

Greg Edds, Chairman
Jim Greene, Vice- Chairman
Mike Caskey
Judy Klusman
Craig Pierce



Aaron Church, County Manager
Sarah Pack, Clerk to the Board
John W. Dees, II, County Attorney

Rowan County Board of Commissioners

130 West Innes Street • Salisbury, NC 28144
Telephone 704-216-8181 • Fax 704-216-8195

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE ROWAN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

January 6, 2025 – 3:00 PM

J. NEWTON COHEN, SR. ROOM

J. NEWTON COHEN, SR. ROWAN COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING

.....

PRESENT:

Greg Edds, Chairman
Jim Greene, Vice-chairman
Craig Pierce, Commissioner
Judy Klusman, Commissioner

ABSENT:

Mike Caskey, Commissioner

County Manager Aaron Church, Deputy Clerk to the Board Rebecca Saleeby, County Attorney Jay Dees, and Finance Director Anna Bumgarner were also present. Clerk to the Board Sarah Pack was absent.

Call to Order

Chairman Edds called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. Chaplain Michael Taylor provided a solemnizing prayer. Chairman Edds lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

Consider Additions to the Agenda

Consent Agenda Item FF updated verbiage was added for lobby contract.

An updated letter to Regular Agenda Item A for your response to the Local Government Commission.

An Additional Board Appointment to Regular Agenda Item C, Board Appointment to DSS Board in the absence of Commissioner Caskey.

Consider Deletions from the Agenda

There were no deletions from the agenda.

Consider Approval of the Agenda

On the motion of Commissioner Pierce, seconded by Vice-chairman Greene, the Board voted 4-0 to approve the agenda as amended.

Consider Approval of the Consent Agenda

On the motion of Commissioner Pierce, seconded by Vice-chairman Greene, the Board voted 4-0 to approve the Consent Agenda as amended:

- A. Consider Approval of the Minutes - 12/2/24 Regular Meeting
- B. Budget Amendments, as follows:

Department	Description	Amount
4125- Finance	Transfer funds to cover prepaid expenses for Knox Middle School	\$7,507,086
4125- Finance	Transfer funds to cover contract 24415 change order for Crawford building CPL Architect	\$8,500
5100-Health Department	Transfer funds to allocate funds to align with funding from Vaya Health award	\$6,631

- C. GOV'T RELATIONS: Approve Quarterly Lobbying Report
- D. Approve-Judicial Facilities Needs/Space Study - Moseley Architects
- E. GRANTS: Approve Local Reentry Council Grant "Best & Final Offer"
- F. Award and Approve Equipment Storage Building - Mid-Carolina Regional Airport - Central Piedmont Builders
- G. Approve First Amendment to RPL Records Loan Agreement with Salisbury Post
- H. Ratify Proclamation Honoring Don Bringle, as follows:

PROCLAMATION HONORING DON BRINGLE

***WHEREAS**, Don Bringle is a lifelong citizen of Rowan County who joined Rowan County Government in 1997 as a member of the Parks Commission; and*

***WHEREAS**, during his service to Rowan County, Mr. Bringle has served as Parks and Recreation Manager; Parks and Recreation Director; and Buildings, Grounds, and Parks Director; and*

***WHEREAS**, Mr. Bringle has served in his current capacity as Facilities Management and Parks Director since July 19, 2015, and will retire effective December 6, 2024; and*

***WHEREAS**, Mr. Bringle's commitment to public service and the community are evidenced by the twelve years he spent as the Mayor of China Grove, the thirteen years he has served and continues to serve on the China Grove Town Council, and the forty-one years he has been a member of the Civitan Club; and*

***WHEREAS**, the impact Mr. Bringle has made on Rowan County will continue to shape the future for the thousands of lives he has touched; and*

***WHEREAS**, at the onset of his retirement, Mr. Bringle is honored as an invaluable public servant, widely recognized in the community for his leadership, vision, and character.*

***NOW, THEREFORE BE IT PROCLAIMED**, the Rowan County Board of Commissioners does hereby express its' deep and abiding appreciation to Don Bringle for his extensive contributions to Rowan County citizens and offers well-deserved congratulations upon his retirement.*

- I. Change Order #1 - CPL - Crawford Building
- J. Brooks Network Services - Upfit Contract 25332
- K. Sole Source McCarthy Tire - FY25-30

- L. Amendment No. 2 - Fifth Asset (DebtBook)*
- M. Change Order #1 - Required BOA- RCC Event Center (WEP) - Mission Critical Partners*
- N. Tax & VTS Refunds for Approval*
- O. Set Annual Planning Work Session for February 3, 2025*
- P. Rowan Transit System Procedures and ADA Plan Update*
- Q. Updated County Management Records Retention & Disposition Schedule*
- R. Resolution in Support of Granite Quarry NCDOT Signage*
- S. RSS Lease Agreement for Roof Projects updated Exhibit A*
- T. Grant an Easement to SRU at Mid-Carolina Airport for Construction of a Public Safety Hanger*
- U. Appointment of Animal Cruelty Investigator*
- V. ADA Renovations Design - The Bogle Firm - Airport Bathroom - C25349*
- W. ADA Renovations Design - The Bogle Firm - DNP Bathroom - C25353*
- X. GRANTS: Library LSTA EZ Grant Application*
- Y. Approval for Food Trucks at the Rowan Community Center*
- Z. Sole Source - Microsoft Store w/ Azure Services - FY25 - 28 Purchase over \$90,000.*
- AA. GRANTS: Approve FY2024 EMPG MOA*
- BB. Rowan Community Center Construction Plaque*
- CC. Amendment #4 - Federal Engineering*
- DD. Continue overtime pay for those working in Detention Functions*
- EE. GRANTS: Relocation & Expansion Assistance Agreement - EDSCO Fasteners, LLC*
- FF. GOVERNMENT RELATIONS: Lobbying Services Contract*
- GG. GRANTS: Approve FY25 EMPG Grant Application*
- HH. Rowan Community Center U.S. Military Armed Services Seal*
- II. Purchase-Change Order #1 - RCC Events Center Furniture*
- JJ. Change Order #2 - Mid-State Metals - Ellis Park Storage Building*
- KK. RSS Lottery Funds Amendment for Roof Project*
- LL. New SASO Lease for Piedmont Skydiving Approval of Work*
- MM. Approval of Work Authorization-Glideslope Recabling & Antenna Replacement-Airport-Talbert, Bright & Ellington, Inc.*

Public Comment

Chairman Edds opened the floor for public comment and closed it after no one wished to speak.

Special Recognitions

Chairman Edds commented on the recent passing of Mayor Karen Alexander and said the community is saddened at the loss of a good friend of the community. The passing of Mayor Alexander is a tremendous loss to her family, to this community, and to this Board.

On motion of Chairman Edds, seconded by Commissioner Pierce, the Board voted 4-0 to approve a Proclamation Honoring Mayor Karen Alexander, as follows:

PROCLAMATION HONORING MAYOR KAREN ALEXANDER

WHEREAS, The Rowan County Board of Commissioners wishes to honor the memory of City of Salisbury Mayor Karen Alexander and recognize the outstanding service she provided to the community; and

WHEREAS, Mayor Alexander was first elected to the Salisbury City Council in 2013 and served as mayor for two separate terms beginning in 2015 and again in 2020; and

WHEREAS, Mayor Alexander was noted for her collaborative approach to governance and her ability to build consensus in order to tackle tough challenges, and was a visionary leader who mentored others and used community insights to foster growth, safety, and inclusion in the community; and

WHEREAS, her unwavering dedication to promoting the health and wellbeing of families, visitors, and the broader Salisbury community was a defining attribute of Mayor Alexander's public service; and

WHEREAS, the Rowan County Board of Commissioners mourns the loss of Mayor Alexander alongside her family, friends, constituents, and residents of Rowan County and asks that the community remember her accomplishments, some of which include developing strategies to encourage business growth, improving infrastructure, fostering vibrant public spaces, and prioritizing public safety initiatives that created safer neighborhoods.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT PROCLAIMED that the Rowan County Board of Commissioners recognizes the outstanding public service provided by Mayor Karen Alexander throughout her career and urges all citizens to join in remembering Mayor Alexander for her passion for her community and the people in it.

Commissioner Klusman spoke about how she met Mayor Alexander when she decided to run for County Commissioner and how she viewed Mayor Alexander as a role model ever since that day.

Vice-Chairman Greene talked about how Mayor Alexander always had good ideas and valuable input into county activities. He wished her family well.

Commissioner Klusman recommended a moment of silence in honor of Mayor Karen Alexander.

FY24 Annual Comprehensive Report

Anna Bumgarner, Finance Director, introduced Tonya Thompson of Martin Starnes and Associates and said Ms. Thompson would be giving the Fiscal Year 2024 Annual Comprehensive Financial Report. A hard copy of the report will be provided once it is approved by the Local Government Commission (LGC).

Ms. Thompson said the audit resulted in an unmodified (clean) opinion and said the firm appreciated the cooperation they received from across the county. In 2024, the General Fund revenues were \$212,369,309 which is a \$24.5 million dollar increase from last year, and expenditures were \$183,914,533 which is a \$16.4 million increase over last year.

The Fund Balance serves as a measure of the County's financial resources available. There are five classifications of financial resources:

- Nonspendable - not in cash form
- Restricted - external restrictions (laws, grantors)
- Committed - internal constraints at the highest (Board) level - do not expire, require Board action to undo
- Assigned - internal constraints, lower level than committed
- Unassigned - no external or internal constraints

The total balance in the General Fund is \$154,273,795, which is a \$25,785,620 increase over last year. The available fund balance is defined by the Local Government Commission (LGC) and is calculated as the total fund balance less the nonspendable balance, less stabilization by state statute. In 2024, the fund balance available was \$133,829,443 and the net expenditure was \$188,135,570, and the fund balance available was equivalent to 71.1% of the net expenditures. The available fund balance can be restricted, committed, assigned, or unassigned.

The total revenues of \$212,369,309 can be divided into three top revenue sources: property taxes (55%), sales tax (20%), and restricted intergovernmental (12%), with other revenues equaling (13%). Property taxes equaled \$117,023,051 in 2024. The local option sales tax equaled \$41,969,787.

Chairman Edds questioned what other revenues changed the County's investments. Ms. Thompson responded that property taxes did increase significantly in Fiscal Year 2024 by \$19.8 million or 20.4%. Also, the local option sales tax decreased by \$1.1 million or 2.6% as a result of the State's Medicaid Hold Harmless being used up. Ms. Thompson further explained that several counties were affected by the reduction of revenue source as part of the local option tax.

