



**PUTNAM COUNTY EXECUTIVE
KEVIN M. BYRNE**

October 1, 2025

Putnam County Legislature
40 Gleneida Avenue
Carmel, New York 10512

Dear Legislators,

To supplement what is submitted to the Legislative Clerk my office has dutifully assembled this document to provide you with the most accurate and up-to-date information about my administration's proposed budget.

The 2026 Tentative Budget provides for the largest property tax cut in Putnam County's history, drives down the property tax rate to the lowest it's been since 2007, pays off debt, and funds our departments, programs, and initiatives that this administration feels are in the best interest of its residents.

Let this document serve as my additional request that the Legislature adopt this proposed Putnam County Budget for the 2026 fiscal year.

Please be aware that all this material will be available on our county website.

Sincerely

Kevin M. Byrne
Putnam County Executive

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Putnam County Charter Mandate on Tentative Budget

Tentative budget. §7.04

(a) Upon completion of the review and investigation of the estimates and appropriation requests from the various administrative units and authorized agencies, the Commissioner of Finance shall prepare, under the direction of the County Executive, the tentative budget for the ensuing fiscal year for both current operating and capital budget purposes.

(b) The tentative budget shall be filed with the Clerk of the County Legislature on or before the first (1st) day of October and posted on the County's internet website by close of the following business day. The tentative budget shall include such information and detail as may be requested by the County Legislature pursuant to § 7.04(A)(2).

[Amended 3-4-2014 by L.L. No. 5-2014]

(c) The tentative budget shall include, without modification by the County Executive, such line item appropriation requests of the County Legislature, the Clerk of the County Legislature and the County Auditor, as are submitted by the Chair of the County Legislature and a member of the County Legislature representing the member of another minor political party, if another party is represented, or a member elected without party endorsement, if any. This budget request shall be submitted to the Commissioner of Finance in writing before the first (1st) day of September.

(d) The tentative budget shall contain such line items appropriations requested by the Board of Elections pursuant to Section 3-300 of the New York State Election Law. These requests must be submitted to the County Legislature by the 15th day of August with a copy to the Commissioner of Finance. The County Executive may make recommendations to the Legislature as to whether these requests should be adjusted.

[Added 4-8-2015 by L.L. No. 7-2015]

Putnam County Charter (2015, April 8). Tentative Budget.

PUTNAM COUNTY LEGISLATURE

Resolution #169

Introduced by Legislator: Amy Sayegh on behalf of the Budget & Finance Committee at a Regular Meeting held July 1, 2025.

page 1

APPROVAL - 2026 DECENTRALIZED BUDGET REVIEW PROCESS FOR PREPARATION AND ADOPTION OF THE 2026 COUNTY BUDGET

WHEREAS, the Budget and Finance Committee has reviewed and recommended the adoption of the attached Decentralized Budget Review Process for implementation in 2025 of the adoption of the 2026 budget; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Putnam County Legislature hereby adopts the attached budget review process; and be it further

RESOLVED, that pursuant to Putnam County Charter Section 7.04 the Putnam County Legislature hereby adopts and notifies the County Executive of the policy and practice guidelines contained in Section E of this Decentralized Budget Review Process/2026 to be complied with by the County Executive.

BY POLL VOTE: ALL AYES. LEGISLATORS ADDONIZIO & BIRMINGHAM WERE ABSENT. MOTION CARRIES.

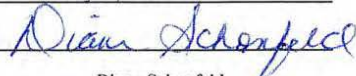
State of New York
ss:
County of Putnam

APPROVED


COUNTY EXECUTIVE 7/11/25
DATE

I hereby certify that the above is a true and exact copy of a resolution passed by the Putnam County Legislature while in session on July 1, 2025.

Dated: July 7, 2025

Signed: 

Diane Schonfeld
Clerk of the Legislature of Putnam County

DECENTRALIZED BUDGET REVIEW PROCESS/2026

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A. PROPOSAL SUMMARY:

The review and adoption of the annual budget is among the most important functions of the Putnam County Legislature. The various Committees of the Legislature have increasingly important roles in this approach. The respective Committee Chairs and all members of the Legislature also are called upon to contribute their expertise in several capacities.

The Budget Adoption Process for an ensuing fiscal year effectively began on March 6th of this year when the County Executive filed his Annual Report on the State of the County. In addition, the various Department Heads at this time submitted a written report detailing the activities of their unit of government. By July 15th, the County Legislature must determine policy guidelines for expenditures, limits and priorities so that they can be distributed to the Head of each Administrative Unit. The materials submitted in March and the policy guidelines approved by July 15th form an important background foundation for the entire process.

B. COMMITTEE RESPONSIBILITIES

Each committee shall meet in a timely fashion and consider the various departmental budget requests under its overview.

It shall schedule and obtain necessary information from the Executive Branch at its Committee deliberations and produce a brief and concise written report on its recommendations.

Care should be taken by the Chair to be certain that the Committee records a reason or rationale behind each recommendation. Failure to disclose a reason or rationale behind a recommendation to amend the tentative budget usually results in unnecessary delay and discussion. Observance of these responsibilities will benefit the Full Legislature in its deliberations on the suggestions of each Committee.

C. RELEVANT BUDGET DEADLINES PURSUANT TO THE PUTNAM COUNTY CHARTER

- i. **BUDGET DUE:** Section 7.04 A(5b) – By the 1st day of October the County Executive shall submit the Tentative 2026 Fiscal Year Budget to the Clerk of the Legislature by 5:00 P.M. Recommended date – October 1, 2025 (WEDNESDAY).
- ii. Tentative Budget posted on the County Internet Website by 5:00 P.M. Recommended date – October 2, 2025 (THURSDAY)
- iii. **BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETS WITH THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE:** Section 7.04 B(2) – Within five (5) days after the transmittal of the Tentative Budget of the County Executive and the Commissioner of Finance shall meet with the Budget and Finance Committee to review the Tentative Budget. Recommended date – October 2, 2025 (THURSDAY) – at 7:00 P.M.
- iv. **BUDGET AND FINANCE HEARING:** Section 7.04 B(3) – The Budget and Finance Committee shall conduct a Public Hearing on the Tentative Budget with the County Executive and Commissioner of Finance present to answer questions. Recommended date - October 2, 2025 (THURSDAY) – at 8:00 P.M.
- v. **COMMITTEE REVIEW:** Section 7.04 B(3) – After the Public Hearing, the Budget and Finance Committee shall review the Tentative Budget as submitted by the County Executive. Recommended dates for Sub-committees are October 3rd through October 15, 2025. The Full Budget and Finance Committee will meet on October 20, 2025 (MONDAY) to review the Tentative 2026 budget.
- vi. **COMMITTEE ACTION:** section 7.04 B(3) – On or before October 24, 2025 the Budget and Finance Committee shall file with the Clerk of the Legislature its report on the Tentative Budget and shall include any recommendations made by the Committee. Recommended date for this action is October 23, 2025.
- vii. **LEGISLATIVE HEARING:** Section 7.04 B(4) – On or before the 26th day of October, the County Legislature shall conduct a Public Hearing on the Tentative Budget and the Report of the Budget and Finance Committee. Recommended date: October 27, 2025 (MONDAY) at 7:00 P.M. as October 26th is a Sunday.
- viii. **LEGISLATIVE CONSIDERATION:** Section 7.04B(5) – Prior to the thirty-first (31st) day of October, the Legislature shall commence consideration of the annual budget. Recommended dates: October 28, 2025 (TUESDAY) to October 30, 2025 (TUESDAY).
- ix. **BUDGET ADOPTION:** Section 7.04 B(6) – If a Budget has not been adopted on or before November 1, 2025, the Tentative Budget as submitted by the County Executive shall be the Budget for the ensuing fiscal year. Recommended Budget Adoption date: October 29, 2025 (WEDNESDAY).

- x. DELIVERY TO COUNTY EXECUTIVE: Section 7.04B(7) - Within three (3) business days following the adoption of the annual budget, the Clerk of the Legislature shall forward to the County Executive the changes made to the tentative budget.
- xi. EXECUTIVE VETO: Section 7.04 B(7) – The County Executive shall approve or veto any or all changes by line item and return the same to the Clerk of the Legislature by the 10th day of November as the 8th day of November is a Saturday.
- xii. LEGISLATIVE CONSIDERATION: Section 7.04 B(8) – The Legislature shall convene on or before November 17th for the purpose of reconsidering each vetoed item as the 15th day of November is a Saturday.

TO BE ADOPTED FOR ACTION:

D. RECOMMENDED ACTIONS:

The Clerk of the Putnam County Legislature shall advertise in a timely fashion during the month of September for the public hearing to be held according to Action IV and during the month of October for the public hearing to be held according to Action VII below:

1. The County Executive will be submitting the tentative budget to the Clerk of the Legislature on or before October 1, 2025.
2. All Legislators should be present to discuss the budget with the County Executive at the meeting held with the County Executive and the Commissioner of Finance.
3. All Legislators should be present to observe and participate at the public hearing on the County Executive's Budget. The County Executive and the Commissioner of Finance shall be present to answer questions about the budget.
4. It is recommended that the above two separate actions be conducted on October 2, 2025 as follows:
Legislators meet with the County Executive at 7:00 p.m.
Public Hearing will be held on October 2, 2025 at 8:00 p.m.
5. Between October 3, 2025 and until October 15, 2025, each Committee, including:
 - a. Economic Development
 - b. Health
 - c. Personnel
 - d. Physical
 - e. Protective
 - f. Rules
 - g. Audit

shall meet and consider the budgets as defined under that particular Committee's responsibilities and submit a concise, written report of changes, exceptions, additions and comments to the Clerk, including the reasoning behind each recommendation.

6. The Budget and Finance Committee will meet on October 20, 2025 (MONDAY) to consider and adopt the various Committee Reports. The Budget Committee

shall file a report with the Clerk of the Legislature by October 23, 2025 (THURSDAY).

7. Legislature shall hold its Public Hearing on October 27, 2025 (MONDAY) at 7:00 P.M.
8. The County Legislature shall meet during a period beginning on October 28, 2025 and if necessary, through October 31, 2025 at the call of the Chair of the Legislature, to consider all recommended actions and to adopt the budget. In all cases, it shall be the responsibility of the various committee Chairs to see that all majority recommendations of the Committee are considered by the Full Legislature.
9. In any case, the budget must be adopted by November 1, 2025.
10. Within three (3) business days of budget adoption, the Clerk will deliver the budget and changes to the County Executive for approval or veto.
11. The last day for the County Executive to veto the budget resolutions is November 10, 2025 (MONDAY) as the 8th day of November is a Saturday.
12. Upon receipt of a veto message by the County Executive, the County Legislature shall convene on or before November 1, 2025 (MONDAY) to consider each specific veto and shall vote to sustain or override each separate question, as the 15th day of November is a Saturday.

E. GUIDELINES TO THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE ADOPTED BY THE LEGISLATURE FOR DETERMINING EXPENDITURES, LIMITS AND PRIORITIES:

1. In the Tentative Budget submission, the term "Capital Project" as used in Section 7.05 (a) of the Putnam County Charter shall not include the routine repairing and re-surfacing of highways and routine repair of guardrails (guiderails) nor shall said routine repairs be subject to long term bonding and that such routine repairs shall be included in the Operating Budget. The Capital Projects Committee shall determine which requested projects meet the criteria to be defined as a Capital Project as set forth above, and their recommendations will be included in the applicable operating and capital budget procedures contained within the Putnam County Charter.
2. In the Tentative Budget submission, the term "Capital Projects" so used in Section 7.05 (a) of the Putnam County Charter shall not include replacement of existing equipment and machinery, and that such replacement shall not be included in the Operating Budget. The Capital Projects Committee shall determine which requested projects meet the criteria to be defined as a Capital Project as set forth above, and their recommendations will be included in the applicable operating and capital budget procedures contained within the Putnam County Charter. A detailed narrative identifying the preceding five (5) year's Capital Projects Budgets and any additions or changes to same including the dates on which the additions or changes to same took place.
3. The County Executive will submit a detailed narrative explaining any differences between the Department's request and the County Executive's recommendation and the reason for not granting the request or increasing any such request.

