

# COUNTY OF SUSSEX BUDGET PRESENTATION

FEBRUARY 28, 2024



Jill Space, Commissioner Director

Christopher Carney, Commissioner Deputy

Director

Jack DeGroot, Commissioner
William Hayden, Commissioner
Earl Schick, Commissioner

- Budget process begins
- Guidance issued to Departments to prepare submissions

July

# September

 Operating budget proposals are due early September and reviewed by Finance

- Budget subcommittee reviews budget submittals
- Capital Proposals are due

October

 Capital subcommittee review proposals from Departments

November

# December

 Budget subcommittees review the impact of the draft budget  Budget subcommittees finalize draft budget

January

 Subcommittees review proposed budget and make any final changes

January/February

#### February

 February 28, 2024: Budget is considered for introduction and approval March 27, 2024:

 Board of County
 Commissioners
 hold public
 hearing for
 adoption of
 County Budget

March

#### <u>"2010" Cap</u>

• Establishes a formula limiting increases in the amount to be raised by taxation to 2% of the previous year

#### <u>"1977" Cap</u>

 Prohibits counties from increasing property tax levy greater than 2.5%...unless action is taken by the governing body

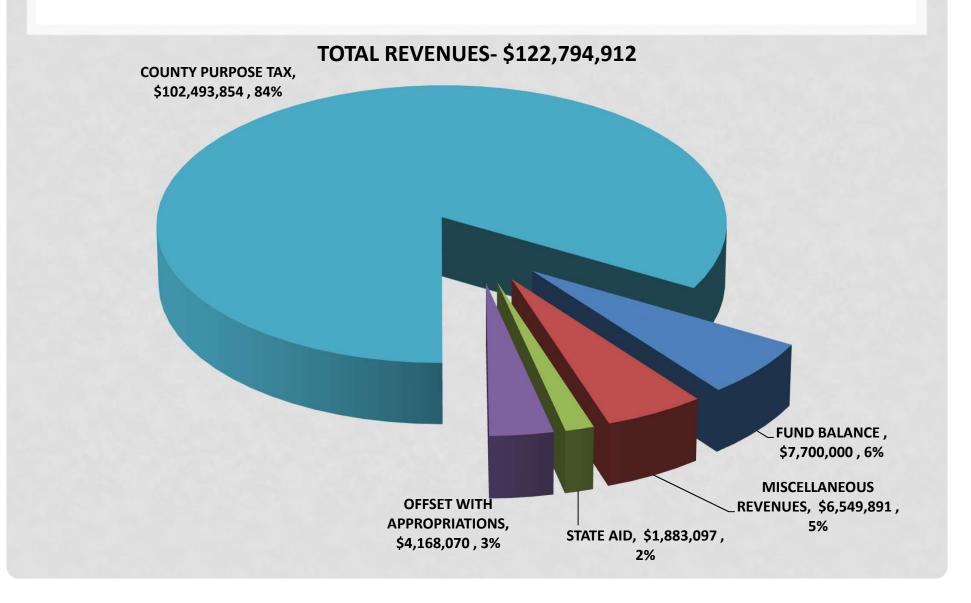
#### "2017" County Entity Cap

 Limits the annual increase to the portion of certain county entity budgets funded by the county property tax

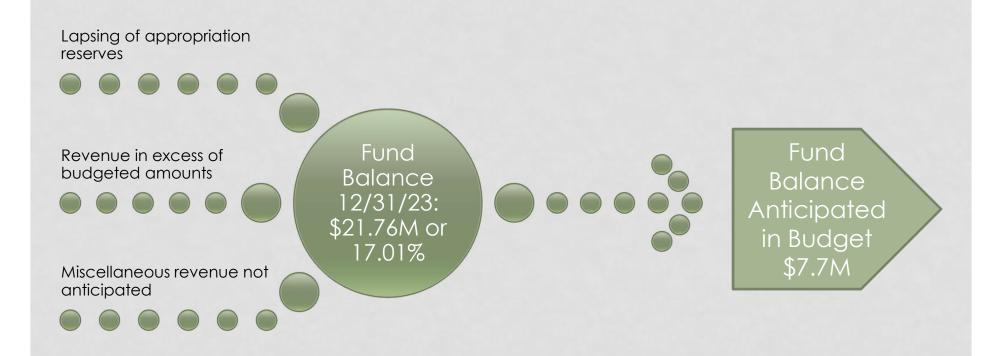
Laws
Affecting
the County
Budget

# GOALS OF 2024 BUDGET

- Being fiscally responsible while keeping Sussex County affordable
- Taking strides towards having competitive wages and benefits packages to retain and recruit employees
- Maintaining and improving levels of service for the benefit of the taxpayer
- Utilizing grants to assist in the funding of core county functions.