The restricted intergovernmental amount totaled \$24,875,219.

Chairman Edds asked if Medicaid expansion will affect Rowan County's Revenue and Ms. Thompson answered yes. She explained that the County would get additional funds to assist in managing Medicaid expansion. The County will also have a corresponding increase on expenditures, as hiring more people will be necessary to accommodate the higher demand.

Chairman Edds then asked if the impact of Medicaid expansion would be felt more in 2024 and Ms. Thompson hesitantly confirmed. Many people that previously were not qualified are qualified now.

The top three expenditures in the General Fund, totaling \$167,425,305, can be attributed to Public Safety (29%), Other Expenditures (26%), and Education (27%), with Human Services making up the remaining 18%. In 2024, \$49,534,434 was spent on education, \$53,114,678 was spent on Public Safety, and \$33,732,922 was spent on Human Services. There was an increase of \$2.5 million or 8.1% that is consistent in

intergovernmental revenues.

Major Enterprise Funds include the Airport and Landfill Funds.

Airport Fund	2024	2023
Unrestricted Net Position	\$ 3,379,611	\$ 2,347,864
Cash Flow From Operations	\$ 397,199	\$ (231,433)
Net Income (GAAP)	\$ 4,822,396	\$ 238,378
Quick Ratio	2.0	1.7

Landfill Fund	2024	2023
Unrestricted Net Position	\$ 6,264,611	\$11,860,804
Cash Flow From Operations	\$ 1,621,496	\$ 3,972,122
Net Income (GAAP)	\$ 1,099,909	\$ 392,453
Quick Ratio	60.9	17.1

Ms. Thompson said the audit resulted in positive performance indicators, including the available General Fund balance, the Enterprise Fund quick ratios, and stable property tax valuation and collection percentage. There were performance indicators of concern that require a response: the Water Fund operating at a net loss and the budget violation disclosure, which is not an audit issue but a statutory compliance. A response is due to the Local Government Commission (LGC) within 60 days.

Finance Director Anna Bumgarner explained the response letter for the Water Fund and budget violation and why the response was needed.

On the motion of Commissioner Pierce, seconded by Vice-Chairman Greene, the Board voted 4-0 to approve letter to Local Government Commission as presented.

(Appendix A: 2024 Audited Financial Statements)

Opioid Settlement Update

Alyssa Harris, Public Health Director, presented an Opioid Settlement Update to the Board. She explained that the budget was approved as part of the regular budget process. The report was due in September and once approved, then the information is presented to the Board.

Chairman Edds asked who is responsible for approving the report and Ms. Harris stated the North Carolina Department of Justice (DOJ) would signify their approval with a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA). The MOA also goes to UNC Chapel Hill and the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners Technical Assistant Team. She explained that these agencies go through the report to make sure the money is being spent where it is supposed to be.

Vice-Chairman Greene asked where funding was coming from and Ms. Harris explained that the money is coming from the Opioid Settlement fund, from the pharmaceutical companies being held accountable for their part in creating the opioid epidemic. She explained that this is an 18-

year plan, and it is divided up into three-year segments. Rowan County is getting \$28 million up front, and money would taper off overtime.

Vice-Chairman Greene clarified his question asking if the opioid money came from the Federal Government and asked why so many state agencies were involved. Ms. Harris said her understanding is that funding goes through the Attorney General's office. Attorney General Stein spoke publicly in early 2023 about the funds, oversight, and how the N.C. Department of Justice would be heavily involved. The funds were circulated through the state and down to the counties.

Ms. Harris gave an overview of the five strategies that were selected and approved for Fiscal Year 2023-24. She stated that Rowan County suffers tremendously from this epidemic, and the County is moving in the right direction to ensure progress for Rowan County.

1. *Collaborative Strategic Planning* – Includes working with our community partners to establish goals and objectives for harm reduction programming to ensure funds are used in response to community need. Ms. Harris recognized Mayor Alexander's impact in Salisbury's role.
2. *Recovery Support Services* – This initiative has increased the number of people who can access care for Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) and Hepatitis C and assisted 32 citizens in connecting to Recovery Support Service.

Vice-Chairman Greene asked if the statistics intersect between the different strategies and Ms. Harris said the numbers are specific to the strategy and do not intersect. She explained how the category totals work.

3. *Naloxone Distribution* – Increases the number of community members who receive Narcan and can identify the signs of an overdose, perform pulmonary resuscitation, and properly administer Narcan. The Health Department's Harm Reduction, Outreach, Prevention, Education (HOPE) Team is present at community events to provide education and connect with the community. This has resulted in an increase of over 1600 individuals being trained in harm reduction in our community with 907 receiving Naloxone specific training.
4. *Post Overdose Response Team (PORT)* – Redesigned partnership with community paramedics to implement program PORT. This initiative increases access to services and the number of patients the Community Paramedic interacts with.

Ms. Harris said that there were nearly 1400 referrals from the PORT in the course of the year following an overdose reversal.

5. *Harm Reduction Services* – Provides access to sterile supplies, Narcan, and educational materials for Rowan County residents and then connecting them to various treatment programs. Part of the harm reduction is HIV and Hepatitis C testing and also providing wound care and support to individuals who use substances.

Ms. Harris said \$397,144 has been spent out of the total budget of \$523,087, which is about 75% of the budget on the five strategies presented. Ms. Harris talked about specific achievements, including increased Narcan distribution, reduced overdose deaths, and increased access to treatment and recovery services.

Ms. Harris ended by discussing additional funding she has secured and strategies for Fiscal Year 2024-2025.

(Appendix B: Opioid Settlement Update)

Hayley Edwards, Substance Use and Mental Health Program Manager, shared some highlights from her work. She said one of the biggest successes in 2024 is that EMS reported 170 fewer overdoses compared to 2023. She went on to say that the Health Department increased Narcan distribution significantly, giving away approximately 2700 kits in 2024. Subsequently, there were 224 reversals, which was three times the amount of the previous year.

Ms. Edwards shared information and results from a survey that was conducted in October 2024. The survey focused on barriers and cost of treatment, prevention, recommended services for Rowan County and long-term recovery services such as housing and employment.

(Appendix C: Opioid Settlement – Community Input Survey)

Board Appointments

On motion of Edds, seconded by Greene, the Board voted 4-0 to make the following appointments:

- *Greg Edds to the CRMPO Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC)*
- *Jim Greene to the CRMPO Transportation Advisory Committee Alternate (TAC)*
- *Ed Muire to the CRMPO Technical Coordinating Committee (TCC)*
- *Shane Stewart to the CRMPO Technical Coordinating Committee Alternate (TCC)*
- *Greg Edds to the Centralina Economic Development District*
- *Nick Aceves to the Parks and Recreation Seat on Juvenile Crime Prevention Council*
- *Don Bringle to the General Public Seat on Juvenile Crime Prevention Council*
- *Steve Fisher to the Ex Officio Seat on the Rowan Economic Development Council*
- *Judy Klusman to the County Seat on the Social Services Board in Mike Caskey's absence*

Closed Session

At 4:05 p.m. on motion of Edds, seconded by Greene, the Board voted 4-0 to enter into closed session pursuant to NCGS 143-318.11(a)(1) to approve the minutes of the December 2, 2024, Closed Session as described by NCGS 143-318.10(e) providing that minutes or an account of a closed session may be withheld from public inspection so long as public inspection would frustrate the purpose of a closed session, and pursuant to NCGS 143-318.11(a)(5)(i) to establish

or to instruct the public body's staff or negotiating agents concerning the position to be taken by or on behalf of the public body in negotiating the price and other material terms of a contract or proposed contract for the acquisition of real property by purchase, option, exchange, or lease.

Regular Session

At 4:29 p.m. regular session resumed.

Adjournment

At 4:29 p.m. on the motion of Pierce, seconded by Greene, the Board voted 4-0 to adjourn.

