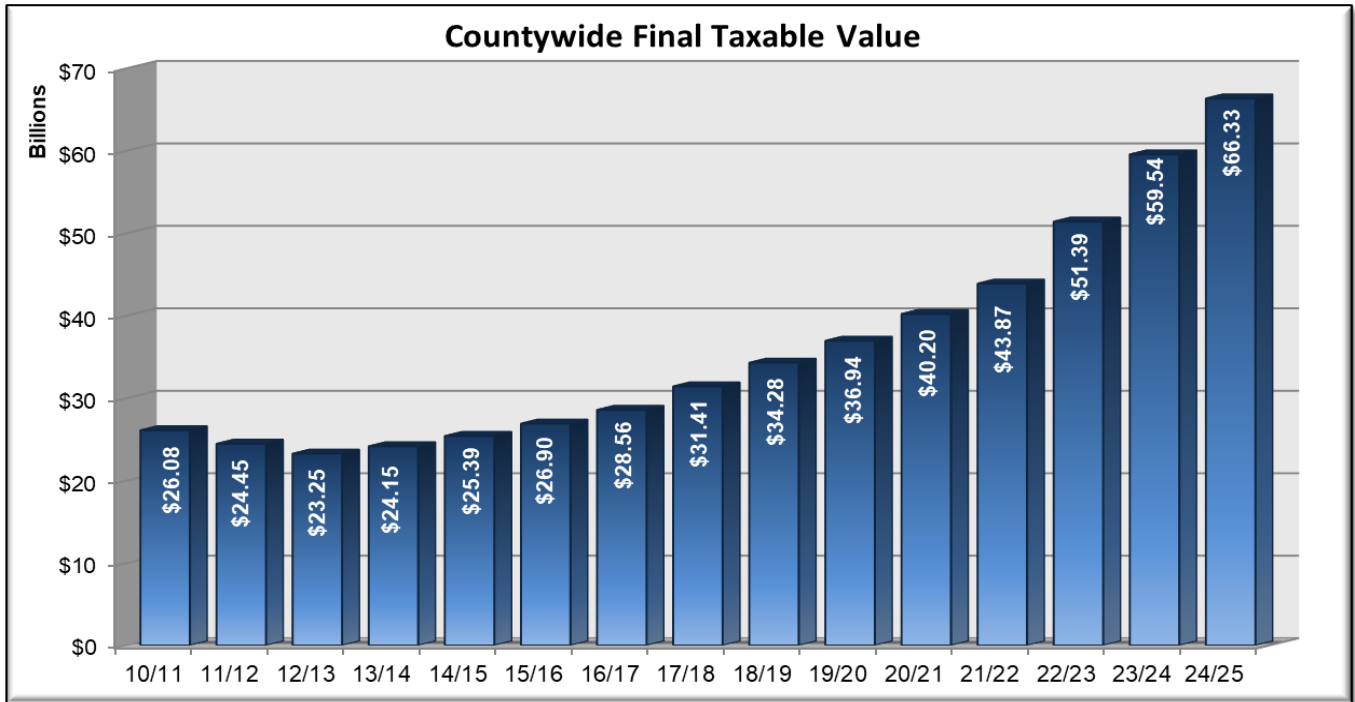
The FY 24/25 Proposed Budget General Fund millage rate is the same as the FY 23/24 Adopted Budget millage.



The 1.0000 mill Transportation assessment increased to 1.1000 mill in FY 15/16 and 1.2000 mill in FY 21/22. A 0.2000 mill environmental lands levy was approved by voters in 1994 and sunset in 2015. The Board added 0.2500 mill for Emergency Medical and 0.1250 mill for the Northeast Government Center in FY 18/19. The Northeast Government Center millage was eliminated in FY 20/21. A 0.2000 mill environmental lands levy was approved by voters in 2023. The Countywide rate does not include the MSTUs, as they are assessed only in the unincorporated areas of the County.



The Parks MSTU and Libraries MSTU were established effective 10/01/2005. The Stormwater MSTU was established 10/01/2013. The Board elected to increase the Parks MSTU millage by 0.1400 mills effective 10/01/2015. The Board decreased the Countywide and unincorporated MSTUs by 3% in both FY 22/23 and FY 23/24. In addition to the above MSTUs levied on all property in the unincorporated area of the County, a millage of 9.1272 is levied in the area known as Rancho Bonito MSTU effective 10/01/2014.



The Countywide taxable value is used in conjunction with the millage rate to calculate property taxes. Information provided by the Property Appraiser.

