

Sarpy County, Nebraska
Budget Message
2019 Fiscal Year

The proposed Sarpy County Budget for the 2019 fiscal year totals \$164,557,317 an increase of \$12,028,646 or 7.9% from the 2018 fiscal year revised budget. The majority of this increase is in the General fund for increases in salaries and benefits and Public Works fund for new carry-over road projects. The total property taxes will increase by \$3,023,771 for the 2019 fiscal year or 7.03%. Based on final valuation figures, the tax rate will remain the same at 29.69¢. The taxes on a \$150,000 property will increase from \$445 to \$460, for an average increase of \$15 after factoring in the 3.25% average valuation increase due to reappraisal.

The primary issue in developing the budget for the 2019 fiscal year was to maintain the high level of law enforcement, road maintenance and construction, accumulate funds for a new jail, and other services, without an increase in the County tax rate. This makes the 16th consecutive year the County's tax rate has not increased. Other features of the 2019 FY budget are:

Inheritance Tax – The Inheritance Tax budget includes funding for the purchase of land and for the design of a Jail Facility.

Sinking Fund – The Sinking Fund includes funding for infrastructure in the baseball stadium area which will be accumulated for around three years. The Sinking Fund includes funds to be accumulated for a new Jail facility.

Communications – The Communications budget includes funding for the DSR (redundancy) and Multi-Node projects.

Public Works – While the Public Works budget will be increasing from \$19.9MM to \$27.6MM, the majority of this increase (\$4.9MM) is due to carry-over projects that were budgeted in the 2018 fiscal year, but not completed /paid for.

Major Prioritized Road Projects – This budget has been established to accommodate and accumulate funds for large road projects that have been prioritized by the County. It will be funded by a transfer from the Public Works budget and will initially be used for the 108th and Platteview Intersection project.

The following departments have petty cash funds: County Clerk, \$200; County Attorney, \$100; County Court, \$200; Sheriff, \$200; Landfill, \$700; Witness, \$100.

A sincere thank you is offered to the elected officials and department heads of Sarpy County for their cooperation and assistance in the preparation of the 2019 fiscal year budget.