Rebecca Saleeby
Deputy Clerk to the Board

Rowan County

2024 Audited Financial Statements

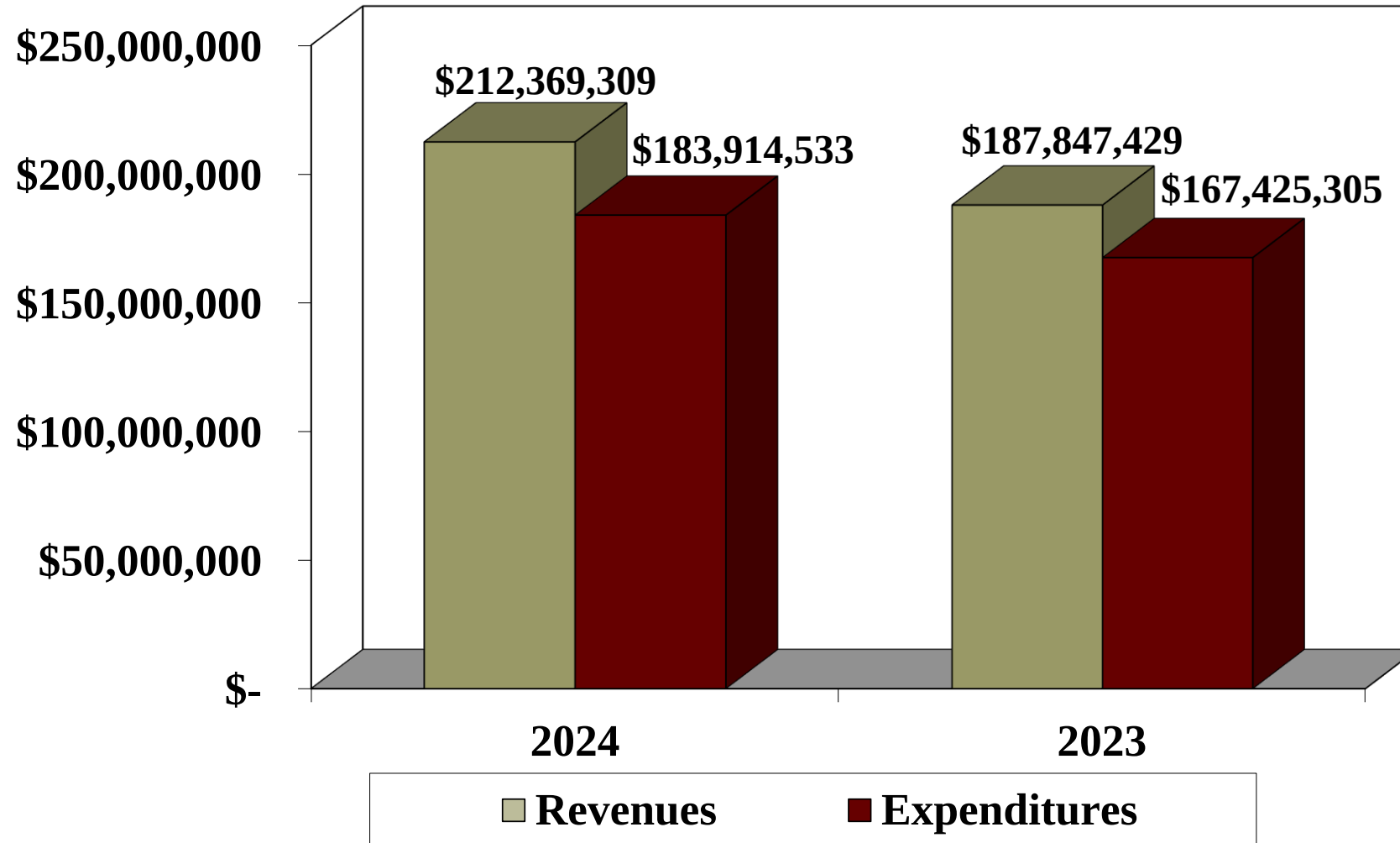


Audit Highlights

- ❑ **UNMODIFIED (CLEAN) OPINION**
- ❑ **COOPERATIVE STAFF**

GENERAL FUND SUMMARY

(IN THOUSANDS)



FUND BALANCE

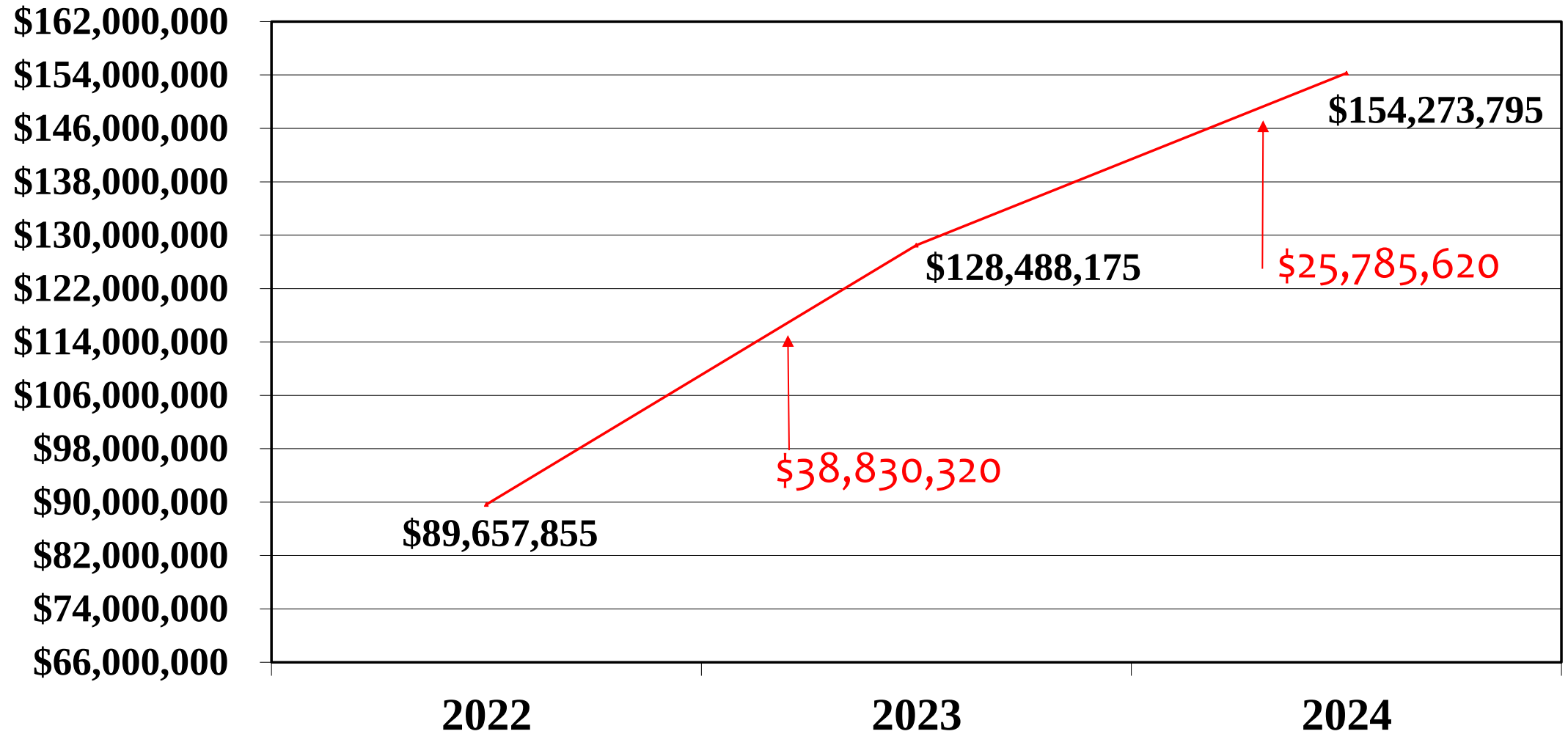
- ❖ Serves as a measure of the County's financial resources available.
 - ❑ $(\text{Assets} + \text{Deferred outflows}) - (\text{Liabilities} + \text{Deferred inflows}) = \text{Fund Balance/Net Position}$

5 Classifications:

- **Nonspendable** - not in cash form
- **Restricted** - external restrictions (laws, grantors)
- **Committed** - internal constraints at the highest (Board) level - do not expire, require Board action to undo
- **Assigned** - internal constraints, lower level than committed
- **Unassigned** - no external or internal constraints



TOTAL FUND BALANCE – GENERAL FUND



FUND BALANCE

Available fund balance as defined by the Local Government Commission (LGC) is calculated as follows:

Total Fund Balance

Less: Non spendable (not in cash form, not available)

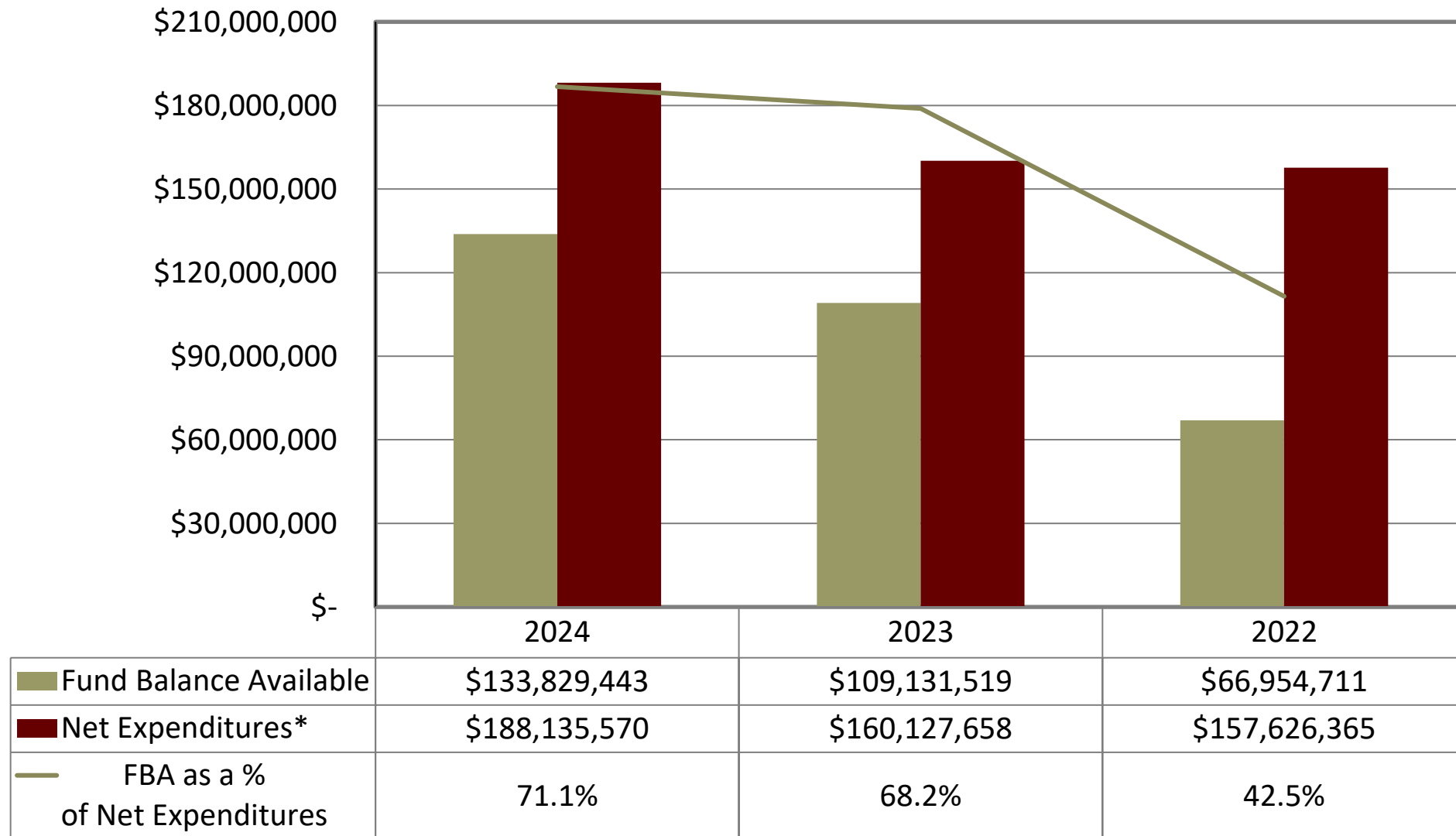
Less: Stabilization by State Statute (by state law, not available)

Available Fund Balance

This is the calculation utilized as the basis for comparing you to other units and calculating your fund balance percentages.

