



I.U.P.A. LOCAL 6021

INTERNATIONAL UNION OF POLICE ASSOCIATIONS
BROWARD LIEUTENANTS ASSOCIATION
THE VOICE OF LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS

August 19, 2024

Broward County Board of Commissioners
Room 421
115 S. Andrews Ave,
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301

Dear Broward County Board of Commissioners:

The International Union of Police Associations (IUPA) Local 6021, Broward Lieutenants Association, represents members who are employed as law enforcement lieutenants at the Broward County Sheriff's Office (BSO). The IUPA Local 6021 and its members are committed to providing the best law enforcement services to the approximately two million residents of Broward County. Fulfilling this commitment to provide the best law enforcement services to all visitors and residents of Broward County requires unwavering support from the Broward County Board of Commissioners. A key part of that support is reliant on proper and adequate funding of BSO to ensure employees are properly compensated so recruitment and retention abilities are maximized, the best equipment is acquired, and the best facilities are provided for the best training exercises.

Currently, BSO law enforcement lieutenants as well as other employees across BSO are severely underpaid. The IUPA Local 6021 would like to point out that law enforcement lieutenants at the Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office (PBSO) and Miami-Dade Police Department (MDPD) reported top out salaries approximately seven percent higher than what BSO's top out salary is for law enforcement lieutenants. The salary gap between these agencies will unfortunately worsen in the coming years. Over the next three years, PBSO has committed increasing salaries an additional 16 percent and MDPD over the next two years will increase salaries an additional 7 percent. BSO currently has no cost-of-living adjustment increases in place for law enforcement lieutenants or any other sworn law enforcement officers.



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The Broward County Board of Commissioners needs to commit additional recurring funding to BSO's personnel services portion of the budget to allow for an urgent increase to salaries. Responding to this dilemma by only providing a one-time disbursement of capital funds will give a false appearance of additional funding that doesn't allow BSO to increase salaries. As the salary gap between these agencies worsens, so will BSO's ability to recruit the best applicants and retain quality employees, thus creating a potential compromise to public safety for the citizens of Broward County.

This request for added funding is well within reason. BSO is underfunded when compared to what Palm Beach County commits to countywide public safety services. Broward County's budget for fiscal year 2023-2024 is approximately \$8.6 billion and Palm Beach County's budget for fiscal year 2023-2024 is approximately \$7.8 billion.

BSO is a full-service public safety agency that employs 5,494 employees and provides law enforcement services, fire rescue services, detention services, and communication services. PBSO employs 4,000 employees and provides law enforcement services, detention services, and communication services. Palm Beach County funds countywide fire rescue services through the Palm Beach County Fire Rescue (PBFR), an independent agency from PBSO. Collectively, Palm Beach County provides full service public safety utilizing two public safety agencies, PBSO and PBFR, while Broward County provides full service public safety services through one agency, BSO.

For fiscal year 2023-2024, BSO was funded at approximately \$1.2 billion for 5,909 funded positions to serve the approximately 1.94 million residents of Broward County. For fiscal year 2023-2024, PBSO was funded at approximately \$902 million dollars for 4,464 funded positions and the PBFR, a separate public safety entity from PBSO, was funded at approximately \$679 million dollars for 1,810 funded positions. To serve Palm Beach County's approximately 1.49 million residents, Palm Beach County funds a combined total of 6,274 public safety positions between PBSO and PBFR for a total of approximately \$1.6 billion dollars. That equates to 365 more positions funded for PBSO and PBFR to provide full service public safety services for Palm Beach County than what BSO is given as a full-service public



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safety agency. Although Broward County and Palm Beach County fund closely the same number of public safety positions, Palm Beach County, despite having a budget of approximately \$800 million less than Broward County, invested approximately \$400 million more into their countywide public safety agencies of PBSO and PBFR. To add context, it would take 365 funded positions at approximately \$1,000,000 per position being added to BSO to make BSO equal with PBSO and PBFR in terms of funded positions and total overall funding. Palm Beach County's commitment to fund more public safety positions and invest more money into their public safety agencies is despite them having approximately 450,000 less residents than Broward County. The population difference for Broward County and Palm Beach County was obtained utilizing the most recent statistics provided by the United States Census Bureau.