4. Any subsequent information that the County Executive is aware of that the Department Head did not submit relating to the request and recommendation must also be included in the narrative.
5. The revenues are to be reported and itemized in each individual department's budget for the fiscal year and not in the budget of the Commissioner of Finance, or any other department, where applicable.
6. Each revenue account shall indicate in the Tentative Budget the amount of revenue requested and the amount of revenue projected and actually received to date from the prior fiscal year.
7. All proposed changes in grades, promotions or reclassifications in position in management or non-management be collated and presented as a separate part of the Tentative Budget, including a detailed narrative for each.
8.
 - a) The names of all employees engaged in employment for the County of Putnam in more than one department be separately listed and disclosed apart from the budget document with the name of the position for the current fiscal year and the next fiscal year separately.
 - b) The names of all employees engaged in employment for the County of Putnam who have had overtime be listed with the amount of dollars for overtime for 2024 and 2025 year-to-date separately.
9. All current and expected personnel vacancies be identified by line item in the budget or in supporting documents throughout the entire budget process.
10.
 - a) Each department head shall identify those personnel positions within his/her department that were entitled to either New York State or Federal Government reimbursement, either by statute, grant or otherwise, including the rate of reimbursement, amount of reimbursement actually received and amount of reimbursement expected to be received until the end of the fiscal year.
 - b) Also to be included is a separate list of personnel positions funded fully or partially by grant funds expected to expire and include the expected grant expiration date.
11. Each department head shall identify all line items in their department that are entitled to either New York State or Federal Government reimbursement and maximum allowable reimbursement, if applicable.
12. The Commissioner of Finance shall supply this information with the Tentative Budget.
13. Each department head shall complete a Motor Vehicle Inventory Control Form for any and all vehicles being used by said department.
14. An organizational chart by department for 2025 shall be provided along with an organizational chart for 2026 highlighting all proposed changes.

15. If the County Executive plans on out-sourcing or privatizing any department, or part thereof in the total departmental budget, in the 2026 budget, the County Executive must provide a detailed statement of the rationale and his/her proposed recommendations to the Legislature no later than August 1, 2025.
16. Certain budget lines are considered approved with specific limitations or conditions on how the funds shall be applied and this limitation shall not be disregarded without the formal approval of the Legislature. Any violation of these limitations may result in withdrawal of funding for these or other budget lines within the department.
17. The County Executive will present an inventory of all County vehicles including a report on the condition, mileage and maintenance of each vehicle. The report will be supplied with the Tentative Budget.
18. Any personnel positions which are vacant at the time of the submission of the Tentative Budget to the County Legislature shall state the calendar date at which time the position first became vacant.
19. Any and all revenue projections for the 2026 budget shall only include revenue that falls within the jurisdiction and approval of the Putnam County Legislature and requires no other jurisdiction's approval (federal, state or other). Any revenue projections that require approval from an outside jurisdiction (federal, state or other) shall not be budgeted unless the revenue has been approved by that outside jurisdiction prior to the submission of the budget to the Legislature.
20. Any not-for-profits seeking funding from the County must submit to the Administration along with their request for funding the following documentation, which documents shall be forwarded to the Legislature along with the Tentative Budget:
 - Any distributed summary or report of the strategic plan and the accomplishments of the Non-For-Profit (NFP);
 - A list of the NFP's current serving directors, including contact information for each, the date and length of their respective terms and their conflict disclosures;
 - A complete list of the NFP's employees;
 - Complete copies of the NFP's current by-laws and the minutes for any board and committee meetings conducted in the last two (2) years;
 - Copies of each independent audit and/or auditor compilation of the NFP's financial reports for the last three (3) years;
 - Copies of the NFP's current Code of Conduct and any Administrative Policies, including but not limited to policies that

address check signing authority, opening of bank accounts, or use of credit cards;

- Copies of the NFP's Conflict of Interest and Related Party policies, if any;
- Records relating to review and approval by the NFP of the engagement and salary for any compensated positions; and
- Copies of the NFP's IRS 990 or IRS 990EZ filed for the last three (3) years and the records relating to review and approval by the NFP's board for said filings.

21. The Tentative Budget shall breakout the "Contracts" line as shown in previous budgets of the Golf Facility and Tilly Foster Farm, and shall delineate any Capital improvements to each facility or its grounds.

22. The budget will break out in each department the cell phone expense from the total telephone expense and provide a separate account number for this cell phone item.

23. Any additional new items, if desired.

F. CONCLUSION:

Implementation of this Legislative Budget Review System will bring the expertise of the various Legislative Committees and their Chairs to bear on one of the most important functions of the Legislature.

It is expected that proposal acceptance will result in increased budget efficiency and greatly reduced cost to the County.

G. PROPOSED RESOLUTION:

WHEREAS, the Budget and Finance Committee has reviewed and recommended the adoption of the attached Decentralized Budget Review Process for implementation in 2025 of the adoption of the 2026 budget; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Putnam County Legislature hereby adopts the attached budget review process; and be it further

RESOLVED, that pursuant to Putnam County Charter Section 7.04 the Putnam County Legislature hereby adopts and notifies the County Executive of the policy and practice guidelines contained in Section E of this Decentralized Budget Review Process/2026 to be complied with by the County Executive.

Putnam County Charter Mandate on Capital Plan

Capital program and capital budget. §7.05

4. Preparation of the capital program and the capital budget. The Commissioner of Finance shall prepare the proposed capital program and the proposed capital budget under the direction of the County Executive. The proposed capital budget shall include the amount proposed for the capital program to be financed by direct budgetary appropriation for the ensuing fiscal year shall indicate the proposed down payments and other expenditures for the new capital projects and shall provide all proposed capital financing, including but not limited to reserve funds, sinking funds, current revenues, temporary borrowing, bond sales, federal and state grants, loans or advances. The capital budget for the ensuing⁽¹⁾ fiscal year shall be incorporated into the tentative budget and shall be submitted to the County Legislature by the first (1st) day of October in accordance with section 7.04(A)(5) of this Charter.



October 1, 2025

Honorable Members of the County Legislature:

As required by the Putnam County Charter, I hereby submit a Capital Plan for the years 2026 through 2031.

The proposed Capital Plan provides for necessary investments in County facilities and infrastructure for the next six years, based on project priorities and the County's financial capacity.

The County has demonstrated true fiscal responsibility and resiliency these past few years, and I am proud of where we are and look forward to the important projects that are part of this Capital Plan.

Included in the Capital Plan for 2026 are the following projects:

- *Capital Request #2026-001 - Capital Reserve- Minor Reservations*
- *Capital Request #2026-002 - Programmatic Generator Replacement Program*
- *Capital Request #2026-003 - Programmatic Facilities Parking Lot Improvements*
- *Capital Request #2026-004 - Programmatic ADA Improvements - Various County Facilities*
- *Capital Request #2026-005 - DBS Campus Buildings 2 & 3 Window Replacements*
- *Capital Request #2026-006 - DBS Campus Parking Lot Improvements*
- *Capital Request #2026-007 - Kern Building Exterior Renovations*
- *Capital Request #2026-008 - DSS Security Improvements*
- *Capital Request #2026-009 - Camp Herrlich Schweiger Hall Renovation*
- *Capital Request#2026-TBD - Cart Storage Barn & Maintenance Facility - Construction*
- *Capital Request#2026-ADD - Sybil Ludington Restoration (REV250)*
- *Capital Request #2026-010 - Repairs & Improvements to Various Dams*
- *Capital Request #2026-011 - Programmatic Repair & Replacement of Various Bridges & Culverts*
- *Capital Request #2026-012 - Programmatic Pavement Maintenance & Rehabilitation*
- *Capital Request #2026-013 - CHIPS - Eligible Equipment & Highway Infrastructure Improvements*
- *Capital Request #2026-014 - PIN 8762.97 - Culvert Replacement Program*
- *Capital Request #2026-015 - Transit Section 5307 Funds*
- *Capital Request #2026-016 - Light Duty Emergency Vehicles*
- *Capital Request #2026-017 - El/Pre-K Buses*
- *Capital Request #2026-018 - Office for Senior Resources Buses*
- *Capital Request #2026-019 - Planning Department/Tourism Bureau Event Shuttle*
- *Capital Request #2026-020 - Programmatic Highway Equipment*

The recommendations in the attached Capital Plan reflect a consensus arrived at through productive discussions among members of the Capital Program Committee, including myself as County Executive, the Chairman of the Legislature, and senior members of the Executive and Legislative branches of County Government.

I thank all the members of the Capital Program Committee for their efforts and urge the members of the Legislature to thoughtfully consider the Committee's recommendations.

Sincerely,

Kevin M. Byrne - County Executive

PUTNAM COUNTY

Six Year Capital Plan

2026 – 2031

Capital Program Committee



County Executive (Chairman):	Kevin M. Byrne
Commissioner of Finance (Vice-Chairman):	William Carlin
Chairman of the Legislature:	Amy Sayegh
Commissioner of General Services:	John Tully
Commissioner of Public Works:	Thomas Feighery
Commissioner of Planning:	Barbara Barosa, AICP
Designee of the Legislative Budget & Finance Committee:	Greg E. Ellner
Legislature Minority Political Party Member:	Nancy Montgomery

PUTNAM COUNTY

2026 Capital Plan

Kevin M. Byrne, County Executive

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Introduction

Every municipality has a portfolio of capital assets that it owns, maintains, and employs to help deliver quality services to its residents. These assets include equipment and vehicles, but also more permanent assets such as roads, buildings, county facilities, recreation, and natural areas. With ownership comes an obligation to maintain and continually improve these assets. The process is used to determine how to invest County resources to maintain and improve the County's capital assets is known as the Capital Plan ("Plan"). The County of Putnam endeavors to adopt a Plan that is updated annually in conjunction with the Annual Operating Budget.

Putnam County has always strived to offer its residents and businesses the most desirable community facilities and reliable infrastructure to maintain their quality of life. As the County plans for the future, maintaining existing high-quality assets must be a high priority

The Plan is a multi-year planning instrument used to identify needs and funding sources for municipal capital project expenditures. ***It is not a commitment to fund requested projects, but rather a schedule of necessary and/or desired public physical improvements and possible funding sources.*** The existence and condition of infrastructure and major capital assets have a direct bearing on the County's ability to provide services and facilities needed or desired by the community, and the perception of the community on its quality of life. These capital assets have an impact on property values and the community's ability to attract and retain residents and businesses. The Plan is the best available tool for advising the Legislature, other agencies, and the public of the County's capital and infrastructure needs. The Plan comprehensively identifies projects so that they can be properly coordinated, and future funding needs can be anticipated.

It is important to the effort of maintaining a multi-million-dollar infrastructure portfolio to explore various approaches to secure adequate revenues to fund our capital needs which could include pay-as-you-go practices, designation of reserves, use of dedicated federal and state revenues, borrowing and grants.

Putnam County's Capital Plan covers a six-year period and is revised annually to reflect the County's changing needs and priorities. The Plan is a comprehensive listing and description of planned capital projects and cost estimates. The projects are necessary to meet the goals and objectives of the County Executive and Legislature. Several criteria are used in establishing priorities for project selection. These include the potential that a given project will resolve health or safety issues, bring the County into or ensure compliance with Federal and/or State mandates, reduce County operating costs and/or increase revenue or leverage the availability of grants or other sources of revenue.

The County works with its Municipal Advisor to project the impact of the debt service associated with any borrowings on the Annual Operating Budget. The County Executive or Legislature may deem it necessary to defer certain projects depending on budgetary constraints.

Preparing a Capital Plan for Putnam County is no easy task. The extensive number of services the County provides to its constituents requires many unique and extensive infrastructure requirements to meet the capital needs of the County. Balancing these needs with the many "wish lists" makes preparing a capital plan such an arduous process. Management needs to prioritize the immediate needs with projects that can be deferred at this time as well as having flexibility in the plan to deal with any contingencies that may occur.

Annual Process

As part of the annual budget process, each department completes a proposed six-year capital plan for their department. Each submission is summarized by type of expense and the funding source.

The Capital Plan Committee, comprised of the County Executive, County Legislators, and selected staff, conduct discussions with Department Heads as to the necessity of proposed projects taking into consideration constituent needs as well as the cost and tax impact on the residents. Upon approval of the Capital Plan, bond resolutions will be brought forward to the County Legislature for approval when appropriate. As with any county resolution, residents may comment.

After adoption of the bond resolution (if applicable), work on the proposed projects can begin.

Outstanding General Obligation Bond Debt

STATEMENT OF GENERAL OBLIGATION BOND DEBT AS OF 12/31/25				
Issue	Outstanding Principal	Outstanding Interest	Total	
2010 General Obligation Public Improvement Serial Bonds (ARRA)	\$ 1,065,000	\$ 158,177	\$ 1,223,177	
2013 General Obligation Public Improvement Refunding Serial Bonds	9,975,000	1,798,747	11,773,747	
2014 General Obligation Public Improvement Serial Bonds	1,485,000	159,750	1,644,750	
2015 General Obligation Public Improvement Refunding Serial Bonds	5,555,000	584,906	6,139,906	
2016A General Obligation Public Improvement Serial Bonds	990,000	67,494	1,057,494	
2016B General Obligation Public Improvement Serial Bonds	630,000	23,225	653,225	
2017A General Obligation Public Improvement Serial Bonds	1,080,000	32,800	1,112,800	
2017B General Obligation Public Improvement Serial Bonds	195,000	5,619	200,619	
2018 General Obligation Public Improvement Serial Bonds	1,000,000	76,500	1,076,500	
2020 General Obligation Public Improvement Serial Bonds	4,005,000	172,522	4,177,522	
2020 General Obligation Public Improvement Refunding Serial Bonds	525,000	21,000	546,000	
2021 General Obligation Public Improvement Serial Bonds	2,185,000	134,613	2,319,613	
Total General Obligation Bond Debt	\$ 28,690,000	\$ 3,235,353	\$ 31,925,353	

The use of debt financing is an important method of funding capital projects as some large capital outlays are challenging to fund within a single budget year. In addition, financing through short-term or long-term debt allows the County to distribute the tax burden over the life of the asset. Moody's has assigned Putnam County an Aa1 rating, which reflects a sound financial position.