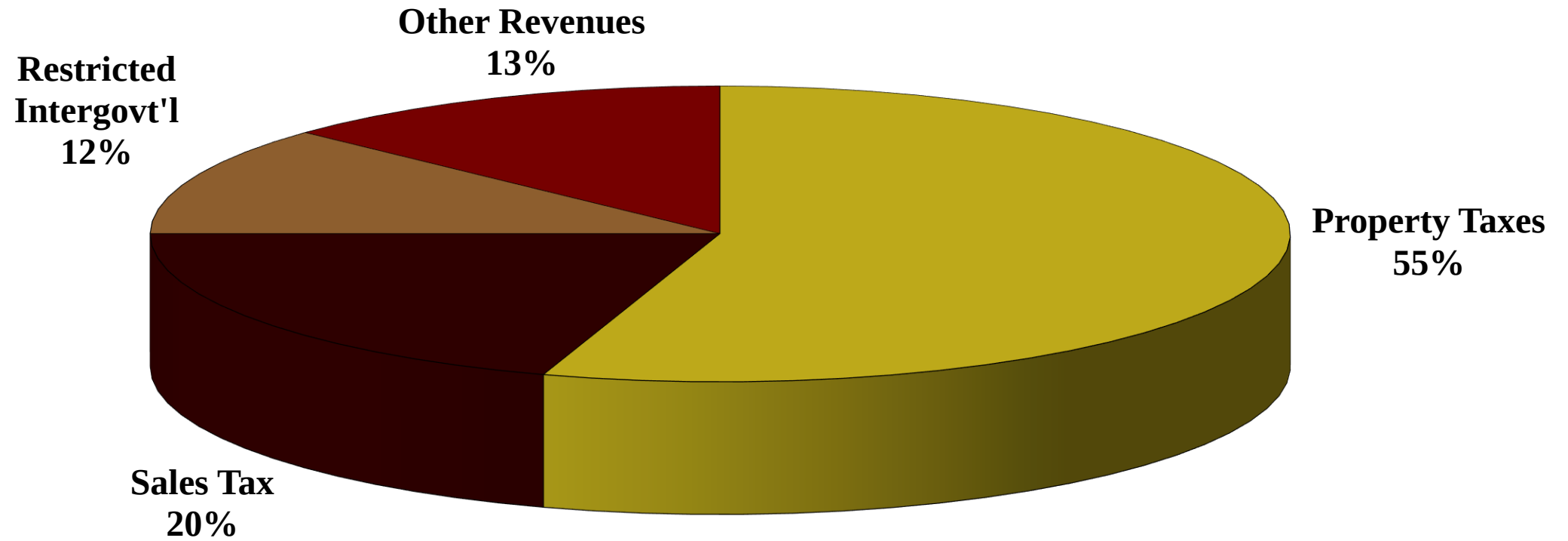


FUND BALANCE – GENERAL FUND



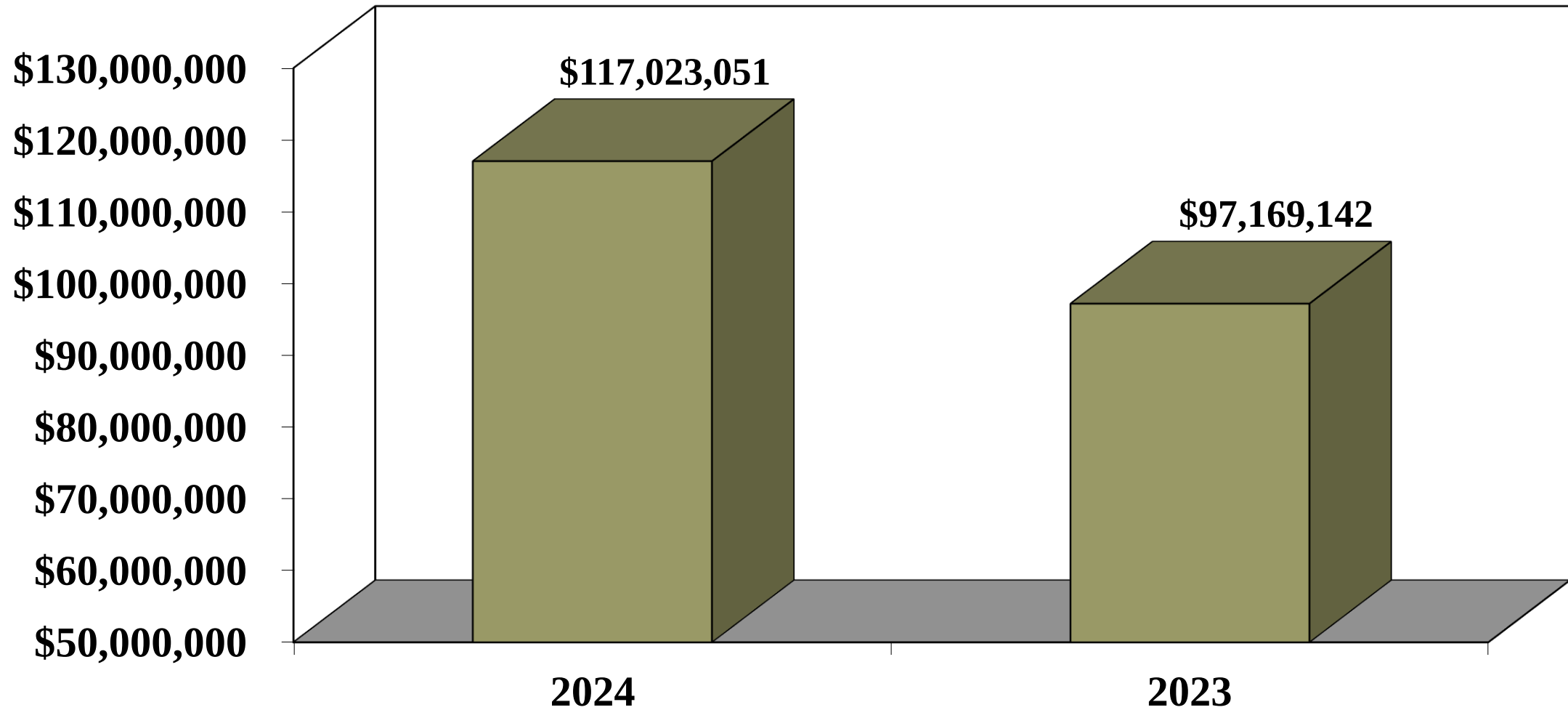
*Net expenditures = Total expenditures + Transfers out – Debt proceeds

