

# Carbon County Budget Narrative

## Fiscal Year 2024-2025

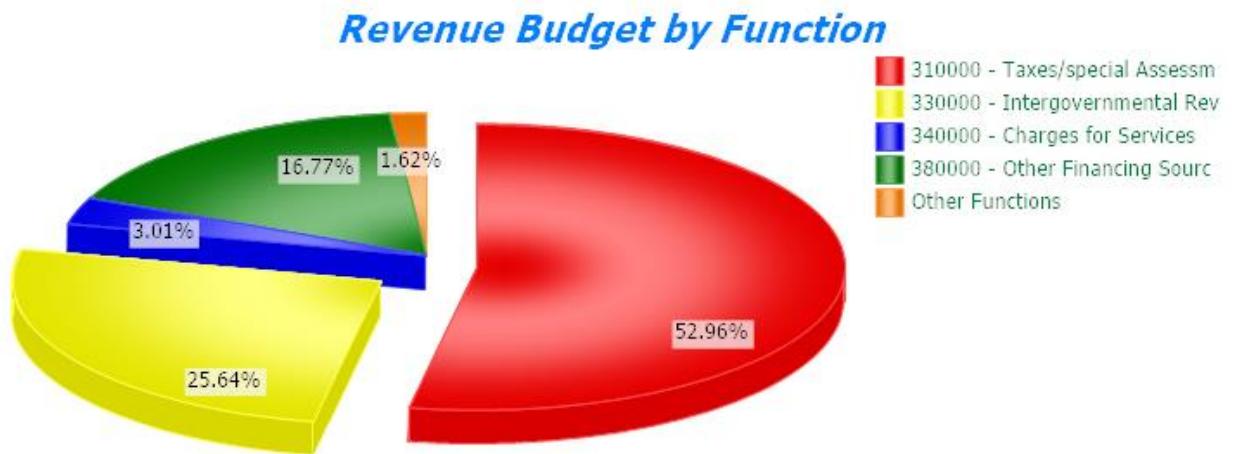
### TAXES

Carbon County continues to use its full mill levy authority under Montana Law. The County's levied mills increased by 17.97 mills. The County's Aggregate mill levy authority increased by 3.46 Mills to 86.89 mills. This was due to the \$1,835,468 in county-wide Newly Taxable Property and 2.8% inflation adjustment under 15-10-420(1)(c) MCA. The Rural Road Mill Levy increased by 1.33 mills to 34.76 mills. This was due to the \$1,226,178 in Newly Taxable Property in the county's rural areas. Voted Mill Levies increased by 14.56 due to the addition of the 18 Mill Emergency Medical Services Levy which was offset by a .02 reduction in Road Voted Mills, and a 3.48 reduction in voted library mills due to an error that caused the fund to be over-milled by \$233,386 in the 2023-2024 Fiscal Year. Permissive Mill Levies decreased by .12 mills due to the reduction in permissive mill authority for Sheriff's Retirement System contributions.

### REVENUES

Total County Tax revenues increased \$1,252,619 for Fiscal Year 2025. The 18 mill Emergency Medical Services Levy approved by the voters, accounts for \$1,205,758 of this increase.

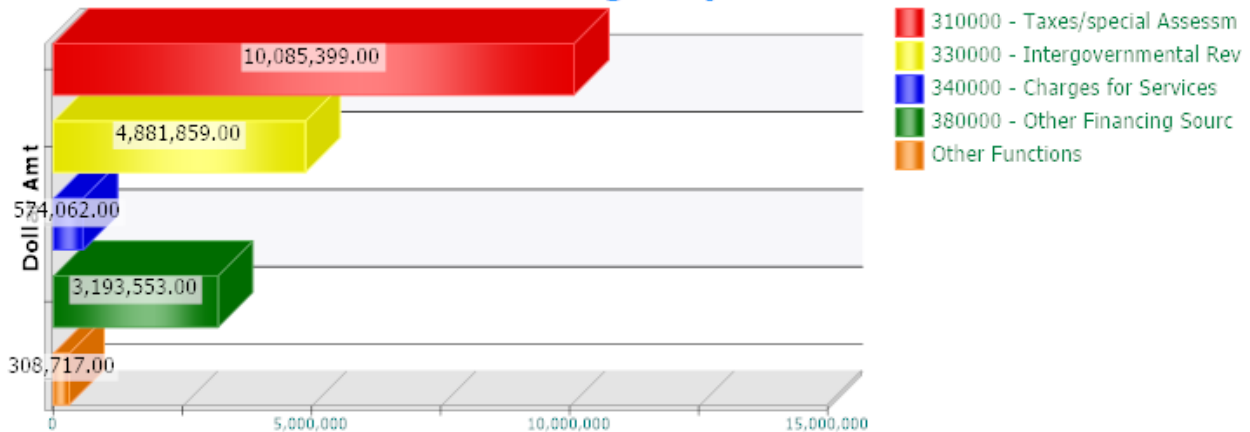
Taxes and assessments account for 53% (\$10,085,399) of total revenues and include taxes on all property classifications, the .05 County Option Tax, Penalties and Interest on delinquent taxes, and the local marijuana option tax.



Intergovernmental revenues account for 26% (\$4,881,859) of total revenues.

