



# FY23 BUDGET

# Levy Limit

## *Property Tax Portion*

- Revenue estimates begin with a calculation of the Town Levy  
*(The amount to be raised through property taxes)*
- Calculation begins with the Prior Year Total
  - Add 2.5% to the prior year's levy (Mass Prop 2 ½ rules)
  - Add New Growth
    - This is new tax revenue that the Town can capture for new construction, building additions, etc.
- The Town is then able to add to the levy for any of the following
  - Debt Exclusion
  - Capital Exclusion
  - Overrides
- The total of all the above = **Town's Levy Limit**
- Any unused levy is called "excess levy capacity"

Tax Levy FY23	
Base Levy (FY22)	24,543,518
2.5% Allowed Growth	613,588
New Growth (Est.)	200,000
Exempt Debt	1,408,525
<b>Total Levy Limit</b>	<b>\$26,765,487</b>

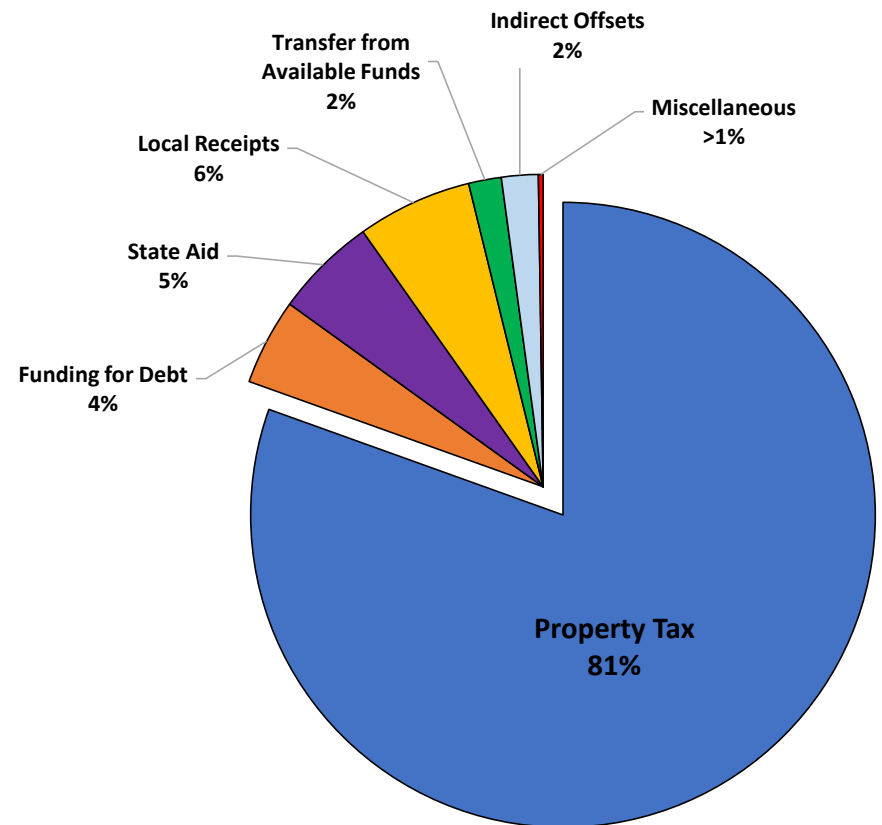
# Non-Property Tax Revenue

- After determining the levy, we add any Non-Property Tax Revenue (local receipts, State aid, available funds) to get the total of available funding
- The goal is to take a conservative approach to these figures, as over estimating potential revenue can be detrimental in several ways

Non-Property Tax Revenue	
Local Receipts	1,872,750
State Aid	1,660,241
Transfer from Available Funds	535,000
Enterprise Indirect Offset	596,314
Miscellaneous Funds	80,000
<b>Total NPTR</b>	<b>4,744,305</b>

# Revenue Sources

- Property Tax (including debt) accounts for 81% of the Town's annual revenue
- Local Receipts, which include vehicle excise, beach stickers, permit fees, etc.
  - Total estimated local receipts of \$1.87 million in FY23
- Transfer from available funds includes a \$100,000 transfer from the Town's Debt Stabilization Fund

