A Brief Look at Your Cascade County Budget

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Your FY 2025 Cascade County budget contains approximately $109,146,002 million of **expenditures** across all funds. The total budgeted **expenditures** for the FY 2024 County budget was $101,976,145. This reflects a 7% increase in **expenditures** over the FY 2024 amended budget.

The total budgeted **revenue** for the County in FY 2025 is $82,827,126. The total budgeted **revenue** in FY 2024 was set at $79,148,194. This reflects a 4.6% increase in revenue over the FY 2024 amended budget. The Commission balances the budget by using reserves from the previous year. The difference between the **Revenue** and **Expenditures** is made up by **Reserves**.

In November, 2022, the County Budget Officer/Grants Coordinator retired after giving official notice in May of the same year. Beginning November, 2022, Cascade County Commissioner Briggs assumed management and execution of the County budget. Departmental budget-building meetings in 2023 were not recorded and quarterly budget updates were not provided to the Board of Commissioners and the taxpayer, according to notices posted on the County website. In the early part of 2024, departmental budget-building meetings were again lawfully noticed and recorded.

		$ Change	% Change
FY 2021 Amended Budget	$ 73,466,377		
FY 2022 Amended Budget	$ 77,763,744	$ 4,297,367	5.8%
FY 2023 Amended Budget	$ 96,560,822	$ 18,797,078	* 24.2%
FY 2024 Amended Budget	$ 101,976,145	$ 5,415,323	5.6%
FY 2025 Adopted Budget	* * $ 109,225,982	$ 7,249,837	7.1%

NOTES

** Cascade County received $15.8 million in American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) directly from the feds and an additional $1.8 million minimum allocations ARPA funding for water and sewer projects. This influx of funding explains the large jump in budget appropriations between the FY 2022 and FY 2023 budget.*

** * Resolution #24-37, approved by a vote of 2 to 1 on September 5, 2024, adopted a final operating budget of $ 109,225,982. However, the official operating budget posted to the Cascade County website shows a final operating budget of $109,146,002. For purposes of this chart only, the amount adopted by Resolution #24-37 is used.*

In June of 2024, a Chief Finance Officer (CFO) was hired, and the CFO assumed the budgeting responsibilities. Budget-building meetings are now held between the CFO and the department heads. There continues to be no quarterly budget updates provided to the Board of Commissioners or the taxpayer, according to notices posted on the County website.
The FY 2026 County budget-building process has already begun. Internally, the budget was "opened" in January. Now is the time the Public should be actively updated and participating in the building of your upcoming fiscal budget, prior to the Interim Operating Budget for FY 2026 being adopted by July 1, 2025. The final budget for FY 2026 will "close" for adoption by the Commission, tentatively, on September 4, 2025. Phone your Cascade County Commissioners office at 406-454-6810, or email them at commission@cascadecountymt.gov, for scheduling information on your County budgeting meetings.