

2026 Brandon Town Meeting

FY27 Brandon Budget Proposal

January 31, 2026 @ 11AM, Town Hall — “Pre-Town Meeting”

March 2, 2026 @ 7PM, Town Hall — Annual Evening Town Meeting

March 3, 2026, 7AM - 7PM @ American Legion — Town Meeting Day Voting

Dedication of the Town Report

March 2, 2026 @ Town Hall

Meeting Agenda

Thank you for Being Here!

- Introductions: Selectboard, Town Management Team
- This Year's Budget Building Process
- FY27 Budget Highlights
- FY27 Budget Resources & Tools
- Permanent Non-Budget Funding: 1% Local Option Tax
- Questions & Answers

This Year's Budget-Building Process

Goal: A Process That Is Fair to All

- A Budget Advisory Committee was not seated this year; requires vote of the Town
- Selectboard led a series of bi-weekly public meetings
- Department heads worked with the Town Manager to prepare budgets for review
- A series of workshops reviewed the budget for each department line-by-line
- The Select Board developed the proposed budget using the input from all
- **The FY27 budget proposal was approved 5-0 by the Selectboard**
- Town report book; Pre-Town Meeting January 31st; Voter Consideration

FY27 Budget Highlights

Doug Bailey, Selectboard Chair

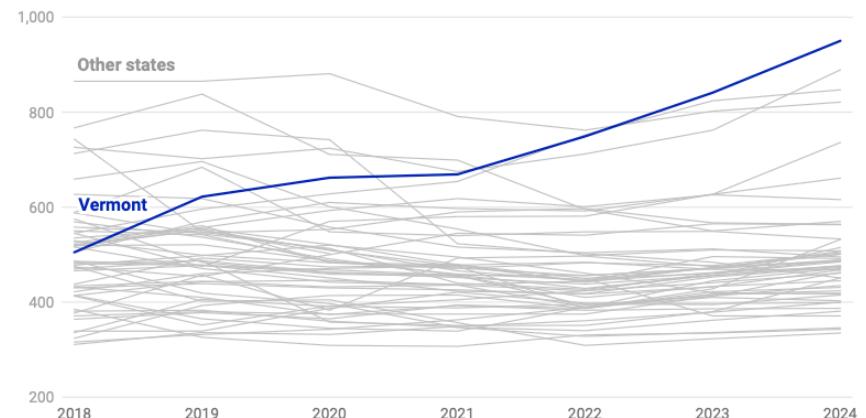
What's Changed?

Drivers of FY27 Budget Proposal

- Health Insurance headwind:
Vermont is the most expensive state in the country to buy health insurance; the Town uses the less expensive of only two insurers in VT
- \$13,089 increase from 2025 to 2026

How the sticker price of Vermont health insurance compares to other states

Monthly premiums by state and year for the "benchmark" insurance plan available through the federal and state-based individual Affordable Care Act marketplaces.



"Benchmark" premiums are the second-lowest silver premium for 40-year-old individuals on the health insurance marketplace.
Chart: Erin Petenko • Source: KFF • [Get the data](#) • Created with Datawrapper

What's Changed?