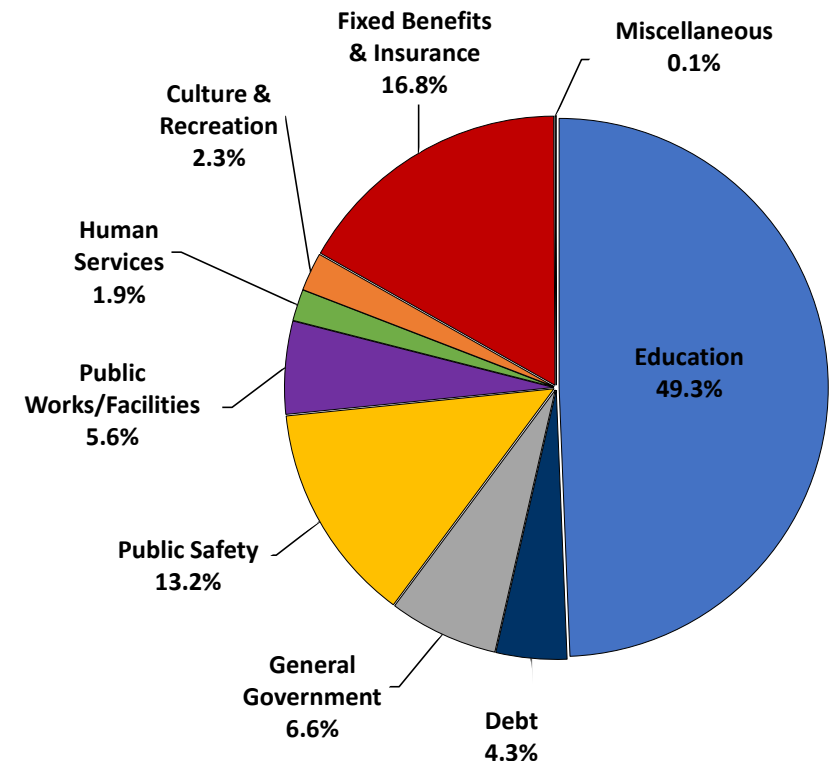


# Revenue Breakdown

PROPERTY TAX REVENUE	FY2022	FY2023	\$ CHANGE
Levy Limit	23,600,254	24,543,518	943,264
Prop 2 1/2	590,006	613,588	23,582
New Growth	250,000	200,000	(50,000)
<b>LEVY LIMIT (SUBTOTAL)</b>	<b>24,440,260</b>	<b>25,357,106</b>	<b>916,846</b>
Debt Exclusions	1,459,525	1,408,381	(51,144)
<b>LEVY LIMIT (TOTAL)</b>	<b>25,899,785</b>	<b>26,765,487</b>	<b>865,702</b>
<b>STATE AID &amp; LOCAL RECEIPTS</b>			
State Aid	1,597,657	1,660,241	62,584
Local Receipts	1,858,000	1,872,750	14,750
<b>TOTAL ADDITIONAL RECEIPTS</b>	<b>3,455,657</b>	<b>3,532,991</b>	<b>77,334</b>
<b>FUND TRANSFERS</b>			
From Available Funds	545,000	535,000	(10,000)
<b>TOTAL TRANSFERS</b>	<b>545,000</b>	<b>535,000</b>	<b>(10,000)</b>
<b>MISCELLANEOUS</b>			
Enterprise Indirect Offsets	598,787	596,314	(2,473)
Misc Appropriated Funds	116,178	80,000	(36,178)
<b>TOTAL MISC</b>	<b>714,965</b>	<b>676,314</b>	<b>(38,650)</b>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS FOR APPROPRIATIONS</b>	<b>30,615,407</b>	<b>31,509,793</b>	<b>894,386</b>

# Expenses Makeup

- Total operating expenses are up \$815,155
  - **School expenses** are up \$262,299 (32% of the expense increase)
  - **Town Operating Expenses** are up \$291,826 (36% of the expense increase)
  - **Fixed Costs** are up \$261,030 (32% of the expense increase)
- Local School expenses don't include any indirect cost that the Town covers (Health Benefits, Property Insurance, Capital Assets, Debt, etc.)
  - Health Insurance for Local School is over \$1M annually
  - Health Costs up 2.4% in FY23 Budget



# Where do your taxes go?

- Provided is a breakdown of how the estimated tax rate is spent amongst the Town's various departments

*Based on an estimated tax rate of \$12.33*

- Fixed Costs include utilities, employee benefits and the Town's insurance costs
- Items in non-exempt debt include:
  - Acushnet Road Bridge Reconstruction
  - Gomez Property Purchase
  - Fire Station Funding (Piece of Entire Project)
  - Land Purchases
  - Roadway Projects

Local School	\$	3.14
ORR Regional School	\$	2.51
Fixed Costs	\$	2.04
Public Safety	\$	1.61
General Government	\$	0.80
Public Works/Facilities	\$	0.68
Debt Service	\$	0.52
Old Colony	\$	0.35
Culture & Recreation	\$	0.28
Human Services	\$	0.23
Other Assessments	\$	0.01
Misc. Appropriated Funds	\$	0.18
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>12.33</b>

