



FY27 Budget Guidelines

April 7, 2026

Budget Guidelines

- Budget 5% reserve of operating revenue for General Fund, MSTU – Law Enforcement, MSBU – Fire, & Gas Tax
- Budget 10% (minimum) of operating revenue as Estimated Ending Fund Balance in the General Fund, and 5% in the MSTU-Law, MSBU-Fire and Gas Tax Funds for economic downturns or disaster recovery
 - The goal is to end each year with at least 2 months (17%) of expenditures in each of these operating funds for early fiscal year liquidity until revenues are received.
- Internal service charges and Indirect cost charges will be budgeted centrally for all Departments
- Inflationary factors, changes in population, and economic efficiencies will be considered in preparing the budget

Budget Guidelines

- Property Tax Revenue:
 - Increase General Fund operational expenditures only for New Construction and Additions to Property = ~\$4 Million
- Assessments:
 - MSBU- Fire – No Increase Planned
 - Stormwater – No Increase Planned
 - Solid Waste – No Increase Planned
- Fees:
 - Fee Study completed in FY25-26 with some fees implemented
 - Review of Balance will occur during budget development

Budget Guidelines

- These may adjust during budget process:
- Maintain the current funding allocation for Law Enforcement
 - (46% General Fund/54% MSTU-Law Enforcement)
- Maintain the current funding allocation of Sales Tax revenue that is in excess of debt obligations
 - (90% General Fund /10% MSBU-Fire Rescue)
- Maintain the current funding allocation for Public Service Tax (PST)
 - (60% General Fund/ 40% MSBU-Fire Rescue)
- Maintain the current funding allocation for Communication Service Tax (CST)
 - (40% General Fund/ 40% MSBU-Fire Rescue/20% Road Maintenance)

Pending – FL Legislature

- State Budget has not Been Adopted
- House Bill 1329 – Local Government Finances – awaiting Governor Signature
- Key details about the bill include:
 - Transparency Measures: Requires local governments to post searchable, downloadable budgets and employee salaries online.
 - Budget Accessibility: Local governments must maintain budget documents online for five years.
 - Fiscal Accountability: Mandates that local governments identify 10% in potential budget cuts without impacting essential services, such as fire and police.
 - Timeline: If signed, the bill is scheduled to take effect on January 1, 2027.

Pending – FL Legislature

- House Bill 1389/SB1548 Affordable Housing and Live Local Act Expansion
- CS/SB 1366 Claims Against the Government (Sovereign Immunity Reform)
- Property Tax Reform and Referendum Proposals