



Introduction



WELCOME TO THE COUNTY MANAGER'S FY26-27 PROPOSED BUDGET BOOK

Every budget reflects a community's priorities. The Alachua County Manager's FY26-27 Proposed Budget demonstrates how public resources are invested to provide essential services, maintain infrastructure, protect public safety and improve quality of life. The Budget in Brief provides an overview of where funding comes from, how it is allocated, and how those decisions support the Board of County Commissioners strategic priorities.



UNDERSTANDING YOUR BUDGET BOOK

The Alachua County Budget is more than a financial document—it is a roadmap that shows how public resources are used to provide services, achieve community goals, and maintain the County's financial health. This guide highlights each section to help readers quickly find the information most relevant to them.

Section 1 – INTRODUCTION

Provides an overview of the County, its organization, and the priorities that shaped the proposed budget. Includes the County Manager's Budget Message, Budget in Brief, key initiatives, staffing information, and the County's mission, vision, and values.

Section 2 – CONSOLIDATED REPORTS

Presents a countywide view of revenues, expenditures, fund balance, and reserves. This section explains where funding comes from, how resources are allocated, and the County's overall financial position.

Section 3 – FUNCTIONAL DEPARTMENT BUDGETS

Contains detailed information for each County department, constitutional office, and judicial function. Includes missions, services, goals, staffing levels, and financial history. Use this section to understand how specific programs and services are funded and delivered.

Section 4 – DEBT MANAGEMENT

Explains the County's debt obligations, borrowing practices, bond ratings, and financing tools. It also outlines current and future debt issuances and how debt supports major capital investments.

Section 5 – CAPITAL BUDGET AND FINANCIAL PLAN

Focuses on major infrastructure and capital improvement projects, including facilities, parks, transportation systems, and other long-term assets. It identifies funding sources, planning criteria, and the impact of capital projects on future operating budgets.

Section 6 – PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT

Measures how effectively County programs and services achieve desired results. Performance indicators and service summaries help evaluate efficiency, effectiveness, and progress toward strategic goals.

Section 7 – BUDGET PROCESS AND FUND STRUCTURE

Describes the County's budget process, financial policies, budget calendar, and opportunities for public participation. It also explains the County's fund structure and accounting methods, helping readers understand how revenues and expenditures are organized.

Section 8 – LONG-TERM FINANCIAL FORECASTING

Examines future financial conditions using economic trends, revenue projections, expenditure forecasts, and growth assumptions. This section helps identify opportunities and challenges that may affect the County's financial sustainability.

Section 9 – APPENDICES

Provides supporting information and reference materials, including budget terminology, demographic and economic data, financial policies, ethics statements, and other background resources.

WHERE NATURE AND CULTURE MEET

Community Overview

Established in 1824, Alachua County is located in north central Florida and encompasses approximately 969 square miles. The County includes the municipalities of Alachua, Archer, Gainesville, Hawthorne, High Springs, La Crosse, Micanopy, Newberry, and Waldo. Gainesville, the county seat, was established in 1854 on land that was part of a grant awarded by the King of Spain to Don Fernando Arredondo in 1817. The name *Alachua* is derived from a Seminole word believed to mean "jug," likely referring to the sinkhole at Paynes Prairie.

Alachua County has a rich cultural and historical heritage, with more than 65 properties listed on the National Register of Historic Places, including two National Historic Landmarks: the Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings Historic State Park and the Dudley Farm Historic State Park. As of April 1, 2025, the County's estimated permanent population was 298,485, an increase of 2.03% from the prior year. Home to the University of Florida, Alachua County also experiences a significant seasonal population increase of approximately 63,000 students, contributing to the area's economic vitality and service demands.

Government Organization

Alachua County is a political subdivision of the State of Florida governed by a five-member elected Board of County Commissioners (Board). The Board establishes County policy and adopts the annual budget in accordance with Chapter 125, Florida Statutes.

The Board of County Commissioners appoints a County Manager to serve as the County's chief administrative officer. The County Manager is responsible for implementing Board policies and overseeing the day-to-day administration of County operations, including the management of departments, programs, and personnel under the Board's authority. The Board also appoints the County Attorney, who serves as the chief legal advisor to the Board and County departments on matters of civil law. Numerous advisory boards and committees assist the Board by providing citizen input and technical expertise on a variety of policy issues.

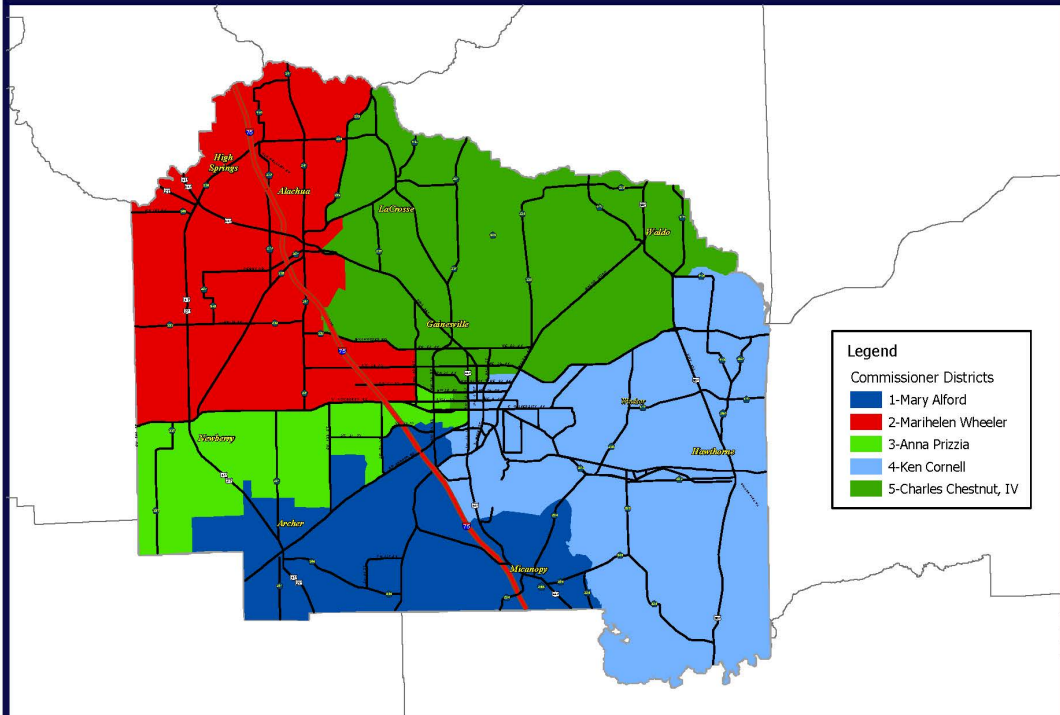
Alachua County's five independently elected Constitutional Officers are the Clerk of the Court and Comptroller, Property Appraiser, Sheriff, Supervisor of Elections, and Tax Collector. Each performs constitutional and statutory responsibilities and is directly accountable to the voters. The County also provides full or partial funding for other constitutional and judicial offices, including the State Attorney, Public Defender, and the Eighth Judicial Circuit, as required by Florida law.

Fiscal Stewardship

Alachua County is committed to responsible financial management and the efficient delivery of public services. The County's growing population, major university presence, and diverse urban and rural communities influence service demands and long-term financial planning. Florida law requires the County to adopt a balanced annual budget in which projected revenues are sufficient to fund planned expenditures.

As the community continues to grow, the County must balance increasing service demands, inflationary pressures, and state mandates while maintaining long-term financial stability. Through a collaborative budget development process, the Board of County Commissioners evaluates community priorities, available resources, and operational needs to ensure public funds are allocated responsibly, and transparently, in accordance with Board priorities and adopted financial policies.

COUNTY COMMISSION DISTRICTS



- Legend**
- Commissioner Districts
- 1-Mary Alford
 - 2-Marihelen Wheeler
 - 3-Anna Prizzia
 - 4-Ken Cornell
 - 5-Charles Chestnut, IV

Map Disclaimer:
 This data is prepared for the inventory of real property found within Alachua County and is compiled from recorded deeds, plats, and other public records and data. Users of this data are hereby notified that the aforementioned public primary information sources should be consulted for verification of the information contained within this data. Alachua County Property Appraiser's Office assumes no legal responsibility for the information contained within this data.



AYESHA SOLOMON
 ALACHUA COUNTY
 PROPERTY APPRAISER
 KNOWLEDGEABLE - COMMUNITY FOCUSED - COMMITTED

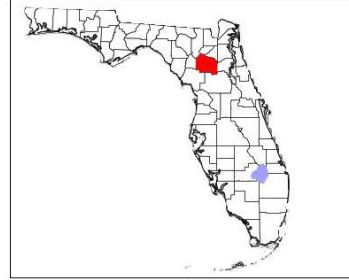


Scale
 0 1.25 2.5 Miles

FACT SHEET

ABOUT ALACHUA COUNTY

Florida's 24th Most Populous County
Population – 298,485
114,715 Unincorporated – 183,770 Incorporated
Median Household Income - \$61,949
Per Capita Income - \$58,873
Households – 112,723
Registered Voters – 164,393
Form of Government = Commission – County Manager
Municipalities - 9



EXPLORE

1 Cuscowilla Nature & Retreat Center

4 Live Music Venues

5 Wildlife Sanctuaries and Zoo

7 Museums & Galleries

8 State Parks

9 Attraction & Sports Venues

Including Alachua County Sports & Events Center

11 Theaters & Performing Arts Venues

12 Living History & Historic sites

19 Community parks

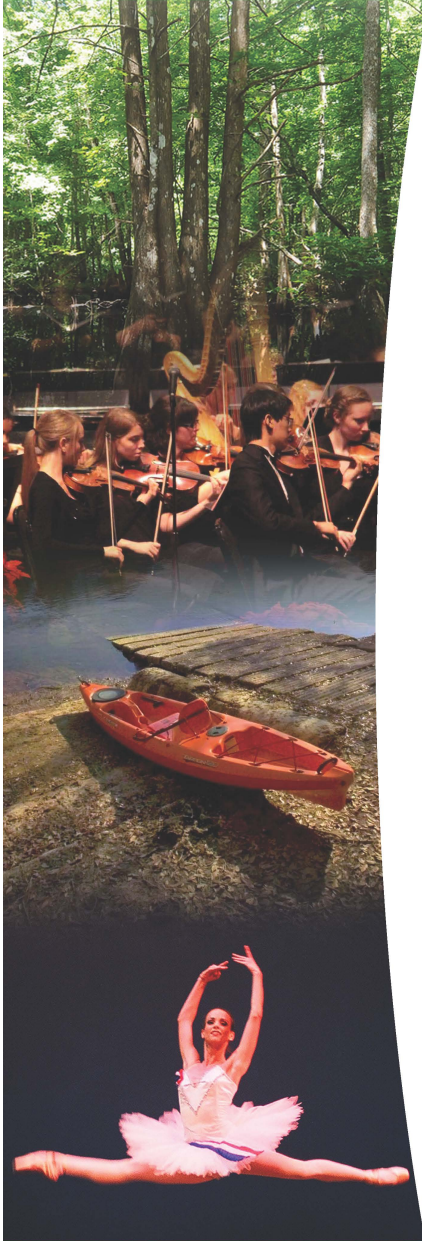
100 miles of biking, birding and hiking trails

Visit Gainesville, Alachua County, FL at

www.visitgainesville.com



Mission Statement Vision and Values



Mission Statement

Alachua County's mission is to provide responsive service to citizens and responsible stewardship of county resources for current and future generations.

Vision and Values

Vision - Alachua County is committed to responsible stewardship of the resources entrusted to us by our citizens, realizing that our natural and human resources are our most valuable assets. Furthermore, Alachua County is dedicated to be transparent and responsive, creating an atmosphere of trust with the citizens we serve.

Values -To meet this mission, employees should recognize these fundamental values and these values should serve as a guide to employee conduct and actions where policies are silent or in apparent conflict:

- **Integrity:** We adhere to standards of ethical conduct.
- **Honesty:** We are truthful, fair and open with our fellow employees and the people we serve.
- **Respect:** We are responsive, compassionate and courteous in all our interactions.
- **Diversity:** We embrace the value and power of diversity in our community.
- **Innovation:** We are committed to the consideration and implementation of new ideas.
- **Accountability:** We are accountable for our behavior and the quality of work performed individually and as teams.
- **Communication:** Our open communication and sharing of ideas enhances the decision-making process.



Where Nature and Culture Meet

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Ken Cornell

Chair



COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Anna Prizzia

Vice Chair



COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Mary Alford

Commissioner



COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Charles "Chuck" Chestnut, IV