#### Generation of Fund Balance

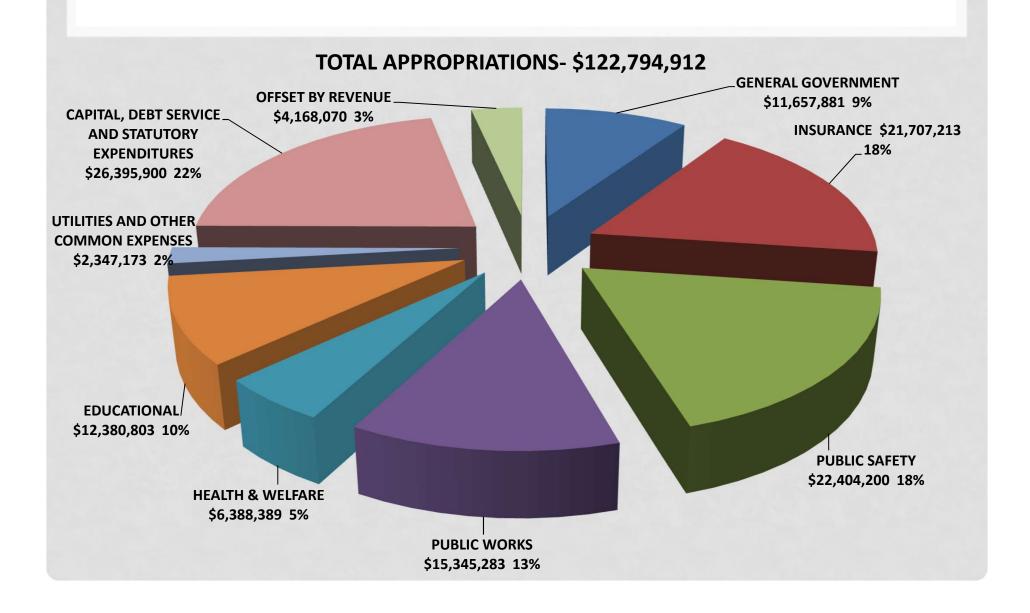


#### **FUND BALANCE HISTORY AND USE AS ANTICIPATED REVENUE**



The 2024 Budget represents a 0.03% increase from the adopted 2023 budget and an increase to the Tax levy of 0.89%.

Year	2022	2023	2024
Budget	\$117.5M	\$122.8M	\$122.8M
Tax Levy	\$99.7M	\$101.3M	\$102.5M
Ratable Base	\$19.1B	\$21.2B	TBD
Tax Rate per \$100	\$0.522	\$0.478	TBD



#### **ALLOCATION OF A COUNTY TAX DOLLAR**









Division of Pensions & Benefits

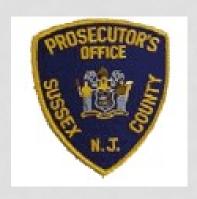


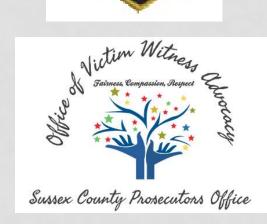




\$0.22 per dollar Capital, Debt & Statutory Expenditures

- Capital Improvement Fund
- Debt Service Payments
- Pension Payments- PERS, PFRS, DCRP
- Social Security Payments
- Deferred Charges

















Shared Services

# \$0.19 per dollar Public Safety

- Prosecutor's Office
- Sheriff's Department
- InMate Housing Contract (Morris County)
- Office of Emergency Management
- 911 Emergency Communication Center-For Sheriff and Shared Services
- County Medical Examiner
- Aid to Volunteer Fire and EMS
- Fire Marshal
- Fire Academy
- Juvenile & Youth Services





# \$0.18 per dollar Insurance

- Group Health Insurance for Active and Retired Employees
- Worker's Compensation Insurance
- General Liability/ Other Insurance
- Unemployment Compensation

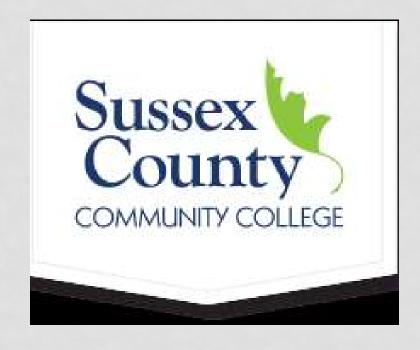




\$0.13 per dollar Public Works

- Roads & Culverts- 310 Road Miles
- Bridge & Traffic Safety- 448
   Bridges
- Parks & Forestry
- Traffic Lights
- Solid Waste Disposal
- Facilities Management- 60 Buildings
- Fleet Management
- Mosquito Control







SUSSEX COUNTY
TECHNICAL SCHOOL

#### \$0.11 per dollar Educational

- Sussex County Community College
- Reimbursement for Residents Attending Out-of-County College
- Sussex County Technical School
- Rutgers Co-operative Extension
- Office of County Superintendent of Schools