TOP 3 REVENUES: GENERAL FUND

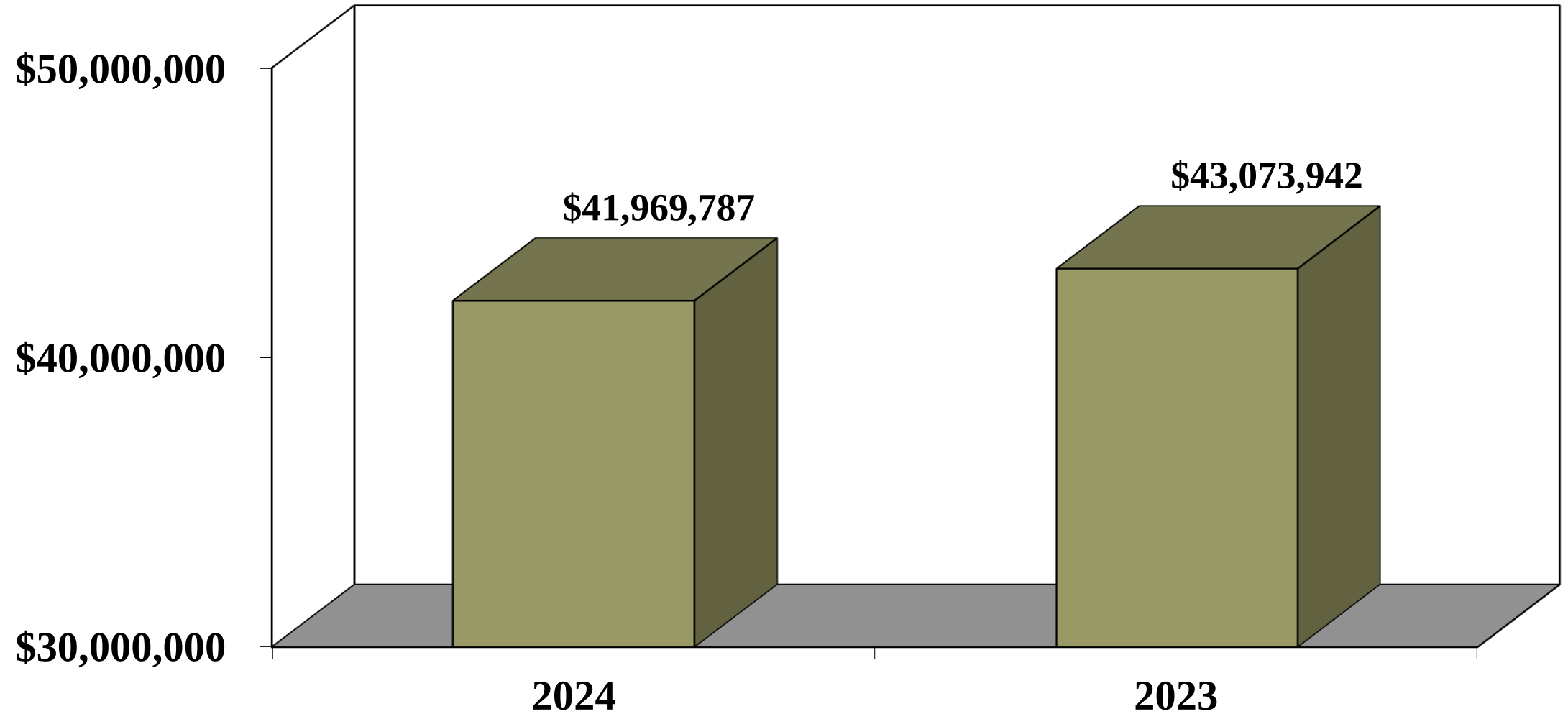


Total Revenues \$ 212,369,309

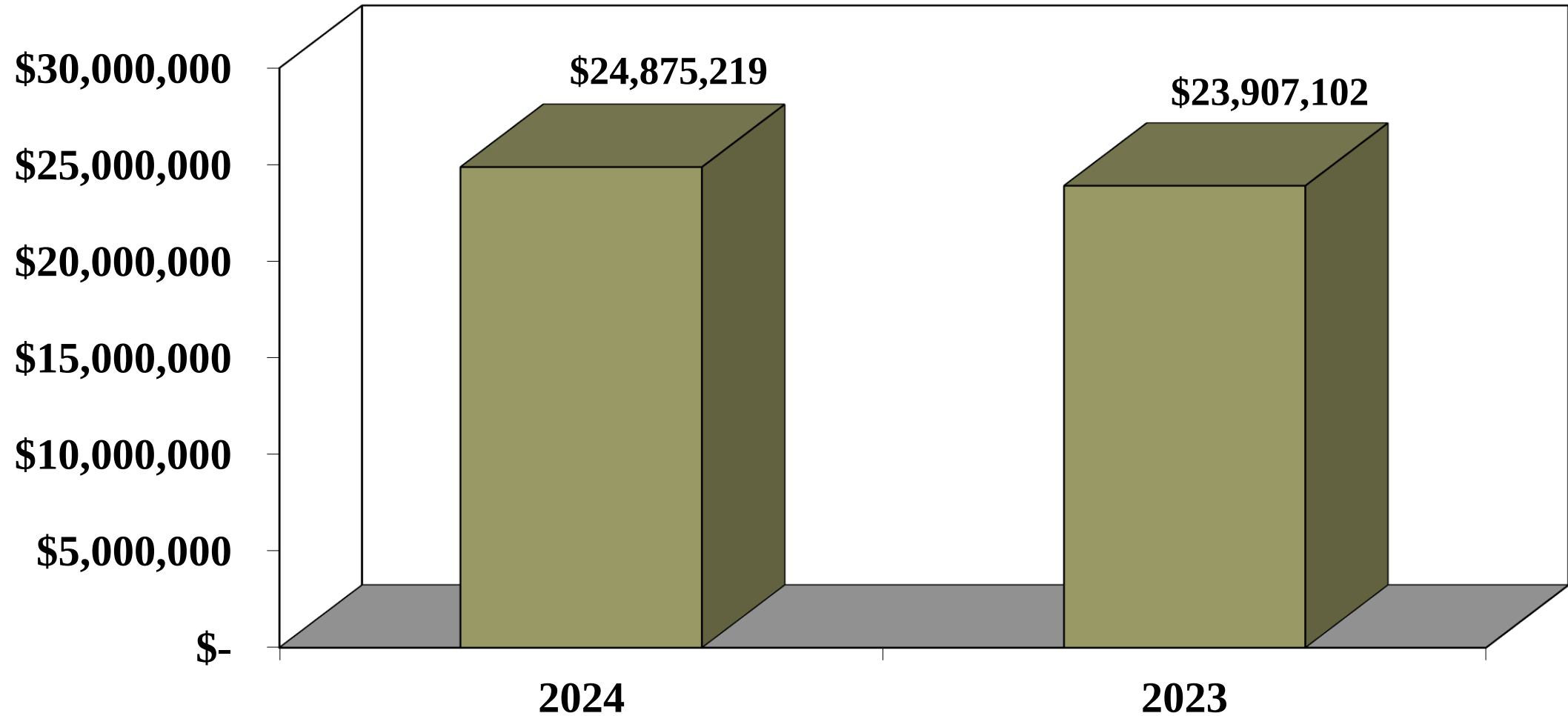
PROPERTY TAXES



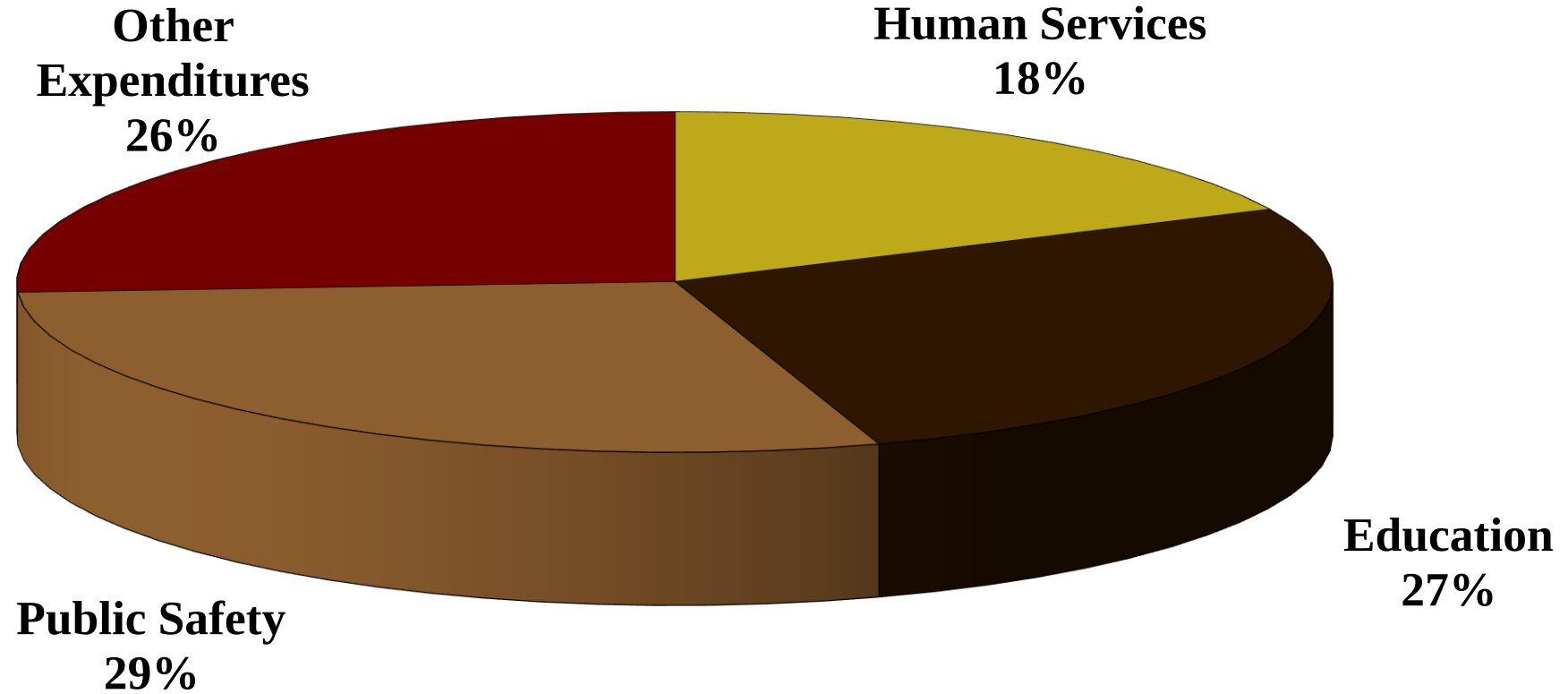
LOCAL OPTION SALES TAX



RESTRICTED INTERGOVERNMENTAL

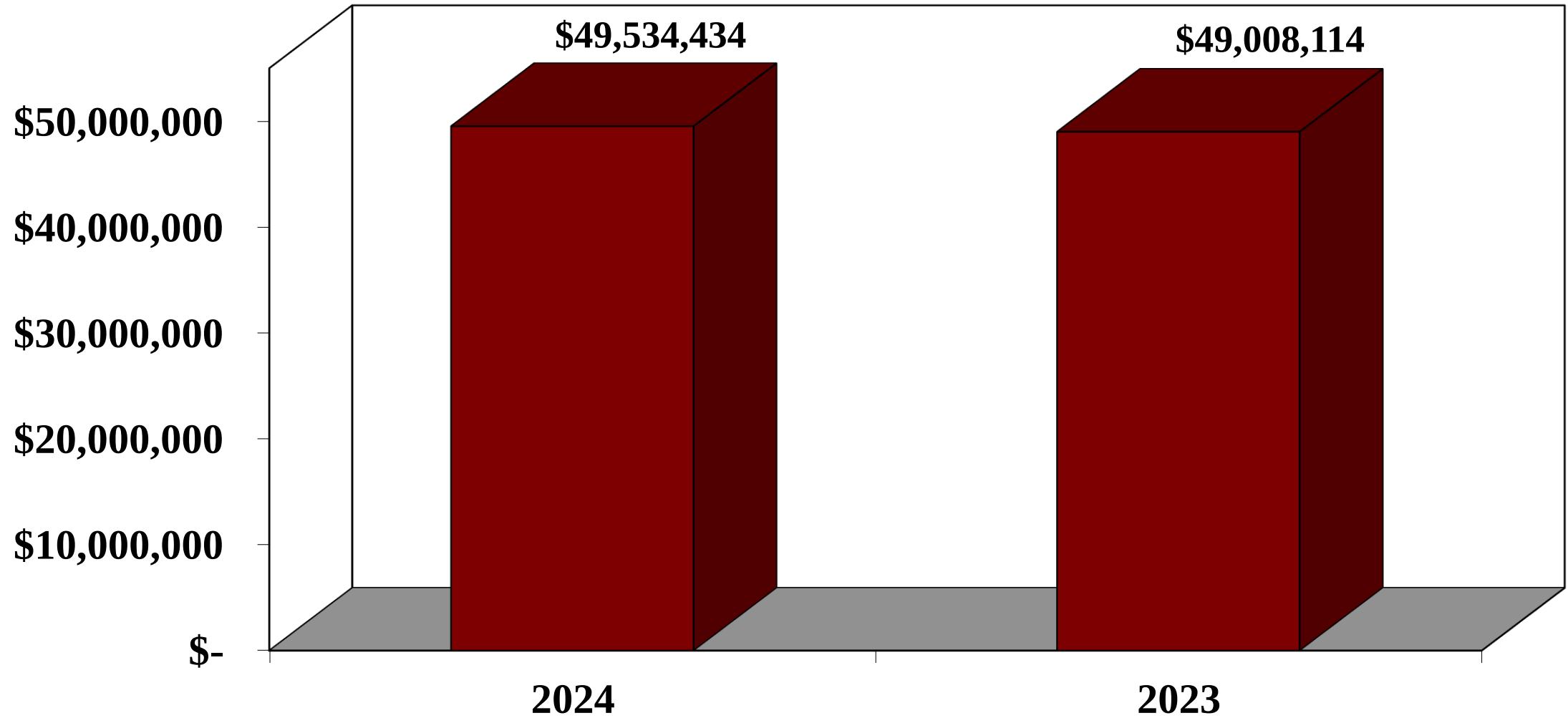


TOP 3 EXPENDITURES: GENERAL FUND

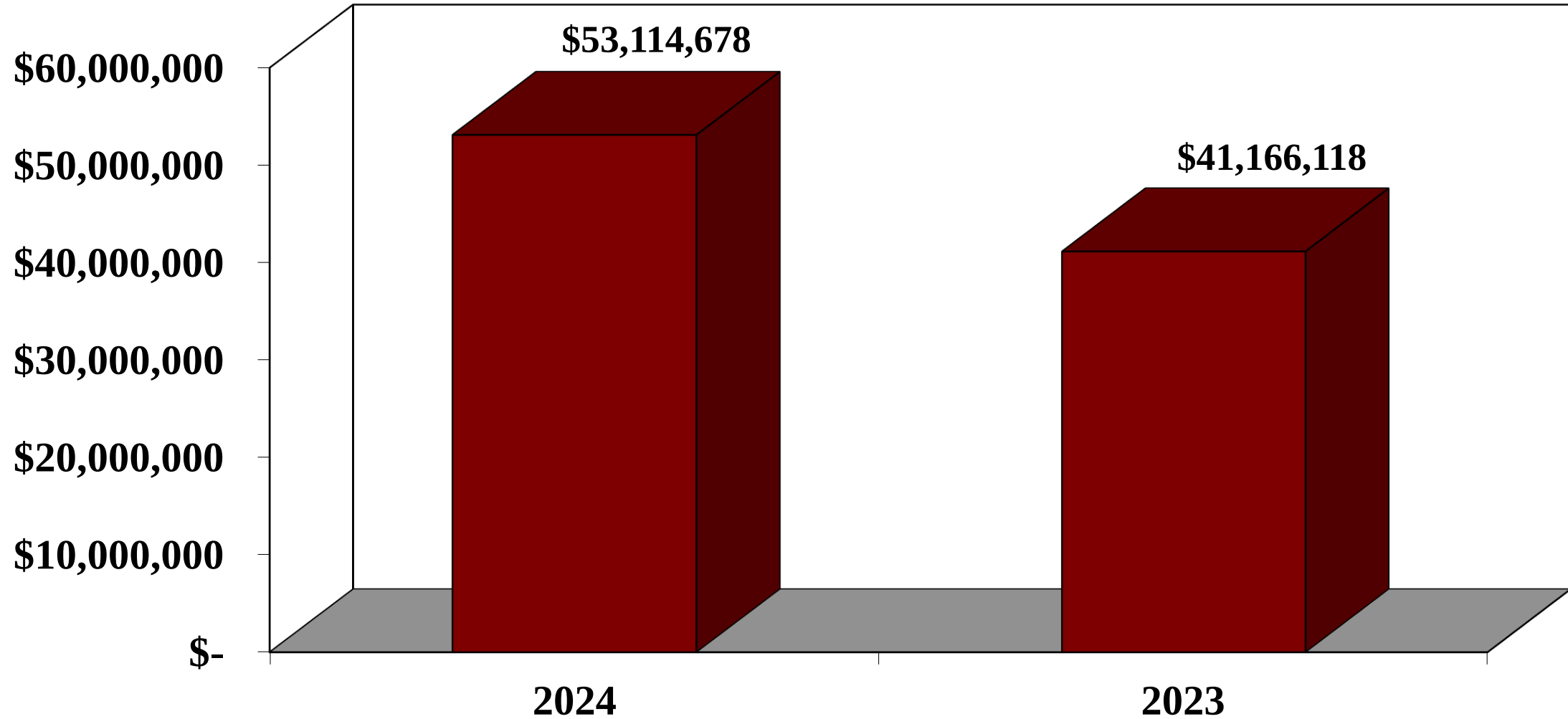


Total Expenditures \$ 167,425,305

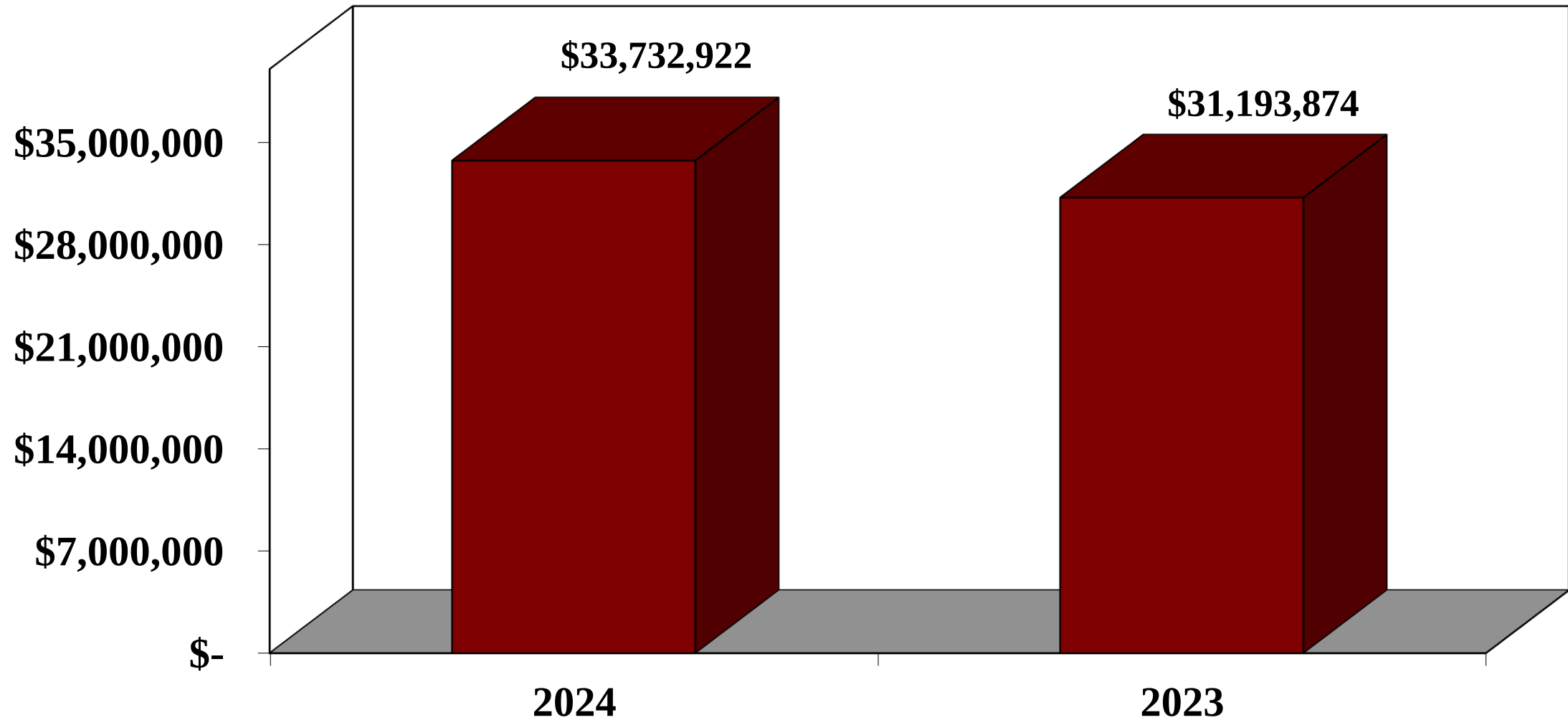
EDUCATION



PUBLIC SAFETY



HUMAN SERVICES



MAJOR ENTERPRISE FUNDS

Airport Fund	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
Unrestricted Net Position	\$ 3,379,611	\$ 2,347,864
Cash Flow From Operations	\$ 397,199	\$ (231,433)
Net Income (GAAP)	\$ 4,822,396	\$ 238,378
Quick Ratio	2.0	1.7

MAJOR ENTERPRISE FUNDS

Landfill Fund	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
Unrestricted Net Position	\$ 6,264,611	\$ 11,860,804
Cash Flow From Operations	\$ 1,621,496	\$ 3,972,122
Net Income (GAAP)	\$ 1,099,909	\$ 392,453
Quick Ratio	60.9	17.1

PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

- ❑ Positive Performance Indicators
 - GF available fund balance %
 - Enterprise fund quick ratios
 - Stable property tax valuation & collection %



PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

- ❑ Performance Indicators – Response Required
 - Cash Flow Indicators – Water Fund Operating Net Loss
 - Budget violation disclosure





Questions?

Tonya Thompson	
828.327.2727	
tthompson@msa.cpa	
www.msa.cpa	

Opioid Settlement Update

ALYSSA HARRIS, MPH

HAYLEY EDWARDS, BS

Objectives

Review Strategies selected for FY23-24

Stoplight report on objectives and outcomes

Budget variance

Community feedback

Activities for FY24-25

FY23-24 Local Spending Authorization

Strategy	Funding
Strategy #1- Collaborative Strategic Planning	\$ 68,591
Strategy #3 – Recovery Support Services	\$ 88,889
Strategy #7 – Naloxone Distribution	\$123,239
Strategy #8 – Post-Overdose Response Team	\$159,029
Strategy #9 – Harm Reduction Services	\$ 83,339
Total	\$523,087

STRATEGY 1

COLLABORATIVE STRATEGIC PLANNING

COMPLETE

Completion of a strategic plan with established goals and objectives for harm reduction programming.

Hire a 2nd Certified Peer Support Specialist.