RESERVES: DESCRIPTIONS AND GENERAL FUND RESERVES

Polk County Board of County Commissioners recognizes it is essential for governments to maintain adequate levels of reserves and fund balances to mitigate current and future risks, such as revenue shortfalls, natural disasters, and unanticipated expenditures. Therefore, reserves are budgeted in each fund, as appropriate, in four major reserves accounts and various miscellaneous reserves accounts. Reserves are generally funded from prior year carry forward balances and considered one-time money. The Board considers it imprudent and does not practice funding recurring expenses using one-time reserves or one-time money.

Reserve for Budget Stabilization: Primarily a reserve in the County's General Fund, this reserve is used to provide short-term cash flow to maintain service levels when incoming revenue is not sufficient to cover expenditures or when an economic downturn causes a shortfall in revenues.

Reserve for Contingency: A reserve allocated to fund unanticipated or emergency expenditures during the fiscal year. Such events include, but are not limited to, matching dollars for grants, capital projects, outside agency requests, necessary division budget increases, new program initiatives, and expenditures relative to natural and unnatural disaster that fundamentally alters the current tax base. By statute, this reserve cannot exceed 10% of the total fund in which it is budgeted (See Florida Statutes 129.01(2)(c)). For example, the General Fund has a Reserve for Contingency account of about \$7.8 million to fund unanticipated projects, to meet grant match needs, and to address natural disasters.

Reserve for Future Capital: This reserve should be maintained to fund future capital projects, as identified in the Community Investment Program plan. The reserve is funded from carryforward balances from one year to the next to ensure that funds are available in future years for anticipated project expenses.

Reserve for Debt Service: Debt Service reserves will be maintained as a depository for funds for payment of long-term debt as required by bond covenants, other obligations, or general practice.

Miscellaneous Reserves: Miscellaneous reserves consist of funds developed on a case-by-case basis to mitigate the effect of unforeseen funding needs. Examples include Reserves for Salary Adjustment and Reserves for Landfill Closure.

General Fund Reserves

All funds, except the General Fund, function similarly to a trust fund. As such, revenues generated in non-general funds can only be used within that fund and only for a certain purpose. Therefore, neither current year revenues nor reserves from other funds may be used to stabilize or supplement General Fund revenue. For example, the County's Transportation Trust Fund revenues are derived from gas tax; per State statutes, gas tax may only be used for transportation-related expenses.

FY 24/25 General Fund Reserves

Reserve	Amount
Aircraft for Sheriff	5,001,954
Budget Stabilization	42,938,479
Contingencies	7,788,700
Economic Development	2,398,621
Mitigation Match	1,928,236
MSBU & Assessment	99,841
Self-Insurance Claims	7,860,000
Tax Collector-Contingencies	3,121,963
Tax Collector-Debt Service	2,100,341
Property Appraiser	500,000
Total	73,738,135

RESERVES BY FUND

		Adopted FY 23/24	Proposed FY 24/25	Plan FY 25/26
00100 General Fund				
5998010	Reserves - Cash Balance Forward	1,878,236	1,928,236	1,878,236
5998020	Reserves - Contingencies	9,870,548	11,410,663	11,410,663
5998080	Reserves - Tax Collector - Debt Service	2,533,345	2,100,341	1,536,289
5998140	Reserves - Future Capital Expansion	0	0	5,700,000
5998140	Reserves - Road MSBU & Assessment	25,478	99,841	99,841
5998170	Reserves - Economic Development	2,316,615	2,398,621	2,403,746
5998210	Reserves - Aircraft for Sheriff	2,501,954	5,001,954	5,001,954
5998250	Reserves - Self-Insurance Claims	6,380,000	7,860,000	7,860,000
5998300	Reserves - Budget Stabilization	41,144,192	42,938,479	68,673,625
Total Funds:		66,650,368	73,738,135	104,564,354
10100 County Transportation Trust Fund				
5998020	Reserves - Contingencies	2,174,171	2,444,676	2,495,103
5998300	Reserves - Budget Stabilization	88,446,305	72,493,079	26,087,655
Total Funds:		90,620,476	74,937,755	28,582,758
10150 Special Revenue Grants				
5998020	Reserves - Contingencies	2,000,000	2,000,000	2,000,000
5998290	Reserves - Matching Funds	200,000	200,000	200,000
Total Funds:		2,200,000	2,200,000	2,200,000
12160 Tourism Tax Funds				
5998010	Reserves - Cash Balance Forward	830,000	830,000	830,000
5998020	Reserves - Contingencies	1,270,000	1,270,000	1,270,000
5998080	Reserves - Debt Service	5,104,351	4,600,922	3,149,751
Total Funds:		7,204,351	6,700,922	5,249,751
12180 Lake And River Enhancement Trust Funds				
5998010	Reserves - Cash Balance Forward	50,000	50,000	50,000
5998140	Reserves - Future Capital Expansion	536,114	1,045,155	1,132,840
Total Funds:		586,114	1,095,155	1,182,840
12190 Fire Rescue Funds				
5998020	Reserves - Contingencies	4,928,762	2,295,446	1,192,726
Total Funds:		4,928,762	2,295,446	1,192,726
12240 Impact Fees				
5998140	Reserves - Future Capital Expansion	88,181,245	86,717,859	70,723,694
Total Funds:		88,181,245	86,717,859	70,723,694
14350 Emergency 911 Funds				
5998010	Reserves - Cash Balance Forward	1,183,586	1,445,577	1,109,709
5998020	Reserves - Contingencies	592,089	455,069	555,132
5998170	Reserves - Service Improvements	120,718	0	812,428
Total Funds:		1,896,393	1,900,646	2,477,269