# Expense Breakdown

<b><i>OPERATING EXPENSES</i></b>				
	<b>FY 2021</b>	<b>FY 2022</b>		
<b><i>General Government</i></b>	<b>BUDGET</b>	<b>BUDGET</b>	<b>\$ CHANGE</b>	<b>% CHANGE</b>
General Government	1,981,291	2,025,067	43,776	2.2%
Public Safety	3,877,711	4,067,510	189,799	4.9%
Public Works/Facilities	1,655,433	1,713,973	58,540	3.5%
Human Services	562,987	580,633	17,646	3.1%
Culture & Recreation	689,267	708,609	19,342	2.8%
Fixed Costs	4,895,532	5,156,562	261,030	5.3%
Other Assessments	14,200	23,315	9,115	64.2%
Debt Service	1,355,848	1,309,456	(46,392)	-3.4%
<b><i>SUBTOTAL</i></b>	<b>15,032,269</b>	<b>15,585,125</b>	<b>552,856</b>	<b>3.7%</b>
<b><i>School Assessments</i></b>				
Local School	7,851,157	7,952,394	101,237	1.3%
ORR Regional School	6,242,438	6,353,695	111,257	1.8%
Old Colony	825,914	875,719	49,805	6.0%
<b><i>SUBTOTAL</i></b>	<b>14,919,509</b>	<b>15,181,808</b>	<b>262,299</b>	<b>1.8%</b>
<b>TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES</b>	<b>29,951,778</b>	<b>30,766,933</b>	<b>815,155</b>	<b>2.7%</b>



# Local School Budget

- Local School budget is up 2.03%
  - The 1.3% includes items that are not part of Center or OHS's operating costs
  - The miscommunication shows that the process is not easily understandable
  - Town & School needs to improve reporting
- Local School Budget has outpaced inflation over the last decade (2010 – 2020)

**Total Inflation 19% vs. School Budget 25.4%**

*\*Data from Bureau of Labor Statistics*

- The Town has and continues to support the local school as evidence by median salaries of Town vs. School salaries

	FY22 BUDGET	FY23 BUDGET	% Change
<b>LOCAL SCHOOLS</b>			
LOCAL SCHOOLS	7,385,125	7,535,043	2.03%
BRISTOL AGGIE	126,747	111,736	-11.84%
BRISTOL AGGIE (DEBT PAYMENT)	24,000	18,000	-25.00%
SCHOOL TRANSPORTATION 7-12 Grades	312,035	284,300	-8.89%

	TOWN	SCHOOL
# of FT Hires	71	76
Median Salary	\$61,178	\$85,864

# Recent Town Budget Actions

- \$2,000,000 Free Cash
  - This was accomplished through financial planning during the pandemic
    - Made no capital purchases in 2020
    - Furloughed staff at the Library & COA
    - Froze open full-time positions at the Highway Dept.
    - Gated the start of other vacancies in order to generate budget savings
    - Cut 2 full-time admin positions in Selectmen Office and Fire Department
- Excess Capacity
  - The Town set a budget with excess capacity in FY22 and FY23 (\$156,006 and \$123,170 respectively)
  - The total of those two years was greater than previous 14 years combined
    - Gave taxpayers a break during a difficult period
    - Kept funding available in case of an emergency

# Mattapoisett's Historical Master Plan

- Expected Growth of Population to 17,000 by 2020
  - Rebuilt Schools to accommodate 850 students
  - Rebuilt the Library for more daily patrons
  - Expected increase in Town Levy
  - More homes = greater spread of taxes
- List of upcoming capital projects
  - Town Hall
  - Old Colony Renovation
  - Highway Building Renovation
  - Long Wharf and Harbormaster Building Renovation
  - Mattapoisett Bike Path
  - Town Roads, Bridges, Culverts
  - Various Water & Sewer projects (Eel Pond Project, Treatment Facility Repairs, line extensions/repairs)
  - Maintenance/Renovations on aging buildings (Center, OHS, Police Department, Library)

