

# Special Meeting Of The Putnam County Legislature

- Agenda
- Call To Order
- Pledge of Allegiance
- Roll Call
- Budget 2014 Presentation
- Adjournment





# Special Meeting Of The Putnam County Legislature

Call To Order

Richard T. Othmer, Jr., Chairman

Putnam County Legislature











# Special Meeting Of The Putnam County Legislature Roll Call

Richard T. Othmer, Jr., Chairman

District 3

Barbara J. Scuccimarra

District 1

Sam Oliverio, Jr. District 2

Ginny Nacerino

District 4

Carl L. Albano

District 5

Roger S. Gross

District 6

Joseph F. Castellano District 7

Dini LoBue District 8

Anthony DiCarlo District 9







## MaryEllen Odell County Executive





#### Vision

To provide a transparent, effective and honest local government dedicated to meeting the needs of its citizens





### **Budget Focus**

Develop a fiscally responsible budget that provides for the health, safety and quality of life of our residents while not exceeding the tax cap limit of 1.66%





## Why Is the 2% Tax Cap Now The 1.66% Tax Cap?

The NYS Property tax cap law provides that the tax levy increase is capped at 2% <u>or</u> the rate of inflation, whichever is less





## Why Is the 2% Tax Cap Now The 1.66% Tax Cap?

For 2014, The Federal Bureau of Labor and Statistics has determined the rate of inflation to be 1.66%. This is a Statewide cap





# Why Is the 2% Tax Cap Now The 1.66% Tax Cap?

Although there are various other factors that permit the County to raise the levy higher while legally remaining within the tax cap, this administration strongly supports the tax cap.

This budget meets that commitment and we will not propose to override the tax cap





### Summary of Proposed Budget

- Proposed 2014 budget \$142.9m
- A net increase of \$2.3m over 2013 adopted budget or a 1.6 percent increase
  - Includes:
    - \$925k increase to meet NYS mandated pension costs
    - \$922k increase due to step and longevity increases, as well as pending contract negotiations
    - \$243k increase to meet NYS mandated worker compensation costs
    - \$150k\* contribution to PARC (in addition to \$150k allocated from 2013 budget)
      - \* this contribution alone represents 23% of the 1.66% tax cap
  - General Fund Surplus allocation of \$3.75m, the second straight budget using less surplus than the previous year





## Bottom Line To The Taxpayer

The average homeowner assessed at \$266,286 will pay \$975 in County property tax in 2014, an increase of \$16 resulting from the 1.66% tax increase



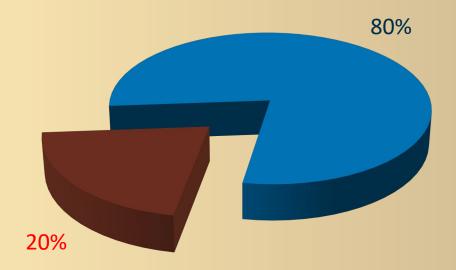


### 2014 Budget Revenue

#### • Revenues: \$142.9m

- Sales Tax \$52.5m
- 2014 Property Tax \$39.2m
- Reimbursements for Federal and State mandated programs \$25.2m
- Department Revenue \$20.9m
- General Fund Surplus \$3.75m
- Other \$1.35m

#### **2014 Tentative Revenues**



- Mandated Programs
- **Quality of Life Services**



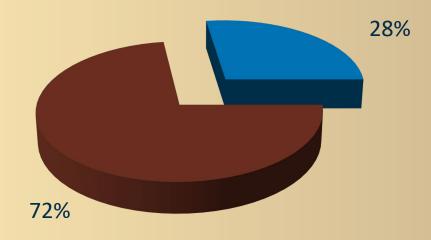


#### 2014 Budget Expenses

#### **Operating Expenses: \$142.9m**

- State and Federal Mandated
   Programs
  - \$103.2m
- Quality of Life Services Examples
  - Sheriff Patrols \$6.3m
  - Office For the Aging \$5.1m
  - Emergency Services \$4.1m
  - Parks and Recreation \$3.4m
  - Outside Agencies \$1.4m
  - Total cost: \$39.7m

#### **2014 Tentative Expenses**



- Mandated
- **Quality of Life Services**





#### What is a MANDATE?

- A MANDATE requires Putnam County to strictly adhere to rules set by the State and Federal governments that define the scope, eligibility, frequency of service, and amount of benefits provided to people within our County
- Putnam County has a very limited ability to control the costs of State and Federal MANDATES

New York State Counties and Albany need to partner closer in managing fiscal responsibilities. Putnam County has recognized the importance of, and has delivered under the 2% cap. We continue to ask Albany to deliver on their promise of mandate relief





# A Closer Look at MANDATED Programs

- There are more than 200 NYS and Federal mandated programs
- They consume the *ENTIRE* amount of Putnam County sales tax dollars
- And they consume the *ENTIRE* property tax levy





## What are some MANDATED programs in Putnam County?

- Medicaid
- Secure Ammunition and Firearms Enforcement (SAFE Act)\*
- Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF)
- Child welfare
- Food stamps
- Early intervention and pre-school education
- Child support collections
- Adult protective services
- EPA Mandated MS4 Program

<sup>\*</sup>Enacting this legislation has forced Putnam County to add 1 FTE employee





### 72% of 2014 Budget is Mandated

#### Major Mandated Programs

Top 14 of More Than 200!