Intergovernmental revenues are made up of Entitlement Share payments (\$764,020), Federal Disaster Aid (\$350,000), State 911 Revenues (\$115,00), Bentonite Tax Allocations (\$86,700), Alcohol Tax (\$44,750), and Junk Vehicle Fees (\$32,215). The remaining \$1,621,160 is made up of various federal, state, and local grants including: Public Health (\$573,798), Airport Runway Rehabilitation (\$457,352); Weed Control (\$155,604), Public Safety (\$70,000), Emergency Management (\$51,000), and Crime Victims (\$34,000).

## Revenue Budget by Function



Other Financing Sources make up 16.77% (\$3,193,553) of revenues and are made up of inter-fund transfers from Federal Mineral Royalties, Oil and Gas, and PILT Funds (\$1,928,600; 60%), transfers to capital funds (\$802,034; 25%), and transfers from Health Insurance and SRS Permissive Levies (\$178,474; 5.6%). Charges for services (3.01%) and other miscellaneous revenues (1.62%) make up the remaining revenue.

Montana Law requires budgets to be balanced. Federal Mineral Royalties (\$169,073), Oil and Gas (\$310,000), and PILT (\$1,449,700) Funds are transferred to other funds to balance the budget and these funding sources are critical for the continued operations of Carbon County. These sources total \$1,928,620, and account for 10.2% of total revenues.

### RESERVES

Cash reserves provide operating cash in-between tax collection periods. Montana law allows county cash reserves to be as high as 1/3 of the expenditure budget. Cash Reserves for most levied funds increased slightly and were set at approximately 27%.

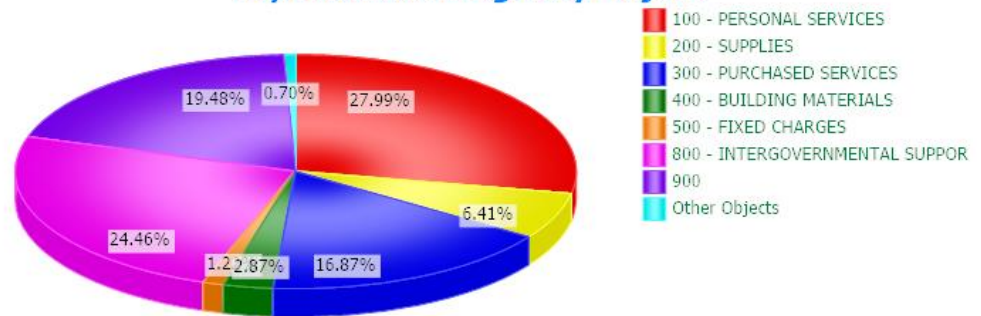
Going into the 2024-2025 Fiscal Year, total cash carryover increased \$2,885,334 or 16%. The increase is mostly due to the receipt of FEMA payments for 2022 flood recovery projects that were outstanding at the end of the 2022-2023 Fiscal year.

### EXPENDITURES

Total Expenditures increased \$1,480,621. Personnel services account for 28% of the County's budget; Purchased Services account for roughly 17% of the budget and include contracted services, utilities, and publishing costs; Intergovernmental Support accounts for roughly 24% of the budget and includes inter-fund transfers to capital funds and inter-fund transfers from Federal sources to balance the budget as discussed above; Capital Expenditures account for over 19% of the budget and include a new computer server, the construction of a new salt sand shed for the Red Lodge Shop, replacement equipment including a motor grader for Joliet and a snow plow for Red Lodge Road Districts, upgrades to the bathrooms in the Edgar Gruel Building, roof replacement for the Weed Shop, road construction costs related to flooding in the spring of 2023, replacement patrol vehicles, radios, and computers for the Sheriff's Office, radio system equipment, pickup trucks for the Sanitarian, DES, and Public

Health Departments, electrical upgrades to the Sheriff's Dispatch Center and Administration Building's elevator, runway asphalt rehabilitation, and savings for the future replacement of vehicles and equipment, the expansion or construction of buildings, and for future asphalt preservation and striping on the Boyd Cooney Damn Road.

**Expenditure Budget by Object**



Public Works functions account for 26% of the and include the Road and Bridge Department, Airports, Noxious Weeds, and matching funds for the Fromberg EWP project. Public Safety Functions account for almost 25% of the budget and include all Sheriff's Office Functions, Fire Prevention provided by the County, Emergency Management and disaster response and recovery, Public Health Cities Readiness Initiative, Court probation services, EMS Services, Search and Rescue, Dispatch and the operation and maintenance of the County's radio communications system. General Government functions account for 19% of the budget and include legislative, treasury, financial, judicial, planning, legal, records, and facilities functions. Public Health functions account for 6% of the budget and include Environmental Health, opioid abatement from settlement proceeds, grasshopper control, and alcohol rehabilitation in addition to the various services and programs overseen by the Public Health Department. Culture and Recreation make up approximately 2.5% of the budget and include expenditures related to the maintenance of the Fairgrounds and to run the annual youth fair, parks, contracted library services, and assistance and grants related to the Historical Society and Arts Guild. Other Financing Uses make up almost 20% of the expenditure budget and consist of the above-referenced inter-fund transfers; at this time Carbon County has no debt service.

**Expenditure Budget by Function**