#### \$0.10 per dollar General Government

- County Administrator's Office
- Purchasing
- Employee & Central Services
- Board of County Commissioners
- Clerk of the Board
- County Clerk-Registry
- County Clerk-Elections
- Board of Elections
- Department of Finance

- Technology & Information Management
- Office of GIS
- Records Management
- Board of Taxation
- County Counsel
- County Adjuster
- County Surrogate
- Department of Engineering
- Division of Planning
- UCC Appeal Board
- Weights & Measures















# \$0.05 per dollar Health & Human Services

- Public Health Nursing
- Patient Maintenance in State Psychiatric Hospitals
- Environmental Health
- Home Health Care Agency
- Community Services
- Office of Senior Services
- County Nutrition Program
- Social Services Agency
- Mental Health Administration
- Human Services Administration
- Aid to New Bridge, Skylands Ride, Family Intervention Services

#### \$0.02 per dollar **Utilities & Other Common Expenses**

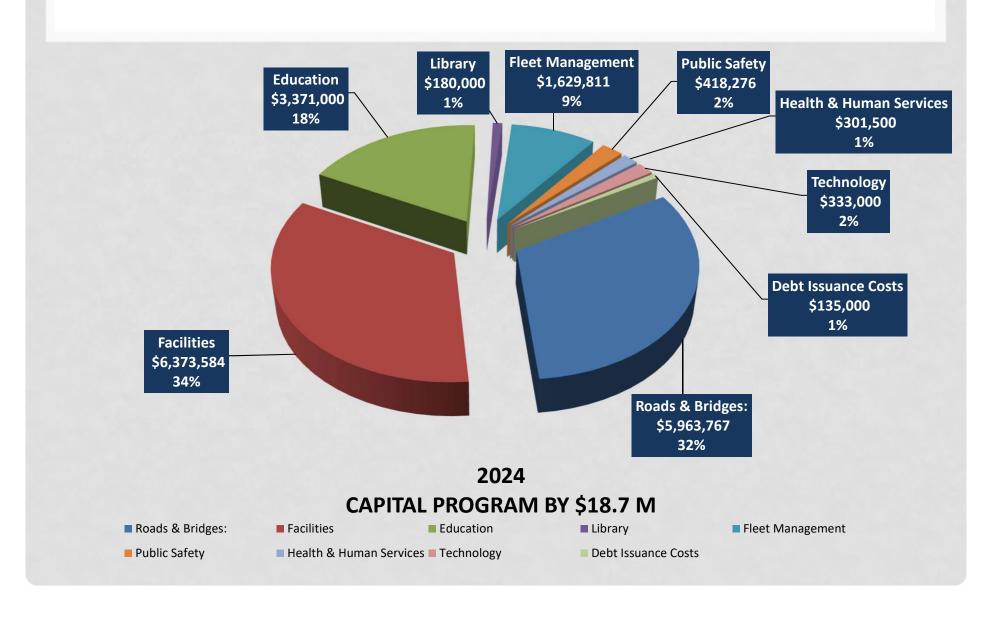
- Transit
- Provision for Salary Adjustments
   Utilities
- Accumulated Leave Compensation
- Fixed Asset Reporting
- Single Audit for Grants
- Indirect Cost Rate Study
- Memorial Day Observance
- Veteran Grave Registration
- County Matching Funds for Grants

- Bulk Gasoline
- Bulk Diesel Fuel



**Utilities & Other Common Expenses** \$0.02

# 2024 COUNTY CAPITAL FUND BUDGET



# 2024 COUNTY CAPITAL BUDGET

Capital Project	Recommended Funding		
1. Facility Improvements	\$6,706,584		
2. Road Resurfacing & Improvements	\$4,608,767		
3. SCCC Improvements	\$2,825,000		
4. Fleet Management	\$1,629,811		
5. Bridge Replacements & Improvements	\$1,355,000		
6. Sussex Tech Sewer Project	\$571,000		
7. Public Safety	\$418,276		
8. Health & Human Services	\$301,500		
9. Library Facility Improvements	\$180,000		

### Advancing County priorities

- Continues to provides resources for County services during inflationary times while keeping the amount to be raised lower than the current inflation rate.
- Identifies other revenue sources to limit the increase to the tax levy while not utilizing additional fund balance.
- Proper utilization of American Rescue Plan funding to offset the annual County capital budget and allow for pay-as you go funding to decrease future debt.

# Advancing County priorities

- Maintain the level of funding for debt service and capital improvements consistent with the debt policy.
- The budget is a balancing act. Strong credit rating assists with our borrowing costs. Strong fund balance is a key measurement for the rating agencies.

The 2024 Budget represents a 0.03% increase from the adopted 2023 budget and an increase to the Tax levy of 0.89%.

Year	2022	2023	2024
Budget	\$117.5M	\$122.8M	\$122.8M
Tax Levy	\$99.7M	\$101.3M	\$102.5M
Ratable Base	\$19.1B	\$21.2B	TBD
Tax Rate per \$100	\$0.522	\$0.478	TBD



THANK YOU