Drivers of FY27 Budget Proposal

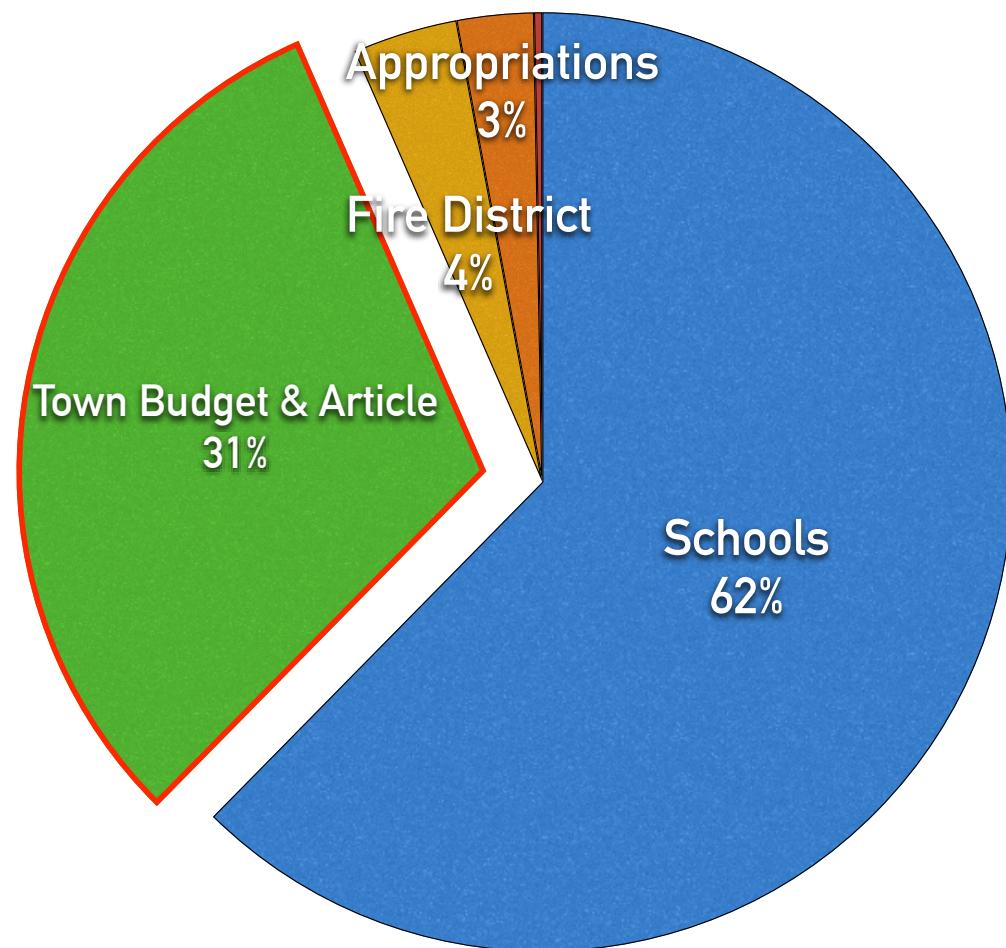
- Removed the bond payment for the Swifty Culvert and Stone Arch Bridge from the FY27 budget to the 1% local option tax fund (property tax relief ~ \$60,000)
- Selectboard not requesting a capital article this year (property tax relief = \$50,000)
- Cut a part-time position in the assessor's office (savings ~ \$10,000)

1/2 of 1%

Bottom Line Up Front:

Increase to the Town portion of property tax from the Town budget & forgoing an Article

FY26
(current
year)
Residential
Homestead
Tax Bill by %,
Rounded



**\$8.19 a year or
68¢ a month**

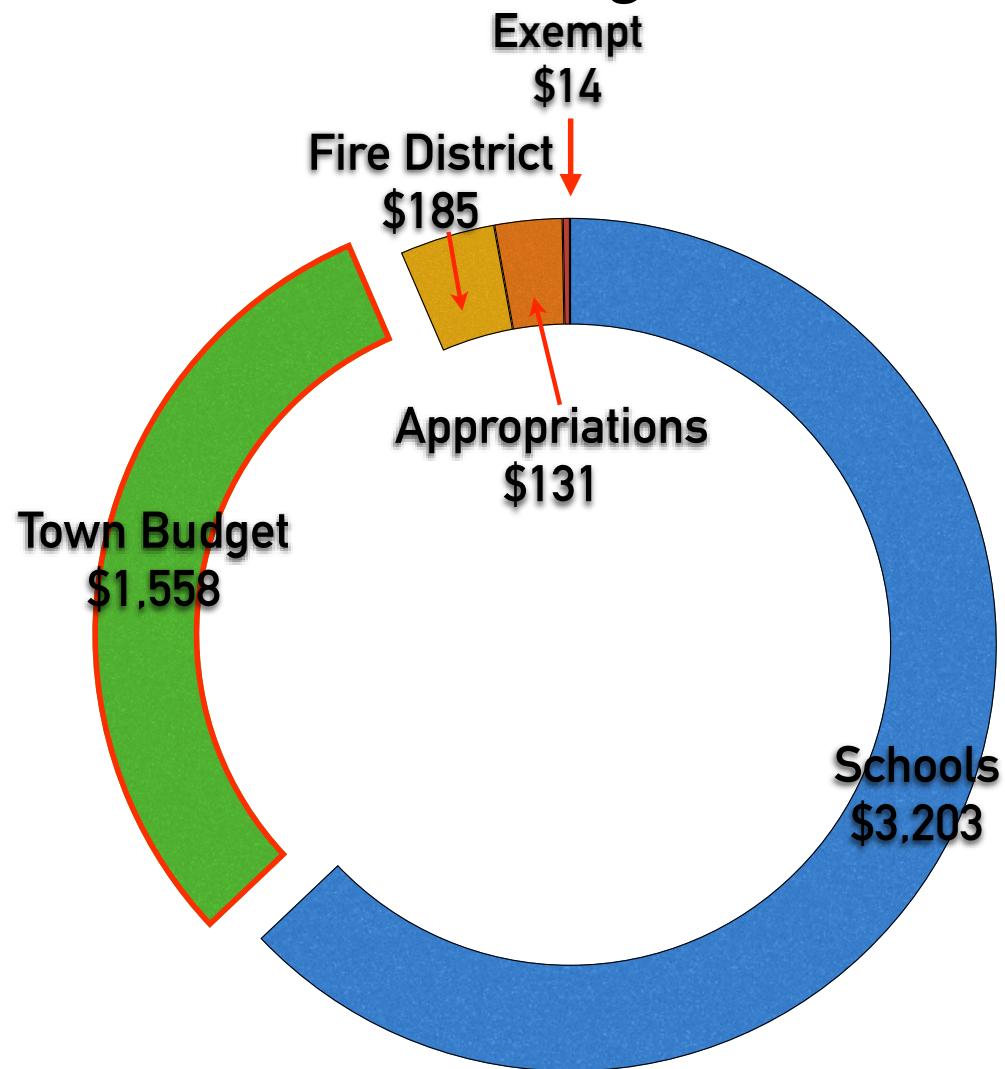
Increase to Town property tax on the average-assessed Brandon home