The IUPA Local 6021 has attached at the bottom of this letter the Palm Beach County Budget Fact Sheet for Fiscal Year 2023-2024, which has highlighted Palm Beach County's total budget, the amount PBSO was funded for fiscal year 2023-2024, and the total number of positions PBSO was funded at for fiscal year 2023-2024. The IUPA Local 6021 has also attached at the bottom of this letter the PBFR Fiscal Year 2023-2024 Fact Sheet, which has highlighted the total funding PBFR is funded at as well as the total number of budgeted positions that PBFR was funded for.

The time to commit adequate funding for public safety services is before a tragedy strikes not afterwards. Broward County has been subjected to numerous public safety failures over the past several years that have hurt this community and made national news which have placed Broward County in a negative light. As we are all aware, some of these failures over the past decade have included a murder suspect escaping from custody in 2016, the 2017 shooting at the Fort Lauderdale-Hollywood International Airport which the after-action review identified numerous public safety deficiencies, and the failed response to the active shooter that occurred at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in 2018 resulting in 17 people dead. Despite Broward County sprinting past Palm Beach County in the category of public safety failures which have garnered national attention and harmed the community, it is Palm Beach who is committing substantially more funding and resources for public safety. The IUPA Local



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6021 urges the Broward County Board of Commissioners to adequately fund BSO and place the safety of Broward County residents as its top priority.

Respectfully submitted,

Matt Cowart

Matt Cowart

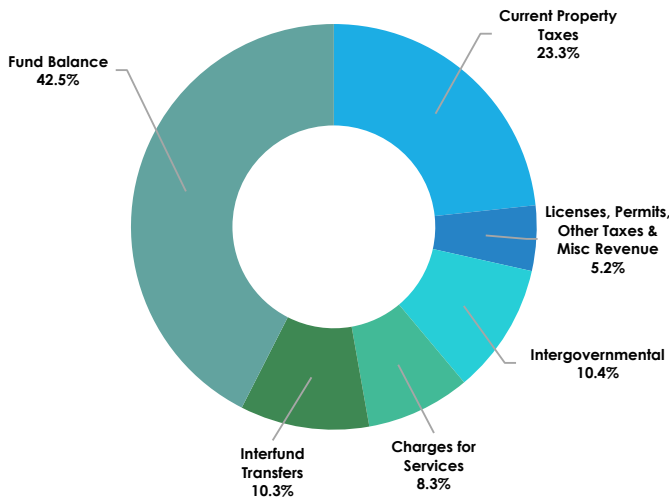
President, I.U.P.A. Local 6021



Palm Beach County FY 2024 Budget Fact Sheet

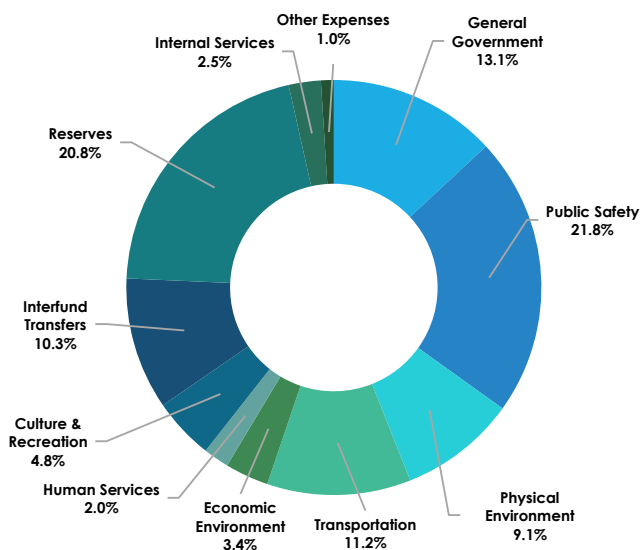
www.pbcgov.org
(561) 355-2580

Where the Money Comes From Total of all Funds \$7,873,039,892



Palm Beach County Revenues (in millions)			
	FY 2023	FY 2024	% Change
Current Property Taxes	\$1,673.2	\$1,834.0	9.6%
Licenses, Permits, Other Taxes & Misc Revenue	309.3	408.3	32.0%
Intergovernmental	629.5	816.5	29.7%
Charges for Services	627.5	652.9	4.1%
Interfund Transfers	750.2	812.1	8.3%
Fund Balance	2,720.7	3,349.2	23.1%
Total	\$6,710.4	\$7,873.0	17.3%