Commissioner





COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Marihelen Wheeler

Commissioner



PRINCIPAL OFFICIALS - APPOINTED OFFICIALS

Michele Lieberman

County Manager



PRINCIPAL OFFICIALS - APPOINTED OFFICIALS

Sylvia E. Torres
County Attorney



PRINCIPAL OFFICIALS - CONSTITUTIONAL OFFICERS

Kim A. Barton
Supervisor of Elections



PRINCIPAL OFFICIALS - CONSTITUTIONAL OFFICERS

Ayesha Solomon

Property Appraiser



PRINCIPAL OFFICIALS - CONSTITUTIONAL OFFICERS

Chad D. Scott

Sheriff



PRINCIPAL OFFICIALS - CONSTITUTIONAL OFFICERS

John Power

Tax Collector



PRINCIPAL OFFICIALS - CONSTITUTIONAL OFFICERS

J.K. "Jess" Irby

Clerk of Circuit Courts



PRINCIPAL OFFICIALS - JUDICIAL

Brian S. Kramer

State Attorney



PRINCIPAL OFFICIALS - JUDICIAL

Stacy A. Scott

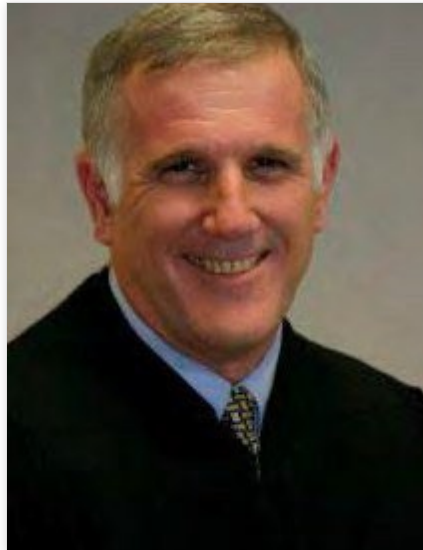
Public Defender

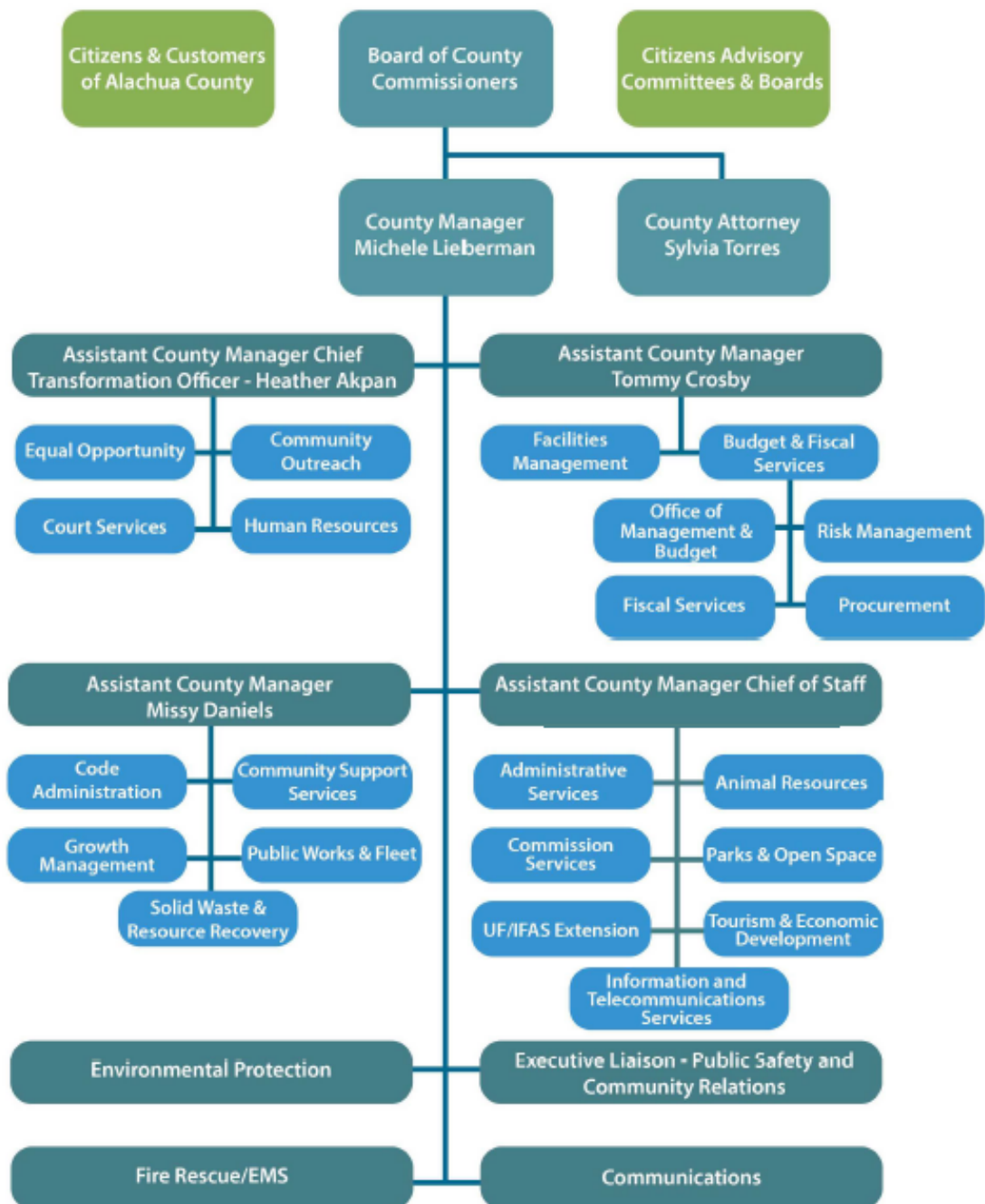


PRINCIPAL OFFICIALS - JUDICIAL

James P. Nilon

Chief Judge





ALACHUA COUNTY BUDGET DEVELOPMENT PROCESS

A Collaborative Process Focused on Community Needs, Fiscal Responsibility, and Transparency



BUDGET DEVELOPMENT

The County budget is developed through a collaborative process in which departments evaluate service needs and submit funding requests for review by County Administration. These requests are evaluated alongside projected revenues, strategic priorities, and available resources to develop the County Manager's Proposed Budget. The Proposed Budget is then presented to the Board of County Commissioners and the public for review and discussion before the Board adopts the final budget.

The FY26–27 Proposed Budget incorporates updated property values certified by the Alachua County Property Appraiser as of July 1, 2026. Revenue estimates are continue to be refined throughout the budget process as additional information becomes available, including state revenue estimates received during July through September.

The proposed General County millage rate is based on the rolled-back rate of **7.2107 mills**, representing a reduction of **0.3893 mills** from the FY25–26 adopted rate. The Municipal Services Taxing Unit (MSTU) for Law Enforcement millage rate remains unchanged at **3.5678 mills**.

Public input is incorporated through workshops, public hearings, and community participation throughout the budget process. The Board of County Commissioners will hold a public hearing on **July 14, 2026, at 5:01 p.m.** to establish the tentative millage and assessment rates. Additional budget workshops will be held during August (see the Budget Calendar in the Introduction section), with final public hearings to adopt the millage rates, assessment rates, and annual budget scheduled for **September 8, 2026**, and **September 22, 2026**.

The County Manager's Proposed Budget continues to support existing programs and services while advancing the strategic priorities established by the Board of County Commissioners. The budget is balanced, complies with Florida law, and adheres to all County budget and financial policies.

The Proposed Budget also includes the voter-approved One-Cent Infrastructure Surtax, which is expected to provide funding for transportation improvements, implementation of the Parks Master Plan, affordable and workforce housing initiatives, and land conservation and preservation.

Proposed Assessments:

- Fire Assessment:** Updated to meet legal criteria. Tier 1 \$132.47 per Unit, Tier 2 \$7.28 per Unit – No Change.
- Stormwater Assessment:** \$60.00 Equivalent Residential Unit (ERU) - No Change.
- Solid Waste Tipping Fee:** \$65.00 per ton – No Change.
- Solid Waste Assessment:** No Change.

FY26-27 QUICK BUDGET FACTS

Estimated County Population:	298,485
Number of Funds:	146
County Departments Supported:	20
Constitutional & Judicial Offices Supported:	11
Strategic Priorities:	11
Credit Rating:	Aa2 Moody's

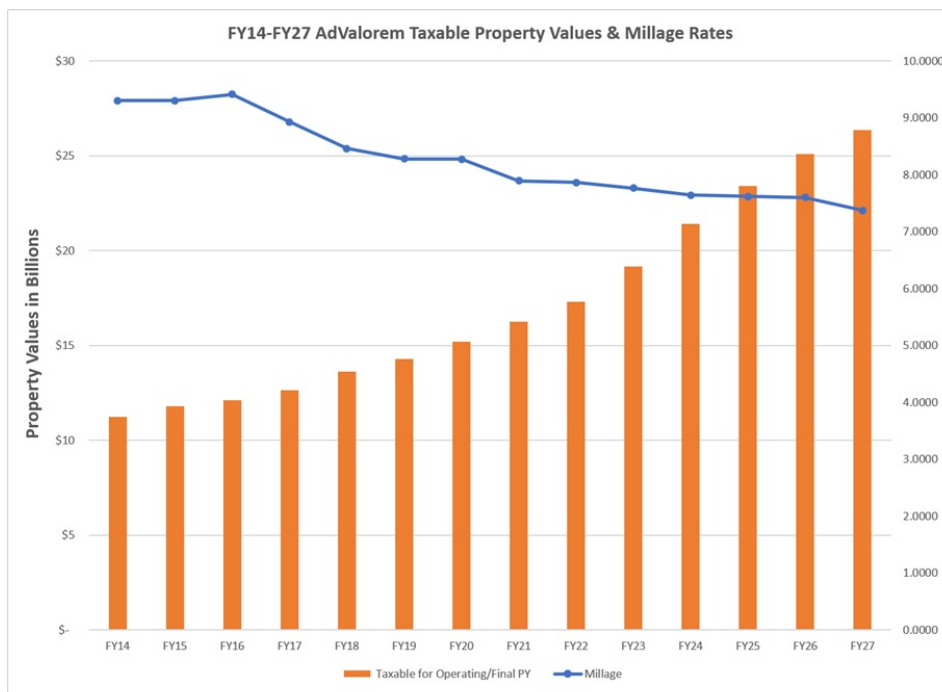
General County Millage has declined for nine consecutive years while taxable values have continued to increase.

General County Adjusted Taxable Value:	\$26,344,698,275
General County Proposed Millage:	7.2107 mills (Rolled-Back Rate)
<u>Estimated General County Ad Valorem Revenue:</u>	<u>\$183,955,388 (95% certified taxable value)</u>
General Fund Proposed Budget:	\$324,372,860

MSTU Law Enforcement Adjusted Taxable Value:	\$10,685,381,950
MSTU Law Enforcement Millage:	3.5678 mills
<u>Estimated MSTU Ad Valorem Revenue:</u>	<u>\$36,992,972 (95% certified taxable value)</u>
MSTU Law Enforcement Budget:	\$49,097,730

TOTAL COUNTY PROPOSED BUDGET: \$948,951,542

The Budget in Brief provides a high-level overview of the County Manager's Proposed Budget, highlighting major policy decisions, revenue assumptions, tax rates, and funding priorities. Additional detail is provided throughout the remainder of the budget document.



MILLAGE RATES, ASSESSED VALUES, AND ESTIMATED TAX RECEIPTS

Millage rates, taxable assessed values, and estimated tax receipts are the foundation of property tax revenue projections. The millage rate determines the tax levied for every \$1,000 of taxable property value, while assessed values are established annually by the Property Appraiser. Together, these factors determine the property tax revenue available to fund County services. Since FY17, the Board of County Commissioners has reduced the General County Millage Rate each year, lowering the County's tax rate for property owners.

TRIM PROCESS AND NOTICE

The Truth in Millage (TRIM) process is a state-mandated procedure that promotes transparency in local government property tax decisions. Each year, taxing authorities establish proposed millage rates, and property owners are notified of these proposed rates, estimated taxes, and public hearing dates before final adoption.

The TRIM Notice is mailed by the Property Appraiser to property owners and provides important information about property assessments, exemptions, proposed tax rates, and estimated taxes for the upcoming year. The notice also includes dates, times, and locations of public budget hearings, giving taxpayers an opportunity to review the proposed taxes and provide input before tax rates are finalized.

It is important to remember that the proposed property taxes shown on your TRIM (Truth in Millage) Notice include taxes from multiple taxing authorities, not just Alachua County. Your notice may also include proposed taxes from your municipality (if applicable), the School Board, water management district, and other special taxing districts, each of which sets its own budget and tax rate independently.

THE ALACHUA COUNTY BUDGET IS YOUR BUDGET GET INVOLVED

PUBLIC HEARING DATES TO REMEMBER

JULY 14, 2026

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS SETS MILLAGE & ASSESSMENT RATES

SEPTEMBER 8, 2026

FIRST PUBLIC HEARING ON MILLAGE RATES AND BUDGET

SEPTEMBER 22, 2026

ADOPTION OF FINAL MILLAGE RATES AND BUDGET

2025 Millage Rates

MILLAGE COMPONENTS		MILLAGE RATE		
	County		7.6000	
	MSTU-Law		3.5678	
	Library		0.9374	
	Children's Trust		0.4500	
	Suwannee Water Mgt.		0.2812	
	St Johns Water Mgt.		0.1793	
	School Discretionary		3.2480	
	School Required Local		3.0030	
TOTAL BASE MILLAGE			19.2667	

JURISDICTION	2025 MILLAGE RATES	TOTAL MILLAGE IF SUWANNEE WATER MGT. INCLUDED	TOTAL MILLAGE IF ST JOHNS WATER MGT. INCLUDED
 Alachua (Unincorporated)	—	19.0874	18.9855
 Alachua (City)	6.2500	21.7696	—
 Archer (includes MSTU Law)	6.4322	25.5196	—
 Gainesville	6.7297	22.2493	22.1474
 Hawthorne (includes MSTU Law)	6.4322	—	25.4177
 High Springs	6.9900	22.5096	—
 Lacrosse	6.5410	22.0606	—
 Micanopy	5.2000	—	20.6177
 Newberry	5.8800	21.3996	—
 Waldo (includes MSTU Law)	6.4000	25.4874	25.3855

Note: Totals may not foot due to rounding.

In addition to Alachua County, other local governments and independent taxing authorities have the legal authority to levy ad valorem taxes. These include municipalities, the St. Johns River Water Management District, the Suwannee River Water Management District, the Alachua County Library District, the Children's Trust of Alachua County, and the School Board of Alachua County. Each taxing authority establishes its own millage rate, which is shown separately on the Truth in Millage (TRIM) Notice and on the annual property tax bill received by taxpayers.

AGGREGATE ROLLED-BACK RATE

Florida law requires local governments to compare proposed millage rates to the "rolled-back rate" when adopting annual property tax rates. The "rolled-back rate" is that millage rate which, when applied to the taxable value after excluding new construction, additions to structures, deletions, and property added due to geographic boundary changes, would provide the same ad valorem tax revenue as was levied during the previous year.

The "rolled-back rate" is used as a standardized point of comparison to show how millage rates are changing from one year to the next. The purpose of the "rolled-back rate" calculation is to allow local governments to identify when they are drawing more tax revenue from existing property.

For example, an increase in the assessed value of existing property draws more tax revenue for governments even when those governments keep the same millage rates as the previous year. The aggregate "rolled-back rate" varies significantly from the total millage rate because the combined ad valorem revenue from the General Fund and the MSTU–Law Enforcement Fund is divided by the countywide taxable value in calculating the "aggregate rolled-back rate" even though ad valorem revenue from the MSTU millage is generated from a much smaller tax base.

At the public hearings in September, the County is required to show how proposed millage rates compare to the "aggregate rolled-back rate" and then identify why the proposed rate differs from the "aggregate rolled-back rate".

COMPUTING PROPERTY TAXES

To compute the County portion property tax on a parcel, you need to know three factors: the assessed value as determined by the Property Appraiser; the amount of the assessed value not subject to taxation due to the application of exemptions; and the millage rate authorized by the appropriate taxing authority.

Example Calculation:

Start with the **ASSESSED PROPERTY VALUE** = \$200,000

Minus the amount of any **EXEMPTIONS**

For example, Homestead Exemption is \$25,000; additional Homestead Exemption under Constitutional Amendment 1 is another \$25,000.

This results in a **TAXABLE PROPERTY VALUE** = \$150,000

Next, divide the **TAXABLE PROPERTY VALUE** BY \$1,000 = \$150.

Multiply this answer by the levied millage.

For instance, using the FY26-27 proposed rate of 7.2107 (\$7.2107 per thousand dollars of taxable value), the countywide property tax would be: $\$150 \times 7.2107 = \$1,081.60$.

HOW ALACHUA COUNTY IS FUNDED

WHERE YOUR MONEY COMES FROM

Many residents think of the County budget as one large pool of money; yet Alachua County operates multiple funds, each created for a specific purpose and governed by state law, local ordinances, voter-approved initiatives, or financial policies.

Some revenues may be used for a broad range of County services, while others are legally restricted to specific purposes such as law enforcement, fire protection, roads, stormwater management, housing, or solid waste services.

This structure promotes accountability and transparency by ensuring that revenues collected for a specific purpose are used only for that purpose. Because many revenues are restricted by state law, voter approval, or local ordinance, money collected for one purpose generally cannot be used for another purpose.

Each fund is a separate accounting entity with its own revenues, expenditures, assets, liabilities, and legal requirements.

FUNDING SOURCE	FY26-27 AMOUNT	PURPOSE
General Fund	\$324.3 million	Core County government services
MSTU Law Enforcement	\$49.0 million	Sheriff's Office funding
Fire Assessment	\$38.0 million	Fire Rescue services
Gas Tax	\$14.9 million	Road maintenance
Infrastructure Surtax	\$121.2 million	Roads, housing, parks, conservation
Solid Waste Fees	\$46.9 million	Waste collection and disposal
Stormwater Assessment	\$5.3 million	Drainage and stormwater improvements

WHY THIS MATTERS

A reduction in the General Fund tax rate does not necessarily reduce all taxes and assessments paid by a property owner because some services are funded through separate dedicated revenue sources.

WHAT IS THE GENERAL FUND?

The General Fund functions as the County's primary operating fund, supporting general government operations which supports services that benefit all residents. General Fund revenues come primarily from property taxes, state revenue sharing, utility taxes, communications services taxes, and other general revenues.

WHAT DOES THE GENERAL FUND PAY FOR?

Examples include: County Administration, Budget and Fiscal Services, Human Resources, Environmental Protection, Community Support Services, Animal Resources, Parks and Open Space, Court Services, Constitutional Officers.