FY27 Forecast Tax Bill (\$5,091) on \$186,000 average valuation

Proposed FY27 Town budget spending is up 2.94% (or \$100,200), but the Article is down from \$50,000 to \$0.

**The net is an increase of 0.53% in the amount to be raised by taxes.
Half a percent.**

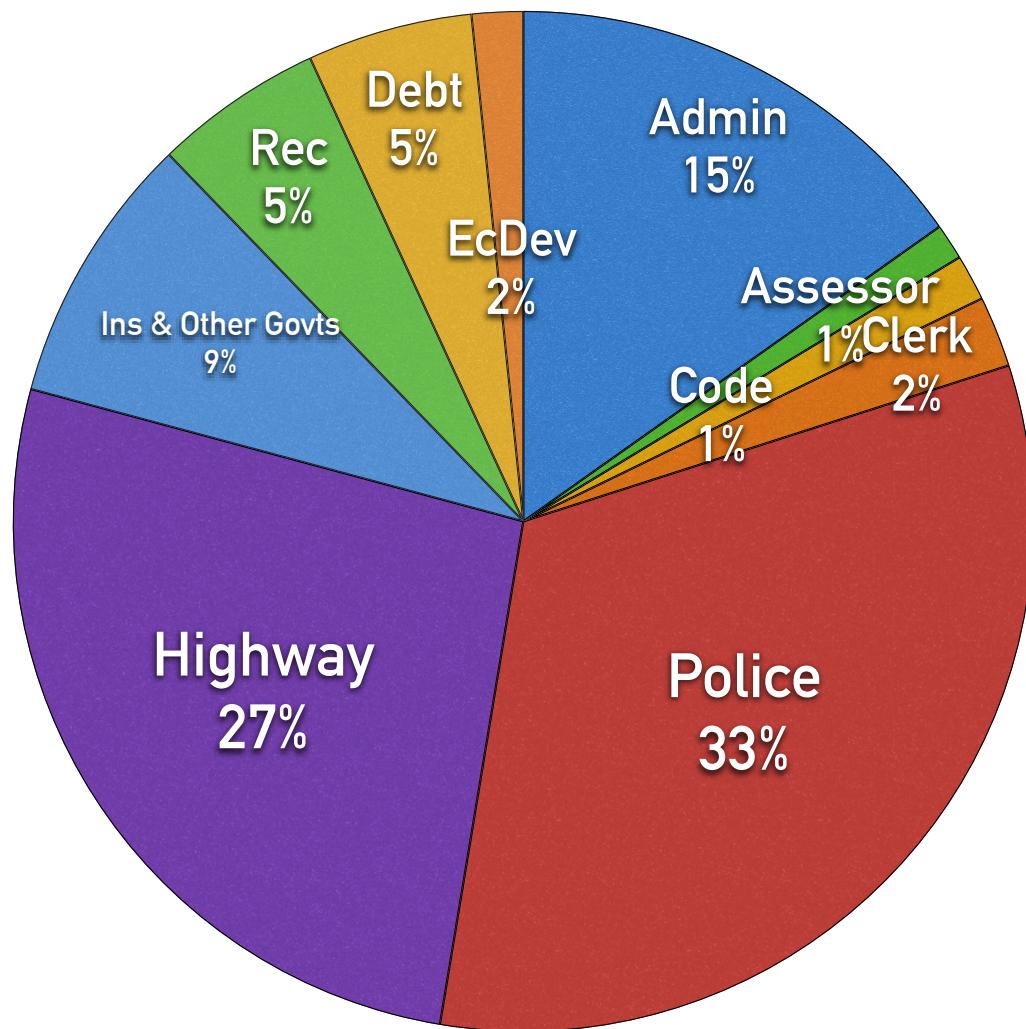
Town tax on a \$186,000 assessed home is up \$8.19 per year or 68¢ per month