The County issues General Obligation Bonds, Bond Anticipation Notes, and Refunding Bonds. The proceeds from the issuance of these instruments fund capital improvement projects such as road construction, county buildings, improvements to County facilities, and upgrading County wide technology and/or equipment.

Outstanding General Obligation Bond Debt for FY2026 is \$31,925,353.

PROPOSED SIX-YEAR CAPITAL PROJECTS 2026 - 2031								
PROJECTS	Capital							Six Year
	Request #	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	Totals
FACILITIES:								
Capital Reserve - Minor Renovations	2026-001	\$ 250,000	\$ 250,000	\$ 250,000	\$ 250,000	\$ 250,000	\$ 250,000	\$ 1,500,000
Programmatic Generator Replacement Program	2026-002	250,000	250,000	250,000	250,000	250,000	250,000	1,500,000
Programmatic Facilities Parking Lot Improvements	2026-003	500,000	500,000	500,000	500,000	500,000	500,000	3,000,000
Programmatic ADA Improvements at Various County Facilities*	2026-004	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	600,000
DBS Campus Buildings 2 & 3 Window Replacements	2026-005	500,000	-	-	-	-	-	500,000
DBS Campus Parking Lot Improvements	2026-006	1,750,000	-	-	-	-	-	1,750,000
Kern Building Exterior Renovations	2026-007	1,500,000	-	-	-	-	-	1,500,000
DSS Security Improvements*	2026-008	800,000	-	-	-	-	-	800,000
Camp Herrlich Schweiger Hall Renovation*	2026-009	1,000,000	-	-	-	-	-	1,000,000
Cart Storage Barn and Maintenance Facility - Construction*	TBD-RFP	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sybil Ludington Restoration (REV250)	2026-ADD	50,000	-	-	-	-	-	50,000
Historic Courthouse Roof Replacement*	2027-XXX	-	750,000	-	-	-	-	750,000
DBS Campus Interior Renovations*	2027-XXX	-	400,000	-	-	-	-	400,000
Sub Total:		\$ 6,700,000	\$ 2,250,000	\$ 1,100,000	\$ 1,100,000	\$ 1,100,000	\$ 1,100,000	\$ 13,350,000
ENVIRONMENTAL - MS/4								
Repairs and Improvements to various Dams	2026-010	\$ 575,000	\$ 375,000	\$ 2,400,000	\$ 2,400,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 5,750,000
TRANSPORTATION								
Programmatic Repair and Replacement of Various Bridges & Culverts/BRIDGENY Program Local Match	2026-011	\$ 500,000	\$ 500,000	\$ 500,000	\$ 500,000	\$ 500,000	\$ 500,000	\$ 3,000,000
Programmatic Pavement Maintenance and Rehabilitation	2026-012	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000	6,000,000
CHIPS - Eligible equipment & highway infrastructure imp	2026-013	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	9,000,000
PIN 8762.97 - Culvert Replacement Program	2026-014	100,000	2,300,000	-	-	-	-	2,400,000
Transit Section 5307 Funds	2026-015	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	9,000,000
Light Duty Emergency Vehicles*	2026-016	170,000	-	-	-	-	-	170,000
El/Pre-K Buses*	2026-017	350,000	300,000	300,000	300,000	300,000	300,000	1,850,000
Office for Senior Resources Buses*	2026-018	250,000	-	-	-	-	-	250,000
Planning Dept/Tourism Event Shuttle*	2026-019	130,000	-	-	-	-	-	130,000
PIN 8763.77 - Hill St. @ NYS 6N Intersection Reconstruction	2027-XXX	-	1,743,000	562,000	-	7,537,000	-	9,842,000
PIN 8763.78 - NYS RT 22 & Haviland Hollow Intersection Improvements	2028-XXX	-	-	1,913,000	563,000	4,613,000	-	7,089,000
PIN 8763.79 - Simpson Rd. & Rt 6 Intersection Improvements	2028-XXX	-	-	1,150,000	500,000	2,800,000	-	4,450,000
PIN 8763.80 - Ludingtonville Rd. Reconstruction & Resiliency Improvements	2028-XXX	-	-	3,500,000	1,000,000	-	13,690,000	18,190,000
Sub Total:		\$ 5,500,000	\$ 8,843,000	\$ 11,925,000	\$ 6,863,000	\$ 19,750,000	\$ 18,490,000	\$ 71,371,000
EQUIPMENT								
Programmatic Highway Equipment	2026-020	\$ 750,000	\$ 750,000	\$ 750,000	\$ 750,000	\$ 750,000	\$ 750,000	\$ 4,500,000
TOTALS:								
		\$ 13,525,000	\$ 12,218,000	\$ 16,175,000	\$ 11,113,000	\$ 21,600,000	\$ 20,340,000	\$ 94,971,000
FUNDING SOURCES:								
COUNTY		\$5,545,000.00	\$6,133,600.00	\$7,625,000.00	\$6,612,600.00	\$6,790,000.00	\$6,538,000.00	\$39,244,200.00
FEDERAL		\$1,280,000.00	\$4,434,400.00	\$6,900,000.00	\$2,850,400.00	\$13,160,000.00	\$12,152,000.00	\$40,776,800.00
STATE		\$1,650,000.00	\$1,650,000.00	\$1,650,000.00	\$1,650,000.00	\$1,650,000.00	\$1,650,000.00	\$9,900,000.00
BORROWING		\$5,050,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$5,050,000.00
TOTALS:		\$ 13,525,000	\$ 12,218,000	\$ 16,175,000	\$ 11,113,000	\$ 21,600,000	\$ 20,340,000	\$ 94,971,000

PROJECTS								
	Capital Request #	Committee Approved	Tentative Budget Changes	Adopted Budget Changes	Appropriations	State & Federal	Interfund Transfer	Borrowing
FACILITIES								
Capital Reserve - Minor Renovations	2026-001	\$ 250,000			\$ 250,000	\$ -	\$ 250,000	\$ -
Programmatic Generator Replacement Program	2026-002	250,000			250,000	-	250,000	-
Programmatic Facilities Parking Lot Improvements	2026-003	500,000			500,000	-	500,000	-
Programmatic ADA Improvements at Various County Facilities	2026-004	100,000			100,000	-	100,000	-
DBS Campus Buildings 2 & 3 Window Replacements	2026-005	500,000			500,000	-	500,000	-
DBS Campus Parking Lot Improvements	2026-006	1,750,000			1,750,000	-	-	\$1,750,000
Kern Building Exterior Renovations	2026-007	1,500,000			1,500,000	-	-	\$1,500,000
DSS Security Improvements	2026-008	800,000			800,000	-	-	\$800,000
Camp Herrlich Schweiger Hall Renovation	2026-009	1,000,000			1,000,000	-	-	\$1,000,000
Cart Storage Barn and Maintenance Facility - Construction*	TBD-RFP	-			-	-	-	-
Sybil Ludington Restoration (REV250)	2026-ADD		\$ 50,000					
Sub Total:		\$ 6,650,000	\$ 50,000		\$ 6,650,000	\$ -	\$ 1,600,000	\$ 5,050,000
ENVIRONMENTAL								
Repairs and Improvements to various Dams	2026-010	\$ 575,000			\$ 575,000	-	\$ 575,000	-
TRANSPORTATION								
Programmatic Repair and Replacement of Various Bridges & Culverts/BRIDGENY Program Local Match	2026-011	\$ 500,000			\$ 500,000		\$ 500,000	
Programmatic Pavement Maintenance and Rehabilitation	2026-012	1,000,000			1,000,000		1,000,000	
CHIPS - Eligible equipment & highway infrastructure imp	2026-013	1,500,000			1,500,000	1,500,000	-	-
PIIN 8762.97 - Culvert Replacement Program	2026-014	100,000			100,000	80,000	20,000	-
Transit Section 5307 Funds	2026-015	1,500,000			1,500,000	1,350,000	150,000	-
Light Duty Emergency Vehicles	2026-016	170,000			170,000	-	170,000	-
EI/Pre-K Buses	2026-017	350,000			350,000	-	350,000	-
Office for Senior Resources Buses	2026-018	250,000			250,000	-	250,000	-
Planning Dept/Tourism Event Shuttle	2026-019	130,000			130,000		130,000	
Sub Total:		\$ 5,500,000			\$ 5,500,000	\$ 2,930,000	\$ 2,570,000	\$ -
EQUIPMENT								
Highway Equipment	2026-020	\$ 750,000			\$ 750,000	\$ -	\$ 750,000	\$ -
TOTALS:		\$ 13,475,000	\$ 50,000		\$ 13,475,000	\$ 2,930,000	\$ 5,495,000	\$ 5,050,000

PROJECTS			2026 Funding Source				
	Capital Request #	2026	County	Federal	State	WQIP	Borrowing
FACILITIES							
Capital Reserve - Minor Renovations	2026-001	\$ 250,000	\$ 250,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Programmatic Generator Replacement Program	2026-002	250,000	\$ 250,000	-	-	-	-
Programmatic Facilities Parking Lot Improvements	2026-003	500,000	\$ 500,000	-	-	-	-
Programmatic ADA Improvements at Various County Facilities	2026-004	100,000	\$ 100,000	-	-	-	-
DBS Campus Buildings 2 & 3 Window Replacements	2026-005	500,000	\$ 500,000	-	-	-	-
DBS Campus Parking Lot Improvements	2026-006	1,750,000	\$ -	-	-	-	\$1,750,000
Kern Building Exterior Renovations	2026-007	1,500,000	\$ -	-	-	-	\$1,500,000
DSS Security Improvements	2026-008	800,000	\$ -	-	-	-	\$800,000
Camp Herrlich Schweiger Hall Renovation	2026-009	1,000,000	\$ -	-	-	-	\$1,000,000
Cart Storage Barn and Maintenance Facility - Construction*	TBD-RFP	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sybil Ludington Restoration (REV250)	2026-ADD	50,000	50,000				
Sub Total:		\$ 6,700,000	\$ 1,650,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 5,050,000
ENVIRONMENTAL							
Repairs and Improvements to various Dams	2026-010	\$ 575,000	575,000	-	-	-	-
TRANSPORTATION							
Programmatic Repair and Replacement of Various Bridges & Culverts/BRIDGENY Program Local Match	2026-011	\$ 500,000	500,000				
Programmatic Pavement Maintenance and Rehabilitation	2026-012	1,000,000	1,000,000				
CHIPS - Eligible equipment & highway infrastructure imp	2026-013	1,500,000	-	-	1,500,000	-	-
PIN 8762.97 - Culvert Replacement Program	2026-014	100,000	20,000	80,000	-	-	-
Transit Section 5307 Funds	2026-015	1,500,000	150,000	1,200,000	150,000	-	-
Light Duty Emergency Vehicles	2026-016	170,000	170,000	-	-	-	-
EI/Pre-K Buses	2026-017	350,000	350,000	-	-	-	-
Office for Senior Resources Buses	2026-018	250,000	250,000	-	-	-	-
Planning Dept/Tourism Event Shuttle	2026-019	130,000	130,000				
Sub Total:		\$ 5,500,000	\$ 2,570,000	\$ 1,280,000	\$ 1,650,000	\$ -	\$ -
EQUIPMENT							
Highway Equipment	2026-020	\$ 750,000	\$ 750,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
TOTALS:		\$ 13,525,000	\$ 5,545,000	\$ 1,280,000	\$ 1,650,000	\$ -	\$ 5,050,000



Capital Request # 2026-001

REQUEST INFORMATION:

DEPARTMENT: Public Works

REQUESTER:: Thomas Feighery, Commissioner

STATUS: _____

Description of Project or Purchase: Capital Reserve—Minor Renovations



Includes minor facility renovation capital projects. Also includes previously adopted CP's which are replenished when funding is drawn down (i.e Flooring @ various County facilities, Sidewalks & Stair Safety, & Doors/Frames/Hardware).

Description of program impacted by capital request:

The facilities division is responsible for the planning, design, operations, maintenance, construction, and general administration of the County's 39 buildings and various properties. The division consistently addresses verbal, written, or scheduled work orders for a variety of maintenance and repair tasks. The division is responsible for 5 park and rides, 9 radio towers, 27 standby generators with remote monitoring along with building management systems. The Division's workforce consists of highly skilled tradesman licensed in Electrical, HVAC, Carpentry and Plumbing disciplines.