FY26-27 GENERAL FUND SNAPSHOT

CATEGORY	AMOUNT
Total Budget	\$324.3 Million
Property Tax Revenue	\$183.9 Million
Millage Rate Proposed	7.2107 Mills (Rolled-Back Rate)
FY26 County Share of Property Tax Dollar	40.03 cents

MSTU-LAW ENFORCEMENT FUND

WHY IS THERE A SEPARATE LAW ENFORCEMENT TAX?

Florida law allows counties to establish a Municipal Service Taxing Unit (MSTU) for services that require dedicated funding. In Alachua County, the MSTU Law Enforcement Fund provides dedicated funding for the Alachua County Sheriff's Office. This funding source helps ensure that public safety services remain stable and transparent.

IMPORTANT TO KNOW

MSTU Law Enforcement revenues may only be used for law enforcement purposes and cannot be redirected to parks, housing, or other County programs.

FY26-27 MSTU-LAW ENFORCEMENT SNAPSHOT

CATEGORY	AMOUNT
Total Budget	\$49.0 Million
Property Tax Revenue	\$36.9 Million
Millage Rate	3.5678 Mills
The County's General fund also supports Sheriff services	

ASSESSMENTS ARE DIFFERENT FROM TAXES

Not all charges appearing on a property tax bill are taxes. Some services are funded through special assessments, which are charges based on the benefit received by a property owner.

FUNDING TYPE	EXAMPLE	PURPOSE
Property Tax	General Fund	Broad County services
Property Tax	MSTU Law Enforcement	Public safety
Assessment	Fire Assessment	Fire protection
Assessment	Stormwater Assessment	Drainage systems
Assessment	Solid Waste Assessment	Waste collection

WHY USE ASSESSMENTS?

Assessments help ensure that the cost of a service is paid by those who receive the benefit and provide a stable funding source for essential infrastructure and public safety services.

FIRE ASSESSMENT

The Alachua County Fire Assessment is a non-ad valorem assessment that funds fire protection services and can only be used for fire-related purposes. It supports the costs of fire suppression, fire rescue operations, fire stations, firefighting equipment, fire personnel, fire training, and other fire facilities and programs necessary to provide fire protection to properties within the County's fire service area. Unlike property taxes, the revenue from the fire assessment is legally restricted to funding fire services and cannot be used for other County operations.

STORMWATER ASSESSMENT

This assessment funds the maintenance and improvement of Alachua County's stormwater system, helping reduce flooding, protect roads and drainage infrastructure, and improve water quality by managing stormwater runoff. These funds are dedicated to stormwater services and cannot be used for other County operations.

SOLID WASTE ASSESSMENT

This assessment supports County solid waste services, including waste disposal, recycling programs, household hazardous waste collection, rural collection centers, and the long-term management of solid waste facilities. These funds ensure residents have safe, reliable, and environmentally responsible waste management services.

OTHER TAXES

Several Alachua County taxes are legally dedicated to funding specific services, ensuring those revenues are used only for their intended purpose.

GAS TAX

Gas tax revenues are restricted to transportation-related purposes and support: road maintenance, road resurfacing, traffic signals, transportation infrastructure improvements.

INFRASTRUCTURE SALES SURTAX

In November 2022, voters approved a one-cent infrastructure surtax. These revenues are dedicated to: transportation improvements, affordable housing, parks and recreation, and land conservation. The County must use these revenues only for the purposes approved by voters.

WHY THE COUNTY CANNOT MOVE MONEY BETWEEN FUNDS

"WHY CAN'T THE COUNTY USE ROAD MONEY TO FUND HOUSING?"

Many County revenues are legally restricted. Examples include:

REVENUE SOURCE	RESTRICTED USE
Gas Tax	Roads and transportation
Fire Assessment	Fire Rescue services
Infrastructure Surtax	Voter-approved purposes
Impact Fees	Growth-related capital improvements
Tourist Development Tax	Tourism promotion

State law, local ordinances, voter referendums, and bond covenants often prohibit these revenues from being used for unrelated purposes. As a result, the County must maintain separate funds to ensure compliance and transparency. Because many of these revenues are restricted, the County generally cannot transfer funds from one purpose to another. For example, road maintenance revenues cannot be used to fund parks, and fire assessment revenues cannot be used for housing programs.

HOW YOUR COUNTY PROPERTY TAX DOLLAR IS USED

In FY25-26, for every \$1.00 of property tax collected, the General Fund receives approximately 40.03 cents and is allocated accordingly:

USE	AMOUNT
County Departments	22.04 cents
Sheriff	11.42 cents
Constitutional & Judicial Offices	3.25 cents
Capital Projects	1.22 cents
Community Redevelopment Area (CRA)	0.64 cents
<u>Reserves</u>	<u>1.46 cents</u>
MSTU-Law Enforcement collects	18.79 cents
The remainder of the dollar is allocated:	
Libraries	4.94 cents
Children's Trust	2.37 cents
School Board	32.93 cents
Water Management	0.94 cents

ILLUSTRATIVE EXAMPLE:

A homeowner paying \$2,000 annually in County property taxes contributes approximately:

SERVICE	AMOUNT
Sheriff Services	\$604.40
County Departments	\$440.80
Constitutional/Judicial Services	\$ 65.00
Capital Projects	\$ 24.40
Reserves	\$ 28.60
Community Redevelopment	\$ 13.00
Libraries	\$ 98.80
Children's Trust	\$ 47.40
School Board	\$658.60
Water Management	\$ 18.80

The Budget in Brief has provided a snapshot of how Alachua County invests public resources to deliver essential services, maintain infrastructure, and support a high quality of life for our community. We encourage residents to stay informed, participate in the budget process, and learn more about how their tax dollars are working to serve our community.

Section 2 provides additional information about County revenues, taxes, assessments, and other funding sources used to support County services.

ECONOMIC CONDITIONS TO CONSIDER – FY2027 BUDGET

Economic indicators are monitored throughout the year to help inform revenue projections and expenditure planning.

ECONOMIC CONDITION	POTENTIAL BUDGET IMPACT	MONITORING STRATEGY
 PROPERTY VALUES	Property values continue to increase, but growth has moderated from recent historic highs. Slower growth may reduce future ad valorem revenue growth and limit capacity for additional millage reductions.	Monitor Property Appraiser estimates, building activity, home sales, and taxable value trends throughout the budget development process.
 HOUSING MARKET	Higher interest rates and affordability challenges may slow new construction and property sales, affecting future taxable value growth.	Track residential permits, construction activity, and local housing market indicators for signs of stabilization or decline.
 INFLATION	Although inflation has moderated, costs for construction, maintenance, equipment, utilities, and contracted services remain elevated compared to historical levels.	Review expenditure trends quarterly and update cost estimates for major contracts, capital projects, and operating budgets.
 INTEREST RATES	Elevated interest rates increase borrowing costs and may affect future capital financing while generating higher investment earnings on available cash balances.	Monitor Federal Reserve actions, investment earnings, and debt market conditions when evaluating financing strategies.
 STATE REVENUE SHARING	State-shared revenues remain stable but are subject to changes in state economic conditions and legislative actions.	Monitor monthly receipts and July Revenue Estimating Conference forecasts along with legislative actions affecting local governments.
 TRANSPORTATION REVENUES (FUEL TAXES)	Raised gas prices have increased the amount paid per gallon at the pump; however, fuel tax revenues are not directly impacted by price increases. Revenues remain sensitive to changes in travel patterns, fuel efficiency, and electric vehicle adoption.	Monitor monthly collections, average gas prices, traffic trends, and long-term transportation funding forecasts.
 CONSTRUCTION & CAPITAL PROJECTS	Material costs, contractor availability, and labor shortages continue to affect project pricing and delivery schedules.	Review project estimates regularly and update capital schedules based on bid results and market conditions.
 INSURANCE COSTS	Property, liability, and health insurance costs continue to experience upward pressure, increasing operating expenditures.	Review renewal projections and claims experience during budget development and long-range forecasting.
 LABOR MARKET	Competition for qualified employees continues to place pressure on wages, recruitment, and employee retention.	Monitor vacancy rates, turnover, labor market data, compensation studies, and collective bargaining impacts.
 FEDERAL & STATE FUNDING	Grant funding and legislative appropriations may fluctuate as temporary pandemic-era funding has ended and federal priorities evolve.	Monitor grant opportunities, legislative actions, and funding announcements to evaluate potential operational impacts.



NOTE: The State Revenue Estimating Conference publishes updated revenue estimates throughout the fiscal year. The County incorporates these estimates, along with local economic indicators, during budget development to refine revenue projections and assess potential impacts on future financial planning.

ECONOMIC SNAPSHOT

AVERAGE PRICE OF GASOLINE (REGULAR UNLEADED)



Source: U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA)

FLORIDA FUEL TAX RATE



Source: Florida Department of Revenue

ALACHUA COUNTY FUEL TAX REVENUES (Monthly Collections)



Source: Alachua County Finance Department



REVENUES

REVENUES

Revenues All Funds	FY22 Adopted	FY23 Adopted	FY24 Adopted	FY25 Adopted	FY26 Adopted	FY27 County Manager Budget
Taxes	\$ 195,506,309	\$ 210,357,832	\$ 253,549,578	\$ 271,296,994	\$ 285,595,403	\$ 286,475,456
Permits & Fees	\$ 33,297,984	\$ 36,253,726	\$ 40,329,163	\$ 41,175,915	\$ 42,444,080	\$ 108,528,258
Intergovernmental Revenue	\$ 35,757,490	\$ 35,148,425	\$ 36,006,922	\$ 59,457,749	\$ 61,489,759	\$ 62,144,103
Charges for Service	\$ 82,760,106	\$ 87,963,137	\$ 92,571,940	\$ 104,208,174	\$ 100,088,225	\$ 102,229,130
Judgment Fines & Forfeitures	\$ 520,500	\$ 503,000	\$ 458,000	\$ 405,350	\$ 402,700	\$ 382,622
Misc. Revenue	\$ 10,001,536	\$ 9,942,018	\$ 10,934,185	\$ 27,325,163	\$ 22,812,653	\$ 22,401,503
Other Sources	\$ 211,092,347	\$ 320,845,701	\$ 323,186,708	\$ 363,026,793	\$ 434,103,734	\$ 366,030,293
Total Revenues	\$ 568,936,272	\$ 701,013,839	\$ 757,036,496	\$ 866,896,138	\$ 946,936,554	\$ 948,191,365

County revenues provide the financial resources needed to deliver public services, maintain infrastructure, and support County operations. Funding comes from a variety of local, state, federal, and other sources. Because many revenues are legally restricted or dedicated to specific purposes, they cannot always be used for every County service. Understanding these revenue categories helps explain where County funding comes from and how it is used to serve the community.

31 – Taxes

Taxes include property (ad valorem) taxes, local option sales taxes, fuel taxes, tourist development taxes, communications services taxes, and other taxes authorized by state law. Some taxes support general government operations, while others are dedicated to services such as transportation, public safety, tourism, and infrastructure.

32 – Permits, Fees & Special Assessments

This category includes permits, licenses, development review and inspection fees, impact fees, and special assessments. These revenues help recover the cost of services or improvements that directly benefit specific individuals, businesses, or properties.

33 – Intergovernmental Revenue

Intergovernmental revenue includes funding received from federal, state, regional, and local governments through grants, state revenue sharing, gas taxes, and other financial assistance. These revenues support County programs, transportation, public safety, environmental initiatives, and capital projects.

34 – Charges for Services

Charges for Services are fees paid for specific County services, such as recreation programs, emergency medical services, landfill operations, facility rentals, and document copies. These user fees help offset the cost of providing services.

35 – Judgments, Fines & Forfeitures

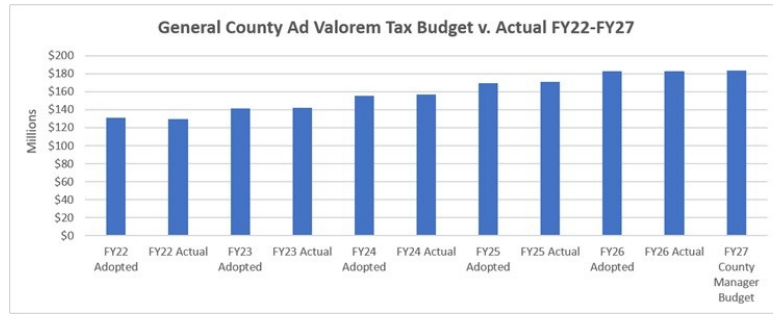
This category includes court-related fines, code enforcement penalties, forfeitures, and legal settlements. These revenues are generally established by law and may be restricted to specific uses.

36 – Miscellaneous Revenues

Miscellaneous revenues include interest earnings, rental income, donations, reimbursements, proceeds from the sale of surplus property, and other revenues that do not fit within the major revenue categories.

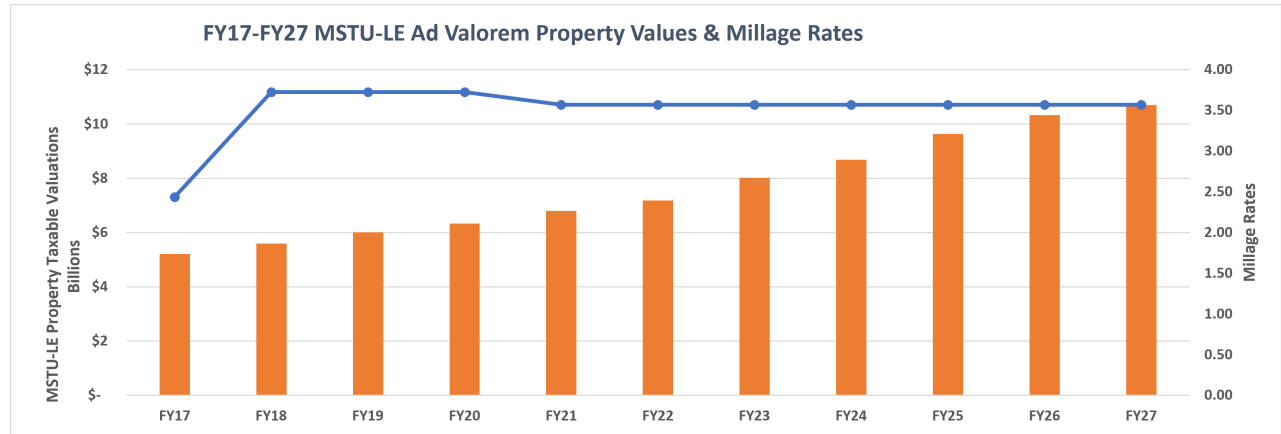
38 – Other Sources

Other Sources finance activities rather than operating revenues. They include transfers between County funds, debt proceeds, and the use of available fund balance (carryforward) from prior years.