Met 14 Activities of Impact Report

IN
PROGRESS

Restructure the Substance Use Taskforce - include strategic planning steering committee to address substance use and prevention across the lifespan

NOT
COMPLETE

STRATEGY-SPECIFIC PROCESS MEASURES				
Description	Count	How were efforts supported?	Notes/Context	Additional Information & Helpful Hints about this Measure
# of staff hired to lead Collaborative Strategic Planning efforts related to the Opioid Settlements	1	Only settlement funding	1 FTE - SU and MH Program Manager	
# of meetings facilitated to support Collaborative Strategic Planning efforts related to the Opioid Settlements	18	Only settlement funding	14 1-1 meetings, 2 community meetings, Board of Health and Municipality meeting.	
# of collaborative strategic plans produced, in which all of the activities below were completed	14	Only settlement funding	Activity A - N completed	See Exhibit C of the NC MOA for descriptions of the activities needed to completed the collaborative strategic planning process
During the collaborative strategic planning process, were...				
	(Y/N)	How were efforts supported?	Notes/Context	Additional Information & Helpful Hints about this Measure
A. Diverse stakeholders engaged?	Yes	Only settlement funding	Yes, 8 out of 10	See Exhibit C, Item A Detail of the NC MOA for a list of stakeholders that should be involved
B. Facilitator designated?	Yes	Only settlement funding	SU and MH Program Manager	See Exhibit C of the NC MOA
C. Related planning efforts built upon?	Yes	Only settlement funding	Healthy Rowan community health assessment and Opioid Settlement Work Plan.	See Exhibit C of the NC MOA
D. Shared vision agreed upon?	Yes	Only settlement funding	SSP, Peer support, Narcan Distribution, and PORT	See Exhibit C of the NC MOA
E. Key indicator(s) identified?	Yes	Only settlement funding	Yes, Substance Use Disorder, Overdoses, HepC and HIV, ED visits and infections.	See Exhibit C of the NC MOA
F. Root causes explored and identified?	Yes	Only settlement funding	Yes, trauma, early exposure, lack of education and prevention in schools. Limited community resources with high barriers.	See Exhibit C of the NC MOA
G. Potential strategies identified and evaluated?	Yes	Only settlement funding	All strategies were reviewed and discussed in planning process	See Exhibit C of the NC MOA
H. Gaps in existing efforts identified?	Yes	Only settlement funding	Yes, need for increase in PSS, increase in Narcan awareness and Harm Reduction education.	See Exhibit C of the NC MOA
I. Strategies prioritized?	Yes	Only settlement funding	Yes, Narcan distribution and PORT.	See Exhibit C of the NC MOA
J. Goals, measures, and evaluation plan identified	Yes	Only settlement funding	Increase PSS, Narcan distribution, Community education by 10%. Survey for data collection and quality results.	See Exhibit C of the NC MOA
K. Alignment of strategies considered?	Yes	Only settlement funding	Narcan Distribution is paired with the Prescription Drug Opioid Overdose Grant Funding. The SSP strategy is paired with the Vital Strategies Grant Funding.	See Exhibit C of the NC MOA
L. Organizations identified?	Yes	Only settlement funding	Yes, faith based community, elderly and justice involve population and Rowan County residents	See Exhibit C of the NC MOA
M. Budgets and timelines developed?	Yes	Only settlement funding	Yes	See Exhibit C of the NC MOA
N. Recommendations offered?	Yes	Only settlement funding	Yes	See Exhibit C of the NC MOA
Total # of Activities Marked "Yes" (Autocalculated)	14			

STRATEGY 3

RECOVERY SUPPORT SERVICES

COMPLETE

Increase number of people who access care for HIV/Hep C.

Assisted 32 citizens in connecting to RSS

IN
PROGRESS

Provide free rapid HIV and Hepatitis C testing to all community members with intentional outreach to those who use substances.

NOT
COMPLETE

Host Annual Substance Use Forum for community members, stakeholders, and those working in fields that work directly with people who use substances.

STRATEGY-SPECIFIC PROCESS MEASURES				
Description	Count	How were efforts supported?	Notes	Additional Information & Helpful Hints about this Measure
# of unique participants, who use opioids and/or have OUD, served	32	Only settlement funding	Looker Studio - Unique Peers	This process measure indicates how many unique individuals are served by this strategy. We understand that in some circumstances there will be duplication in this number. A unique participant may participate in multiple support programs so there may be duplication of unique participants when numbers across programs, project, sites, etc., are aggregated for this strategy. For example, a unique individual may be served by two different Recovery Support Services programs offered by two different providers. That participant may be counted twice in the number you provide in the Recovery Support Services tab. There may be some duplication across strategies too. For example, a unique individual may receive services from a Recovery Support Services provider and a Syringe Services Program. That participant may be counted in the number you provide in the Recovery Support Services tab and in the number you provide in the Syringe Services Program tab. A participant may receive services across local government boundaries (e.g., a person with OUD may reside in one county and receive services in another county). Number of screenings/referrals for, or calls to, a person do not equate to number of unique participants because one individual may receive multiple screenings/referrals/calls.
# of total contacts with all participants of the program	36	Only settlement funding	Looker Studio - Total Contacts	"# of total contacts with all participants of the program" will most likely be greater than "# of unique participants, who use opioids and/or have OUD, served" because a unique participant will typically receive multiple contacts.
# of participants who use opioids and/or have OUD, referred to addiction treatment	18	Only settlement funding	Looker Studio - Total Substance Use Referral	
# of participants who use opioids and/or have OUD, referred to recovery supports (e.g., employment services, housing services, etc.)	8	Only settlement funding	Looker Studio - Total Recovery Support Referrals	
# of participants who use opioids and/or have OUD, referred to harm reduction services (e.g., syringe and supply access, overdose prevention education, disease prevention, etc.)	1	Only settlement funding	Looker Studio - Total Harm Reduction Referrals	
# of participants who use opioids and/or have OUD, referred to primary healthcare	2	Only settlement funding	Looker Studio - Total Primary Health Referrals	
# of participants who use opioids and/or have OUD, referred to other services	16	Only settlement funding	Looker Studio - Total Additional Referrals, include Total Mental Health Referral	
# of peer support specialists/care navigators	1	Only settlement funding	SK	
# of naloxone kits distributed	0	Multiple funding sources	Narcan Dashboard - Narcan Provided	A naloxone kit contains two doses.

STRATEGY 7

NALOXONE DISTRIBUTION

COMPLETE

Increase the number of community members who receive Narcan, can identify the signs of an overdose, perform CPR and properly administer Narcan.

Distribute Narcan to any and all community members who are at risk of experiencing or encountering an overdose.

IN
PROGRESS

Host bi-annual CPR and overdose response training to the community.

Host bi-annual trainings for First Responders.

NOT
COMPLETE

Host Annual Substance Use Forum for community members, stakeholders, and those working in fields that work directly with people who use substances.

STRATEGY-SPECIFIC PROCESS MEASURES				
Description	Count	How were efforts supported?	Notes	Additional Information & Helpful Hints about this Measure
# of unique participants, who use opioids and/or have OUD, served	854	Multiple funding sources	Narcan Dashboard - Total People Served	This process measure indicates how many unique individuals, who use opioid and/or have OUD, received naloxone kits. We understand that in some circumstances there will be duplication in this number. A unique participant may participate in multiple support programs so there may be duplication of unique participants when numbers across programs, project, sites, etc., are aggregated for this strategy. There may be some duplication across strategies too. For example, a unique individual may receive services from an agency helping with Naloxone Distribution and an agency providing Employment Services. That participant may be counted in the number you provide in the Naloxone Distribution tab and in the number you provide in the Employment-related Services tab. A participant may receive services across local government boundaries (e.g., a person with OUD may reside in one county and receive services in another county). Number of screenings/referrals for, or calls to, a person do not equate to number of unique participants because one individual may receive multiple screenings/referrals/calls.
# of intramuscular naloxone kits distributed	0			A naloxone kit contains two doses.
# of intranasal naloxone kits distributed	2512	Multiple funding sources	Narcan Dashboard - Narcan Kits Distributed/PDO - Google Form	A naloxone kit contains two doses.
# of trainings on harm reduction (e.g., overdose prevention, safer use practice, disease prevention) provided	907	Multiple funding sources	Narcan Dashboard - Contacts Made/Program Tracker- # of trainings	
# of people trained in harm reduction	1690	Multiple funding sources	Narcan Dashboard - Contacts Made/Program Tracker - # of people trained	
# of naloxone trainings	907	Multiple funding sources	Narcan Dashboard - Contacts Made/Program Tracker- # of trainings	
# of people trained on naloxone	1690	Multiple funding sources	Narcan Dashboard - Contacts Made/Program Tracker - # of people trained	

STRATEGY 8

POST OVERDOSE RESPONSE TEAM

COMPLETE

Redesign
partnership with
community
paramedics to
implement PORT.

IN
PROGRESS

Increase access to
services and the number
of patients the
Community Paramedic
interacts with.

STRATEGY-SPECIFIC PROCESS MEASURES				
Description	Count	How were efforts supported?	Notes	Additional Information & Helpful Hints about this Measure
# of unique participants, who use opioids and/or have OUD, served	110	Only settlement funding	Looker Studio - Unique Peer Agreed to Talk. This number reflects the total unique number of participants, who agreed to talk, and services were provided.	This process measure indicates how many unique individuals, who use opioid and/or have OUD, have been served by PORT. We understand that in some circumstances there will be duplication in this number. A unique participant may participate in multiple support programs so there may be duplication of unique participants when numbers across programs, project, sites, etc., are aggregated for this strategy. There may be some duplication across strategies too. For example, a unique individual may receive services from the PORT and receive services from a Syringe Services Program. That participant may be counted in the number you provide in the Post Overdose Response tab and in the number you provide in the Syringe Services Program tab. A participant may receive services across local government boundaries (e.g., a person with OUD may reside in one county and receive services in another county). Number of screenings/referrals for, or calls to, a person do not equate to number of unique participants because one individual may receive multiple screenings/referrals/calls.
# of established agency-level network partners	5	Only settlement funding	Daymark, Nazareth Child and Family Connections, S&H Youth, CRCHC, Rowan Treatment Associates	
# of referrals to PORT following an overdose reversal	1,366	Only settlement funding	Looker Studio - PORT Referrals	
# of people who experience an overdose who agree to talk with a PORT member	110	Only settlement funding	Looker Studio - Total Unique Peer Agreed to Talk	
# of total contacts with all participants who use opioids and/or have OUD	277	Only settlement funding	Looker Studio - Total Peer Agreed to Talk. Not unique - agreed to talk and services were provided.	"# of total contacts with all participants who use opioids and/or have OUD" will most likely be greater than "# of unique participants, who use opioids and/or have OUD, served" because a unique participant will typically receive multiple contacts.
# of participants who use opioids and/or have OUD referred to addiction treatment	48	Only settlement funding	Looker Studio - Total Substance Use Referral	
# of participants who use opioids and/or have OUD referred to recovery supports (e.g., employment services, housing services, etc.)	28	Only settlement funding	Looker Studio - Total Recovery Support Referral	
# of participants who use opioids and/or have OUD referred to harm reduction services (e.g., syringe and supply access, overdose prevention education, disease prevention, etc.)	3	Only settlement funding	Looker Studio - Total Harm Reduction Services	
# of participants who use opioids and/or have OUD referred to primary healthcare	13	Only settlement funding	Looker Studio - Total Primary Health Referral	
# of participants who use opioids and/or have OUD referred to other services	23	Only settlement funding	Looker Studio - Total Additional Referral	
# of naloxone kits distributed	66	Only settlement funding	Narcan Dashboard - Narcan Provided	A naloxone kit contains two doses.

