



Inclusion Through Diversity

Marcia E. Lynch, Public Information Officer
607-274-5555, Office
607-227-2152, Cell
November 9, 2012
ONE PAGE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Public Hearing on Proposed 2013 Budget November 13

The County Legislature invites county residents to comment on the County's proposed 2013 budget at a public budget hearing to be held Tuesday, November 13.

The hearing, on both the recommended budget and the 2013-2017 Capital Program, will begin at 7:00 p.m. at the County Legislative Chambers, located on the second floor of the Tompkins County Courthouse, 320 North Tioga Street, Ithaca. The public hearing is the official opportunity during the budget process for the public to provide input on the budget.

The amended budget would increase the County tax levy by 3.77% and the countywide average tax rate by 1.95%. The recommended tax rate of \$6.80 per thousand is 2 cents higher than in the Administrator's budget, and an increase of 13 cents compared to 2012, representing an increase of \$20.83 for the average \$160,000 home. The amendments approved by the Legislature last week added \$124,480 to the Administrator's budget. Legislators may amend the budget further after the hearing, and before the final adoption vote.

The 2013 Tentative Budget, as initially recommended by County Administrator and the amendments subsequently approved by the Legislature are posted for review online at the County website at www.tompkins-co.org (click on "County Budget"). Paper copies are available at the County Legislature office at the County Courthouse and at County Administration, 125 E. Court Street (Third Floor), Ithaca.

Citizens also are invited to submit their budget comments online through the budget page of the County web site or via the County Budget page on *Facebook*. Written comments may be mailed to Budget Comment, c/o Tompkins County Public Information, 125 E. Court Street, Ithaca, NY 14850.

The final budget adoption vote is scheduled for the Legislature's next meeting Tuesday, November 20.

Contact: Martha Robertson, Chair of the Legislature, 274-5434 or 272-0584; James Dennis, Chair, Budget, Capital and Personnel Committee, 387-4058.

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