

St. Louis County's 2016 budget reflects its focus on balancing the needs of county residents with the resources available. Given the county's financial strength, economic conditions for residents affected by the mining industry, and the impact of the Transportation Sales Tax, St. Louis County Commissioners and staff worked to achieve a 0% increase in the property tax levy for 2016.

Citizens' Guide to the Budget

Support the Most Vulnerable
Committed funding to protect, promote and improve the health and quality of life

2016



Strengthen Public Safety
Increased support for Arrowhead Regional Corrections (ARC); embedded social worker within the Duluth Police Department

District 1: Frank Jewell
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District 2: Patrick Boyle
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District 3: Chris Dahlberg
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District 4: Tom Rukavina
(218) 365-8200
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Invest in Roads and Bridges
Dedicated Transportation Sales Tax funds and bonding to roads and bridges, accelerating work

District 5: Pete Stauber
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District 6: Keith Nelson
(218) 749-7108
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District 7: Steve Raukar
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County Commissioners and County Administrator
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County Administrator: Kevin Gray
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Property Taxes and the Budget

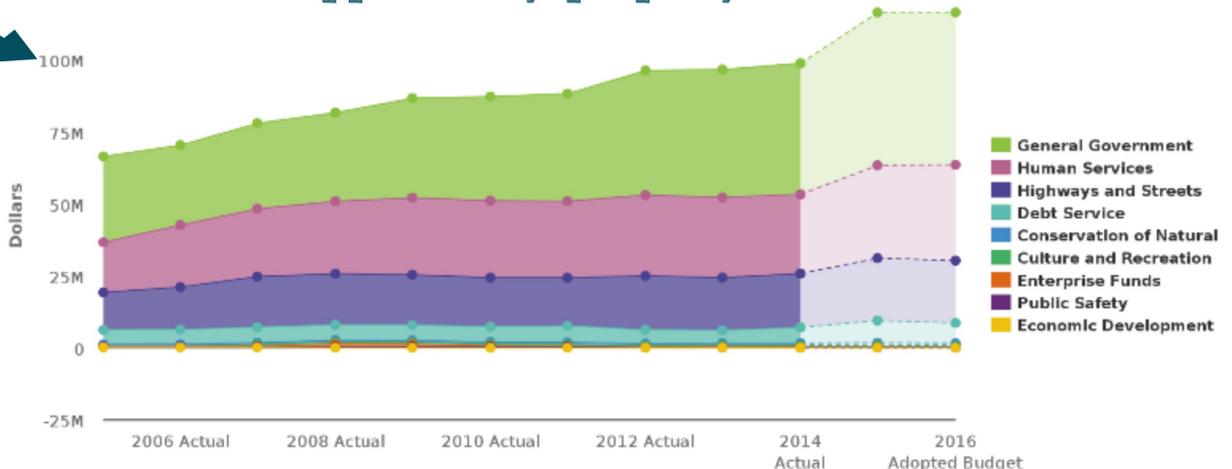
Approximately one third (32.5%) of St. Louis County's budget comes from property taxes. In 2016, that amount - the levy - is \$116.6 million. This amount is divided up between all property owners based on the assessed value and classification of their property. If your property's value changes, this doesn't change the overall amount of money the county collects; only the percentage of the overall amount you pay changes. Due to the growing tax base, most St. Louis County taxpayers should see a reduction in property taxes. To learn more about the county's budget, go to the online transparency tool, Budget Explorer, at stlouiscountymn.gov/budgetexplorer; a sample graph of this interactive tool appears below.

2016 BUDGET AT A GLANCE...

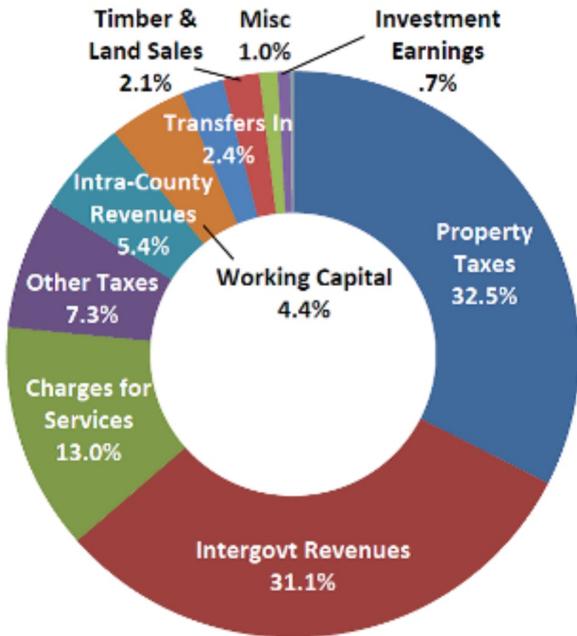
Property Tax Levy \$116,631,193

Total Budget \$358,733,410

Services supported by property taxes...