Where the Money Goes Total of all Funds \$7,873,039,892



Palm Beach County Expenditures (in millions)			
	FY 2023	FY 2024	% Change
General Government	\$699.2	\$1,034.2	47.9%
Public Safety	1,569.9	1,720.1	9.6%
Physical Environment	689.9	715.6	3.7%
Transportation	758.0	882.0	16.4%
Economic Environment	221.2	270.1	22.1%
Human Services	143.3	155.7	8.7%
Culture/Recreation	341.9	376.4	10.1%
Interfund Transfers	750.2	812.1	8.3%
Reserves	1,269.7	1,638.4	29.0%
Internal Services	189.3	191.8	1.3%
Other Expenses	77.8	76.6	-1.5%
Total	\$6,710.4	\$7,873.0	17.3%

The review and adoption of the annual budget is one of the most important policy-making responsibilities of the Board of County Commissioners (BCC). At the November 22, 2022 workshop, the BCC agreed to continue with their previously approved six strategic priorities. The priorities are: Economic Development, Environmental Protection, Housing and Homelessness, Infrastructure, Public Safety, and Substance Use and Behavioral Disorders. This budget reflects the BCC's commitment of continuing to enhance the quality of life in Palm Beach County.

Increase in Licenses, Permits, Other Taxes & Miscellaneous Revenue is primarily due to the anticipated increase of interest income as a result of higher interest rates. The increase in Intergovernmental Revenues is primarily related to grant funding for the C-51 Reservoir projects. Increase in Fund balance is related to future planning within the General Fund and the carryforward of funding for previously budgeted capital projects.

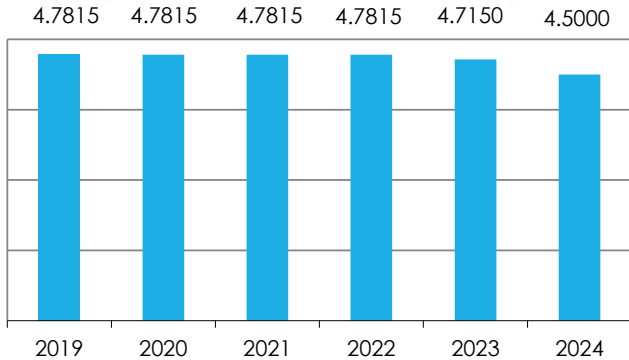
Significant changes in expenditures include an increase in General Government primarily related to funding for Roger Dean Stadium and C-51 Reservoir projects. The increase in Economic Environment is primarily due to grant funding for housing projects and support for the County's Housing Initiative Program. The increase in Reserves is primarily related to new and carryforward funding for capital projects.



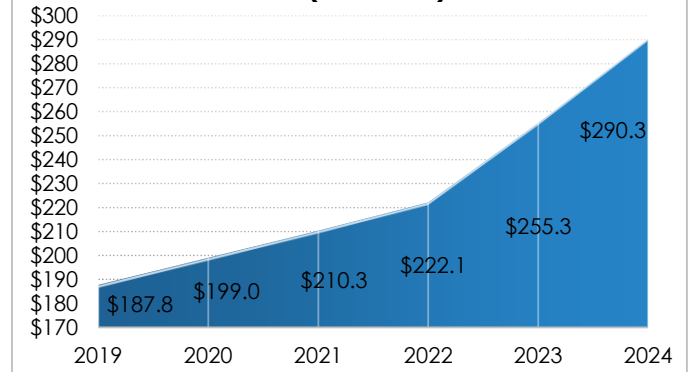
Palm Beach County FY 2024 Budget Fact Sheet

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Countywide Operating Millage History (tax per \$1,000 in taxable value)

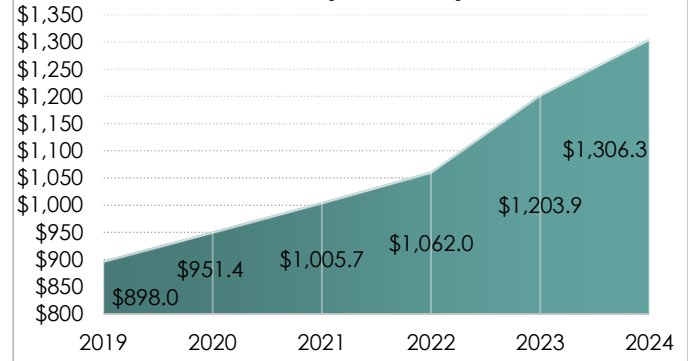


Taxable Values History (in billions)



Taxing District	Millage Rate
Countywide	4.5000
Library District	0.5491
Fire Rescue:	
Main MSTU	3.4581
Jupiter MSTU	1.7879
Countywide Voted Debt	0.0188
Library District Voted Debt	0.0108

Countywide Ad Valorem Tax History (in millions)



The BCC approved a budget with a property tax rate of 4.5000 per \$1,000 of taxable value, which is 0.2920 above the calculated rollback rate. Florida Statutes limit the countywide millage rate to a maximum of 10 mills, excluding voter approved debt service millage rates.

