

Quick Facts



2021 Monroe County Proposed Budget



OVERALL SPENDING

Overall spending is just under \$1.2 billion. That is an increase of just under 0.4% – less than one-third the inflation rate and the lowest spending increase since 2016.



LOWER PROPERTY TAX

The property tax rate decreases by \$0.26, from \$8.79 to \$8.53 per \$1,000 of taxable value. This is the largest drop in the county tax rate in nearly two decades.



NO MORE SNOW TAX!

This budget puts the cost for clearing snow and ice from county roads back into the general tax levy, instead of adding a separate fee to everyone's tax bill in order to keep our roads safe in the wintertime. This move will decrease the fees charged for "county services to localities" by an average of 12 percent.



PHASING OUT - SALE OF TAX LIENS

In the past, selling tax liens for one-shot revenues has helped county budgets, but hurt our residents, neighborhoods and community by exacerbating problems with abandoned "zombie" homes.



While being mindful of financial uncertainties – the continuing COVID-19 pandemic, the possibility of reduced State aids – this budget maintains our quality-of-life services, while still making some of the new and critical investments recommended earlier this year in the Monroe County Transition Report.

BUDGET INITIATIVES

- Support for families and children in need of transportation for Early Intervention Services and a 5% boost in reimbursement rates for Pre-school Special Education
- Contracting with Bivona Child Advocacy Center
- An additional \$180K for child care subsidies and a reduction in the parent fee for child care to 10%
- An 8-member Improving Addiction and Coordination Care Team
- A 24/7 Forensic Intervention Team
- Ensuring equity in county contracts, purchasing, hiring, retention, policies and procedures via the new Department of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion
- Funding the Climate Action Plan Advisory Committee, signing on to the Climate Smart Communities Pledge
- \$200K on planning future sustainability projects
- \$100k to study expanding broadband access to underserved rural and urban communities
- \$200k to begin creating a new and visionary Comprehensive Plan for Monroe County