Program	Mandated Costs in 2014 Budget	% of 2014 Budget	Program	Mandated Costs in 2014 Budget	\$ of 2014 Budget
Dept. of Social Services	\$17,291,519	12.10%	Sheriff	\$ 4,308,550	3.01%
Highway and Facilities	\$11,570,513	8.10%	Mental Health	\$ 3,909,243	2.74%
Jail	\$ 9,888,583	6.92%	Community Colleges	\$ 3,000,000	2.10%
Medicaid	\$ 9,859,681	6.90%	Probation	\$ 2,100,911	1.47%
Pre-School	\$ 7,435,232	5.20%	Early Intervention	\$ 2,011,990	1.41%
Debt Service	\$ 5,804,284	4.06%	Board of Elections	\$ 1,686,837	1.18%
Health	\$ 4,996,379	3.50%	MTA Programs	\$ 1,496,009	1.05%





# Medicaid is the single largest line item in the Putnam County Budget

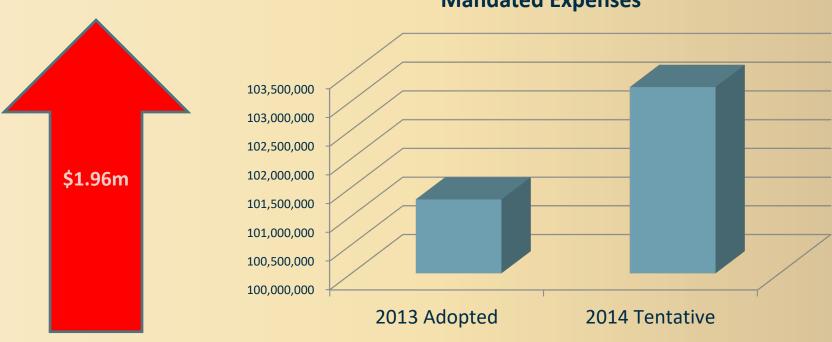
Approximately 6,200 residents are currently Medicaid recipients, which is a 24% increase of eligible participants

Our \$9.8m represents the local share. Factoring in NYS and Federal funding, the total is \$97m!!





#### **Mandated Expenses**



Before we started the 2014 budget process, the mandated expenses exceeded the tax cap





## With the UNFUNDED MANDATE CHALLENGE.....

How did we Balance our 2014 Budget?





 Sales Tax - \$1.4m projection increase based upon current economic conditions and the successful extension of our sales tax rate we received working in partnership with our County Legislature and NYS Representatives. Our collective efforts have saved the real property taxpayers \$13.2m and kept the average homeowner from paying an extra \$325 (33%) in property taxes in 2014





 Putnam County Golf Course – Increase of \$525k as our investments in and our promotion of this property are anticipated to continue to payoff for our taxpayers, golfers, and citizens looking to hold banquets and meetings





investments in and our and golfers, and golf 

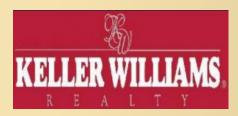




- Chapter 31 Sale of County owned properties acquired by tax foreclosure - \$424k anticipated as we continue to return properties to the tax rolls
  - Accepted offers of \$362k for 2013 YTD
  - Thank you to our partners
    - Briante Realty Group
    - Guardian Realty Center
    - Keller Williams Realty
    - World Homes Realty













- Recovery of expenses otherwise borne by the property taxpayer;
  - Guardrail damage cost recovery \$50k (\$79k received YTD in 2013)
  - Increased Medicaid transportation recovery \$50k
    - Transportation Chairman Vincent Tamagna identified the need to correct the reimbursement to reflect the true cost.
       Transportation reimbursement adjusted 10x from \$3.25 per ride to \$37.33
      - e.g., \$8k received in July of 2013 as compared to \$800 in July of 2012



- Partnering with our Municipalities, the Putnam County
   Sheriff's Department, the Putnam County District Attorney's
   Office, the Putnam County Legal Aid Society and the New
   York State Office of Court Administration, Video Conferencing
   is going on line
- This provides Putnam County with:
  - Efficiency in prisoner transportation
  - Reduction in overtime and fleet costs
  - Increased public safety





- Special Thanks To
  - Hon. Alan Scheinkman
     Administrative Judge, 9<sup>th</sup> District
  - Hon. James F. Reitz
     Putnam County Court Judge
  - Adam LevyPutnam County District Attorney
  - Donald B. Smith
     Putnam County Sheriff
  - Patrick Brophy
     Putnam County Legal Aid Society

- Ken SchmidtSupervisor, Town of Carmel
- Carmel Town Board
- Katherine Doherty
   Supervisor, Town of Kent
- Kent Town Board
- Michael Griffin
   Supervisor, Town of Patterson
- Patterson Town Board
- Tony Hay
   Supervisor, Town of Southeast
- Southeast Town Board