Capital Request : Financial Summary/Information	
FUNDING SOURCE	2026
Capital Request	\$250,000.00
COUNTY FUNDING REQUESTED	\$250,000.00
Notes:	
Multi-year funding plan for Capital Reserve Minor renovations	



Capital Request # 2026-002

REQUEST INFORMATION:
DEPARTMENT: Public Works
REQUESTER: Thomas Feighery, Commissioner
STATUS: _____

Description of Project or Purchase: Generator Replacement Program

The installation of a new exterior generator at the Sheriff's Dept/Correctional Facility will become the primary source of backup power for the facility. There are currently two aging generators inside of the facility. An exterior generator can be more easily accessed for maintenance and repairs and will contain an aboveground fuel source, allowing the County to separately continue its programmatic removal of underground storage tanks., one of which currently serves the two interior generators.



Design and installation of a new generator at the Putnam County Golf Course. The Clubhouse serves as a remote emergency services center during times of need. The Clubhouse is also used for early voting. The existing generator that serves the Clubhouse is antiquated and inadequate for the demands that will be put upon it if called to do so.



Replacement of the aging generator at the Putnam Valley Senior Center. The Center serves our seniors regularly and also serves as a shelter during times of emergency. A new, reliable generator is needed for this facility.

Description of program impacted by capital request:

Backup power supply to County facilities is essential to prevent operational impacts from loss of power. Recognizing and proactively replacing aging generators with new will allow the County to continue to deliver essential services to the public during times of outages, emergencies and declared disasters.

Capital Request : Financial Summary/Information	
FUNDING SOURCE	2026
Capital Request	\$ 250,000.00
COUNTY FUNDING REQUESTED	\$ 250,000.00
Notes: Multi-year funding plan for generator replacements	



Capital Request # 2026-003

REQUEST INFORMATION:

DEPARTMENT: Public Works

REQUESTER: Thomas Feighery, Commissioner

STATUS: _____

Description of Project or Purchase: Programmatic Facilities' Parking Lot Improvements



The goal of this program will be to programmatically address parking lot drainage and pavement deficiencies at multiple County facilities. The Department of Public Works (DPW) has assessed each facility and has developed scopes of work. Some of the work can be handled internally with County staff and resources. However, the volume of these deficiencies will necessitate outsourcing some of the proposed work with contracted paving services.

Description of program impacted by capital request:

This Capital funding program coupled with the DPW's own in house efforts will help to bring our facilities' parking lots into a state of good repair.

Capital Request : Financial Summary/Information	
FUNDING SOURCE	2026
Capital Request	\$500,000.00
COUNTY FUNDING REQUESTED	\$500,000.00



Capital Request # 2026-004

REQUEST INFORMATION:

DEPARTMENT: Public Works

REQUESTER:: Thomas Feighery, Commissioner

STATUS: _____

Description of Project or Purchase: Programmatic ADA Improvements at Various 'County Facilities



This funding will be used to programmaticly address ADA improvements at our County facilities.

Description of program impacted by capital request:

The Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA) prohibits discrimination and ensures equal opportunity and access for persons with disabilities. Furthermore, Putnam County complies with all federal requirements to ensure non-discriminatory transportation in support of our mission to enhance the social and economic quality of life for all Americans.

Capital Request : Financial Summary/Information	
FUNDING SOURCE	2026
Capital Request	\$100,000.00
COUNTY FUNDING REQUESTED	\$100,000.00
Notes:	
Multi-year funding plan for ADA improvements	



Capital Request # 2026-005

REQUEST INFORMATION:

DEPARTMENT: Public Works

REQUESTER: Thomas Feighery, Commissioner

STATUS: _____

Description of Project or Purchase: DBS Campus Buildings 2 & 3 Window Replacements



This project will include the replacement of the inefficient existing single pane windows for Buildings 2 and 3. The new windows will all be operable and energy efficient in reducing glare and providing a proper R-value.

Description of program impacted by capital request:

The Department of Public Works (DPW) has already undertaken a variety of campus improvement projects (including upgrading windows in Building 1) and this project will further the continued efforts in bringing the campuses' buildings and grounds up to modern, energy efficient standards.

Capital Request : Financial Summary/Information	
FUNDING SOURCE	2026
Capital Request	\$500,000.00
COUNTY FUNDING REQUESTED	\$500,000.00
Notes: This is the second year of a two year program	



Capital Request # 2026-006

REQUEST INFORMATION:
 DEPARTMENT: Public Works
 REQUESTER: Thomas Feighery, Commissioner
 STATUS: _____

Description of Project or Purchase: Donald B Smith Campus Parking Lot Improvements



The proposed work will include site grading, stormwater management, drainage, pedestrian walkways, parking, and associated work. The existing parking lot will be altered and expanded to allow for additional parking and to improve pedestrian safety throughout the campus. The sidewalk layout will promote connectivity not only throughout the campus but into the surrounding sidewalk network and associated business district (Putnam Plaza).

Description of program impacted by capital request:

This project will improve the existing parking lot and pedestrian walkways at the Campus.

Capital Request : Financial Summary/Information	
FUNDING SOURCE	2026
Capital Request	\$1,750,000.00
COUNTY FUNDING REQUESTED	\$1,750,000.00



Capital Request # 2026-007

REQUEST INFORMATION:

DEPARTMENT: Public Works

REQUESTER: Thomas Feighery, Commissioner

STATUS: _____

Description of Project or Purchase: Kern Building Exterior Renovations



This project will include exterior siding, gutters, landscaping and window replacements for the entirety of the building which houses The Putnam County Department of Health, DMV and Cornell Cooperative Extension amongst others. The building has been in a state of disrepair for quite some time with reactive incidental work being done as needed to address immediate issues. This project will proactively address infiltration and aesthetic deficiencies thereby improving building functionality and public appeal. The Department of Public Works intends to outsource the majority of the work to an outside contractor.

Description of program impacted by capital request:

This project will rehabilitate the exterior of the Kern Building, improving building functionality and public appeal.

Capital Request : Financial Summary/Information	
FUNDING SOURCE	2026
Capital Request	\$1,500,000.00
COUNTY FUNDING REQUESTED	\$1,500,000.00



Capital Request # 2026-008

REQUEST INFORMATION:

DEPARTMENT: Public Works

REQUESTER: Thomas Feighery, Commissioner

STATUS: _____

Description of Project or Purchase: DSS Security Improvements



This project will construct an enclosed formal entryway between Buildings 1 and 2 that will be staffed with a security guard who will oversee security screening equipment to enhance safety protocols for the Department of Social Services.

Description of program impacted by capital request:

The Department of Social Services is in need of heightened security measures.

Capital Request : Financial Summary/Information	
FUNDING SOURCE	2026
Capital Request	\$800,000.00
COUNTY FUNDING REQUESTED	\$800,000.00



Capital Request # 2026-009

REQUEST INFORMATION:

DEPARTMENT: Public Works

REQUESTER: Thomas Feighery, Commissioner

STATUS: _____

Description of Project or Purchase: Camp Herrlich Schweiger Hall Renovation



This project will renovate the existing Schweiger Hall to make it structurally sound and improve the layout to enhance the current camp offerings.

Description of program impacted by capital request:

The existing building is in need of repair and once complete will enhance the year round camp programs.

Capital Request : Financial Summary/Information	
FUNDING SOURCE	2026
Capital Request	\$1,000,000.00
COUNTY FUNDING REQUESTED	\$1,000,000.00



Capital Request # TBD-RFP

REQUEST INFORMATION:

DEPARTMENT: Public Works

REQUESTER: Thomas Feighery, Commissioner

STATUS: _____

Description of Project or Purchase: Cart Storage Barn & Maintenance Facility— Construction



The existing maintenance garage is in a severe state of disrepair and previous attempts to rehabilitate the facility have been unsuccessful. Currently, carts are stored outdoors, subject to the elements. It is the County's intention to convert the current gas powered carts to a fleet of electric carts. The proposed facility will accommodate the electrical infrastructure to support the charging of the electric golf carts under the cover of the building.

Description of program impacted by capital request:

The construction of a new golf cart storage barn and maintenance facility will provide a modern facility which will centralize operations and create an energy efficient building that will improve services for one of the premier golf courses in Putnam County.

Capital Request : Financial Summary/Information	
FUNDING SOURCE	2026
Capital Request	-
COUNTY FUNDING REQUESTED	



Capital Request # 2026-ADD (TENTATIVE)

REQUEST INFORMATION:

DEPARTMENT: Historian/DPW

REQUESTER: Jennifer Cassidy, County Historian/Thomas Feighery, Commissioner

STATUS: _____

Description of Project or Purchase: Sybil Ludington Restoration (REV250)



The funding will be used to provide the Sybil Ludington statue with a much needed refurbishment to support its preservation and to support related REV250 activities.

Description of program impacted by capital request:

The Sybil Ludington statue will be restored in support of its preservation and to support REV250 activities.

Capital Request : Financial Summary/Information		
FUNDING SOURCE		2026
Capital Request	-	\$50,000.00
COUNTY FUNDING REQUESTED		\$50,000.00



Capital Request # 2027-XXX

REQUEST INFORMATION:

DEPARTMENT: Public Works

REQUESTER: Thomas Feighery, Commissioner

STATUS: _____

Description of Project or Purchase: DBS Campus Building 3 Renovations



This project will renovate the interior of Building 3 to best accommodate Departments and maximize space. The design was prepared by an outside consultant in cooperation with using Departments in Building 3.

Description of program impacted by capital request:

Renovating the interior of Building 3 will maximize space for using Departments.

Capital Request : Financial Summary/Information	
FUNDING SOURCE	2027
Capital Request	\$400,000.00
COUNTY FUNDING REQUESTED	\$400,000.00



Capital Request # 2027-XXX

REQUEST INFORMATION:

DEPARTMENT: Public Works

REQUESTER: Thomas Feighery, Commissioner

STATUS: _____

Description of Project or Purchase: Historic Courthouse Roof



This project will address deficiencies in the Historic Courthouse roof. A recent evaluation of the Historic Courthouse roof indicates it will require a full replacement including the rehabilitation of the cupola.

Description of program impacted by capital request:

The Historic Courthouse roof is in poor condition and will require replacement.

Capital Request : Financial Summary/Information	
FUNDING SOURCE	2027
Capital Request	\$750,000.00
COUNTY FUNDING REQUESTED	\$750,000.00
Grant funding will be pursued for this work	



Capital Request # 2026-010

REQUEST INFORMATION:

DEPARTMENT: Public Works

REQUESTER: Thomas Feighery, Commissioner

STATUS: _____

Description of Project or Purchase: Repairs & Improvements to Various Dams



This program will aim to inventory and perform periodic inspections on County-owned dams while prioritizing and performing the required repairs based on routine inspection reports.

Description of program impacted by capital request:

This project will continue the County's efforts to maintain a state of good repair of and compliance for the Lake MacGregor Dam, the Town of Kent Middle and Upper Dams and the Continental Village dam.

Capital Request : Financial Summary/Information	
FUNDING SOURCE	2026
Capital Request	\$575,000.00
COUNTY FUNDING REQUESTED	\$575,000.00
Notes: This is a multi-year program for repairs & improvements to dams	



Capital Request # 2026-011

REQUEST INFORMATION:

DEPARTMENT: Public Works

REQUESTER: Thomas Feighery, Commissioner

STATUS: _____

Description of Project or Purchase: Programmatic Repair & Replacement of Various Bridges & Culverts/BRIDGENY Local Match



This program will fund routine and emergency culvert repairs and replacements as well as supplemental County required funding for BRIDGENY awarded bridge and culvert projects.

Description of program impacted by capital request:

This project will fund routine and emergency culvert repairs and replacements and supplement funding for BRIDGENY projects.

Capital Request : Financial Summary/Information	
FUNDING SOURCE	2026
Capital Request	\$500,000.00
COUNTY FUNDING REQUESTED	\$500,000.00
Notes: This is a multi-year program for bridges and culverts.	



Capital Request # 2026-012

REQUEST INFORMATION:

DEPARTMENT: Public Works

REQUESTER: Thomas Feighery, Commissioner

STATUS: _____

Description of Project or Purchase: Programmatic Pavement Maintenance & Rehabilitation



This program will address deficient County roadways. The Engineering Division in the Department of Public Works has assessed , identified and prioritized certain roads in need of repair in 2026.

Description of program impacted by capital request:

This project will continue the County's efforts to maintain a state of good repair of its County roadways.

Capital Request : Financial Summary/Information	
FUNDING SOURCE	2026
Capital Request	\$1,000,000.00
COUNTY FUNDING REQUESTED	\$1,000,000.00
Notes: This is a multi-year program for pavement rehabilitation	



Capital Request # 2026-013

REQUEST INFORMATION:

DEPARTMENT: Public Works

REQUESTER: Thomas Feighery, Commissioner

STATUS: _____

Description of Project or Purchase: CHIPS—Eligible Equipment & Highway Infrastructure Improvements



The CHIPS program is a State-funded program that provides aid to municipalities to support the construction and repair of highways, bridges, highway-railroad crossings, and other facilities that are not on the State highway system. The program was established by the NYS Legislature in 1981. The authorization for the CHIPS Program is contained in Section 10-c of the State Highway Law. The program provides aid to cities, counties, towns and villages on a formula basis.