# Notable Changes FY23 Budget

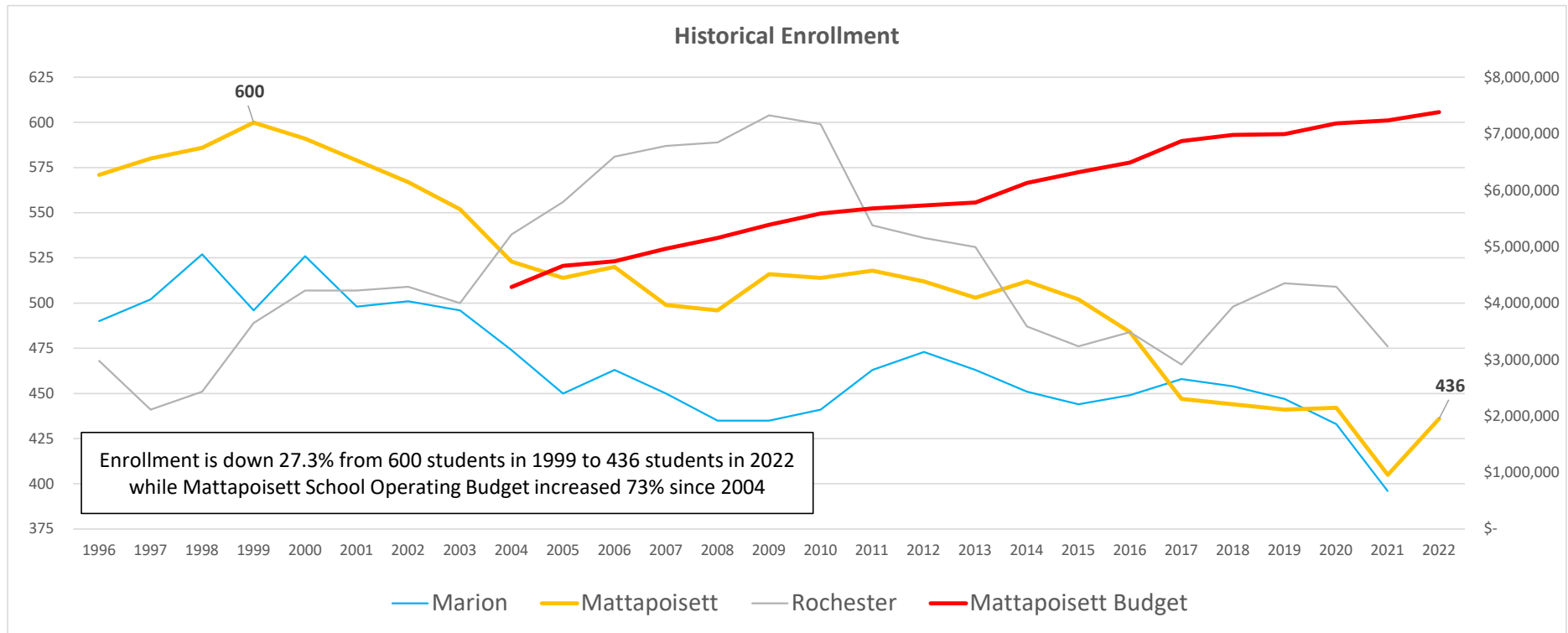
- Some of the notable changes from FY22 to FY23
  - County Retirement Commitment – Up \$120,380 (Represents an 8% increase)
  - Health Insurance – Up \$57,000 (Represents a 2.4% increase)
  - Utilities – Up \$14,000 (Vehicle Fuel and Town Heating Costs)
  - MS4 Required Testing – Up \$9,000 (Stormwater Testing State Requirement)
  - Trash/Recycling – Up \$21,540 (Contracted Rates)
  - Highway – Salt Up \$11,000 (Contracted Rate), Street Lining Up \$3,400
  - Fire Dept. - \$16,250 added to non-salary primarily for new building costs
  - Town Building - \$7,500 added for Building & Ground Repairs, \$8,600 Technology Budget (IT Costs up following COVID)
  - Equipment Lease & Purchase - \$57,000 for Hook Lift Truck for Highway Dept.
  - Notable Raises: Treasurer/Collector, Assessor, Highway Surveyor, Public Health Nurse
    - Performance Evaluation, Salary Comparison Review
    - Public Safety salaries are up to match actuals costs – Runs are up (aging populations requires more assistance)

# Enrollment

- Enrollment has been trending down for awhile
- The Standard Times reported on enrollment trends in the region on July 23, 2017
- The reporter's findings noted that Wareham and Mattapoisett saw the largest enrollment decline in the region over the last 20 years
- This is not a new occurrence and we must address it



# Enrollment History



# Cost Per Pupil

- The Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) reports wide array of information for all school districts
  - The figures reported come directly from required annual submissions from the School & Town
  - The Cost Per Pupil is a fully loaded cost that includes expenses covered by the Town
- Mattapoissett's Cost Per Pupil is concerning
  - It has increased 81% since 2008
  - It is above all neighboring communities including Rochester and Marion
  - "The Gap" has been growing exponentially since 2008
- It is not fully known all the items that are contributing to this gap
  - It will take time to perform research of the vast array of data

# What is needed?

## Research

- We need to determine what is causing the Gap
- What options we have at our disposal to make changes WITHOUT jeopardizing student outcomes

## Develop a multi-year plan

- Use findings from our research to develop a financial plan with performance goals
- This can accompany the existing multi-year capital plan

## Report back to the Community

- We must share our plan with the community and allow residents to weigh in

## Make Prudent Decisions

- We must be ok with discussing and making prudent decisions such as School Consolidation