RESERVES BY FUND

14370 Hazardous Waste Funds

5998140	Reserves - Future Capital Expansion	5,148	9,855	12,616
Total Funds:		5,148	9,855	12,616

14390 Radio Communications Funds

5998020	Reserves - Contingencies	67,243	368,807	513,915
5998140	Reserves - Future Capital Expansion	0	0	79,848
Total Funds:		67,243	368,807	593,763

14490 Indigent Health Care Funds

5998020	Reserves - Contingencies	16,324,477	15,443,321	13,197,316
5998200	Health Care Fluctuation Margin 3% (Actuary)	2,495,000	2,435,000	2,435,000
5998320	Reserves - Future Plan Changes	33,703,926	20,497,679	0
5998330	Reserves - Health Plans Statutory Reserves	2,586,679	2,682,103	2,378,311
Total Funds:		55,110,082	41,058,103	18,010,627

14500 Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Funds American Rescue Plan

5998140	Reserves - Future Capital Expansion	18,726,082	5,575,691	16,310,362
Total Funds:		18,726,082	5,575,691	16,310,362

14930 Leisure Services MSTU Funds

5998010	Reserves - Cash Balance Forward	1,596,024	1,301,402	1,790,144
5998020	Reserves - Contingencies	2,000,000	2,000,000	2,000,000
5998140	Reserves - Future Capital Expansion	2,470,548	106,202	132,477
Total Funds:		6,066,572	3,407,604	3,922,621

14950 Libraries MSTU Funds

5998010	Reserves - Cash Balance Forward	1,601,632	1,831,911	2,071,798
5998020	Reserves - Contingencies	872,000	997,374	1,127,979
Total Funds:		2,473,632	2,829,285	3,199,777

14960 Rancho Bonito MSTU Fund

5998010	Reserves - Cash Balance Forward	13,174	11,077	9,500
5998020	Reserves - Contingencies	6,587	5,539	4,750
5998170	Reserves - Service Improvements	24,261	17,562	12,013
Total Funds:		44,022	34,178	26,263

14970 Transportation Millage Fund

5998140	Reserves - Future Capital Expansion	15,806,836	43,644,601	44,546,822
Total Funds:		15,806,836	43,644,601	44,546,822

14980 Emergency Medical Millage Fund

5998140	Reserves - Future Capital Expansion	15,494,708	15,626,837	16,432,658
Total Funds:		15,494,708	15,626,837	16,432,658

RESERVES BY FUND

15010 Land Management Nonexpendable Trust Funds

5998010	Reserves - Cash Balance Forward	925,502	370,062	0
5998020	Reserves - Contingencies	300,000	0	0
5998150	Reserves - Nonexpendable Trust Fund	33,882,364	38,246,669	40,801,652
Total Funds:		35,107,866	38,616,731	40,801,652

15250 Eloise CRA Trust-Agency Funds

5998020	Reserves - Contingencies	70,000	38,956	39,112
5998140	Reserves - Future Capital Expansion	577,734	431,097	241,377
Total Funds:		647,734	470,053	280,489

15290 Harden Parkway CRA Funds

5998140	Reserves - Future Capital Expansion	161,139	376,476	545,039
Total Funds:		161,139	376,476	545,039

15310 Building Funds

5998020	Reserves - Contingencies	2,184,386	1,857,468	116,478
5998300	Reserves - Budget Stabilization	6,230,100	3,635,680	0
Total Funds:		8,414,486	5,493,148	116,478