Highest Ever

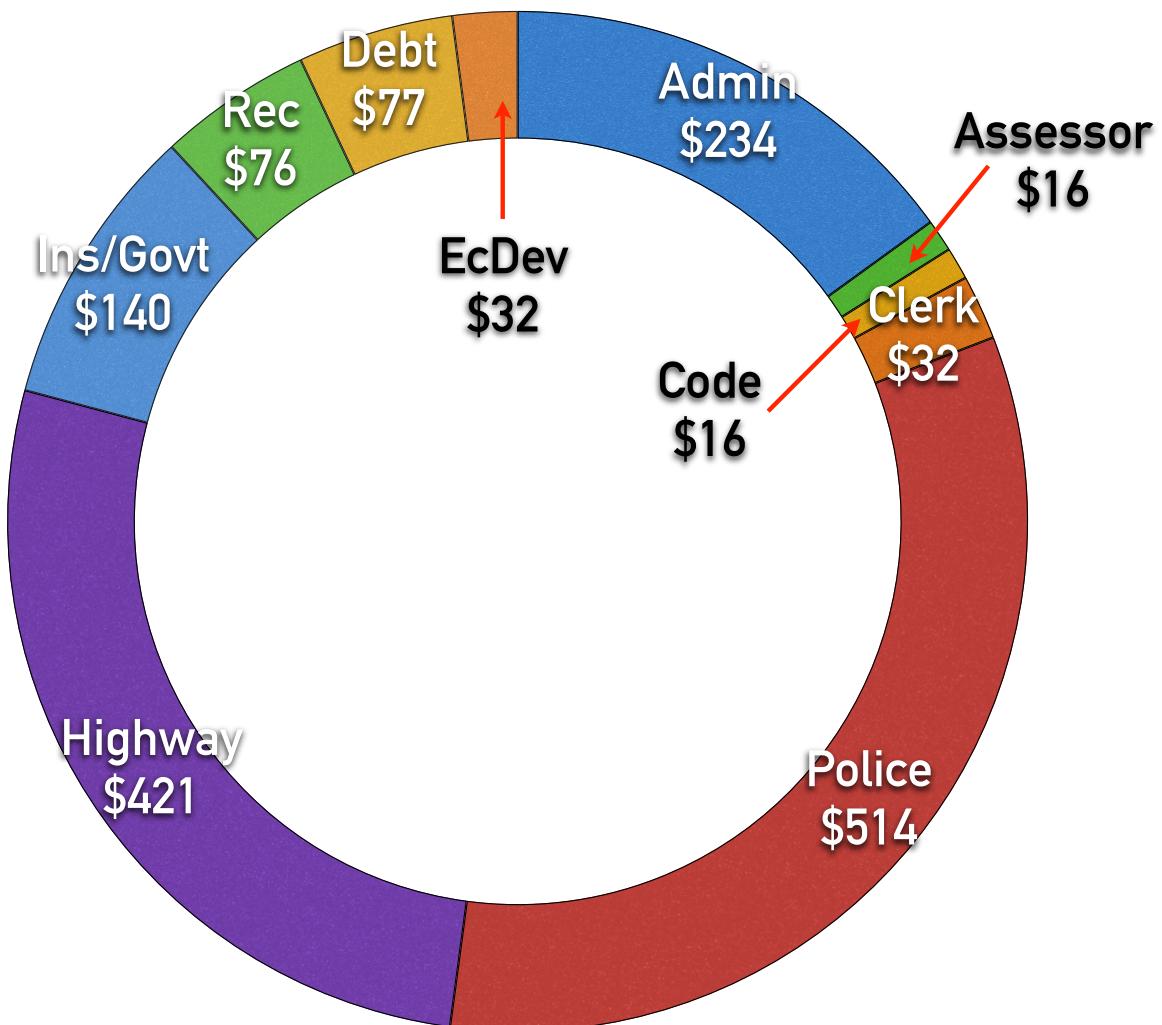
Spending Proposed for Policing in our Community
\$986,505