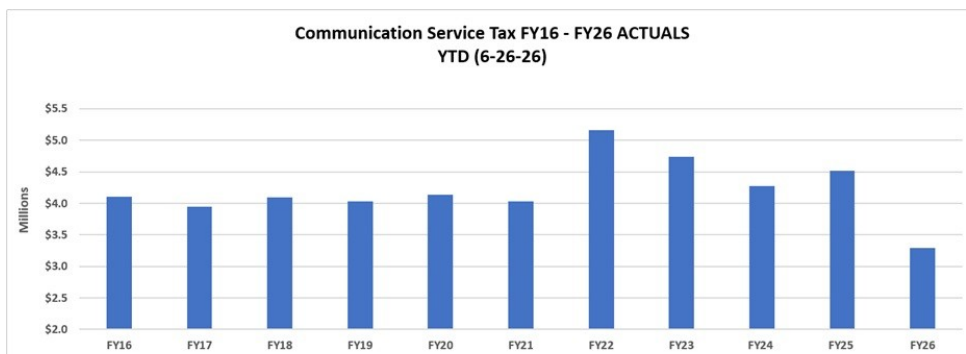


AD VALOREM TAXES

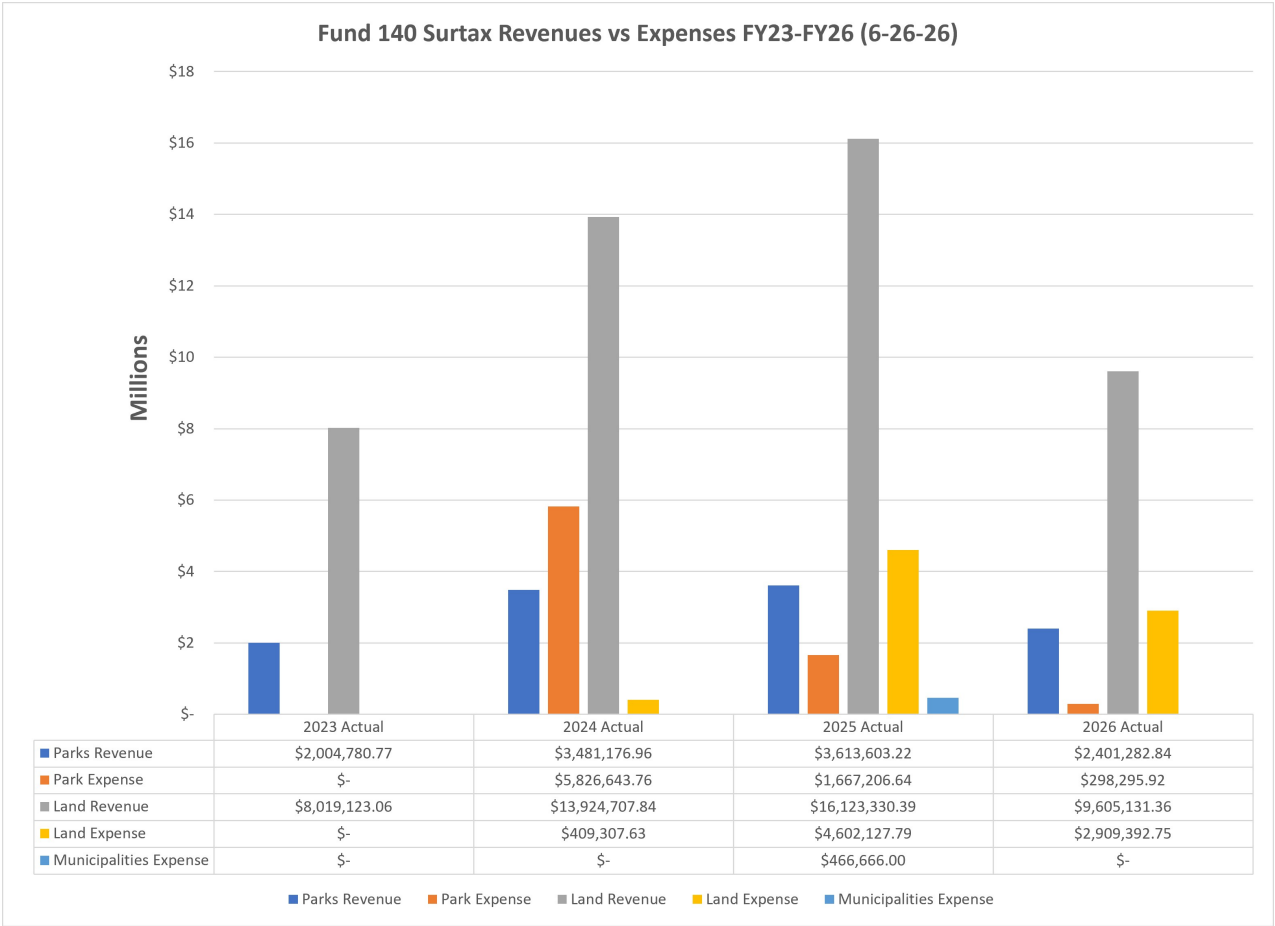
Ad valorem taxes are property taxes based on the assessed value of real property and are a primary source of funding for local government services in Alachua County. Revenue generated from ad valorem taxes supports essential services such as public safety, transportation, parks, libraries, and other county operations. Property taxes are calculated by applying the approved millage rates to the taxable value of a property after applicable exemptions are applied. Property taxes remain the County's most stable recurring local revenue source.



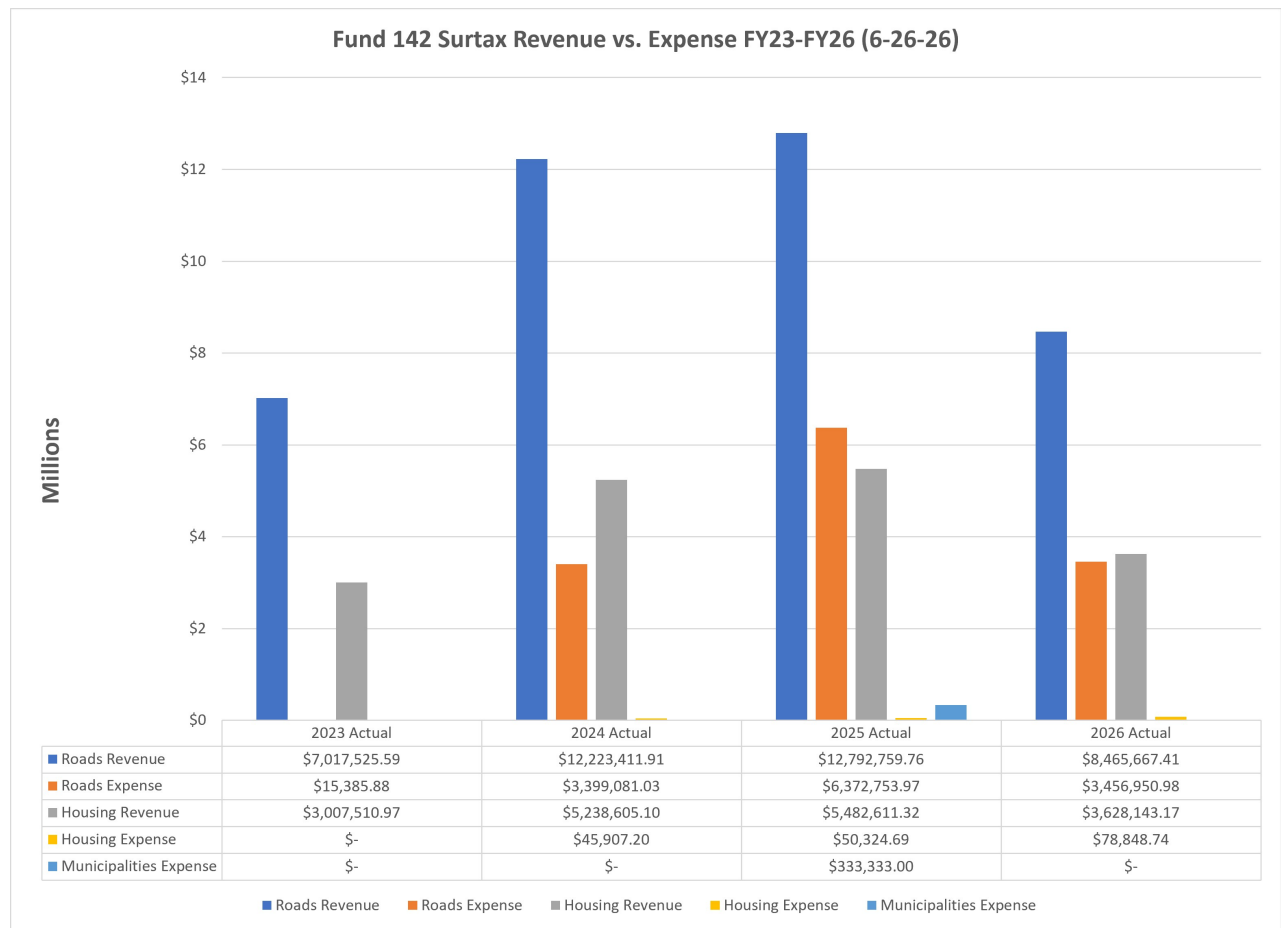
MUNICIPAL SERVICE TAXING UNIT—LAW ENFORCEMENT - Only properties within the Municipal Service Taxing Unit (MSTU) service area, including participating municipalities, pay this dedicated millage. Revenue generated through the MSTU supports operations of the Alachua County Sheriff's Office, including patrol services, public safety programs, and crime prevention efforts, helping ensure consistent and effective law enforcement services for residents and businesses throughout the service area. Each year since FY18 the MSTU-Law Enforcement millage rate has remained constant at 3.5678 mills.



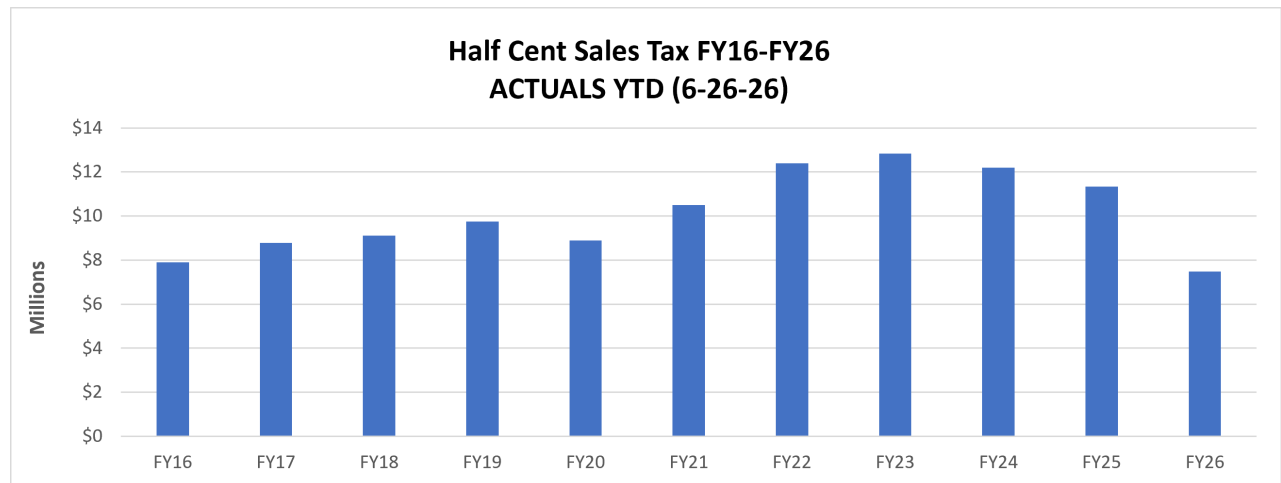
COMMUNICATION SERVICE TAX: The County receives a portion of taxes levied on communication services such as cable television and cell phone services. Revenues have generally declined over time as consumers shift from traditional communications services to newer technologies that generate less taxable revenue.



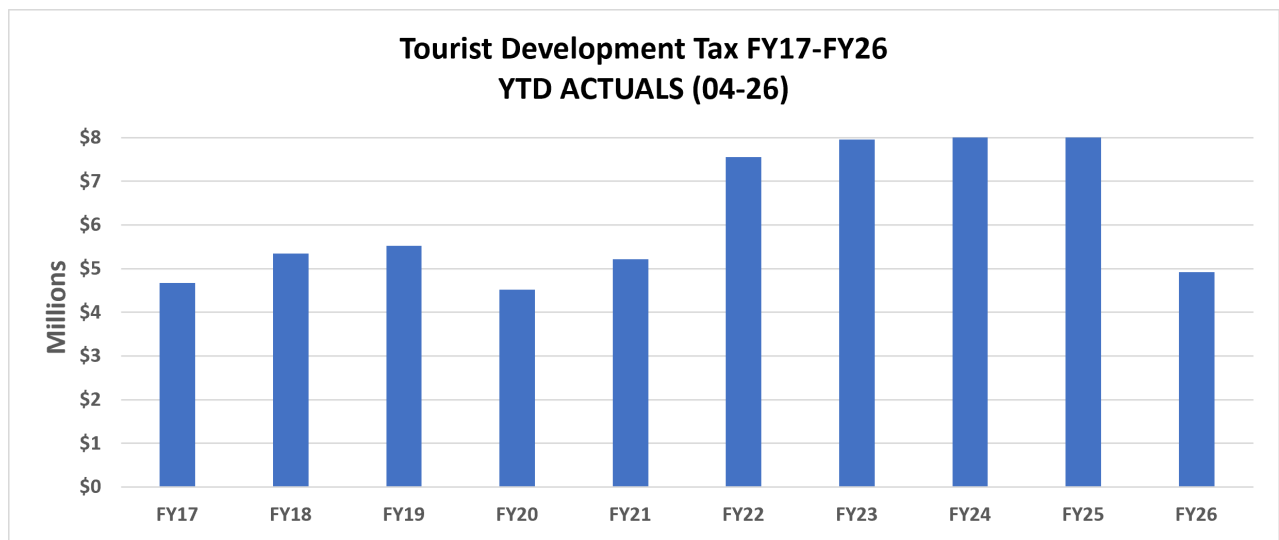
FUND 140 ONE-CENT SURTAX - one-half of the one-cent surtax used for Lands (80%) and Parks (20%)



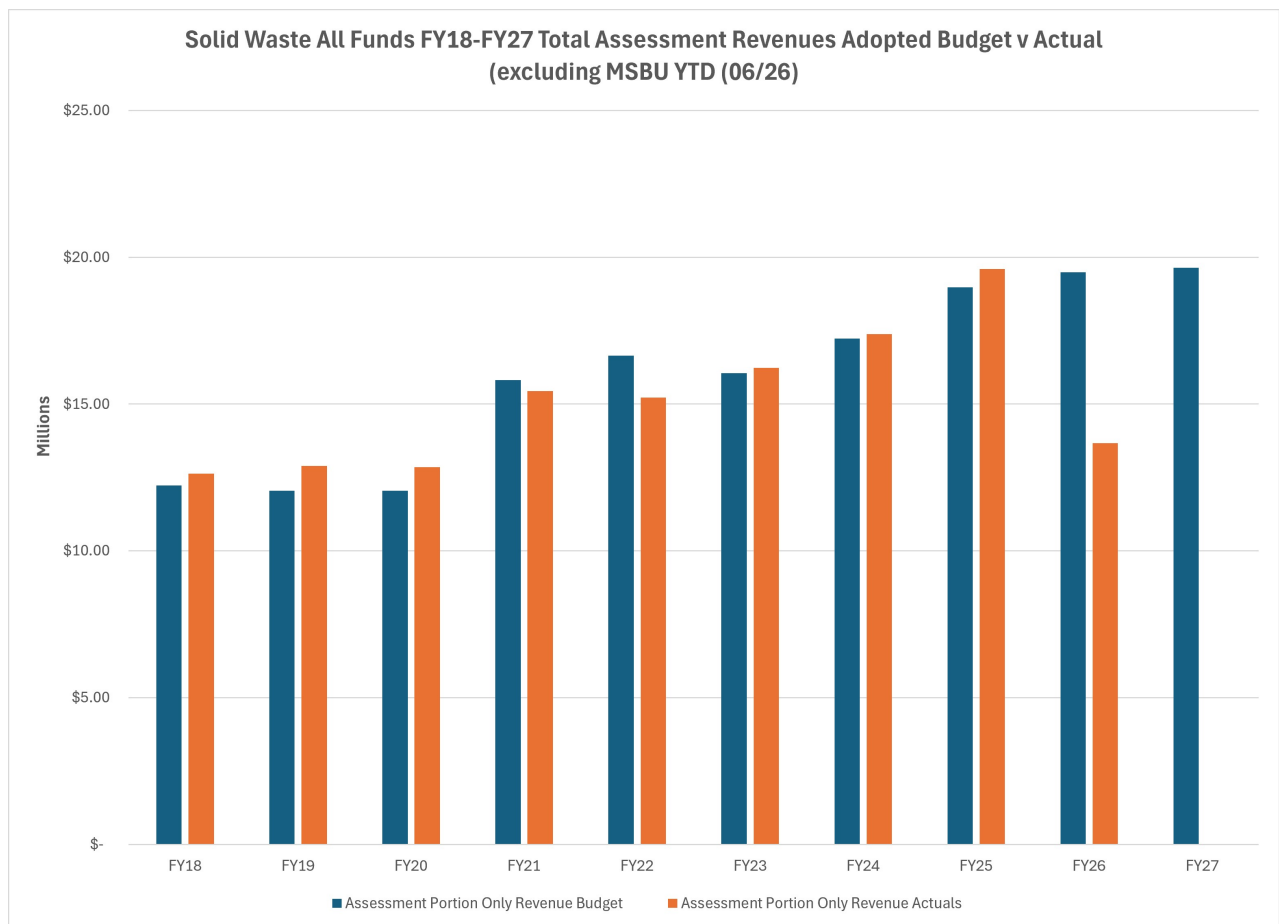
FUND 142 ONE-CENT SURTAX - one-half of the one-cent surtax used for Roads (70%) and Housing (30%)



LOCAL GOVERNMENT HALF-CENT SALES TAX - The Half-Cent Sales Tax is a statewide 0.5% sales tax collected by the State of Florida and distributed to counties to help fund general government operations. The tax is applied to the purchase price of taxable goods and services and is paid by consumers at the time of purchase. Alachua County receives its share of the revenue based on the State's distribution formula. Revenue generally follows economic activity and consumer spending.



