
ADMINISTRATOR'S OFFICE
NEWS RELEASE



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**Kent County Commissioners
Approve 2016 Budget**

GRAND RAPIDS – The Kent County Board of Commissioners unanimously passed the 2016 annual budget this morning. The budget is 0.4 percent higher than last year at \$382.6 million and includes more than \$6 million for capital improvements. Total revenue is estimated to be just under \$380 million. It is a balanced budget that did not require an increase in the millage.

The General Fund budget is just over \$165 million, a slight increase of 3.4 percent from the previous year. The budget is balanced and does not require dipping into General Fund Reserves. “This Board and the County staff prepared and submitted a thoughtful, fiscally responsible budget that maintains critical services efficiently and effectively,” said Kent County Board of Commissioners Chair Dan Koorndyk. “We continue to hold a modest fund balance, provide state mandated services, and for the seventeenth straight year, we maintained our Triple-A credit rating by both Standard & Poor’s and Moody’s Investor Services. We are extremely well-positioned moving forward.”

The budget calls for the same operating millage rate for 2016 (4.2803) that was levied in 2015. “I am very proud of the work done by each and every department to be good stewards of County funds,” said Daryl Delabbio, County Administrator. “We continue to be cautious with expenditures, and plan to use any additional resources to improve our physical and information technology infrastructure and reduce legacy costs.” The County is currently considering how to move forward on the 2015 Space Needs Study, which calls for a number of major capital improvements affecting numerous departments and offices.

“This budget has been vetted by the Finance & Physical Resources Committee,” stated Jim Saalfeld, Vice-Chair of the Board of Commissioners and Chair of the Finance & Physical Resources Committee. “We have been prudent in making sure that the budget is structurally balanced, does not require an increase in the operating millage rate, and does not require the use of any General Fund reserves.”

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