For the FY 2024 budget, County departments were directed to submit budgets with service levels status quo with additional requests only for critical needs. **The Sheriff's budget is funded at \$902.0 million.** The Sheriff submitted a request for a carry forward of funds totaling \$25.0 million for computer equipment and software, fleet vehicles including equipment, radios and electronic equipment, furniture, public safety equipment, and training equipment.

The budget includes \$132.3 million in Ad Valorem funded capital projects. This reflects \$38.2 million for Fire Rescue, \$32.4 million for repair and renovation of County buildings, \$25.5 million for Parks & Recreation, \$17.5 million for Information Technology Systems, \$8.1 million for roadway improvement, \$9.5 million for County Library, \$1.0 million for other miscellaneous projects, and \$0.3 million for environmental restoration. In addition to Ad Valorem funding, capital projects are funded by infrastructure surtax, impact fees, bonds, and other funding sources. Department of Airports and Water Utilities Department capital projects are funded by enterprise revenues.

A total of 12,367 positions are included in the FY 2024 budget: BCC 7,045; Sheriff 4,464; Tax Collector 350; Property Appraiser 233; Clerk & Comptroller 150; Supervisor of Elections 83; and Judicial 42.

County Commission

Maria G. Marino Gregg K. Weiss Michael A. Barnett Marci Woodward Maria Sachs Sara Baxter Mack Bernard

County Administrator

Verdenia C. Baker



PALM BEACH COUNTY FIRE-RESCUE FY2024 FACT SHEET

Updated: 01/17/2024

Services Provided:	Fire Protection, Emergency Medical Services, ALS/BLS Transport, Hazardous Materials Mitigation, Special Operations, Aircraft Firefighting, 9-1-1 Dispatching, Public Education, Inspections, Investigations, Plans Review, Community Assistance, Mobile Integrated Health
Population Served:	960,669 (PBCFR Jurisdiction) + additional 361,700 dispatched
Area Covered:	1,769 square land miles served – this includes unincorporated Palm Beach County and 19 municipalities: Belle Glade, Cloud Lake, Glen Ridge, Haverhill, Jupiter, Juno Beach, Lake Clarke Shores, Lake Park, Lake Worth Beach, Lantana, Loxahatchee Groves, Manalapan, Pahokee, Palm Springs, Royal Palm Beach, South Bay, South Palm Beach, Wellington and Westlake Dispatch Services for 13 municipalities: Atlantis, Delray Beach, Greenacres, Gulf Stream, Highland Beach, Jupiter Inlet Colony, Mangonia Park, North Palm Beach, Palm Beach Gardens, Palm Beach Shores, Riviera Beach, Tequesta and West Palm Beach
Budget:	\$679 million (FY 2024 includes all operating funds)
Millage Rate:	3.4581 mils
Number of Personnel:	1,810 Full Time Budgeted Positions (plus 18 SAFER Grant positions) and approximately 100 Volunteers
Number of Stations:	51 (+ additional 29 stations dispatched)
Daily Firefighter Strength:	341 minimum staffing (with Temp Station 11 = 344)
Number of In-Service Units:	44 ALS Engines (44 with Station 11), 55 ALS Rescues, 2 Special Operations Units, 6 ALS Aerials, 4 Tenders, 19 Brush Trucks, 1 Light/Air, 4 Personal Rescue Water Crafts, 4 ARFF Vehicles, 9 Battalion Chiefs, and 9 EMS Captains
Number of Calls FY 2023: (PBCFR Jurisdiction)	130,999 EMS Calls 1,214 Structure Fire Calls <u>21,811</u> Other Calls 154,024 TOTAL
Number of Calls Dispatched:	232,278 (all agencies)
Average Response Time:	6 minutes 50 seconds

Palm Beach County Commissioners

Maria Sachs, Mayor

Maria G. Marino, Vice Mayor

Gregg K. Weiss

Michael A. Barnett

Marci Woodward

Sara Baxter

Mack Bernard

Verdenia C. Baker, County Administrator

Patrick J. Kennedy, Fire Rescue Administrator