



MILWAUKEE COUNTY BUDGET PROCESS



County Board Chairwoman

**Marcelia
Nicholson**

- 1 Milwaukee County Departments Submit their Requested Budgets to County Executive**

In July, Milwaukee County departments submit their requested budgets to the County Executive. An accompanying Racial Equity Budget Tool (REBT) shows how fiscal decisions impact all communities. This REBT supports policymakers in achieving our vision that Milwaukee will be the healthiest county in Wisconsin by advancing racial equity. On or before August 15, the Administration releases a summary of these Requested Budgets.
- 2 Milwaukee County Executive Presents a Recommended Budget for Next Year**

Throughout October, the Finance Committee reviews the Recommended Budget. The Committee schedules budget briefings where Supervisors and the public learn more about the Recommended Budget from County officials. Supervisors may offer budget amendments and ask the Finance Committee to recommend their proposals to the Board. At the end of October or the start of November, the County Board holds its annual public hearing on the budget. The committee then votes to advance an amended budget proposal to the full County Board.
- 3 Milwaukee County Board's Finance Committee Reviews & Amends Budget**

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- 4 How can Milwaukee County residents engage with these public Budget processes?**

Milwaukee County wants to hear from you! When the Board receives the Recommended Budget from the County Executive, Supervisors hold town halls in their districts during October to hear from residents about the services they want across our neighborhoods. The Board also holds a public hearing in the community before Supervisors take a final vote in November on adoption of the County budget.
- 5 Milwaukee County Adopts a Budget!**

The Board considers amendments and then votes in November to adopt a County budget, which is then sent to the County Executive. The County Executive has a week to issue vetoes to the budget adopted by the County Board. Supervisors can vote to sustain or override any budget vetoes. After these final steps, Milwaukee County has an Adopted Budget for the next calendar year.



MILWAUKEE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

2024-2026 Term



OUR VISION

By Achieving Racial Equity, Milwaukee is the Healthiest County in Wisconsin

Achieving this vision starts with making sure our public employees can access health care and that the County's plan is not punitive to their families.

LEAD WITH EQUITY - Invests in our Employees with Measure for Sustainability

No changes to deductibles and copays, eliminates spousal surcharge

- Rolls back proposed increases to deductibles and office visits.
- Eliminates \$600 annual surcharge for coverage if spouse has access to own medical plan.
- Asks for a report early next year that analyzes potential savings if the health insurance opt-out incentive were increased.

LEAD WITH COLLABORATION - Invests in County Parks

Invests \$600,000 in levy for Parks and adds opportunities for community partnerships

- Reverses the \$375,042 levy cut to Parks proposed in the Recommended Budget and increases funding above last year's level to activate parks space, including funding seasonal staff to improve access to aquatic amenities.
- Sets a framework for the "Domes Reimagined" proposal, a collaboration with the Friends of the Domes.
- Establishes that Parks is to seek funding support, public and private, to propel the next phase of the Kosciuszko Community Center rehabilitation.
- Puts in motion a law change to codify that racial equity is a factor in the prioritization of County capital projects.

CENTERS COUNTY RESIDENTS – Invests in Services and Lowers the Property Tax Levy Increase

Reduces the 2.83% levy increase proposed in the Recommended Budget

- Restores \$200,000 funding for the MATC FAST Fund program, which mitigates student housing insecurity.
- Adds \$118,950 to retain two Victim Witness Advocates.
- Adds back in \$250,000 to support the continuation of the Right-to-Counsel program, which provides free legal representation for evictions for eligible households.