Description of program impacted by capital request:

The CHIPS program supports the County in the construction and repair of highways, bridges, highway-railroad crossings and other facilities.

Capital Request : Financial Summary/Information		
FUNDING SOURCE	2026	
Capital Request		\$1,500,000.00
State	CHIPS	
	100% (reimbursable)	\$1,500,000.00
COUNTY FUNDING REQUESTED		\$0.00



Capital Request # 2026-014

REQUEST INFORMATION:
 DEPARTMENT: Public Works
 REQUESTER: Thomas Feighery, Commissioner
 STATUS: _____

Description of Project or Purchase: PIN 8762.97—Culvert Replacement Program



This Federally funded project (PIN 8762.97) will replace culverts in Putnam County to bring them into a state of good repair. Culverts to be replaced will be those with the lowest rating, as determined by County asset management and condition assessment programs.

Description of program impacted by capital request:

PIN 8762.97—Culvert Replacement Program

Capital Request : Financial Summary/Information		
FUNDING SOURCE	2026	
Capital Request	-	<u>\$100,000.00</u>
Federal Funding	STBG LG URB 80% (reimbursable)	\$80,000
COUNTY FUNDING REQUESTED		\$20,000.00
Notes: This is a multi-year project funded in phases. 2025 was design, 2026 is right-of-way acquisition and 2027 is construction with a total project cost of \$2,900,000.00		



Capital Request # 2026-015

REQUEST INFORMATION:

DEPARTMENT: Planning, Development and Public Transportation

REQUESTER: Barbara Barosa, Commissioner

STATUS: _____

Description of Project or Purchase: Transit Section 5307 Funds



The Urbanized Area Formula Funding program (49 U.S.C. 5307) makes federal resources available to recipients for transit capital and operating assistance and transportation-related planning in urbanized areas. Eligible activities include: planning, engineering, design and evaluation of transit projects and other technical transportation-related studies; capital investments in bus and bus-related activities such as replacement, overhaul and rebuilding of buses, crime prevention and security equipment and construction of maintenance and passenger facilities; and capital investments in new and existing fixed guideway systems including rolling stock, overhaul and rebuilding of vehicles, station infrastructure, track, signals, communications, and computer hardware and software. In addition, associated transit improvements, workforce development activities, and certain expenses associated with mobility management programs are eligible under the program. For urbanized areas with populations less than

200,000, operating assistance is an eligible expense.

Description of program impacted by capital request:

5307 funds support the County for transit capital and operating assistance and transportation related planning.

Capital Request : Financial Summary/Information		
FUNDING SOURCE		2026
<u>Capital Request</u>		<u>\$1,500,000.00</u>
Federal	Section 5307	
	80%	\$1,200,000.00
State	NYS DOT	
	10%	\$150,000.00
COUNTY FUNDING REQUESTED		\$150,000.00



Capital Request # 2026-016

REQUEST INFORMATION:

DEPARTMENT: General Services

REQUESTER: John Tully, Commissioner

STATUS: _____

Description of Project or Purchase: Light Duty Emergency Vehicles



The Sheriff's Department and the Bureau of Emergency Services are each in need of a pickup truck to replace two that will be taken out of service due to age/condition.

Description of program impacted by capital request:

The Sheriff's Dept and the Bureau of Emergency Services need fleet vehicles to replace aging fleet.

Capital Request : Financial Summary/Information	
FUNDING SOURCE	2026
Capital Request	\$170,000
COUNTY FUNDING REQUESTED	\$170,000.00
Potential BOES grant funding	



Capital Request # 2026-017

REQUEST INFORMATION:

DEPARTMENT: Planning, Development and Public Transportation

REQUESTER: Barbara Barosa, Commissioner

STATUS: _____

Description of Project or Purchase: EI/Pre-K Buses



This funding would be used to purchase three additional Early Intervention/Pre-K buses. Enrollment is expected to increase beyond the vehicle resources available currently. New buses are needed to fulfill the County's obligations to this program.

Description of program impacted by capital request:

Additional Early Intervention/Pre-K buses are needed to meet growing demand.

Capital Request: Financial Summary/Information	
FUNDING SOURCE	2026
Capital Request	\$350,000.00
COUNTY FUNDING REQUESTED	\$350,000.00



Capital Request # 2026-018

REQUEST INFORMATION:

DEPARTMENT: Office for Senior Resources

REQUESTER: Marlene Barrett, Director

STATUS: _____

Description of Project or Purchase: Office for Senior Resources Buses



This request is to replace two buses that will be nearly 10 years old and have accumulated high mileage by their projected replacement. This replacement is part of a long-term fleet management plan aimed at phasing out aging vehicles to maintain safety, reliability, and efficiency in service. These buses will directly benefit older adults in the community who participate in programs offered through the OSR Friendship Centers, as it will help ensure continued access to safe and reliable transportation.

Description of program impacted by capital request:

New buses are needed to replace aging fleet in order to ensure continuity of services.

Capital Request : Financial Summary/Information	
FUNDING SOURCE	2026
Capital Request	\$250,000.00
COUNTY FUNDING REQUESTED	\$250,000.00
Potential offset through 5310	



Capital Request # 2026-019

REQUEST INFORMATION:

DEPARTMENT: Planning, Development & Public Transportation and Tourism

REQUESTER: Barbara Barosa, Commissioner and Tara Keegan, Director

STATUS: _____

Description of Project or Purchase: Event Shuttle



The trolley and bus currently being used as shuttles for Tourism and for special events are both aging and in poor condition. It is anticipated that one or both will need to be removed from service within the next year. This funding being requested is for a new, single shuttle to replace the aging ones currently being used.

Description of program impacted by capital request:

A new shuttle is needed for Tourism and special events throughout the County.

Capital Request : Financial Summary/Information	
FUNDING SOURCE	2026
Capital Request	\$130,000
COUNTY FUNDING REQUESTED	\$130,000
\$65,000 state tourism grant will offset half the cost, if received. Additionally, Purchasing is working on an RFP for on call shuttle	



Capital Request # 2027-XXX

REQUEST INFORMATION:

DEPARTMENT: Public Works

REQUESTER:: Thomas Feighery, Commissioner

STATUS: _____

Description of Project or Purchase: PIN TBD—Hill St @ Route 6N Intersection Reconstruction



This is a Federally funded project (PIN TBD) will provide safer access through the intersection. This project will also include stormwater runoff mitigation.

Description of program impacted by capital request:

PIN TBD—Hill St @ Route 6N Intersection Reconstruction

Capital Request : Financial Summary/Information		
FUNDING SOURCE		2027
Capital Request		<u>\$1,743,750.00</u>
Federal Funding	STBG LG URB 80% (reimbursable)	\$1,395,00,000
COUNTY FUNDING REQUESTED		\$348,750.00
Notes: This is a multi-year project funded in phases. 2027 is for design, 2028 is for ROW and 2030 is for construction. Total		



Capital Request # 2028-XXX

REQUEST INFORMATION:

DEPARTMENT: Public Works

REQUESTER:: Thomas Feighery, Commissioner

STATUS: _____

Description of Project or Purchase: PIN TBD—Haviland Hollow Rd at Route 22 Intersection Improvements



This is a Federally funded project (PIN TBD) This project at the intersections of Haviland Hollow Road/ NYS Route 22 and Haviland Hollow Road/ East Branch Road will provide safer passage through the intersections, include a turning lane onto Rt 22, and modernized signalization.

Description of program impacted by capital request:

PIN TBD—Haviland Hollow Road at Route 22 Intersection Improvements

Capital Request : Financial Summary/Information		
FUNDING SOURCE		2028
Capital Request		<u>\$1,912,500.00</u>
Federal Funding	CMAQ 80% (reimbursable)	\$1,530,00,000
COUNTY FUNDING REQUESTED		\$382,500.00
Notes: This is a multi-year project funded in phases. 2028 is for design, 2029 is for ROW and 2030 is for construction. Total		



Capital Request # 2028-XXX

REQUEST INFORMATION:

DEPARTMENT: Public Works

REQUESTER:: Thomas Feighery, Commissioner

STATUS: _____

Description of Project or Purchase: PIN TBD—Simpson Road at Route 6 Intersection Improvements



This is a Federally funded project (PIN TBD) This project at the intersection of John Simpson Road and NYS Route 6 will create a right-hand turning lane onto Route 6 and improve the signalization.

Description of program impacted by capital request:

PIN TBD—Simpson Road at Route 6 Intersection Improvements

Capital Request : Financial Summary/Information		
FUNDING SOURCE		2028
Capital Request	-	<u>\$1,150,000.00</u>
Federal Funding	CMAQ 80% (reimbursable)	\$920,000.00
COUNTY FUNDING REQUESTED		\$230,000.00
Notes: This is a multi-year project funded in phases. 2028 is for design, 2029 is for ROW and 2030 is for construction. Total		



Capital Request # 2028-XXX

REQUEST INFORMATION:

DEPARTMENT: Public Works

REQUESTER:: Thomas Feighery, Commissioner

STATUS: _____

Description of Project or Purchase: PIN TBD—Ludingtonville Rd Reconstruction & Resiliency Improvements



This is a Federally funded project (PIN TBD) This project limits are from the I84 interchange to the intersection of NYS Route 311. The project includes pavement restoration, road shoulder construction, bank stabilization, and drainage system upgrades where required along the project limits.

Description of program impacted by capital request:

PIN TBD—Ludingtonville Rd Reconstruction & Resiliency Improvements

Capital Request : Financial Summary/Information		
FUNDING SOURCE		2028
Capital Request		<u>\$3,500,000.00</u>
Federal Funding	STBG LG URB 80% (reimbursable)	\$2,800,000.00
COUNTY FUNDING REQUESTED		\$700,000.00
Notes: This is a multi-year project funded in phases. 2028 is for design, 2029 is for ROW and 2030 is for construction. Total		



Capital Request # 2026-020

REQUEST INFORMATION:

DEPARTMENT: Public Works

REQUESTER: Thomas Feighery, Commissioner

STATUS: _____

Description of Project or Purchase: Highway Equipment



This program is for the funding of needed equipment for the Department of Public Works (DPW) operations, including, but not limited to: Dump trucks, heavy equipment, pickups, mowers, paving equipment, tractors.

Description of program impacted by capital request:

This is a continued, programmatic effort to replace aging equipment and to acquire new to keep the DPW fleet in a state of good repair and to ensure efficient operations.

Capital Request : Financial Summary/Information	
FUNDING SOURCE	2026
Capital Request	\$750,000.00
COUNTY FUNDING REQUESTED	\$750,000.00
Notes: This is a multi-year program for highway equipment	

2026 Capital Projects Committee Budget Meeting Minutes

August 20, 2025

County Executive's Office Conference Room

3:00 pm

1. Pledge of Allegiance

- a. Amy Sayegh, Chairwoman of the Legislature, at the request of County Executive Byrne, led the Committee and others in attendance in the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. Roll Call Committee members

Kevin Byrne, County Executive, Chairman
William Carlin, Commissioner of Finance, Vice Chairman
John Tully, Commissioner, Department of General Services
Thomas Feighery, Commissioner, Department of Public Works
Barbara Barosa, Commissioner, Planning, Development and Public Transportation
Amy Sayegh, Chairwoman, Putnam County Legislature
Greg Ellner, Legislator
Nancy Montgomery, Legislator

Also in attendance:

Michele Alfano-Sharkey, County Auditor
Diane Schonfeld, Clerk, Putnam County Legislature
Thomas Lannon, Director of IT & GIS
John Cherico, First Deputy County Attorney
Dain Pascocello, Chief of Staff
Jennifer Caruso, Director of Compliance & Intergovernmental Relations
Joseph Bellucci, Deputy Commissioner, Department of Public Works (remote)
Alexis Hawley, Supervisor of Planning & Design, Department of General Services

3. Opening remarks – County Executive

The County Executive referenced the Charter requirements for the Capital Committee Budget Meeting. The meeting was then handed over to Commissioner Feighery to review the status of projects approved in the 2025 Capital Budget.

4. Accomplishments YTD – Commissioner Feighery

Commissioner Feighery discussed several 2025 Capital budget approved projects and their progress YTD, including infrastructure projects, facilities projects and equipment purchases.

5. Grant Applications Review – Commissioner Barosa

Commissioner Barosa reviewed the various Federal and State grants received, pending and yet to be applied for and what their financial impacts to the 2026 Capital projects will or could be.

6. Financial Overview – Commissioner Carlin

Commissioner Carlin discussed the golf course bond resolution to call the bonds and its potential impacts to the County's future decisions regarding the golf course.

7. Proposed Capital Projects FY2025

The County Executive requested that voting be done by consent, consistent with how it was done at the 2025 Capital Projects Committee budget meeting in which a motion is made, seconded and then, if there are no objections, the motion passes by consent. The Committee concurred with this approach.