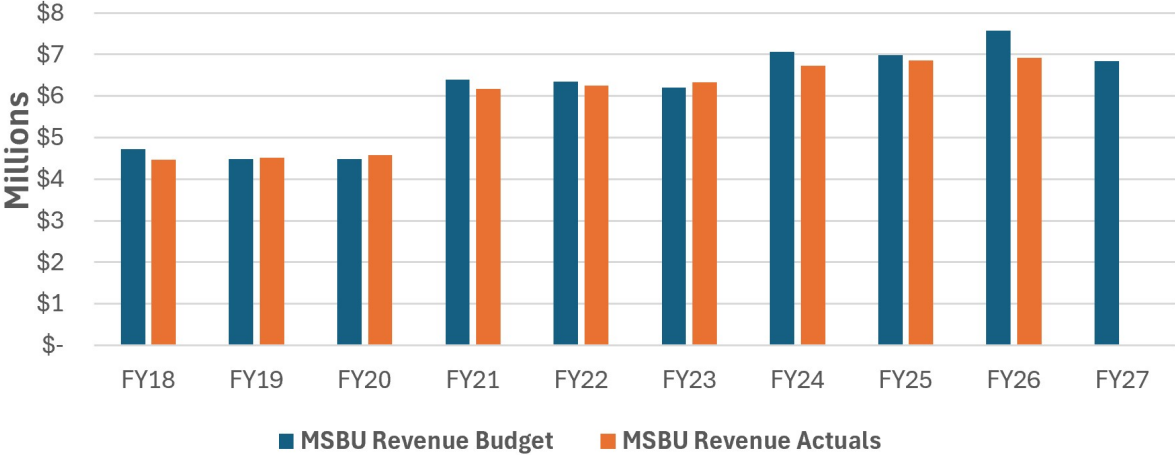
TOURIST DEVELOPMENT TAX - The Tourist Development Tax is collected on short-term lodging, including hotels, motels, and other rental accommodations rented for six months or less. Revenue from this tax is restricted and must be used to promote tourism in Alachua County. Collections fluctuate based on tourism activity and overnight lodging demand.



SOLID WASTE ASSESSMENT

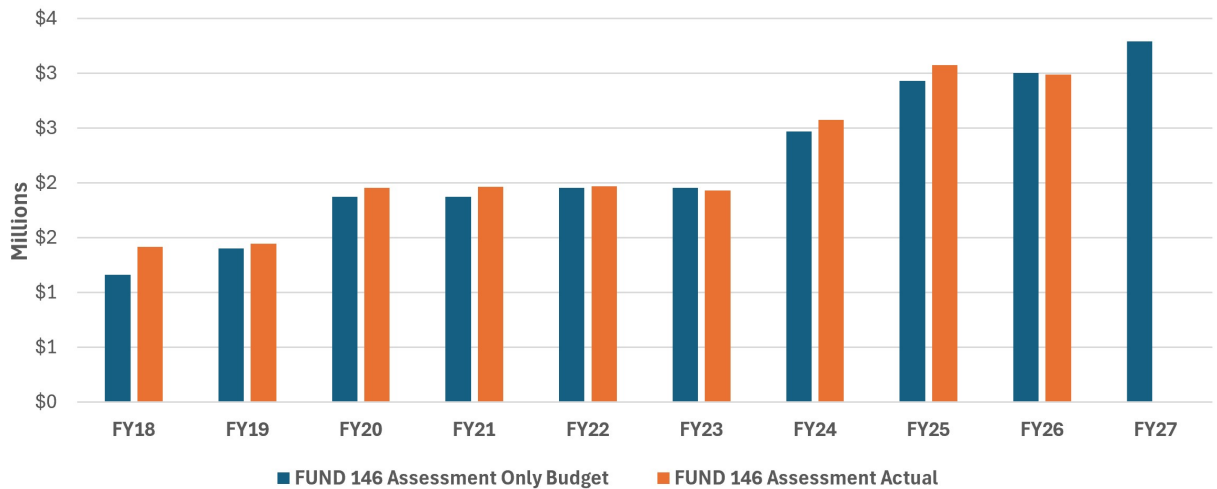
The Solid Waste Assessment is a non-ad valorem assessment lawfully imposed by the County against every residential property to provide solid waste management and the provision of collection and disposal services and facilities including the generation of revenues necessary to pay all or any portion of the solid waste costs.

**Fund 148 MSBU Assessment Only Fund Refuse Collection
Revenues FY18-FY27**



SOLID WASTE RATES			
Universal Collection Assessment			
	Code	FY26 Rates	FY27 Proposed
Residential Mandatory Collection Area			
appx. 20 gal cart	0120	\$203.89	\$203.89
35 gal cart	0135	\$227.08	\$227.08
64 gal cart	0164	\$276.86	\$276.86
96 gal cart	0196	\$330.00	\$330.00
Multi-Family Residential			
appx. 20 gal cart	0220	\$203.89	\$203.89
35 gal cart	0235	\$227.08	\$227.08
64 gal cart	0264	\$276.86	\$276.86
96 gal cart	0296	\$330.00	\$330.00
Condo - Residential			
appx. 20 gal cart	0320	\$203.89	\$203.89
35 gal cart	0335	\$227.08	\$227.08
64 gal cart	0364	\$276.86	\$276.86
96 gal cart	0396	\$330.00	\$330.00
Rural Collection Assessment			
	Code	FY26 Rates	FY27 Proposed
Rural Collection Area	501	\$132.01	\$132.01
Solid Waste Management Assessment			
	Code	FY26 Rates	FY27 Proposed
Residential			
Residential (Mandatory and Municipal)	710	\$25.27	\$25.27
Commercially Collected Residential	720	\$25.27	\$25.27
Non-Mandatory Residential	730	\$15.81	\$15.81
Commercial			
0-4.9 tons	801	\$23.61	\$23.61
5-9.9 tons	802	\$71.78	\$71.78
10-19.9 tons	803	\$144.05	\$144.05
20-29.9 tons	804	\$240.40	\$240.40
30-39.9 tons	805	\$336.76	\$336.76
40-49.9 tons	806	\$433.11	\$433.11
50-74.9 tons	807	\$601.73	\$601.73
75-99.9 tons	808	\$842.61	\$842.61
100-149.9 tons	809	\$1,203.94	\$1,203.94
150-199.9 tons	810	\$1,685.71	\$1,685.71
200-499.9 tons	811	\$3,371.90	\$3,371.90
500-999.9 tons	812	\$7,226.05	\$7,226.05
1000-1899.9 tons	813	\$13,970.82	\$13,970.82
1900 < tons	814	\$21,197.84	\$21,197.84

Stormwater Assessment Revenues Budget vs. Actual FY18-FY26 YTD 06-26



STORMWATER ASSESSMENT

The Stormwater Assessment is a non-ad valorem assessment authorized under Florida law. Florida requires local governments, including Alachua County, to develop and maintain stormwater management programs that comply with the requirements of the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, applicable water management districts, and other local regulations.

The stormwater charges provide an equitable method of funding the capital cost of stormwater improvements and the storm water service cost, by fairly and reasonably allocating such costs to specially benefited property classified based on the stormwater burden expected to be generated by the physical characteristics and use of such property. Stormwater Assessments shall be collected pursuant to the Uniform Assessment Collection Act, and the County shall comply with all applicable provisions thereof. Florida law provides certain exemptions that may affect properties subject to stormwater assessments.

Stormwater assessments ensure that properties contributing more runoff pay a proportionate share of maintaining the County's stormwater system.

Proposed Stormwater Assessment Rate

Stormwater Assessment			
		FY26 Assessment (Per Unit)	FY27 Proposed Assessment (Per Unit)
	Unit Type		
Equivalent Residential Unit (ERU)	ERU	\$60.00	\$60.00

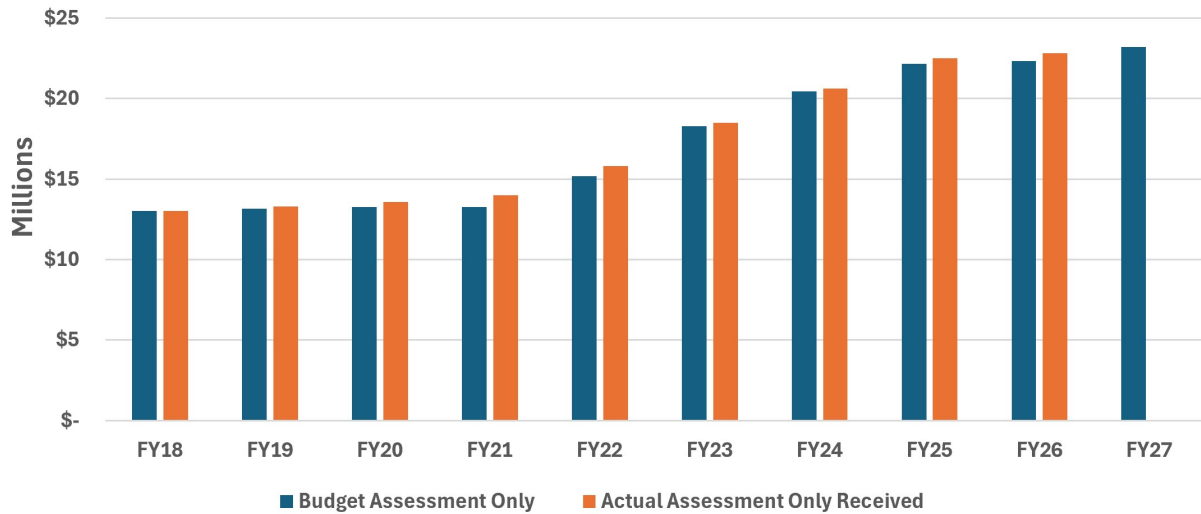
Stormwater Rate – Stormwater fees are based on **Equivalent Residential Units (ERUs)**, with one ERU representing the average impervious surface area of a typical single-family home. Non-residential properties are charged based on the number of ERUs their impervious area represents.

Proposed Fire Assessment Rates

Fire Protection Assessment			
		FY26 Assessment (Per Unit)	FY27 Proposed Assessment (Per Unit)
	Unit Type		
Tier 1 - Response Readiness	Per Parcel	\$132.47	\$132.47
Tier 2 - Structure Loss Protection	Per EBU	\$7.28	\$7.28

Fire Assessment – Fire Rescue assessments include a **per-parcel charge** plus an **Equivalent Benefit Unit (EBU)** charge. EBU tiers reflect the relative fire protection benefit and service demand associated with different property types, with higher-tier properties paying a proportionally higher assessment.

Fire Assessment FY18-FY26 Budget v. Actual As of 06-26



MUNICIPAL SERVICE BENEFIT UNIT (MSBU) – FIRE ASSESSMENT

The Alachua County Municipal Service Benefit Unit for Fire Services was created to include all the unincorporated area of the County and the incorporated areas of the Cities of Alachua, Archer, Hawthorne and Waldo, the governing bodies of which have consented by ordinance to inclusion in the MSBU as required by section 125.01 (1)(q), Florida Statutes. The MSBU-Fire Assessment is utilized to fund the provision of fire protection services, facilities, and programs to all Assessed Property therein.

Fire Assessments shall be imposed against property located within the MSBU, the annual amount of which shall be computed for each Tax Parcel. When imposed, the Fire Assessment for each Fiscal Year shall constitute a lien upon assessed property equal in rank and dignity with the liens of all state, county, district, or municipal taxes and other non-ad valorem assessments until paid, as provided in the Assessment Ordinance.

Revenue		
<u>\$948,951,542 in FY27 Revenue</u>		
Several factors can change revenue, including: taxable property values, county-wide population, mandates, inflation, and real disposable income (after-tax buying power adjusted for inflation)		
Non Operating Sources	\$	306,824,511 32.33%
Ad Valorem	\$	230,182,830 24.26%
Permits, Fees & Special Assessments	\$	108,528,258 11.44%
Charges for Services	\$	102,229,130 10.77%
Other Taxes	\$	56,353,450 5.94%
Intergovernmental Revenue	\$	62,144,103 6.55%
Operating Transfers In	\$	50,107,221 5.28%
Miscellaneous Revenue	\$	22,401,503 2.36%
Debt Proceeds	\$	7,800,000 0.82%
Transfer from Constitutionals	\$	1,997,914 0.21%
Judgments, Fines & Forfeitures	\$	382,622 0.04%

The largest source of County revenue is ***Non-Operating Revenue (\$307m – 32.29%)*** Revenues that are not directly generated by providing a service or selling a good. This is mainly composed of available fund balance.

Ad Valorem Tax (\$221m – 23.32%) and Other Taxes (\$65m – 6.89%). The former is also known as Property Tax, while the latter is composed of General Sales & Uses Tax, Utility Service Taxes, and Communications Service Tax. Ad Valorem taxes are the greatest source of revenue for the County. The tax is levied per \$1,000 value of taxable real and tangible personal property. It is based on a millage rate adopted annually by the Board of County Commissioners. 1 “mill” represents \$1 for every \$1,000 of taxable value.

Charges for Services (\$102m – 10.78%), include: waste management, animal services, and emergency medical services. To supplement this group, the County collects

Permits, Fees, & Special Assessments (\$108m– 11.45%). These fees are assessed to items such as permits, impact fees, and special assessments on property.

Intergovernmental Revenue (\$62m – 6.55%) is a source of revenue derived from other government entities. It usually comes in the form of grants, entitlements, shared revenues, or payments in lieu of taxes.

Other Revenue Sources (\$32.5m – 3.43%) - Other revenues collected for items such as court fees, interest, sale of assets, donations, Debt Proceeds, Fines & Forfeitures, Miscellaneous Revenue, Transfers from Constitutionals.

Operating Transfers In (\$50m – 5.28%) For accounting purposes, Operating Transfers In are budgeted as revenue sources for fund accounting purposes; they serve the purpose of acting as intermediaries for fund appropriation.

FY27 REVENUE AT A GLANCE



\$948.9 MILLION

Total Proposed Budget



23%

PROPERTY TAXES (AD VALOREM)

Largest recurring local revenue source. Based on an annual millage rate applied to the taxable value of real and tangible personal property.



32%

NON-OPERATING REVENUE

Revenues not generated by providing a service or selling a good. Primarily composed of available fund balance.