Proposed
FY27 Town
Operating
Budget
Department
Nets
by %



Town Budget Portion of
Projected FY27 Tax Bill
based on \$186,000
Brandon house valuation
at
\$0.8191 Town tax rate
(totals \$1,558).

Capital fund article
from current year (FY26)
drops off, saving \$26.



\$2,272,714

Lowest assessed house value incurring a Town increase of \$100 per year or more

Budget Resources & Tools

Doug Bailey, Selectboard Chair

Resources to Aid in Understanding

FY27 Town Budget

- Town Report Book
 - Budget Summary
 - Board & Management Reports
 - Department Head Reports
 - Line-by-Line Dept Budgets
- 2-page Summary on Website
- 24-page Line-by-Line Detail on Website
- Tax Estimator on Website
- Ask Selectboard & Management Team

www.brandonvermont.gov

FY27 Town Meeting Ballot Questions

| FY 27 Article Requests | | | | |
|------------------------|--|--------------|------------------|--|
| # | Purpose | Request | Tax on Ave House | |
| 2 | Town Budget | \$ 2,942,153 | \$ 1,572 | |
| 3 | ARC Rutland | \$ 4,000 | \$ 2 | |
| 4 | Independence Day | \$ 7,000 | \$ 4 | |
| 5 | Legion | \$ 25,000 | \$ 13 | |
| 6 | Rescue Squad | \$ 82,580 | \$ 44 | |
| 7 | Library | \$ 92,000 | \$ 49 | |
| 8 | Brandon Museum | \$ 5,000 | \$ 3 | |
| 9 | Senior Center | \$ 15,500 | \$ 8 | |
| 10 | Open Door Clinic | \$ 1,000 | \$ 1 | |
| 11 | Humane Society | \$ 1,500 | \$ 1 | |
| 12 | SW Council on Aging | \$ 2,900 | \$ 2 | |
| 13 | VT Adult Learning | \$ 1,000 | \$ 1 | |
| 14 | VNA & Hospice | \$ 10,200 | \$ 5 | |
| AP | All Appropriation Requests 2-14 | \$ 247,680 | \$ 131 | |