The following projects were individually introduced and put forth to the Committee by the County Executive.

a. Facilities

i. 2026-001 Capital Reserve – minor renovations

Project introduced. Discussion ensued. Commissioner Feighery stated that the Capital Reserve is critical to DPW operations. The funding allows DPW to continue to address ongoing repairs and upgrades to County facilities including flooring, sidewalks, HVAC, doors, etc. It also allows them to address other needs as they arise throughout the year including the upcoming REV250 preparations. Legislative Chairwoman Sayegh inquired about drinking water for all County facilities. The County Executive indicated that the County is reviewing this endeavor outside of the Capital Program. Motion made by Commissioner Carlin. Seconded by Commissioner Barosa. Approved by consent.

ii. 2026-002 Programmatic Generator Replacement Program

Project introduced. Discussion ensued. Legislator Ellner inquired about the adequacy of funding. Commissioner Feighery indicated it was adequate as some generators may just be upgraded in lieu of being replaced. A motion was made by Legislator Ellner to amend the name of the program to "Programmatic Generator *Upgrade* and Replacement Program". Seconded by Commissioner Tully. Legislator Montgomery asked about removing the golf course generator from the program until a determination is made about the future of the golf course operations. Discussion ensued. Motion to approve program as presented made by Commissioner Tully. Seconded by Legislative Chairwoman Sayegh. Approved by consent.

- iii. **2026-003 Programmatic Facilities Parking Lot Improvements**
Project introduced. Discussion ensued. Motion made by Commissioner Carlin. Seconded by Commissioner Barosa. Approved by consent.
- iv. **2026-004 Programmatic ADA Improvements various county facilities**
Project introduced. Discussion ensued. Motion made by Legislative Chairwoman Sayegh. Seconded by Commissioner Tully. Approved by consent.
- v. **2026-005 DBS Campus bldg. 2 & 3 window replacements**
Project introduced. Discussion ensued. Motion made by Commissioner Carlin. Seconded by Legislator Montgomery. Approved by consent.
- vi. **2026-006 DBS Campus Parking Lot Improvements**
Project introduced. Discussion ensued. Commissioner Carlin stated this project along with projects 2026-007, 2026-008 and 2026-009 are proposed to be funded through bonding but that this may change pursuant to a review of the 2025 fiscal year finances. Motion made by Commissioner Carlin. Seconded by Commissioner Barosa. Approved by consent.
- vii. **2026-007 Kern Building Exterior Renovations**
Project introduced. Discussion ensued. Motion made by Legislative Chairwoman Sayegh. Seconded by Legislator Montgomery. Approved by consent.
- viii. **2026-008 DSS Security Improvements**
Project introduced. Discussion ensued. Motion made by Commissioner Tully. Seconded by Legislator Montgomery. Approved by consent.
- ix. **2026-009 Camp Herrlich Schweiger Hall Renovation**
Project introduced. Discussion ensued. Legislator Ellner inquired about razing the building in lieu of renovating. Legislator Ellner said that the building is a County structure and that we should consider constructing a new building. Commissioner Feighery explained that the Camp wishes to keep Schweiger Hall to maintain the current traditional camp atmosphere. Commissioner Feighery stated that renovating Schweiger Hall is a viable option and that the County's funding commitment would be capped. The County Executive stated that this funding request is consistent with that put forth to the Legislature last year using ARPA funding. The Camp would be required to fund any expenses exceeding the County's commitment. Motion made by Commissioner Carlin. Seconded by Legislator Montgomery. Approved by consent.
- x. **TBD-RFP Cart Storage Barn & Maintenance Facility - Construction**
The County Executive stated that this was included on the agenda for discussion and not for a vote as a formal project and request for funding are not being put forth. Commissioner Tully talked about the potential upcoming capital commitments at the golf course and how that may be impacted by calling the bonds and putting forth a new RFP for golf course operations. Discussion ensued.

b. Environmental

i. 2026-010 Repairs & Improvements to Various Dams

Project introduced. Discussion ensued. Motion made by Commissioner Carlin. Seconded by Legislative Chairwoman Sayegh. Approved by consent.

c. Transportation

i. 2026-011 Programmatic Repair & Replacement of Various Bridges & Culverts/BRIDGENY Program Local Match

Project introduced. Discussion ensued. Motion made by Commissioner Tully. Seconded by Legislator Ellner. Approved by consent.

ii. 2026-012 Programmatic Pavement Maintenance & Rehabilitation

Project introduced. Discussion ensued. Motion made by Commissioner Carlin. Seconded by Legislative Chairwoman Sayegh. Approved by consent.

iii. 2026-013 CHIPS - Eligible Equipment & Highway Infrastructure

Project introduced. Discussion ensued. Motion made by Commissioner Tully. Seconded by Legislator Ellner. Approved by consent.

iv. 2026-014 PIN 8762.97 – Culvert Replacement Program

Project introduced. Discussion ensued. Motion made by Commissioner Tully. Seconded by Legislative Chairwoman Sayegh. Approved by consent.

v. 2026-015 Transit section 5307 funds

Project introduced. Discussion ensued. Motion made by Legislator Montgomery. Seconded by Legislative Chairwoman Sayegh. Approved by consent.

vi. 2026-016 Light Duty Emergency Vehicles

Project introduced. Discussion ensued. Motion made by Legislator Montgomery. Seconded by Commissioner Carlin. Approved by consent.

vii. 2026-017 EI/Pre-k Buses

Project introduced. Discussion ensued. Motion made by Commissioner Carlin. Seconded by Commissioner Tully. Approved by consent.

viii. 2026-018 Office for Senior Resources Buses

Project introduced. Discussion ensued. Motion made by Commissioner Carlin. Seconded by Legislative Chairwoman Sayegh. Approved by consent.

ix. 2026-019 Planning Department/Tourism Event Shuttle

Project introduced. Discussion ensued. Motion made by Commissioner Carlin. Seconded by Commissioner Tully. Approved by consent.

d. Equipment

i. 2026-020 Highway Equipment

Project introduced. Discussion ensued. Motion made by Commissioner Carlin. Seconded by Commissioner Tully. Approved by consent.

8. Other business

The Committee then proceeded to review and vote on the Capital projects proposed for years 2026 – 2031.

a. Historic Courthouse Roof Replacement (Proposed in 2027)

Project introduced. Discussion ensued. Motion made by Commissioner Tully. Seconded by Commissioner Carlin. Approved by consent.

b. Donald B Smith Campus Building 3 Interior Renovations (Proposed in 2027)

Project introduced. Discussion ensued. Motion made by Commissioner Tully. Seconded by Commissioner Feighery. Approved by consent.

c. PIN 8763.77 – Hill St @ Route 6N Intersection Reconstruction (Proposed in 2027)

Project introduced. Discussion ensued. Motion made by Legislative Chairwoman Sayegh. Seconded by Commissioner Barosa. Approved by consent.

d. PIN 8763.78 – Haviland Hollow Rd @ Route 22 Intersection Improvements (Proposed in 2028)

Project introduced. Discussion ensued. Motion made by Commissioner Carlin. Seconded by Commissioner Feighery. Approved by consent.

e. PIN 8763.79 – Simpson Rd @ Route 6 Intersection Improvements (Proposed in 2028)

Project introduced. Discussion ensued. Motion made by Legislator Ellner. Seconded by Commissioner Carlin. Approved by consent.

f. PIN 8763.80 – Ludingtonville Rd Reconstruction & Resiliency Improvements (Proposed in 2028)

Project introduced. Discussion ensued. Motion made by Legislator Ellner. Seconded by Legislative Chairwoman Sayegh. Approved by consent.

9. Adjournment

Prior to adjournment, the County Executive suggested that the 2027 Capital Projects Committee Budget Meeting be livestreamed, consistent with other County meetings that are now being livestreamed.

Motion to adjourn made by Commissioner Barosa at 4:42 pm. Seconded by Legislative Chairwoman Sayegh. Approved by consent.



Putnam County Executive Kevin Byrne

2026 Executive Budget Presentation

Good afternoon. As is required by Section 7 of the Putnam County Charter, earlier I submitted to the legislative clerk our Administration's proposed executive budget also known as the county's tentative budget for the Fiscal Year 2026.

Chairwoman Sayegh, members of the Legislature, thank you for scheduling this legislative meeting. To those watching remotely, I appreciate you tuning in. To everyone here in-person, many of whom are our remarkable department heads and county employees, thank you for being here and for being the dedicated public servants our community deserves.

Later this evening marks the beginning of Yom Kippur, the holiest day of the year in the Jewish faith. To our Jewish friends and neighbors who may be joining us here or on the livestream, thank you. Your presence means a great deal.

Before we dive into the details of this year's budget, I must start by recognizing a truly special group of individuals... our team at the Finance Department.

As many of you know, not too long ago our longtime Commissioner of Finance, Bill Carlin, retired after decades of distinguished service to Putnam County. But this year, when the call came, Bill answered. He came out of retirement to step up and once again serve the people of Putnam County as our Finance Commissioner. That alone speaks volumes about his commitment to this county, and his sense of duty.

Commissioner Carlin has been a steady hand, a trusted advisor, and someone I deeply value not just for his institutional knowledge but for his integrity and unwavering dedication to the taxpayers of Putnam.

Of course, Bill does not do this work alone. His deputies, Sheila Barrett and Alex Gordon, along with the entire finance team, worked tirelessly over the past several months to assist in

preparing this budget. Their expertise, professionalism, and long hours behind the scenes are the reason this process moves forward with transparency, accountability, and precision.

So today, I'd like to ask Commissioner Carlin, Deputy Commissioner Barrett, Deputy Commissioner Gordon, and every member of the Finance Department here with us to please stand and be recognized. Please join me in giving them a round of applause for their extraordinary service.

Additionally, I'd like to give special recognition to the remarkable team in our Executive Office who have been instrumental during this year's budget process. Deputy County Executive Jim Burpoe, Chief of Staff Dain Pascocello, Confidential Secretary Lisa Ranghelli, Communications Director Chris Formisano, Director of Compliance Jennifer Caruso, and our ace in the hole who chips in where and when she can, Barbara Reitz. Thank you all.

Our goals with this budget, and indeed with every budget, remain the same: to provide our residents with a more affordable, accountable, accessible and active county government that serves us all.

We know all too well the challenges our families face. While inflation is finally beginning to flatten out, costs of goods and services remain painful for residents. Prices at the pump and groceries are still expensive. The cost of energy continues to rise, with proposed rate hikes looming before the state's Public Service Commission. The purchase of a new home remains at an all-time high, with the average age of first-time homebuyers now 38 years old. Everything stretches household budgets thin.

And then there is the crushing weight of New York State's tax climate. I've shared these metrics before, but sadly, our state's position has not improved. The Tax Foundation's 2025 State Business Tax Climate Index ranks New York dead last, 50th out of all states. This is actually worse than previous years when we ranked 49th (just above New Jersey), but alas, we've sank as low as we can go. And similarly, the "Rich States, Poor States" report once again places New York at the very bottom, ranked 50th for economic outlook.

These are sobering reminders of what it means to live, work, and do business in our state. They are also reminders of why it is so important that county government does what it can, no matter how modest it may appear, to relieve some of that burden.

And we've worked to do just that.

When costs were climbing, we made the decision to cut taxes in the budget for the first time in 25 years. We held the property tax levy flat, and cut the rate to its lowest level in eighteen years. We eliminated all county sales tax on clothing and footwear under \$110 making it less regressive and providing meaningful relief to those most affected from inflation. We also took a

hard look at our own operations. From consolidating and centralizing purchasing across departments to putting delinquent foreclosed properties back on the tax rolls, this Administration has consistently found ways to maximize the value of a dollar, and further protect taxpayers. We've managed to do all of this without having to sacrifice services or neglect our hard-working public employees.

When interest rates skyrocketed, we chose a different path; responsibly using our capital reserve fund to finance major projects instead of relying on more costly borrowing.

That decision continues to save us millions in future interest payments and is accounted for in this proposed budget. It also maintains our strong financial condition, which reflects positively on our county's AA1 bond rating from Moody's.

To date, this Administration, working with the Legislature, has already drastically reduced the county's debt. When we took office in 2023, the County was in a strong financial position but also had a Long Term Debt of over \$51 million. This budget includes a large expenditure to pay off the bonds associated with the County Golf Course. And if we continue forward with our successful practice of limiting new borrowing, the County will have a projected Long Term Debt of \$ 21.6 million by the end of next year.

This dramatic decrease in debt - \$29.4 million, a 58% decrease - demonstrates our commitment to fiscal responsibility, while providing needed services without saddling future generations with more debt.