22%

USER FEES & ASSESSMENTS

Charges for Services, Permits, Fees, and Special Assessments, including waste management, animal services, and emergency medical services.



14%

SHARED REVENUES

Intergovernmental Revenue and Other Taxes, including grants, entitlements, shared revenues, utility taxes, sales & use tax, and communications service tax.



3%

OTHER REVENUE SOURCES

Court fees, interest, sale of assets, donations, debt proceeds, fines & forfeitures, miscellaneous revenue, and transfers from constitutional officers.



5%

OPERATING TRANSFERS IN

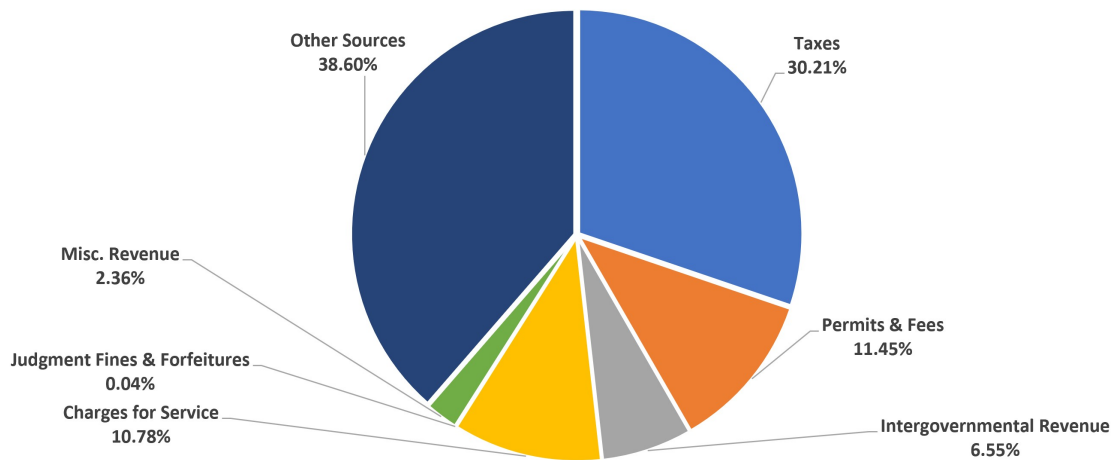
Transfers between funds recorded as revenues for accounting purposes to facilitate fund appropriations and operations.

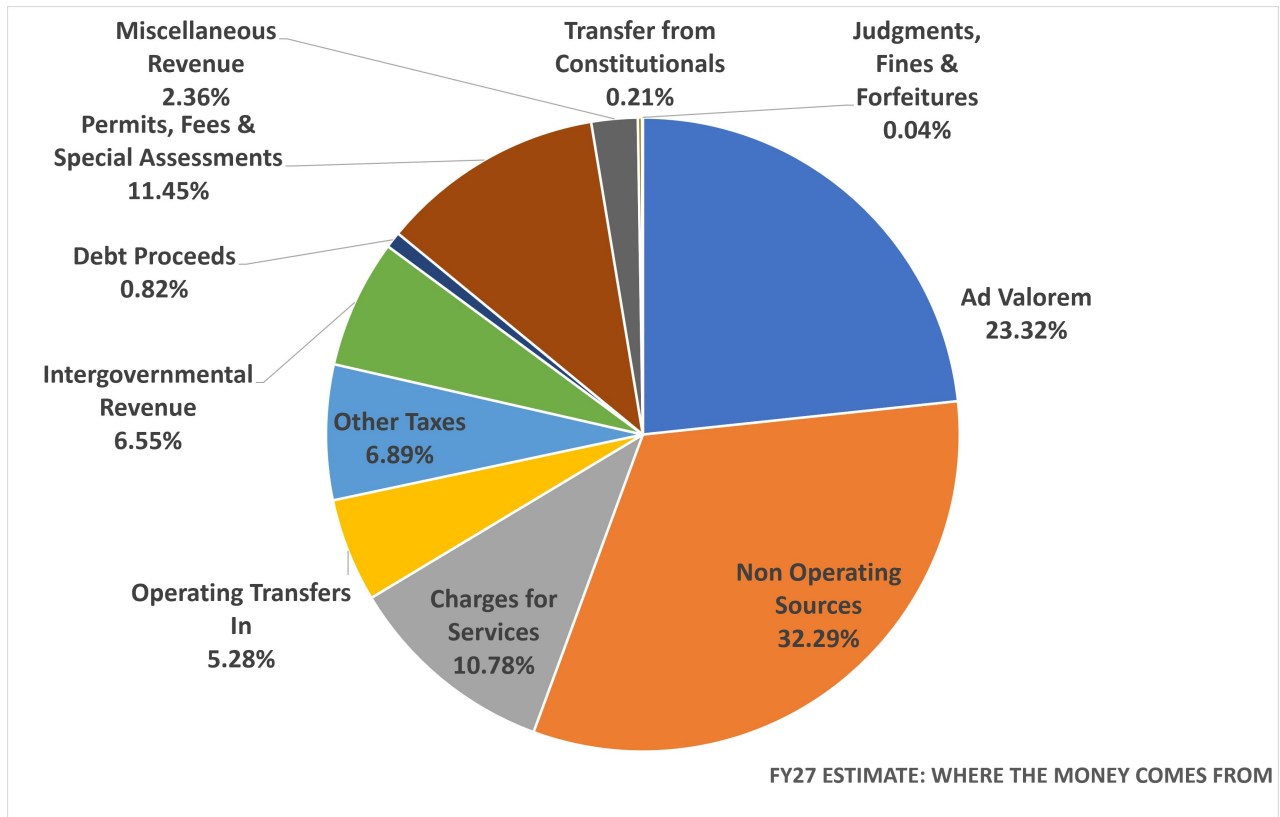


DIVERSIFIED REVENUE STRUCTURE

County operations are funded through a combination of local taxes, user fees, intergovernmental revenues, dedicated assessments, and one-time funding sources, reducing reliance on any single revenue source.

FY27 Proposed All Funds Revenue by Source







EXPENDITURES

County expenditures represent the financial resources invested to provide essential services, infrastructure, and programs that support the quality of life for Alachua County residents. The budget organizes expenditures into six major categories that reflect how public funds are used—from employing the workforce that delivers daily services to investing in roads, parks, public safety, facilities, and other long-term community assets. Understanding these expenditure categories helps readers see how County resources are allocated to meet current needs while planning responsibly for the future.

10 – Personal Services

Personal Services includes the costs of employing the people who provide County services every day. This category includes employee salaries and wages, overtime, health insurance, retirement contributions, payroll taxes, workers' compensation, and other employee benefits. These costs support the workforce that delivers public safety, road maintenance, parks, governance, permitting, and many other County services.

20 – Operating Expenditures

Operating Expenditures are the day-to-day costs of running County government. This includes items such as utilities, fuel, office supplies, maintenance, professional services, software, communications, insurance, travel, training, and contractual services. These expenditures ensure County facilities, equipment, and programs continue to operate efficiently and effectively.

30 – Capital Outlay

Capital Outlay represents investments in long-term assets that provide benefits for many years. This includes the purchase or construction of buildings, roads, bridges, parks, major equipment, vehicles, and technology infrastructure, as well as significant renovations and improvements. Many capital projects span multiple years and may be funded through accumulated reserves, grants, dedicated taxes, or debt.

40 – Debt Service

Debt Service includes the repayment of principal and interest on bonds, loans, and other financing used to construct or acquire major public facilities and infrastructure. Financing allows the County to spread the cost of large capital projects over their useful life, ensuring that both current and future residents who benefit from these assets share in their cost.

50 – Grants and Aids

Grants and Aids represent funding provided by the County to support other governmental agencies, nonprofit organizations, and community partners, as authorized by the Board of County Commissioners. This category may also include required payments to other governmental entities and programs that deliver services benefiting Alachua County residents.

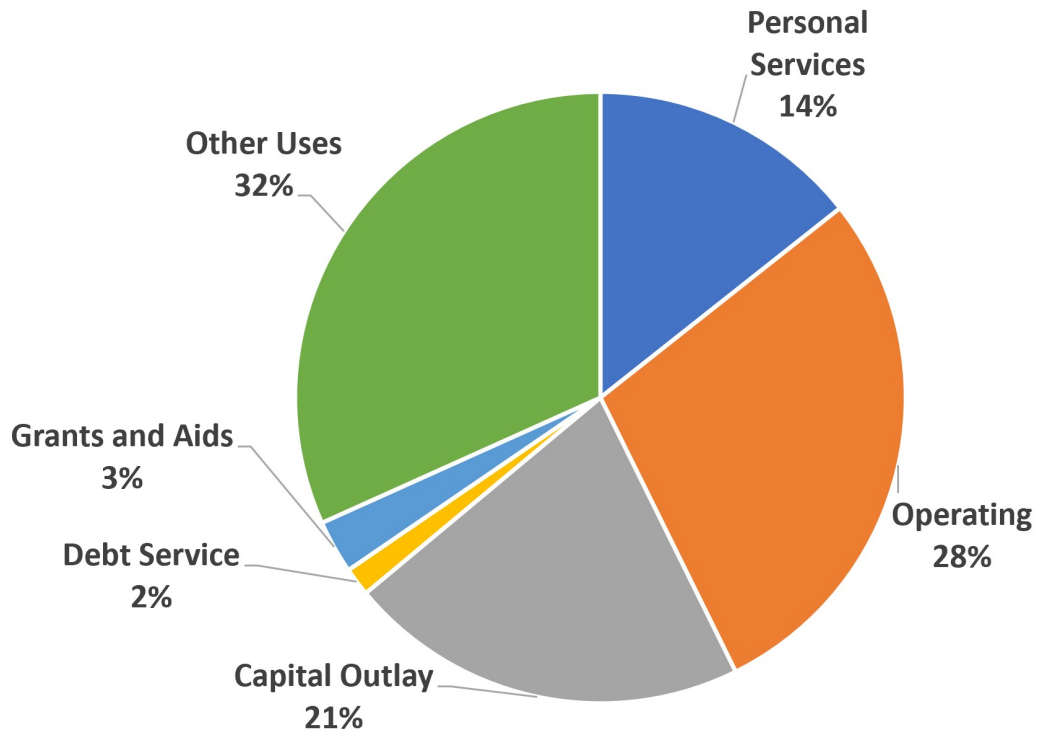
60 – Other Uses

Other Uses includes financial activities that do not fit within the traditional operating categories. This primarily consists of transfers between County funds, contributions to reserves, and other financing uses that help maintain financial stability and fund future needs. These transactions help ensure financial stability, support future capital needs, and maintain compliance with legal and accounting requirements.

- **Transfers** to other funds to support operations or capital projects.
- **Reserves**, including contingency and emergency reserves, as well as reserves for future capital needs, debt obligations, and other Board-designated purposes.

Expenses All Funds	FY22 Adopted	FY23 Adopted	FY24 Adopted	FY25 Adopted	FY26 Adopted	FY27 County Manager Budget
Personal Services	\$ 89,483,848	\$ 100,273,952	\$ 115,444,882	\$ 129,467,618	\$ 132,106,022	\$ 136,156,302
Operating	\$ 146,504,217	\$ 158,777,158	\$ 190,403,406	\$ 209,132,552	\$ 200,854,512	\$ 268,695,917
Capital Outlay	\$ 74,467,048	\$ 150,742,230	\$ 120,716,573	\$ 170,198,940	\$ 266,211,785	\$ 201,544,721
Debt	\$ 12,476,475	\$ 12,480,207	\$ 11,210,315	\$ 13,276,822	\$ 12,963,141	\$ 14,262,392
Grants & Aid	\$ 13,382,203	\$ 14,530,814	\$ 25,348,592	\$ 47,418,883	\$ 40,222,980	\$ 26,790,717
Other Uses	\$ 232,622,481	\$ 264,209,478	\$ 293,912,728	\$ 297,401,323	\$ 294,578,114	\$ 301,501,493
Total Expenses	\$ 568,936,272	\$ 701,013,839	\$ 757,036,496	\$ 866,896,138	\$ 946,936,554	\$ 948,951,542

FY27 County Manager Budget Where the Money Goes by Classification



FY26-27 EXPENDITURE ESTIMATES

Alachua County acts to protect citizens, serve the community, and improve the community's way of life. The following monetary values are by department and rounded to the nearest whole number. The next few pages provide a snapshot of how expenditures are allocated.

Expenditures

\$948,951,542 in FY27 Expenditures

Beyond services previously listed, non-departmental costs, such as transfers out, debt service, reserves, replacement funds, special expenses and indirect costs are recognized by the County.

Sheriff- LE and Jail	\$	158,597,997	16.71%
Public Works	\$	121,120,699	12.76%
Fire Rescue	\$	96,017,203	10.12%
Environmental Protection	\$	77,286,078	8.14%
County Wide Special Expense & Indirect Costs	\$	75,710,734	7.98%
Hospital Special Assessment	\$	65,242,081	6.88%
Reserves	\$	64,124,428	6.76%
Community Support Services	\$	62,283,259	6.56%
Solid Waste & Resource Recovery	\$	31,482,830	3.32%
Constitutionals (Excluding Sheriff)	\$	27,389,813	2.89%
Debt Service	\$	25,189,298	2.65%
Tourism & Economic Development	\$	21,827,569	2.30%
Budget & Fiscal Services	\$	20,113,430	2.12%
Facilities Management	\$	16,060,917	1.69%
Court Services	\$	14,777,000	1.56%
Parks and Open Space	\$	14,471,884	1.53%
Information & Telecommunications Services	\$	11,347,327	1.20%
Capital Projects	\$	10,363,500	1.09%
Growth Management	\$	8,085,119	0.85%
General Government	\$	7,838,459	0.83%
Animal Resources	\$	5,176,475	0.55%
Career Source	\$	4,575,672	0.48%
Judicial	\$	4,199,802	0.44%
Human Resources	\$	2,230,396	0.24%
Code Administration	\$	1,144,085	0.12%
Equal Opportunity	\$	931,057	0.10%
Community & Administrative Services	\$	801,769	0.08%
MTPO Billing	\$	562,661	0.06%

PROTECTING THE COMMUNITY

Sheriff/Law Enforcement \$158.5m – 16.71% of FY27 Budget

The Sheriff's Office is 1 of 5 Constitutional Offices that receive funds from the County. The Sheriff employs over 850 people and is tasked with protecting the county jurisdiction of approximately 977 square miles. The Office, beyond providing comprehensive law enforcement and support services, has several functions:

- Receiving and processing calls for public safety assistance or information
- Dispatching law enforcement, fire, or emergency medical resources
- Operating County Jail facility of 314,000 sq. ft. with a capacity of 975 inmates
- Maintaining Court Security

Fire Rescue \$96m – 10.12% of FY27 Budget

Fire Rescue is a department of the BoCC. It exists to provide a broad range of public safety services to the County:

- Fire protection, suppression, and prevention services
- Primary & secondary emergency medical response
- Planning, outreach, training, disaster response & recovery operations

SERVING THE COMMUNITY

Community Support Services \$62.2m – 6.56% of FY27 Budget

Community Support Services exist to provide health and human services to the County. Beyond providing these services, it also plays a role in community revitalization, as well as poverty reduction. The department alleviates critical needs for citizens:

- Suicide & Crisis Intervention
- Assistance to Veterans & their dependents
- Response to sexual assault victims & other victims of crime
- Court Program Services are being incorporated

Constitutional Offices (excluding Sheriff) \$27.3m – 2.89% of FY27 Budget

Includes: Property Appraiser, Supervisor of Elections, Tax Collector, and Clerk of Courts.

Court Services \$14.7m – 1.56% of FY27 Budget

Court Services aims to reduce the need for incarceration, provide community-based supervision, and preserve public safety. The department also oversees: Pretrial Services; Probation; and Jail Population Management

Judicial Offices \$4.1m – 0.44% of FY27 Budget

Composed of: Court Administration, Office of the State Attorney, Office of the Public Defender, Guardian ad Litem, and Regional Conflict Counsel.