Appropriations

Social Service Provider Requests

Non-Budget Funding

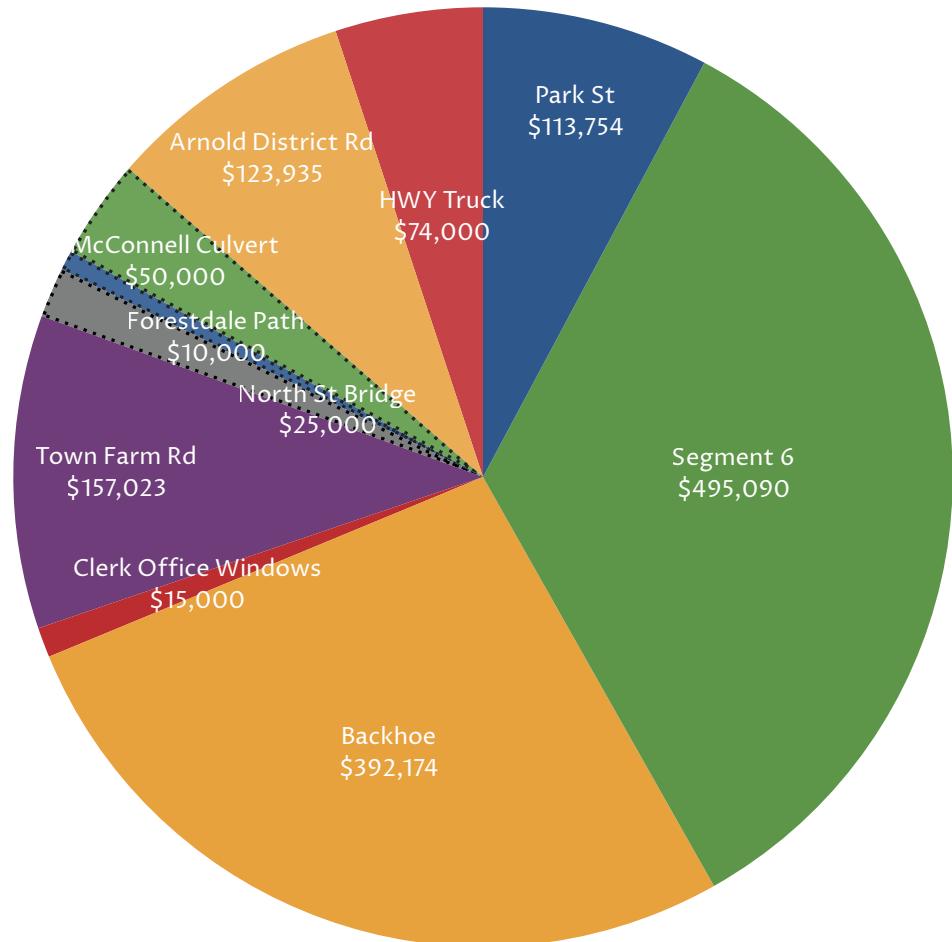
Doug Bailey, Selectboard Chair

100%

of Local Option Tax Revenue Goes to Long-Lasting Capital Improvements

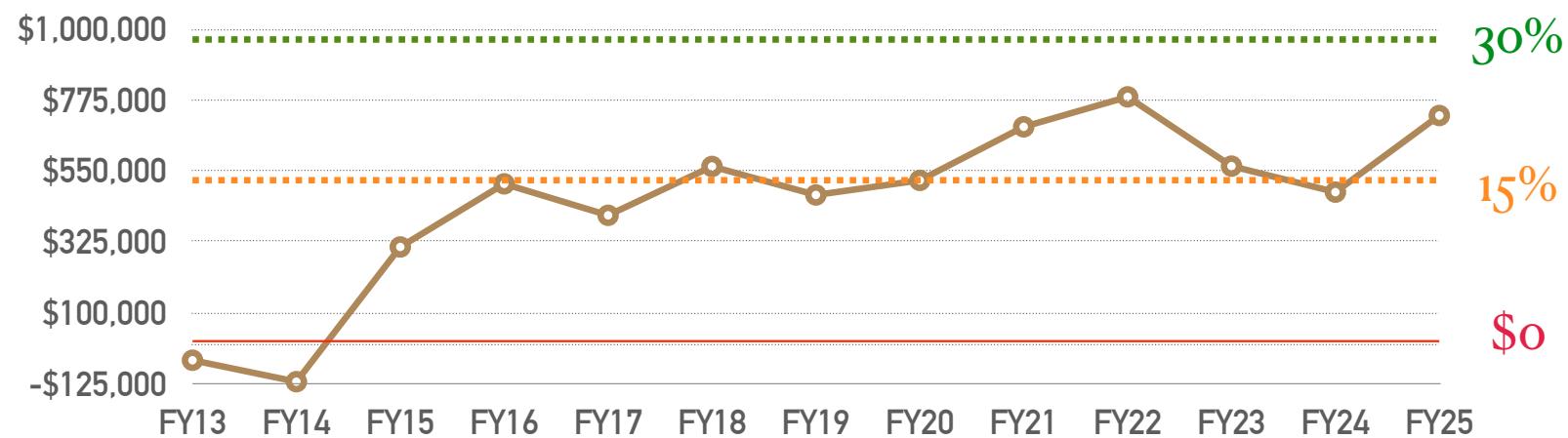
**LOCAL OPTION
TAX (1% Fund)**
As of 30 June 2025
\$1.96M

**Steady Annual
Revenue Exceeds
\$300,000**



UNRESTRICTED RESERVE FUND TREND

Selectboard Fund Balance Policy
Maintain ready reserves of 15% - 30% of our budget
~\$3.3M budget = \$495,000 - \$990,000



Questions & Answers

Doug Bailey, Selectboard Chair