

Public Safety Mill Levy & Bond Facts



What is on the June 4 Ballot?

Mill Levy (Personnel)

31.66 mills (Permanent)

Covers salaries, benefits, and equipment

General Obligation Bond (New Fire Station & Training Facility)

5.66 mills per year (20-year debt)

Covers the debt service for the new facility and equipment

Why is this needed?

It has been 45 years since the City opened its second fire station, and 20 years since Police added Patrol staff.

City Population

1980

23,938
residents

2000

25,780
residents

2020

32,091
residents

34%↑

Growth Facts

- City limits have grown approximately 3 miles over the past 20 years.
- The City's daytime population is estimated 44,500.

*2020 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

What will it cost taxpayers?

If both the Mill Levy and Bond are approved, the taxes on a home valued at \$300,000 would increase:**

\$151.13
per year

\$12.59
per month

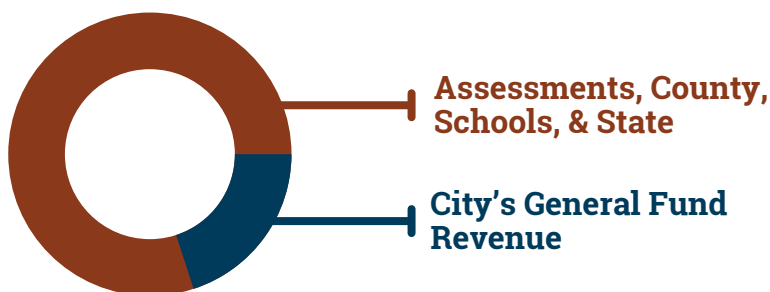
\$0.41
per day

**Based on Fiscal Year 2024

How is Public Safety Funded?

Public Safety is primarily funded through the City's General Fund (Property Tax Revenue).

Property Tax Breakdown



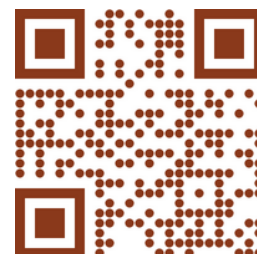
Funding Facts

- The City's General Fund receives approximately 20% of property taxes.
- Cities and Counties can only increase property tax revenue by 1/2 the rate of inflation, over a 3-year average.
- City of Helena's property tax collections only increased 3.4% from 2013-2022.***

***MTRRevenue.gov/PropertyValueChanges

Key Takeaways

- The requests look at public safety 15-20 years into the future.
- Police Department positions expand Patrol division capacity.
 - Community Resource Officers support non-criminal public needs.
 - Detectives lower case loads and address rise in internet crimes and crimes against children.
 - Crashes account for 20% of Police Department calls.
- Fire Department doesn't have a station North of the train tracks.
 - Station locations and train traffic significantly impact response times.
 - 15 firefighters staff a third station, improve response to multiple calls and large incidents.



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