We've also seized opportunities to stretch dollars further by using our own talented workforce. In more recent years, the Department of Public Works (DPW) supported major facility renovations with its team in-house. Look no further than major improvements to the future homes of the Youth Bureau and Cornell Cooperative Extension at Tilly Foster Farm. By leveraging the skills and expertise of our own crews, we are helping to deliver a product that residents can be proud of. That's in addition to the tremendous work they do supervising our licensed contractors to strengthen our infrastructure. The Peekskill Hollow Road project, a nightmare we had inherited with no work being done when we took office, is now completed. The long talked about Sprout Brook Bridge project in Continental Village—as recently as last week, now completed. The new Lt. Michel Neuner Fire & EMS Training Facility, serving all our local emergency service agencies, now completed and in use. Visitors can see major progress at Veterans Memorial Park, where we are building a new Veterans Museum. And importantly, new ADA improvements including curb cuts, a handicap ramp, handicap bathrooms, complimented by a new courtyard patio outside the County Office Building... all completed and in use.

TAX POLICY & AFFORDABILITY

Time and again, we have led by demonstrating how smart, disciplined management can stretch taxpayer dollars further, deliver meaningful relief, and keep Putnam County on strong financial footing. And as proud as I am of those accomplishments, this year, as I promised in my State of the County Address back in March, we go even further.

Today, I am proud to announce that this budget delivers the largest property tax cut in Putnam County history.

Last year, we continued all our previous tax cuts, kept the levy flat, and cut the property tax rate to its lowest level in 18 years. This year, we're not just holding the line—we're doing more.

With this budget, we are providing a record One Million Dollar cut to the property tax levy; the most significant property tax cut in Putnam County history— by far.

This tax cut will slash the rate to 2.39, the lowest property tax rate since 2007.

In this budget, we are collecting approximately \$45 million from the County's property tax levy, and our team is projecting an estimated \$83.5 million in sales tax revenue. That number could have been devastatingly smaller if not for the historic compromise forged between this Administration, our State Legislators, local supervisors, mayors, highway superintendents, and this county legislature to preserve our long-established sales tax rate and share sales tax revenue with local municipalities.

After removing administrative chargebacks that are tracked for full transparency of department spending, our financial plan for FY2026 comes together to form a \$221.7 million budget. It is a substantial number, but importantly, Putnam County remains the lowest spending per capita when compared to other Hudson Valley counties.

This figure is driven by factors that are outside of our control including inflation, energy costs, and unfunded mandates. It also includes the cost to delivering on commitments previously made by members of this Legislature as well as this Administration. We're budgeting for overdue adjustments to employee salaries and benefits, increases in the County's public insurance premiums, a record number of mandated 730 cases in social services, two new school resource officers, and the aforementioned sales tax revenue distribution to towns and villages which by itself accounts for over \$2 million in new spending. Perhaps most notably though, is a \$4.7 million expense to finally pay down the remaining debt from acquiring the County Golf Course back in 2004. By taking bold steps to pay off this debt now, Putnam County will save hundreds of thousands of dollars in future interest payments, while simultaneously freeing itself of the cumbersome federal restrictions associated with these bonds— enabling the county to

enter into more favorable, commercial style contracts with its vendors in the future- a benefit to both county taxpayers and transparency.

While we have managed to account for all of these, each one represents a significant new increase in our budget.

HISTORIC COMPROMISE

This budget, our county's fiscal future, really is built on the foundation of the historic compromise with local leaders to keep our existing sales tax rate, and share a portion of revenue with towns and villages. Had we not reached a consensus and acted as we did, Putnam County would have turned away over \$21 million in sales tax revenue, which would have forced us to raise property taxes, cut services, and excessively rely on our fund balance. But we avoided this crisis scenario. We forged a compromise. And we created a path forward that benefits every resident, every town, every village. We're delivering on the promise of the largest property tax cut in Putnam County history, and keeping these dollars in Putnam County to support local capital projects and improvements further incentivizing economic development and growth—all while relying less on property taxes from our homeowners.

Under this agreement, 1/9th of the county's 1% sales tax extension, symbolic of our six towns and three villages, will be distributed back to municipalities, with each guaranteed a minimum of \$50,000 annually.

This was a team effort. For all those involved, and to all who ultimately supported it— even if it wasn't your first choice — thank you. You deserve a round of applause.

It wasn't easy getting this done. It required hard conversations. But in the end the product was one that provided tax relief where it matters, and the largest property tax cut in County history.

I'd like to again thank the mayors and supervisors who stood united in support of the sales tax plan that helped make this possible. And I especially want to extend my gratitude to our partners in the State Legislature; Senator Peter Harckham, Senator Rob Rolison, Assemblyman Matt Slater, and Assemblywoman Dana Levenberg. Our representatives worked across party lines to ensure the enabling state legislation became law. Without them, this moment would not have been possible.

By partnering with our towns and villages, who help drive and approve economic development projects, and by keeping the sales tax rate flat at the same competitive rate it has been for years, we can reduce our dependence on property taxes. That's how we provide tax relief where it matters, at the local level, where families and individuals feel it directly.

Looking ahead, our sales tax revenue projections account for something else important: extending the county's sales tax exemption on clothing and footwear under \$110. Originally set to expire in March of 2026, with this budget, I am asking the Legislature to support our proposal to extend that exemption for another full fiscal year, through March of 2027. This has provided real relief for residents, especially working families with growing children who shop online or in Putnam County. As I've said before, this kind of sales tax is particularly regressive. It disproportionately impacts those who can least afford it. Eliminating it ensures that a new pair of shoes, a winter coat, or back-to-school clothes doesn't come with an added financial penalty from government. Members of this Legislature embraced this initiative in 2023, and I ask them to do so again. It's a small step, but for families already stretched thin during hard economic times, it matters a great deal.

SAVINGS / Think Differently

Of course, tax relief like this doesn't happen by accident. It happens because of disciplined choices, smart management, and a willingness to think differently. Nowhere is this more true than in our new Putnam County Early Learning Center; a *ThinkDIFFERENTLY* initiative that I first announced in my State of the County Address back in March. *ThinkDIFFERENTLY* is a movement to change the way individuals, businesses, and governments think about and treat people of every ability, including those with intellectual and developmental needs.

By government standards, the idea of announcing something in early spring and having it successfully open its doors by September is nothing short of miraculous. Some people doubted it could be done. But we proved the naysayers wrong and accomplished something truly special.

Along the way, we faced some setbacks that included miles of bureaucratic red tape, ill-conceived opposition, and of course, a devastating storm in July that damaged the future site in Patterson. Mother Nature herself tested our resolve. But we persevered.

Together, we moved forward with the original plan of utilizing Community Based Services' temporary space for this fall semester and found a path forward for the future, working around the clock to make sure this school would open on time for our children and families. And it did.

This September, the doors opened to Putnam County's first-ever combined special needs and pre-K center for early learning. Today, students are learning in a safe, welcoming environment, and we have the capacity to grow. Families who once had to put their children on exhausting, hours long bus rides outside the county now have access to quality early education closer to home. Taxpayers, too, will benefit, with hundreds of thousands of dollars in savings in avoided transportation costs.

This success would not have been possible without our partners at Community Based Services. They opened their doors, gave up their own office space to house this center of learning, and continue to provide outstanding services and programming for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Their generosity and partnership turned this vision into a reality.

It was a true team effort across many levels of government. A huge thank-you goes to Senator Harckham and his office, who helped us cut through the state's red tape, and to Supervisor Rich Williams and the Town of Patterson, who worked hard right up to the last hour to make this project possible. But the most praise belongs to our team in the Health Department. Director Rian Rodriguez, Shanna Seigel, and of course, Valerie Kurtz worked tirelessly to champion this initiative and work every step of the way to make this happen. They never lost sight of the children and families this would serve, and their persistence is the reason this dream is now a reality.

This is what it looks like to *think differently*, when we refuse to let obstacles stop us, when we put the needs of children and families first, and when we explore new opportunities to save taxpayer money.

Another example of successfully looking for saving is in the creation of our Department of General Services, which we established last year by merging Purchasing, Central Services and Information Technology into one streamlined department. Under this Administration, these divisions already worked hand in hand every day, and by consolidating them, we made county government more efficient and more accountable.

Since taking the reins, Commissioner John Tully has led the charge to find savings wherever possible. He's been negotiating stronger contracts, driving down costs through more comprehensive competitive bidding, and securing rebates that in the past had been inadvertently left on the table. For example, by negotiating down the cost from large proposals on micro-transit and jail medical services, DGS has already secured over \$500,000 in long-term savings. Commissioner Tully is also responsible for a major shift in how the county manages its fleet of vehicles. Instead of purchasing cars outright — which have heavy upfront costs and mounting maintenance expenses as they age — we've moved to a leasing model. This approach provides our employees with more reliable, safe vehicles while saving taxpayer dollars year after year.

That's in addition to the hard work of our Information and Technology Division at DGS led by Director Tom Lannon who, after many years of work, completed the programming and distribution of radios acquired by the County to support not only our county agencies, but local fire, EMS and police agencies as well. Putnam County did this because it could, and it was the

right thing to do. Over \$2.2 million were spent to distribute over 400 radios to 4 local police departments, 13 fire agencies, and 5 EMS agencies with the vast majority of the programming being done in-house by county personnel— another savings to taxpayers by lifting this burden off of our local governments.

This type of work may not grab flashy headlines, but it makes a real difference.

Another example of how we are thinking differently is in the delivery of lifesaving medical services to our most vulnerable residents. Back in 2023, we entered into a new contract for countywide Advanced Life Support services. That contract sets Putnam County apart from most counties across the state. Years ago, Putnam was the first county government in New York to directly fund countywide paramedic services, sparing our towns and villages from shouldering that enormous financial burden, now, over \$3 million dollars a year. It was the right thing to do, and has been a vital service for our residents. That said, we know we can improve upon the current system. That is why we are updating our current contract to launch a Community Paramedicine pilot program. Community Paramedicine takes paramedics out of the traditional “respond and transport” model and empowers them to serve in expanded roles. These professionals will assist with public health, primary care, and preventive services right in people’s homes, especially for our seniors, homebound residents, and those struggling with chronic conditions. That means fewer unnecessary emergency calls and fewer costly ER visits which not only equates to savings for taxpayers, but a better quality of life for our residents. Services could include things like wound care, medication adjustments, blood draws, even telehealth consultations and fall prevention efforts. It’s about meeting residents where they are, literally at their doorsteps, to provide the care they need before a crisis ever occurs. It’s about ensuring that no matter your age, income, or circumstance, you can count on Putnam County to have your back. And it’s worth noting that this program already has the full support of Putnam County’s EMS Council.

Another area where we’ve embraced innovation is in public transit. Earlier this year, we launched Putnam On-Demand, the Hudson Valley’s first-ever demand-response micro transit system. Instead of running an underutilized, inefficient fixed bus route, we introduced a flexible, app-based service where residents can book rides through an app or by calling in. All for just \$2.50, or \$1.25 for seniors and students. The results speak for themselves. In just a few months, ridership has more than doubled while our cost per ride has been cut in half. This service connects people to where they need to go; Metro-North stations, shopping centers, schools, medical appointments, and the County Clerk’s office to name a few. And with two wheelchair-accessible vans already in the fleet serving as both ride-hailing and paratransit options. This

program has already quickly gained recognition, even beyond our borders. Last month, Hudson Valley Pattern for Progress honored Putnam On-Demand with its prestigious “Progress in Action” Award at their 60th anniversary celebration. That award affirms what we already know: smart planning and innovation can deliver a better product for our residents while saving taxpayers money.

But this is just the beginning. We already are set to conduct a countywide public transit study which I believe will ultimately yield the results we need to expand On-Demand service to other parts of Putnam County. That study is key to bringing such a plan to the federal government to secure transit funding which would assist in covering the cost of a true countywide on-demand transit option. And we know we already have friends at the Federal Transit Administration. Look no further than the FTA’s newest Administrator Marc Molinaro, who attended our State of the County presentation at Ace Endico earlier this year.

With Putnam On-Demand, we’ve shown that we can take a broken system, replace it with something modern and efficient, and improve quality of life for residents.

RECRUITMENT, RETENTION & RETIREMENT

Of course, none of these successes would be possible without the people who make county government run every single day; our county employees. That’s why this Administration has made it a priority not just to recruit new talent, but to retain and support the dedicated employees who serve our residents. Over the past two years, we’ve taken real steps to show our employees that they are valued. We reinstated the Employee Recognition program to celebrate excellence and dedication. We’ve made record investments to upgrade work facilities, ensuring our employees have safe, modern spaces to do their jobs. And we reached long-term labor agreements by finalizing multi-year contracts with all four of our collective bargaining units, giving employees confidence while protecting taxpayers with sustainable agreements.

We’ve also worked to make county employment more competitive. Most recently for our newer employees, I successfully negotiated reduced health insurance contribution costs in all labor contracts, easing one of the largest cost burdens for our employees. I’d like to thank all the members of the advisory committee who worked diligently to present their findings to me which ultimately led to my decision and proposal presently before the Legislature. Thank you to Chris York, Bill Carlin, Jim Burpoe, Shanna Siegel, Cindy Trimble, and Pat Sheehy. We now have Memorandums of Agreement signed and agreed to by each labor unit, me, and in the cases of the PBA and PCSEA, Acting Sheriff Brian Hess. This proposal is before the Legislature for its consideration and is reflected in this budget.