REVENUE

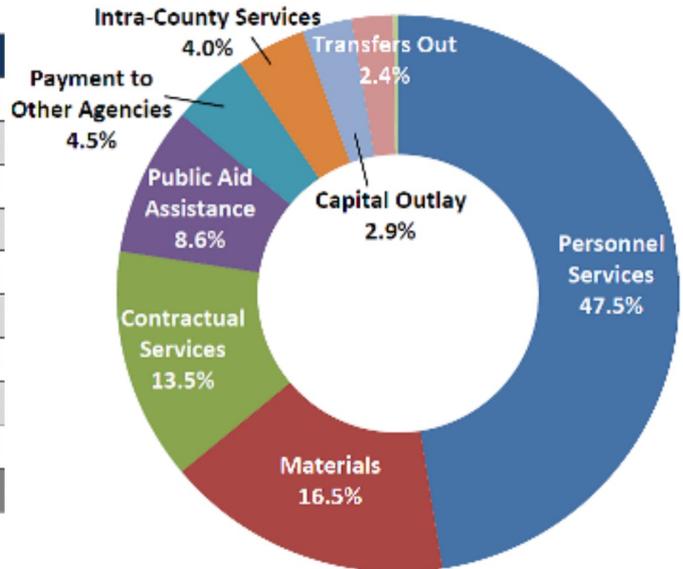


| Source | 2016 Adopted Revenue |
|----------------------------|-------------------------|
| Property Taxes | \$116,631,193 (32.5%) |
| Intergovernmental Revenues | 111,451,294 (31.1%) |
| Charges for Services | 46,460,411 (13.0%) |
| Other Taxes | 26,320,920 (7.3%) |
| Intra-County Revenues | 19,468,739 (5.4%) |
| Working Capital | 15,676,061 (4.4%) |
| Transfers In | 8,557,170 (2.4%) |
| Timber and Land Sales | 7,410,000 (2.1%) |
| Miscellaneous | 3,684,792 (1.0%) |
| Investment Earnings | 2,561,830 (.7%) |
| Licenses and Permits | 326,500 (.1%) |
| Fines and Forfeitures | 159,250 (.04%) |
| Gifts and Contributions | 19,250 (.01%) |
| Other Financing Sources | 6,000 (.002%) |
| TOTAL | \$358,733,410.00 |

NOTE: Sources not specifically labeled on pie chart include Licenses and Permits, Fines and Forfeitures, Gifts and Contributions and Other Financing Sources.

EXPENDITURES

| Activity | 2016 Expenses |
|---------------------------|-------------------------|
| Personnel Services | \$170,297,178 (47.5%) |
| Materials | 59,176,608 (16.5%) |
| Contractual Services | 48,311,424 (13.5%) |
| Public Aid Assistance | 31,018,085 (8.6%) |
| Payment to Other Agencies | 15,976,358 (4.5%) |
| Intra-County Services | 14,197,162 (4.0%) |
| Capital Outlay | 10,247,425 (2.9%) |
| Transfers Out | 8,557,170 (2.4%) |
| Other Financing Uses | 952,000 (.3%) |
| TOTAL | \$358,733,410.00 |



NOTE: Other Financing Uses not specifically labeled on pie chart.



Located in northeastern Minnesota at the tip of Lake Superior, St. Louis County encompasses 7,000+ square miles, making it the largest county east of the Mississippi River.



St. Louis County manages 3,000+ miles of roads, 600+ bridges, nearly one million acres of public land, and provides services to over 200,000 people.



The County Assessor's team works hard to be fair to everyone. By assessing each property uniformly, the team strives to ensure that property owners pay only their fair share, and nothing more.



Work on the budget is year-round, with County Commissioners certifying the maximum levy in September, holding public meetings in late fall and approving the budget in December.