Community & Administrative Services - \$801,769 – .08% of FY27 Budget Composed of: Florida Art Tags, IFAS AG Extension.

Code Administration - \$1.1m – 0.12% of FY27 Budget

To work with the community through education, outreach, and compliance with County codes to improve the health, safety, and welfare of our community.

Animal Resources - \$5.1m – 0.55% of FY27 Budget

To promote public safety for the welfare of citizens and animals. We accomplish this through education, adoption, sheltering, enforcement, and the rescue of animals that may be stray, injured, unwanted, neglected, or abused.

Parks and Open Space - \$14.4m – 1.53% of FY27 Budget

To provide safe, well-maintained parks and open space creating fun, memorable experiences that enhance quality of life, healthy minds, and bodies for all.

Tourism and Economic Development - \$21.8m – 2.30% of FY27 Budget

Promotes the County as a premier destination while supporting initiatives that strengthen the local economy and enhance community prosperity.

IMPROVING THE COMMUNITY

Capital Projects - \$10.3m – 1.09% of FY27 Budget

Capital Projects are non-recurring capital outlays, rather than ongoing expenses for facilities, parks, technology, & economic development.

Public Works - \$121.1m – 12.77% of FY27 Budget

Public Works is tasked with developing and maintaining County infrastructure and equipment. Its core function, to support growth within the County, is achieved by balancing environmental, social, and County development needs. Public Works is responsible for maintaining 916 miles of roads and rights-of-way and managing the County's fleet of over 835 vehicles & equipment.

Environmental Protection - \$77.2m – 8.14% of FY27 Budget

To provide natural resource support and rejuvenation for the County, including Water Resources Protection, Natural Reserves Protection, Land Conservation.

Growth Management - \$8m – 0.85% of FY27 Budget

To prepare, maintain, and implement the County's Comprehensive Plan.

Solid Waste & Resource Recovery - \$31.4m – 3.32% of FY27 Budget

Solid Waste & Resource Recovery provides clean, efficient, economical, and environmentally sound management and solid waste resources in Alachua County.

FY27 EXPENDITURES AT A GLANCE



\$948.9 MILLION

Total Proposed Budget



27%

PUBLIC SAFETY

Funding law enforcement, fire rescue, emergency medical services, and related public safety operations that protect our community.



21%

CAPITAL INVESTMENTS

Investing in roads, parks, facilities, equipment, and technology for the future.



28%

OPERATING SERVICES

Funding day-to-day services, programs, and support that meet the needs of residents and our community.



24%

OTHER USES

Includes debt service, grants and aids, transfers between funds, and reserves for future needs and financial stability.



STRATEGIC INVESTMENT IN OUR COMMUNITY

County resources are allocated to provide essential services today while building a stronger, more sustainable community for tomorrow.

KEY FY26-27 BUDGET DRIVERS

Several key factors influence the FY26-27 County Manager Proposed Budget and explain the major revenue and expenditure trends reflected throughout this section.

CONTINUED GROWTH IN PROPERTY TAX REVENUES

Property taxes remain the County's largest recurring revenue source. Growth in taxable property values continues to provide additional resources that support core governmental services, public safety operations, and infrastructure investments while maintaining financial stability.

GROWTH IN PERMITS, FEES AND SPECIAL ASSESSMENTS

FY26-27 reflects significant revenue generated from permits, fees, and special assessments. These revenues support a variety of dedicated programs and services and reflect continued development activity, service demand, and special assessment collections throughout the County.

STRATEGIC INVESTMENT IN COUNTY PERSONNEL

The budget continues the County's commitment to attracting and retaining a qualified workforce while addressing competitive labor market conditions, benefit costs, and the operational needs of County departments.

RISING OPERATIONAL AND SERVICE DELIVERY COSTS

Operating expenditures increased significantly in FY26-27. Rising costs for contractual services, utilities, technology, maintenance, insurance, and other operating requirements continue to impact the cost of delivering County services and maintaining public infrastructure.

CAPITAL INVESTMENT AND INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS

Capital investments remain a significant component of the FY26-27 budget. While capital spending decreases from the unusually high levels budgeted in FY25-26, the County continues to invest in facilities, transportation infrastructure, equipment replacement, technology improvements, and other long-term community assets.

CONTINUED INVESTMENT IN PUBLIC SAFETY

The FY26-27 budget continues to prioritize public safety, emergency response, fire services, law enforcement, and other essential governmental services. Dedicated taxing funds and General Fund resources support these programs and ensure continued service delivery to County residents.

LONG-TERM FINANCIAL PLANNING AND FISCAL SUSTAINABILITY

The County continues to balance current operational needs with long-term financial planning objectives. Debt service obligations, capital planning efforts, reserve requirements, and strategic use of fund balance are incorporated into the budget to maintain fiscal stability and support future service demands.

ENTERPRISE AND INTERNAL SERVICE OPERATIONS

Enterprise and Internal Service Funds continue to support essential County operations, including solid waste services, health insurance programs, self-insurance activities, fleet operations, and other internal support functions. These funds help ensure that critical services remain financially sustainable while supporting County departments and residents.

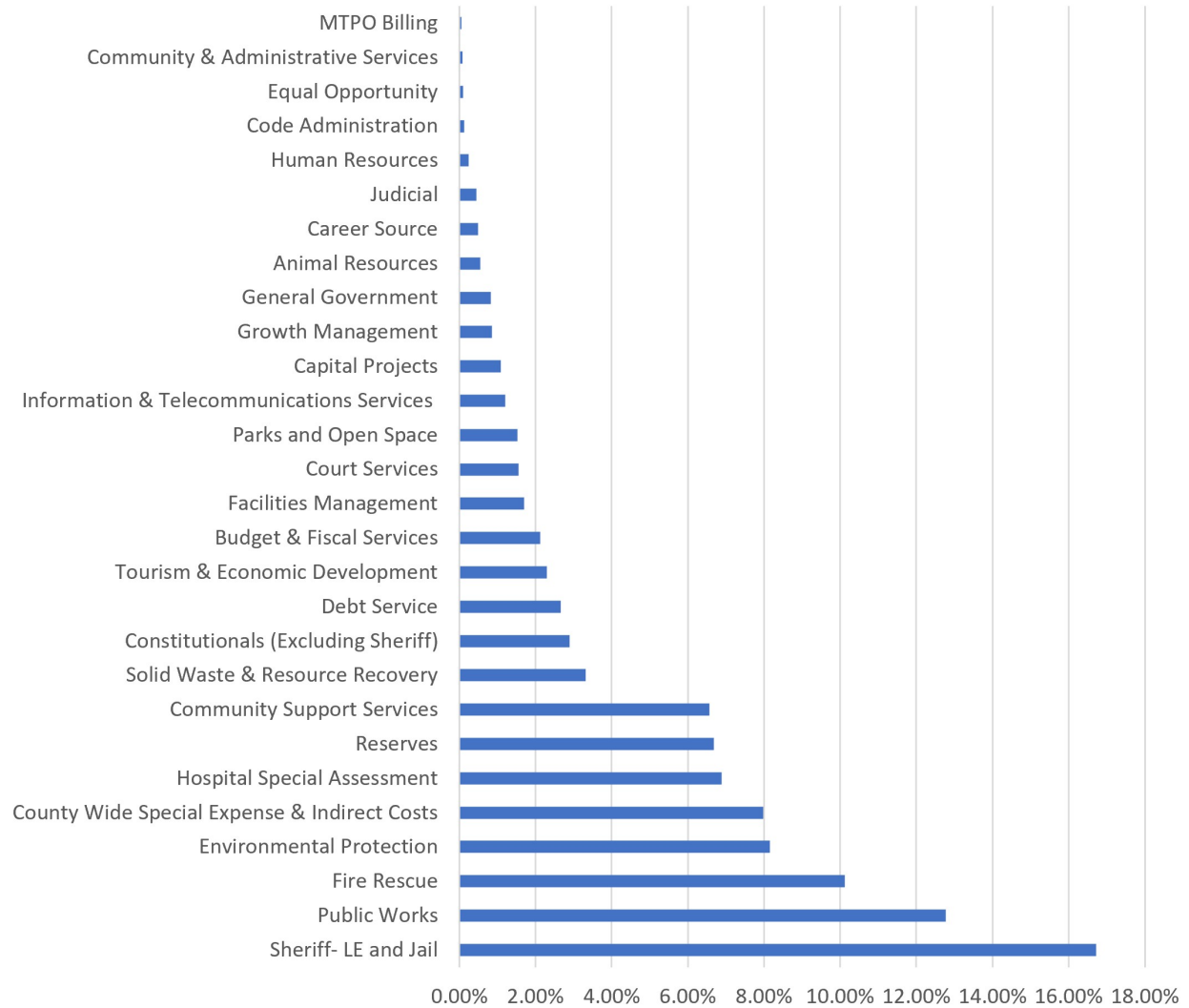
MAINTAINING FINANCIAL RESILIENCE

The FY26-27 budget maintains reserves and fund balance levels consistent with County policy and recognized financial best practices. These resources provide flexibility to address economic uncertainty, emergency events, cash flow requirements, and future operational needs while supporting the County's strong financial position.

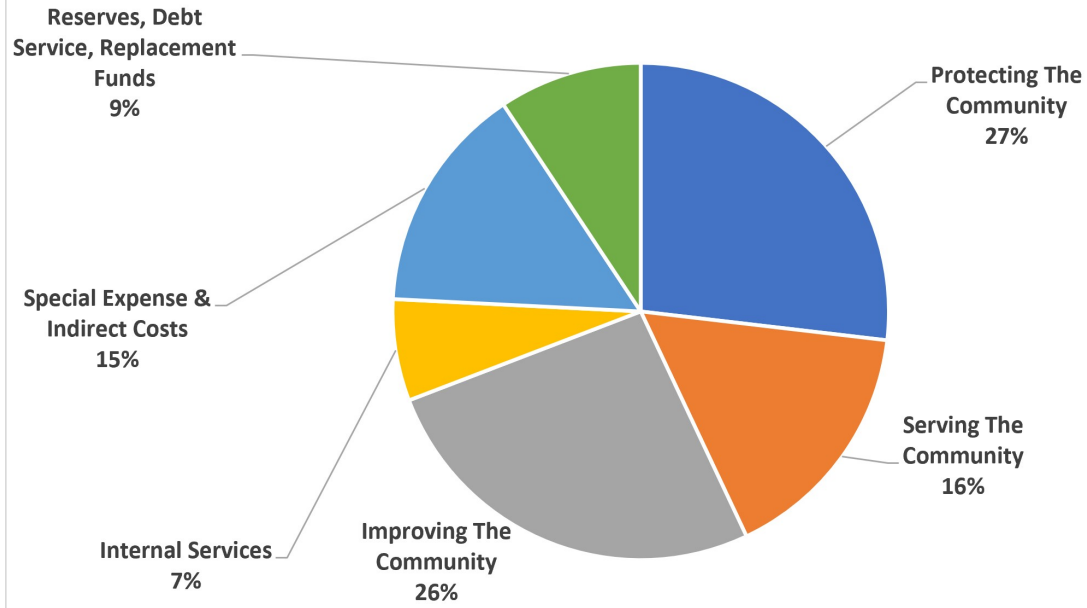
FY26-27 BUDGET SUMMARY

The FY26-27 County Manager Proposed Budget reflects a balanced approach that supports core governmental services, public safety, infrastructure improvements, employee investments, and long-term financial sustainability. Together, these financial resources demonstrate how the County aligns available funding with strategic priorities while maintaining long-term fiscal stability.

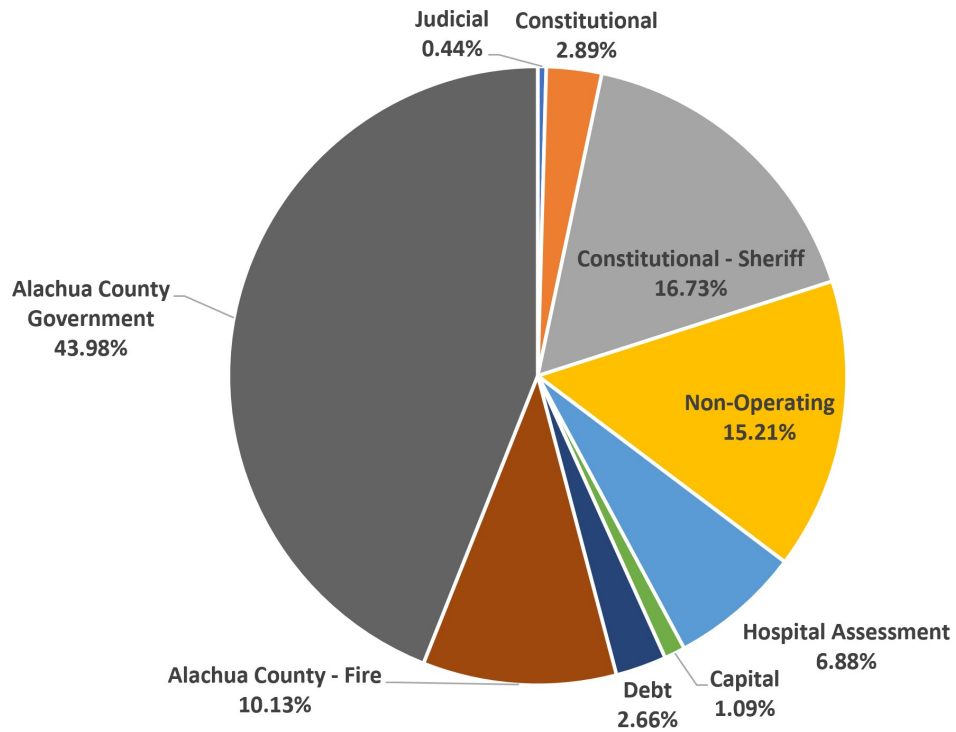
FY27 County Manager Budget By Expense



FY27 County Manager Budget Where the Money Goes by Function



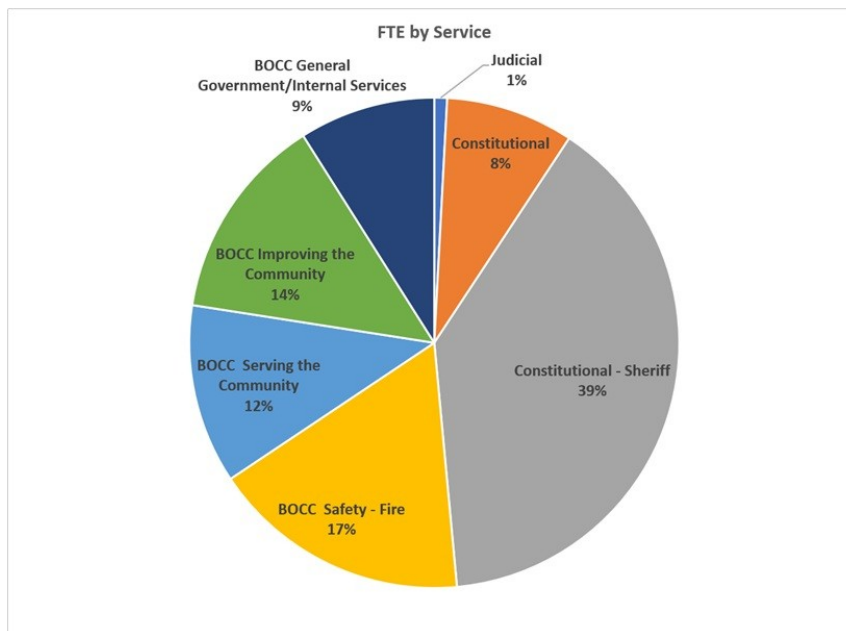
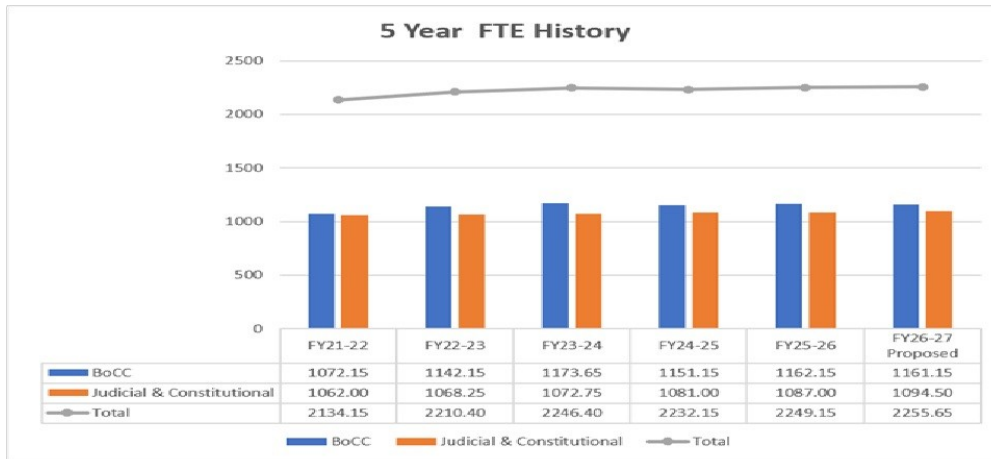
FY27 County Manager Budget By Program



POSITION CHANGES AND FULL-TIME EQUIVALENT (FTE) SUMMARY

Personnel costs represent one of the County's largest operating expenditures and are carefully evaluated during the annual budget development process. Each requested position is reviewed to ensure it supports the Board of County Commissioners' strategic priorities, maintains essential service levels, addresses operational or regulatory requirements, or improves organizational efficiency. Position requests are evaluated in conjunction with existing staffing resources, workload demands, and available funding before being recommended for inclusion in the budget.