## Operating Expense Initiatives – Maximizing our assets – Optimizing our resources

- No Layoffs
- Early Retirement Incentive Program saved \$201k
- Consolidation of DSS & Law Department Legal Services - \$35k
- Reduction in Administrative Costs

  e.g., renegotiated cell phone contract,

  Putnam Invests In Leaders Of Tomorrow
- Limited Motor Vehicle and Equipment Purchases
- Establishing a Capital Projects Reserve Fund





#### Outside Agencies – Level Funding

- For Example
  - Cornell Cooperative Extension
  - Putnam County Humane Society
  - Putnam History Museum
  - Southeast Museum
  - Putnam Arts Council
  - Westchester/Putnam Women's Resource Center





#### **Outside Agencies – Increased Funding**

- Libraries \$10k or 2.6% increase on 2013 adopted budget
  - This is in recognition that there are increased requirements being placed on our libraries as unemployment levels remain high with continued uncertainty in the near future
- PC Tourism \$10k increase for event transportation to increase tourism
- PC EDC \$25k increase to promote Putnam County business attraction and job creation
  - Retaining Existing Businesses, e.g., Honey Do Men 50 Jobs
  - Attracting New Business, e.g., Bull & Barrel Brew Pub Brewery at the former Sciortino's – \$1m Capital Investment & 35 Jobs





# Opportunities – Looking Toward the Future Private Public Partnership

- Higher Education Opportunities
  - Mercy College
    - Masters Program for Organizational Leadership and Hazardous Mitigation Plan
    - Certificate Program for Organizational Leadership and Hazardous Mitigation Plan (15 credits towards B.S.)
- Applied Golf, Home Style Catering & Putnam County Government









#### Opportunities — Looking Toward the Future

- Putnam County Transportation Advisory Board
- New York State Association of Counties
   Board of Directors
- New York Metropolitan Transportation Council (NYMTC)
- Mid-Hudson South Transportation Coordinating Committee
   Co-Chair
- Mid-Hudson Regional Economic Development Council
- Hudson Valley Regional Council
  - Regional Planning Consortium
- Tappan Zee Hudson Crossing Project
- Workforce Investment Area Board

What Does This Mean... This means that Putnam County has a seat at the table for the first time on many of these important boards. These are the boards that drive economic development through transportation and infrastructure funding





#### Opportunities - Looking Toward the Future

#### **Consolidated Funding Awards**

- Priority Projects
  - Clear Solution Labs
    - 250 Job Opportunities (high skilled labor workforce) over the next 3 years
    - Capital Investment of \$30m
    - Increase in Taxable Rateables
  - Putnam Hospital Center
    - 3 Additional Surgical Suites
    - Approximately 15 New (High Skilled) Jobs
    - Capital Investment of \$5m
  - Opportunity Area Grant
    - Brewster Peekskill Partnership
    - Workforce Training Grant & Planning and Feasibility





#### Opportunities - Looking Toward the Future

Job Retention, Job Creation & Economic Development\*

- Jobs Retained, Keeping 50 People Working
- Jobs Created, Putting 300 People Back To Work
- Economic Development
  - \$36m in Capital Investments, people believing in our County

\*There Are Currently 25 Projects In "The Pipeline"





### **Challenges - Fiscal and Social**

The State and Federal reimbursements from mandated programs are DECREASING, while the number of participants and costs are INCREASING which will result in:

- Increased Property Taxes
- Decreased Funding for "Quality of Life Services"
   e.g., Road Patrol, Parks & Recreation, Outside Agencies
- Increased "Program User Fees" e.g., Permit Fees, Park Fees, Recording Fees





#### **Federal Government Shutdown**







#### **Federal Government Shutdown**

We know all too well that the ultimate responsibility to deliver services to those in need will fall on the shoulders of the County Taxpayers.









**Presents** 

### Doing Business In Putnam County

Thursday, October 24, 2013 at 8:30 AM Putnam County Training & Operations Center Auditorium





### Doing Business In Putnam County

Thursday, October 24, 2013 at 8:30 AM Putnam County Training & Operations Center Auditorium

#### Helping Our Local Business Owners Understand

- The Local Government Marketplace
- What Local Governments Purchase
- The Government Procurement Process
- The Laws Governing Government Procurement
- The Empire State Purchasing Group Bid Notification System

Focus on Enhancing Main Street & the Local Economy









Thursday, October 10, 2013 5:30 PM to 9:30 PM

#### **2013 Putnam County EDC Annual Gala**

- An Evening of Networking With Hudson Valley Business Leaders
- Hosted on the Atlantica
- Departing From Cold Spring
- \$175 Per Ticket
- Contact Meghan Taylor, President at 845-808-1021







## MaryEllen Odell County Executive





# Special Meeting Of The Putnam County Legislature





# Special Meeting Of The Putnam County Legislature

Adjournment

Richard T. Othmer, Jr., Chairman Putnam County Legislature

