



Tompkins County Legislature

Governor Daniel D. Tompkins Building
Ithaca, NY 14850

Meeting: 05/05/15 05:30 PM
Department: County Administration
Category: Fiscal (Budget)
Functional Category:

DOC ID: 5578

ADOPTED

**RESOLUTION NO.
2015-98**

Establishment of 2016 County Financial Goal

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	James Dennis, Vice Chair
SECONDER:	Kathy Luz Herrera, Member
AYES:	Burbank, Dennis, Luz Herrera, Kiefer, Klein, Lane, McBean-Clairborne, McKenna, Robertson, Morey, Shinagawa, Sigler, Stein
EXCUSED:	Carol Chock

WHEREAS, the County Administrator has requested the Legislature to establish a tax-levy guideline to use in working with departments and preparing his recommended budget for 2016, and

WHEREAS, it is currently estimated that the 2016 property tax cap imposed on all local governments and school districts by New York State would be approximately 1.3% for Tompkins County, which is equivalent to approximately \$600,000 over the 2015 property tax levy, and

WHEREAS, as of April 27, 2015, the County Administrator estimates that a 1.3% increase in the County's property tax levy, including a 0.5% increase dedicated to capital improvements indentified in the County's Capital Program, will support a maintenance-of-effort budget for all County departments and address other critical needs and priorities, and

WHEREAS, it is recognized that the County's fiscal policy allows departments and agencies to request funding in excess of their 2016 spending targets via an "Over Target Request", thereby allowing the Legislature to consider exceeding the 1.3% property tax cap in the event that compelling reasons to sustain a program or service are presented, and

WHEREAS, it is estimated that if the 1.3% property tax-levy increase is met, then the additional cost on a \$165,000 2014 assessed median-value Tompkins County home will be approximately \$15.00 per year, and

WHEREAS, it is acknowledged that economic and fiscal conditions remain volatile and may improve or deteriorate prior to the introduction of the formal 2016 recommended budget in the fall and that the tax cap estimate may change as more precise information becomes available, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, on recommendation of the Budget, Capital, and Personnel Committee, That the Legislature directs the County Administrator to establish departmental and agency spending targets and develop a 2016 operating and capital budget that can be supported with a property tax-levy that is 1.3% above the 2015 level.

SEQR ACTION: TYPE II-20