



ST. MARY'S COUNTY GOVERNMENT COMMISSIONERS OF ST. MARY'S COUNTY
PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICE

Tony Jones, Public Information Officer
SMCG TV 95 Station Manager

Media Inquiries: 301-475-4200 ext. *1342 or pio@stmarysmd.com

James R. Guy, President
Michael L. Hewitt, Commissioner
Tom Jarboe, Commissioner
Todd B. Morgan, Commissioner
John E. O'Connor, Commissioner

NEWS RELEASE *for Immediate Release*

No. 2018 – 118

May 16, 2018 9:30 a.m.

Commissioners Approve Fiscal Year 2019 Budget

Leonardtown, MD – The Commissioners of St. Mary's County have approved the \$230,155, 443 fiscal year 2019 General Fund budget. The figure represents a 4 percent increase over fiscal 2018. Funding for education, county departments and elected officials, along with public safety, accounts for nearly 86 percent of the General Fund budget. The adopted budget supports a fiscal year 2019 Capital budget of \$58,702,945.

FY2019 budget highlights include ...

- Income Tax Rate remains at 3% of net taxable income
- Property Tax Rate remains .8478; rate increases were approved for 2nd and 9th District Fire and Rescue as well as 8th District Rescue
- Increase in Solid Waste Environmental Fee to \$91 and approximately \$140,000 increase in Land Use Fees
- St. Mary's County Board of Education receives a funding increase of \$1,662,585 over fiscal 2018 to \$103,852,525, or 1.6% over fiscal 2018. The county's investment supports compensation increases for teachers and other school employees. State mandated Maintenance of Effort is \$102,352,525 based on an increased enrollment of 27.5 students
- \$1,085,000 of the June 2017 Unassigned Fund Balance was used for CIP Projects and \$1,000,000 for School Safety
- The St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office will realize an increase of 1.9% for recurring expenditures
- Full and regular part-time county employees will receive a one-step merit increase

“The FY2019 budget proved to be one of the most challenging we've had to work through during our term as commissioners,” said Commissioner President Randy Guy. “We managed to hold the line on spending while meeting the needs of the school system and Sheriff's Office. Many thanks to our finance staff for all of their work through the budgeting process.”

An online version of the approved budget will be available for viewing on the county website once all of the ordinances have been signed.