18000 Stormwater MSTU

5998140	Reserves - Future Capital Expansion	2,941,216	861,456	311,236
Total Funds:		2,941,216	861,456	311,236

23500 Public Facilities Rev Ref Bonds, Series 2014 (Ref 2005)

5998080	Reserves - Debt Service	4,006,715	4,663,996	1,660,500
Total Funds:		4,006,715	4,663,996	1,660,500

23700 Public Fac Rev Note, S2015(Ref CFT 2006)

5998080	Reserves - Debt Service	1,674,495	1,733,608	1,851,964
Total Funds:		1,674,495	1,733,608	1,851,964

23800 Promissory Note 2020A

5998080	Reserves - Debt Service	2,625,076	2,859,151	2,987,263
Total Funds:		2,625,076	2,859,151	2,987,263

24000 Promissory Revenue Note, Series 2020 C

5998080	Reserves - Debt Service	4,974,258	4,964,326	4,964,326
Total Funds:		4,974,258	4,964,326	4,964,326

30200 Drainage and Water Quality Fund

5998140	Reserves - Future Capital Expansion	1,742,791	298,623	60,710
Total Funds:		1,742,791	298,623	60,710

30800 General Capital Improvement Funds

5998140	Reserves - Future Capital Expansion	23,683,844	52,116,471	140,149,351
Total Funds:		23,683,844	52,116,471	140,149,351

31200 Environmental Land Acquisition Funds

5998140	Reserves - Future Capital Expansion	1,537,460	277,590	1,244,605
Total Funds:		1,537,460	277,590	1,244,605

RESERVES BY FUND

41010 Solid Waste Funds

5998010	Reserves - Cash Balance Forward	7,494,707	12,240,663	8,153,218
5998020	Reserves - Contingencies	3,747,354	6,120,332	3,668,947
5998090	Reserves - Renewal & Replacement	14,864,131	13,902,266	10,596,064
5998140	Reserves - Future Capital Expansion	44,375,270	18,930,106	8,270,984
5998170	Reserves - Service Improvements	500,000	500,000	500,000
5998230	Reserves - Carryforward Adjustment	2,998,516	3,575,792	3,575,792
Total Funds:		73,979,978	55,269,159	34,765,005

41110 Landfill Closure Funds

5998010	Reserves - Cash Balance Forward	10,000,000	3,043,236	10,000,000
5998020	Reserves - Contingencies	41,200	58,115	60,721
5998110	Reserves - Landfill Closure	63,337,714	75,178,360	70,968,107
Total Funds:		73,378,914	78,279,711	81,028,828

41210 Universal Solid Waste Collection Funds

5998010	Reserves - Cash Balance Forward	6,900,048	1,354,293	2,059,079
5998020	Reserves - Contingencies	3,334,643	0	0
5998230	Reserves - Carryforward Adjustment	526,864	0	0
Total Funds:		10,761,555	1,354,293	2,059,079

42010 Utilities Operating Funds

5998080	Reserves - Debt Service	115,406	199,511	199,511
5998090	Reserves - Renewal & Replacement	1,000,000	1,000,000	950,391
5998120	Reserves - Salary Adjustments	89,773	89,773	201,775
5998140	Reserves - Future Capital Expansion	30,101,775	19,221,875	9,950,191
Total Funds:		31,306,954	20,511,159	11,301,868

42110 Utilities Capital Expansion Funds

5998140	Reserves - Future Capital Expansion	60,604,067	59,340,360	33,093,396
Total Funds:		60,604,067	59,340,360	33,093,396

42432 Utilities Bonds

5998140	Reserves - Future Capital Expansion	0	13,725,000	80,331,063
Total Funds:		0	13,725,000	80,331,063

50100 Fleet Maintenance Funds

5998020	Reserves - Contingencies	594,752	1,161,600	1,211,800
5998170	Reserves - Service Improvements	243,518	1,810,523	3,026,108
Total Funds:		838,270	2,972,123	4,237,908

50300 Employee Health Insurance Fund

5998020	Reserves - Contingencies	10,437,600	10,932,310	10,905,337
5998200	Health Care Fluctuation Margin 3% (Actuary)	1,993,817	2,137,548	2,137,548
5998300	Reserves - Budget Stabilization	3,304,739	3,167,025	3,167,025
5998330	Reserves - Health Plans Statutory Reserves	11,685,264	12,386,380	12,386,380
Total Funds:		27,421,420	28,623,263	28,596,290

RESERVES BY FUND

51500 Fleet Replacement Funds

5998020	Reserves - Contingencies	500,000	500,000	500,000
5998140	Reserves - Future Capital Expansion	25,345,864	29,951,073	32,520,891
Total Funds:		25,845,864	30,451,073	33,020,891

52000 Information Technology Fund

5998020	Reserves - Contingencies	942,288	1,346,480	1,433,511
5998170	Reserves - Service Improvements	233,060	618,926	601,926
Total Funds:		1,175,348	1,965,406	2,035,437

Grand Total	768,891,484	767,364,055	824,672,279
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Reserves are portions of the budget the County does not plan to spend in the current year. Reserves are used not only to balance the County's budget; they are used as emergency funds. Emergency can be defined as a revenue shortfall or unanticipated expenditures for natural disasters, such as hurricane relief and global pandemics.