Earlier this year, Putnam County also funded an independent salary study across departments to ensure pay scales reflect market realities. That study recommended a series of salary adjustments to help us stay competitive with neighboring counties, so we can attract and retain the best talent possible. This was overdue, but leaders take care of their team first. It was important to me as County Executive, that this study be completed, including a review of positions for management and elected officials, but only after all labor contracts were settled. That's precisely what this Administration did.

When we have a competent, engaged workforce, our residents receive better service. From 911 dispatchers to highway crews, to caseworkers, nurses, and every person in between, it's our public employees who turn our policies into reality. Investing in them isn't just the right thing to do, it's the smart thing to do. And it's how we ensure that the work we've talked about today, whether it's the Early Learning Center, or Putnam On-Demand, is delivered with excellence and pride.

For decades, our workforce has been bolstered by two individuals who are here today; Bob Lipton and Paul Eldridge.

Soon, Bob Lipton, our Commissioner of the Bureau of Emergency Services, will retire after more than a decade of service to Putnam County. Commissioner Lipton has been a selfless first responder and leader during storms, wildfires, earthquakes and more. He has worked to modernize our emergency response systems, strengthen coordination among our first responders, and keep our residents safe. His steady leadership and calm demeanor have made all the difference during some of the toughest moments we have faced as a county. Bob will be sorely missed, but his legacy will live on in the strength of the department he leaves behind.

We are also preparing to say farewell to one of Putnam County's longest serving public servants. Personnel Director Paul Eldridge who will be retiring early next year. He is the most senior department head in our county government, the most senior county employee, and a man whose experience and knowledge are unmatched anywhere in New York. Paul is more than just a department head. He is a legend among his colleagues across the state. Over his decades of service, he has been a mentor, a counselor, and a steady hand guiding Putnam County through times of change.

Paul even briefly served as Putnam County's fourth County Executive and currently serves on the Board of Ethics, bringing the same integrity and wisdom to those roles that he has shown throughout his career. His breadth of experience, his institutional memory, and his dedication to public service have made him an invaluable resource not only for this Administration, but for every administration before it.

Bob and Paul represent the very best of public service. They have given their careers to this county, and on behalf of a grateful community, I want to say thank you. Putnam County is stronger, safer, and better because of your service.

MENTAL HEALTH

The health and safety of our employees will always be paramount. As is the health of our residents. And so, another priority we continue to advance, and one that I believe is critical for the future of this county, is the creation of a Stabilization Center here in Putnam. This has been a long and arduous process. It started with my predecessor, County Executive Odell, and members of the Putnam County Legislature committing \$2.5 million in federal stimulus funding to support the start-up costs of this project - so no direct county funding is spent. Multiple updates and presentations have already been provided to the public and members of this Legislature. I'm grateful for your support. Still, the red tape has been daunting, and the hurdles have been many. Yet we are committed, alongside our partners at PeopleUSA, to break through those barriers and make this a reality.

Every year, our Community Health Needs Assessment tells us the same story: our community does not just need more providers of mental health services, we need easier, earlier access to support for those willing to start their mental health journey. What we lack is a place where individuals, especially our young people, can go at the first signs of struggle. A welcoming environment where peaceful conversations flourish. That is exactly what a Stabilization Center provides.

The model was pioneered in Dutchess County by my friend, former County Executive Marc Molinaro. In Dutchess, the Stabilization Center has proven to be a safe, welcoming facility. This is a place where people can walk in, on their own, or with family, to receive immediate care and support. According to PeopleUSA, during the school year, over 50% of their clientele are children under the age of 18. That alone tells us everything we need to know about the importance of this effort.

And frankly, we don't need an assessment or statistics to know that our county is hurting. We all see it. Our youth are struggling. They were locked away for years during the COVID-19 Pandemic, and now we are witnessing the consequences of those failed lockdowns. Anxiety, depression, despair, these are not abstract concepts, they are daily realities for too many families in our county. That is why we must build this center. So instead of ultimately ending up in a hospital ER, or worse, our children and neighbors who need help can walk into a warm, non-hospital-like environment, and be met by caring professionals who can help them connect to services, heal, and move forward. This Stabilization Center is needed and will be self-sufficient once its open and running. And with perseverance, partnership, and the will to

overcome bureaucratic barriers, I am determined to see this *strictly voluntary* facility open its door, because in Putnam County, Mental Health Matters.

HONOR & PATRIOTISM

Another hallmark of our beautiful county... the Row of Honor. For more than a decade, it has stood as one of the most moving and patriotic displays around. Periodically, throughout the year, hundreds of American flags line the banks of Lake Gleneida in Carmel, creating a powerful tribute to our military heroes. Year after year, residents, Veterans, and visitors see the display, reflect on the sacrifices of our service members, and remember those who never came home. But in recent years, the Row of Honor has begun to show its age. The elements have taken their toll, and the flags and hardware have weathered to the point where repairs are no longer enough. Preserving this cherished tradition requires more than patchwork, it requires a new commitment.

That is why our Veterans Service Agency, under the leadership of Director Karl Rohde and Deputy Director Tanya Pennella, has worked to identify more durable, weather-resistant flags and holders that will preserve the Row of Honor for future generations. Members of the Putnam County Legislature already approved an expenditure to fund these improvements earlier this year, and we thank them. But because Karl and Tanya are busier than ever doing the important work of helping Veterans and their families access the benefits they deserve, supporting our Veterans Residence, and outfitting a new Veterans Museum, among many other responsibilities, we want to bolster this program by formalizing the support it also needs and receives through the county's Parks Division at DPW – the very same division that maintains our beautiful Veterans Memorial Park, including the remarkable monuments that call it home.

In doing so, I am asking the Legislature for its support to formally renew its commitment to the Row of Honor. This program was first rolled out by my predecessor administratively, but it deserves to have its place in law to ensure it remains sustainable for years to come. That's why I'm asking the Legislature to codify the Row of Honor's existence into law. The Row of Honor has always been a community-driven tradition. By formally supporting this program, we are ensuring it remains a living tribute, cared for, preserved, and strengthened for years to come.

On the topic of fallen heroes, today's address is my first without a key public servant in the audience. Just over a month ago, our county suffered the loss of one of its most dedicated public servants; Sheriff Kevin McConville. Sheriff McConville dedicated more than forty years of his life to protecting and serving the people of this county and state. From his decades of service with the MTA Police Department, where he rose to the rank of Chief, to his leadership as Putnam County Sheriff, Kevin McConville was the embodiment of honor, professionalism, and quiet strength. He built new partnerships with organizations like CEPAB, the Community

Engagement Police Advisory Board, during times of immense stress in communities across the country. CEPAB has been a great partner for our county and Sheriff McConville relied on their leadership often.

Sheriff McConville's passing left a void in our community. He was not only a trusted law enforcement officer but also a mentor, a colleague, and a friend to many. That is why, today, I am proud to announce that, in partnership with Acting Sheriff Brian Hess, and in consultation with the McConville Family, we are presenting to the Legislature, for its consideration, legislation to dedicate and rename the Putnam County Sheriff's Office substation in Nelsonville in his honor. I'd like to ask Acting Sheriff Hess to join me and share the proposed rendering.

"The Kevin J. McConville Putnam County Sheriff's Department Nelsonville Station."

This is more than a name on a building — it is a lasting tribute to a man who devoted his life to public safety, to his community, and to the values of integrity and service. Future generations of deputies, residents, and visitors will see his name and be reminded of the standard he set and the legacy he left behind.

I would like to once again acknowledge our new Acting Sheriff Brian Hess and Undersheriff James Menton. In a short period of time, you have shown yourselves to be true professionals. Thank you for stepping up to take on this enormous responsibility. Putnam County is truly lucky to have you both, and of course, lucky to have the men and women who protect and serve in your department.

FUTURE OF FARMING

Another item this budget addresses is an issue that sparked passionate debate in Putnam County this past year and a half: that is, the future of farming. Agriculture has always been a part of our county's heritage, but in recent years, questions about land use, the agricultural district, and the viability of farms in Putnam County have led to unnecessary lawsuits, controversy, and frustration. This year, the county resolved several lawsuits that rightfully resulted in the admission of multiple farms into the Agricultural District. At the time, my Administration had already held a *Future of Farming Roundtable* where members of this Legislature were invited and that brought together farmers, agricultural leaders, and local officials from across the region. It was not always an easy conversation, but it was a necessary one. Out of it came a set of clear steps that county government should take to better support farming.

We updated the farming page on the county website to make information more accurate and accessible. We identified funding to create a new County Farmland Protection Plan, to replace the outdated plan that is now more than twenty years old.

We still need to update the county's local law on Agricultural District admissions, specifically removing restrictive soil requirements that had prevented otherwise viable farms from being admitted. A draft updated local law has already been provided to the Legislature to accomplish this and I eagerly await its consideration and action on the matter.

But perhaps most importantly, I'm excited to announce we have reached an agreement partnering with Cornell Cooperative Extension, funded as part of this budget, for Cornell to take on a new responsibility in order to further support Putnam County's Agricultural needs as an Agricultural Navigator. This will provide a dedicated point of contact and resource for current and future farmers: to help them navigate the process, to assist in effectively and correctly file applications to be considered into the Ag District, and to connect them to opportunities, and serve as a hands-on partner for anyone looking to keep agriculture alive and thriving in Putnam County.

These reforms and investments are not abstract. They are a direct result of listening to our farmers, identifying obstacles, and committing to do better. Farming will never be easy in Putnam County — our geography and land costs guarantee that — but it will always be possible, and it will always be valued. With this budget, we are ensuring that farming and agriculture remains part of Putnam's future, not just its past.

REVOLUTIONARY PUTNAM COUNTY 250

Part of standing up for our values means honoring Putnam County's unique place in American history. Our county motto is "Where the country begins" for good reason: the amazing people who called this place home contributed to the world-changing events that ultimately led to American independence nearly 250 years ago.

Now, some of you may notice our namesake, General Israel Putnam known for many accomplishments including his service at the Battle of Bunker Hill, is not joining us for this speech... the large mural that normally hangs to my right is absent today. That's because General Putnam is traveling throughout the county for planned exhibits at Putnam History Museum, Southeast Museum, and Laura Spain Cornerstone Memorial Park.

In 2026, thanks in-part to funding in this year's budget, we will work to fully restore our beloved Sybil Luddington statue on the banks of Lake Gleneida. This project and others are made possible thanks to the leadership and philanthropy of our Revolutionary Putnam County

Advisory Committee—especially its two chairs, former Governor George Pataki and Garrison resident George Whipple. Together, their committee has ensured that Sybil will ride again. With their support, Putnam County will also roll out a truly memorable event - a large-scale Revolutionary War reenactment at Veterans Memorial Park - in June of next year.

Across the country, communities are gearing up to commemorate this historic occasion, and here in Putnam, we are doing our part. Our county may be small in size, but it is rich in history. Thank you to our Historian Jennifer Cassidy and Director of Tourism Tara Keegan for all you've accomplished already and for all you aim to accomplish next year as we make Putnam a destination for those hungry to learn about our place in American History.

This countywide commemoration will be one that honors our past while inspiring our future. By shining a light on Putnam's Revolutionary history, we remind ourselves and our children that liberty, independence, and self-government were hard-won, and that each generation has a responsibility to defend and strengthen them.

CONCLUSION

This Administration has never been afraid to take on tough challenges. We have never shied away from rethinking how government can and should work. And we have never lost sight of our most important responsibility: to make Putnam County more active, affordable, accountable and accessible for all. That is why this budget delivers the largest property tax cut in Putnam County history. It's also why, anyone can go on our budget transparency website to see in plain sight how and where their tax dollars are being spent. And once again, it's why I will be conducting another Budget Town Hall, just as I did last year, to communicate and respond directly to residents. This time, at Southeast Town Hall. All are welcome to join us Wednesday, October 8 beginning at 5:30pm.

For years, families here have carried the weight of State and Federal mandates, of inflation, of rising costs across the board. Today, I am proud to say that in Putnam County, we are doing something different. We are providing real, meaningful relief with historic tax cuts. We're doing it responsibly, sustainably, and in a way that prepares us for the future.

Yes, we're always mindful of potential shortfalls— from dips in sales tax revenues to funding uncertainties from the state and federal governments. We've dealt with these challenges before, and we're positioned well should we need to address them again.

In Putnam County, we are proving that local government can innovate, that it can protect essential services while also putting money back into the pockets of taxpayers. That is what this budget does, and that is the standard this Administration will continue to uphold. So today, as

we begin the process of reviewing and ultimately adopting the budget, I ask for your partnership. In the Legislature, in our towns and villages, and throughout the community. Let us come together, as we have so many times before, to do what is right for the people we serve. This is not the end of our story, it is just the beginning of what we can achieve when we work together. Thank you.

ADDITIONAL SOURCES

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