STRATEGY 9

HARM REDUCTION SERVICES

COMPLETE

Provide access to sterile supplies, Narcan, and educational materials to Rowan County residents.

Support various treatment programs and treatment facilities by making referrals to their services upon contact with individuals utilizing the mobile unit.

IN
PROGRESS

Provide free rapid HIV and Hepatitis C testing to all community members with intentional outreach to those who use substances.

Provide wound care support to individuals who use substances.

NOT
COMPLETE

Obtain mobile unit for Health Department Services including outreach, testing, and treatment.

STRATEGY-SPECIFIC PROCESS MEASURES				
Description	Count	How were efforts supported?	Notes	Additional Information & Helpful Hints about this Measure
# of unique participants, who use opioids and/or have OUD, served	91	Multiple funding sources	Looker Studio - Unique Peers	This process measure indicates how many unique individuals are served by this strategy. We understand that in some circumstances there will be duplication in this number. A unique participant may participate in multiple support programs so there may be duplication of unique participants when numbers across programs, project, sites, etc., are aggregated for this strategy. There may be some duplication across strategies too. For example, a unique individual may receive services from a Syringe Services Program and a Recovery Support Services provider. That participant may be counted in the number you provide in the Syringe Services Program tab and in the number you provide in the Recovery Support Services tab. A participant may receive services across local government boundaries (e.g., a person with OUD may reside in one county and receive services in another county). Number of screenings/referrals for, or calls to, a person do not equate to number of unique participants because one individual may receive multiple screenings/referrals/calls.
# of total contacts the program had with all participants	273	Multiple funding sources	Looker Studio - Total Contacts	"# of total contacts the program had with all participants" will most likely be greater than "# of unique participants, who use opioids and/or have OUD, served" because a unique participant will typically receive multiple contacts.
# of syringes distributed	20960	Multiple funding sources	Looker Studio - Syringes Distributed	
# of types of supplies distributed (not count of individual items)	19	Multiple funding sources		
# of trainings on harm reduction (e.g., overdose prevention, safer use practice, disease prevention) provided to participants	32	Multiple funding sources	Looker Studio - Harm Reduction Trainings	
# of participants trained on harm reduction (e.g., overdose prevention, safer use practice, disease prevention)	32	Multiple funding sources	Looker Studio - Harm Reduction Trainings	
# of participants referred to Treatment Services for OUD	4	Multiple funding sources	Looker Studio - Substance Use Referrals	
# of participants referred to Mental Health Services	1	Multiple funding sources	Looker Studio - Mental Health Referrals	
# of participants referred to Primary Care Services	3	Multiple funding sources	Looker Studio - Primary Health Referrals	
# of participants referred to Employment Resources	1	Multiple funding sources	Looker Studio - Employment Referrals	
# of participants referred to Housing Resources	6	Multiple funding sources	Looker Studio - Housing Referrals	
# of naloxone kits distributed	249	Multiple funding sources	Looker Studio - Naloxone	A naloxone kit contains two doses.

FY 23-24

TOTAL BUDGET AND SPENDING

Total Budgeted = \$523,087

Total Spent = \$397,144

**Collaborative
Strategic
Planning**

**Budgeted =
\$68,591**

**Spent =
\$60,701**

**Recovery
Support Services**

**Budgeted =
\$88,889**

**Spent =
\$62,679**

**Naloxone
Distribution**

**Budgeted =
\$123,239**

**Spent =
\$113,847**

**Post Overdose
Response Team**

**Budgeted =
\$159,029**

**Spent =
\$92,069**

**Syringe Service
Program**

**Budgeted =
\$83,339**

**Spent =
\$66,844**

LEVERAGING ADDITIONAL FUNDING

Vital Strategies

- \$70,000 per year - three years
- Support harm reduction program

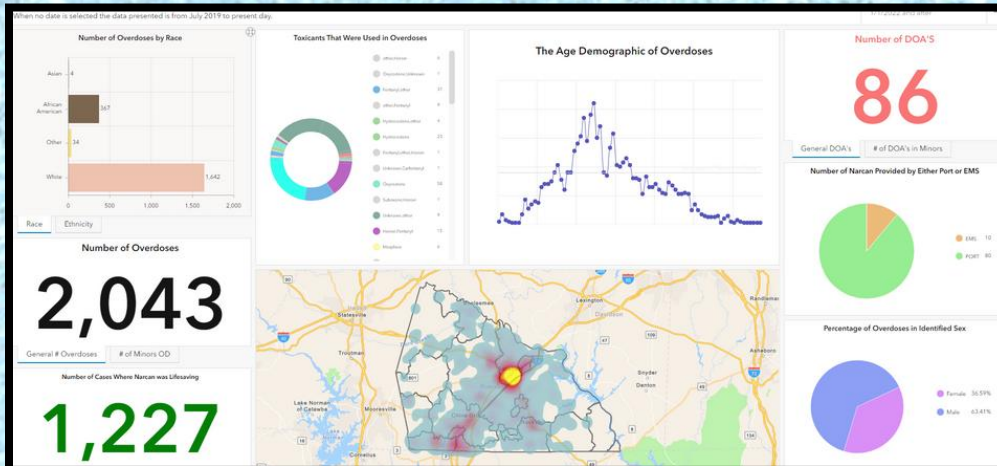
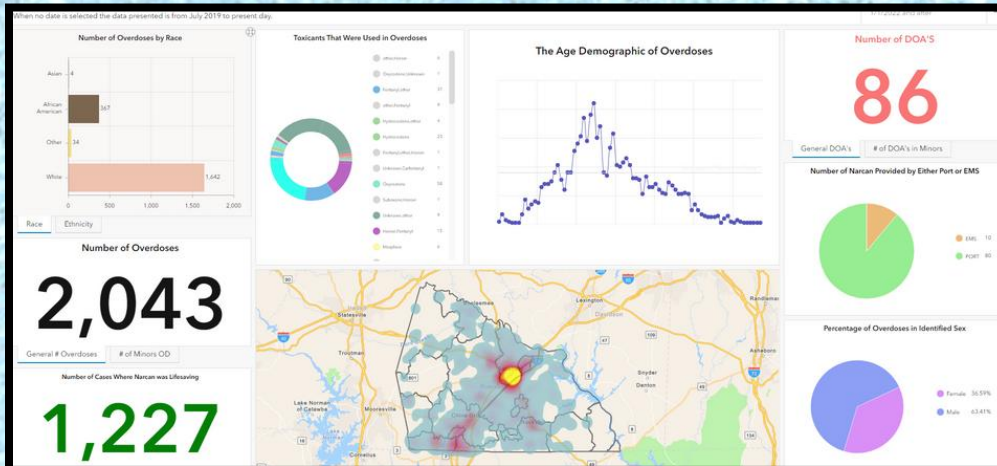
NC DHHS - PDO

- \$50,000 per year - five years
- Narcan Distribution

SAMSHA – Rural EMS

- \$106,447 over two years
- Community Paramedics will begin implementing field administered Buprenorphine as a bridge to the MAT program.

Local Opioid Use Data



[CLICK TO SEE HOPE'S LOCAL OPIOID USE DATA](#)



LOOKING AHEAD FOR FY24-25

STRATEGY 6 EARLY INTERVENTION

Provide Mental Health First Aid training to employee and volunteer first responders, youth serving organizations foster families, etc.

Implement a harm reduction and anti-stigma social media campaign to educate the community on the principles of harm reduction, substance use prevention.

Facilitate CRM workshops with community members.

STRATEGY 11 ADDICTION TREATMENT FOR INCARCERATED PERSONS

Rowan County Detention Center will begin implementing MAT in the jail.

All individuals arrested on substance use related charges will be given a harm reduction kit.

STRATEGY 2 EVIDENCE-BASED ADDICTION TREATMENT

Establish process for clients to access outpatient Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) for continuation of care that are released from the Detention Center MAT Program and the EMS MAT bridge program.

OPIOID SETTLEMENT COMMUNITY INPUT SURVEY



SURVEY RAN THROUGH OCTOBER 1ST-31ST

Social Media

Share survey on the HOPE and RCHD websites.

RCHD blasted the survey for a two week period on Facebook and Instagram.

Press Release

A Press Release was sent out on October 1st

HOPE's participants

HOPE's Peer Support Specialists and Community Paramedic encouraged program participants to complete the survey.

Email

Healthy Rowan shared the survey
HOPE sent the survey to an email distribution group that included event attendees, community partners, PWLE or PWUD.

57 SURVEY RESPONSES RECEIVED

QUESTIONS ASKED!

Barriers

What barriers, if any, prevent individuals from accessing the services they need in response to the opioid crisis?

Prevention

What types of prevention programs do you believe would be most beneficial to help reduce opioid misuse in our community? (e.g., education, harm reduction, etc.)

Services Needed

What services or resources do you think are currently lacking or insufficient for individuals struggling with opioid use?

Long-Term Recovery

What services or supports would help individuals maintain long-term recovery from opioid use disorder? (e.g., housing, employment assistance, mental health counseling)

BARRIERS

Cost of Treatment

Included:

- Medication
- Outpatient treatment
- Rehabilitation
- Detox

Transportation

To and from treatment
Can't afford public transportation
Unreliable transportation

Education

About:
How to access treatment, community resources, services and support in community

Stigma

Being judged or treated poorly due to their personal situation and substance use disorder.
Not feeling welcome or good enough.

PREVENTION

Education

In schools, for the
youth, parenting.
Community Forum

Harm Reduction

Narcan
Safer Injection Sites
Education

Mental Health

24/7 access to Mental
Health services
Crisis Intervention
Mental Health Support

RECOMMENDED SERVICES FOR ROWAN COUNTY

Detox

24/7 access

Substance Use Treatment

**Multiple treatment
options
Low barrier treatment
Free services
In patient Substance
Use treatment**

Recovery Services

**Recovery Housing
Community Recovery
Center's
Community Recovery
Support and support
groups**

LONG TERM RECOVERY RECOMMENDATIONS

Recovery Services

Recovery Housing
Community Recovery
Center's
Community Recovery
Support and groups

Employment

Equal employment
opportunities
Job training and
placement
Employment
support

Mental Health

Mental Health
services
Long Term Mental
Health support

THANK YOU