The following table summarizes authorized Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) positions by department and identifies changes from the prior fiscal year. Position additions, eliminations, transfers, and reclassifications are reflected in the department budgets and are described within the applicable departmental sections. This summary provides transparency regarding workforce changes and demonstrates how staffing resources are aligned with the County's service commitments and long-term financial plan.



FY 26 POSITION ADJUSTMENTS Action Since 10-01-25		
BFS	Budget & Fiscal Services Director #5290-11001	1.00
BFS	ERP System Specialist #5250-19005	1.00
Facilities	Assistant Director of Facilities Management #3150-19005	1.00
Fire	Battalion Chief #0000-01439	1.00
Fire	Battalion Chief #0000-01440	1.00
HR	HR Specialist #0000-01431	1.00
Fire	Board recommendation Grant Positions Community Healthcare Workers (Board Meeting March 24, 2026)	3.00
County Manager	Chief of Staff	1.00
Animal Resources	Animal Resources Animal Care Tech (1 FTE)	1.00
Animal Resources	Animal Resources Vet Tech (2 FTE)	2.00
Subtotal Additions		13.00
BFS	Sr Fiscal Supervisor #5290-11001 (eliminated to create BFS Director)	(1.00)
BFS	Fiscal Assistant #5090-79001 (eliminated to create BFS Director)	(1.00)
Facilities	Sr Staff Assistant #5250-19005 (eliminated to create ERP Specialist)	(1.00)
Facilities	FAC Preservation Projects Coordinator #3150-19005 (eliminated to create Assistant Director)	(1.00)
CSS	MRT Specialist #0000-01176	(1.00)
CSS	ERAP Case Manager 1 #0000-01069	(1.00)
CSS	ERAP Sr. Accounting Clerk #0000-01097	(1.00)
CSS	Victim Services Program Manager #0000-01175	(1.00)
EPD	Sr Environmental Specialist Petroleum#2062-55022 Grant position	(1.00)
Road and Bridge	Sr Office Assistant #6182-79001 eliminated to obtain upgrade of 3 positions to Maintenance Supervisor 3	(1.00)
Animal Resources	Position Moved to Sheriff Supervisor 3060-25001	(1.00)
Animal Resources	Position Moved to Sheriff Inv. Officer 4021-25001	(1.00)
Animal Resources	Position Moved to Sheriff Inv. Officer 4021-25002	(1.00)
Animal Resources	Position Moved to Sheriff Inv. Officer 4021-25003	(1.00)
Growth/Building	Programmer #3080-65001 (eliminated to utilize for Revenue Recovery GIS position)	(1.00)
Radio	Radio Manager is now contractual	(1.00)
Subtotal Eliminations		(16.00)
Net Totals		(3.00)
Internal Movement		
CSS	Housing Strategic Development Coordinator #0000-01339 Unfunded to utilize a contract for services	
Growth/Building	Reclass Planning Assistant #6224-65003 to GIS Specialist	
Commission Services	Reclass Executive Manager #2920-02001 to Assistant to Board of County Commissioners/County Manager	
FY27 PROPOSED & CHANGES TO POSITIONS		
Sports Event Center	Booking and Sales Coordinator	1.00
Sports Event Center	Event Services Associate	1.00
Sheriff	Information Security Specialist	1.00
Sheriff	Building Access CJIS	1.00
Court Law Library 0000-01279	Combine PT with PT 0000-01340 to be one FTE	
Court Law Library 0000-01340	Combine PT with PT 0000-01279 to be one FTE	
TOTAL PROPOSED FY27		4.00

	FY23 Adopted	FY24 Adopted	FY25 Adopted	FY26 Adopted	FY26 Mid Year	FY26 Current	FY27 Proposed	FY27 CM
<u>BOCC STAFF</u>								
Animal Resources	39.00	39.00	42.00	42.00	-1.00	41.00		41.00
Budget & Fiscal Services	59.00	54.00	56.00	58.00		58.00		58.00
Code Administration	-	11.00	10.00	10.00		10.00		10.00
Community & Administrative Services	64.75	62.75	26.75	15.75	-5.75	10.00		10.00
Community & Strategic Initiatives	22.00	7.00	5.00	0.00		0.00		0.00
Community Support Services	82.00	87.00	88.00	100.00	-4.00	96.00		96.00
Court Services	85.00	72.00	79.00	66.00		66.00		66.00
Equal Opportunity					5.75	5.75		5.75
Environmental Protection	53.60	56.60	59.60	60.60	-1.00	59.60		59.60
Facilities Management	42.30	56.30	56.30	56.30	-1.00	55.30		55.30
Critical Facilities	15.00					0.00		0.00
Fire/Rescue	342.00	366.00	374.50	382.00	4.00	386.00		386.00
General Government	27.00	31.00	31.00	34.50	1.00	35.50		35.50
Growth Management	46.00	47.00	48.00	49.00	-1.00	48.00		48.00
Human Resources	15.00	15.00	16.00	15.00	1.00	16.00		16.00
Information & Telecommunication Services	38.00	38.00	38.00	38.00		38.00		38.00
Parks & Open Spaces	19.50	20.00	22.00	22.00		22.00		22.00
Public Works	128.00	149.00	135.00	135.00	-1.00	134.00		134.00
Solid Waste	64.00	62.00	64.00	64.00		64.00		64.00
Tourism & Economic Development	0.00	0.00	0.00	14.00		14.00	2.00	16.00
TOTAL BOCC STAFF	1142.15	1173.65	1151.15	1162.15	-3.00	1159.15	2.00	1161.15
<u>JUDICIAL & CONSTITUTIONAL STAFF</u>								
Supervisor of Elections	15.50	19.50	20.50	20.50	1.00	21.50		21.50
Court Administration	14.50	15.00	16.00	16.00		16.00		16.00
Public Defender	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00		1.00		1.00
Guardian Ad Litem	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00		2.00		2.00
Sheriff	868.25	868.25	874.50	879.50	3.50	883.00	2.00	885.00
Clerk of Court	26.00	26.00	26.00	26.00	1.00	27.00		27.00
Property Appraiser	60.00	60.00	60.00	61.00		61.00		61.00
Tax Collector	81.00	81.00	81.00	81.00		81.00		81.00
JUDICIAL & CONSTITUTIONAL STAFF TOTAL	1068.25	1072.75	1081.00	1087.00	5.50	1092.50	2.00	1094.50
GRAND TOTAL	2210.40	2246.40	2232.15	2249.15	2.50	2251.65	4.00	2255.65

FY27 BUDGET PROCESS CALENDAR		
Dates and Time	Activity	Participants
October 2025 – March 2026	Departmental Budget and Capital Improvement Plan Preparation	County Manager, Departments, Office of Management and Budget (OMB)
Tuesday, October 28, 2025 11:30 AM	Adopt FY27 Budget Calendar	BoCC, County Manager, County Attorney, OMB
Thursday, February 26, 2026 5:00 PM	Internal Service Estimates Due to OMB Fee Schedule Updates	Departments, Office of Management and Budget (OMB)
Thursday, April 2, 2026 5:00 PM	Departmental Budgets & Requests Submitted to OMB	Departments, Office of Management and Budget (OMB)
Tuesday, April 7, 2026 1:30 PM	<u>BoCC Special Budget Meeting</u> Calendar Update Historical Trends Fund Balance Review of Budget Guidelines	BoCC, County Manager, County Attorney, OMB
Friday, May 1, 2026 5:00 PM	Judicial and Constitutional Officers submit budget requests to Board of County Commissioners	
Tuesday, May 5, 2026 1:30 PM	Strategic Guide Update with Commission	BoCC, County Manager, County Attorney, OMB
Tuesday, May 19, 2026 1:30 PM	<u>BoCC Special Budget Meeting</u> Judicial Offices - Court Administration - Guardian Ad Litem - Public Defender - State's Attorney - Regional Conflict Council Constitutional Officers - Tax Collector - Property Appraiser - Clerk of Courts - Supervisor of Elections - Sheriff	BoCC, County Manager, County Attorney, OMB
Wednesday, May 20, 2026 9:00 AM	Capital Improvement Plan Review	Financial Oversight Workgroup
Monday, June 1, 2026	Preliminary Property Value Estimates are delivered	Property Appraiser
Tuesday, June 2, 2026 10:00 AM	<u>BoCC Special Budget Meeting</u> Capital Budget & Financial Plan and Preservation Alachua County Sports Event Center Operational Plan	BoCC, County Manager, County Attorney, OMB
Tuesday, June 2, 2026 1:30 PM	Revenues & Fee Schedule FY27 Adoption of Budget & Financial Policies	BoCC, County Manager, County Attorney, OMB

FY27 BUDGET PROCESS CALENDAR		
Dates and Time	Activity	Participants
By Wednesday July 1, 2026	Tax Roll is Certified	Property Appraiser
Tuesday, July 7, 2026 10:00 AM	BoCC Special Meeting County Manager Budget Presentation	BoCC, County Manager, County Attorney, OMB
Tuesday, July 7, 2026 1:30 PM	Strategic Guide Update with Commission	BoCC, County Manager, County Attorney, OMB
Tuesday, July 14, 2026 5:01 PM	BoCC Regular Meeting Action Items: Set Proposed Millage Rates Set Initial Assessment Rates Hospitals Fire Stormwater Solid Waste Sugarfoot	BoCC, County Manager, County Attorney, OMB
Friday, July 17, 2026	County Manager advises Alachua County Property Appraiser of proposed millage and assessment rates	
Tuesday, August 4, 2026 11:00 AM	BoCC Special Budget Meeting Assistant County Manager Public Services & Community Development Growth Management Solid Waste Public Works Office of Code Administration Community Support Services	BoCC, County Manager, County Attorney, Assistant County Manager - OMB
	Assistant County Manager – Chief Transformation Officer Court Services Equal Opportunity Office Human Resources	BoCC, County Manager, County Attorney, Assistant County Manager- Chief of Staff, OMB
	Assistant County Manager – Chief of Staff Parks and Open Spaces Department Information and Telecommunications Services Department UF/IFAS/AG Extension Office Visit Gainesville, Alachua County FL Economic Development Sports Event Center Animal Resources	BoCC, County Manager, County Attorney, Assistant County Manager - OMB
	Strategic Guide Update with Commission	BoCC, County Manager, County Attorney, OMB

FY27 BUDGET PROCESS CALENDAR		
Dates and Time	Activity	Participants
Thursday, August 6, 2026 11:00 AM	BoCC Special Budget Meeting	BoCC, County Manager, County Attorney, Assistant County Manager, OMB
	Assistant County Manager, Budget and Fiscal Services	
	Budget & Fiscal Services	
	Facilities	
	Level of Service Performance Matrix	
	Breakout By Focus Area	
	Current Strategic Guide	
	Board Focus	
	BoCC Special Budget Meeting	
	County Attorney	
	County Manager	BoCC, County Manager, County Attorney, Assistant County Manager Chief of Staff OMB
	Community and Administrative Services Department	
	Accreditation and Agenda Office	
	Commission Services	
	County Manager's Office	
	Communications Office	
	Environmental Protection Department & Lands & Climate	
	Fire Rescue	
Thursday, August 13, 2026 1:30 PM	<u>Review & Finalize:</u>	BoCC, County Manager, County Attorney, Assistant County Managers, OMB
	County Wide Impacts	
	Revenue Projections	
	Fee Schedule Review	
	Personnel-FTE Review	
	Changes from Tentative Budget	
	Budget Decisions Finalized	
	Tax Rates Finalized	
	Assessments Finalized	
	Millage Chart Finalized	
	<u>Action Items:</u>	
	Adopt Fee Schedule	
	Adopt Personnel/FTE Chart	
	Adopt CIP	
	Finalize Millage Rates	
	Finalize Assessment Rates	
	Final Budget Decisions	
Wednesday, August 19, 2026	TRIM Notices mailed by this date	Property Appraiser
Thursday, August 20, 2026 1:30 PM	Placeholder Meeting if Needed	BoCC, County Manager, County Attorney, Assistant County Managers, OMB
Tuesday, September 1, 2026	Strategic Guide Update with Commission	BoCC, County Manager, County Attorney, OMB
Tuesday, September 8, 2026 5:01 PM	1st Public Budget Hearing Action Items:	BoCC, County Manager, County Attorney, OMB
	Adopt FY27 Adjusted Tentative Millage Rate	
	Adopt FY27 Adjusted Tentative Budget	
	Adopt FY27 Final Assessments	
Tuesday, September 22, 2026 5:01 PM	Final Public Budget Hearing Action Items:	BoCC, County Manager, County Attorney, OMB
	Adopt FY27 Final Millage Rate	
	Adopt FY27 Final Budget	
Tuesday, October 6, 2026	Strategic Guide Update with Commission	BoCC, County Manager, County Attorney, OMB



GOVERNMENT FINANCE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION

*Distinguished
Budget Presentation
Award*

PRESENTED TO

**Alachua County
Florida**

For the Fiscal Year Beginning

October 01, 2025

Christopher P. Morill

Executive Director

PREPARED BY:

**THE ALACHUA COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS'
OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET STAFF**

**Tommy Crosby, CPA, Assistant County Manager Financial & Resource Management
Donna Bradbrook, MBA, Strategic Performance Manager
Maureen Rischitelli, MPA, ML Budget Services Division Manager
Leslie Moyer, CGFO, Senior Financial Management Analyst
Alexandra Corales, Financial Management Analyst
Stephanie Perreault, MPA, CGFO, Financial Management Analyst
Alex Corona, Financial Management Analyst**

Credits

**Mark Sexton, Communications
Takumi Sullivan, Communications
Erika Aenlle, Budget and Fiscal Services
Brandon Pohja, Budget and Fiscal Services
Ethan Long, Budget and Fiscal Services**

THANK YOU

A very special thank you to all County employees and the staff of the Constitutional and Judicial Offices for their assistance.