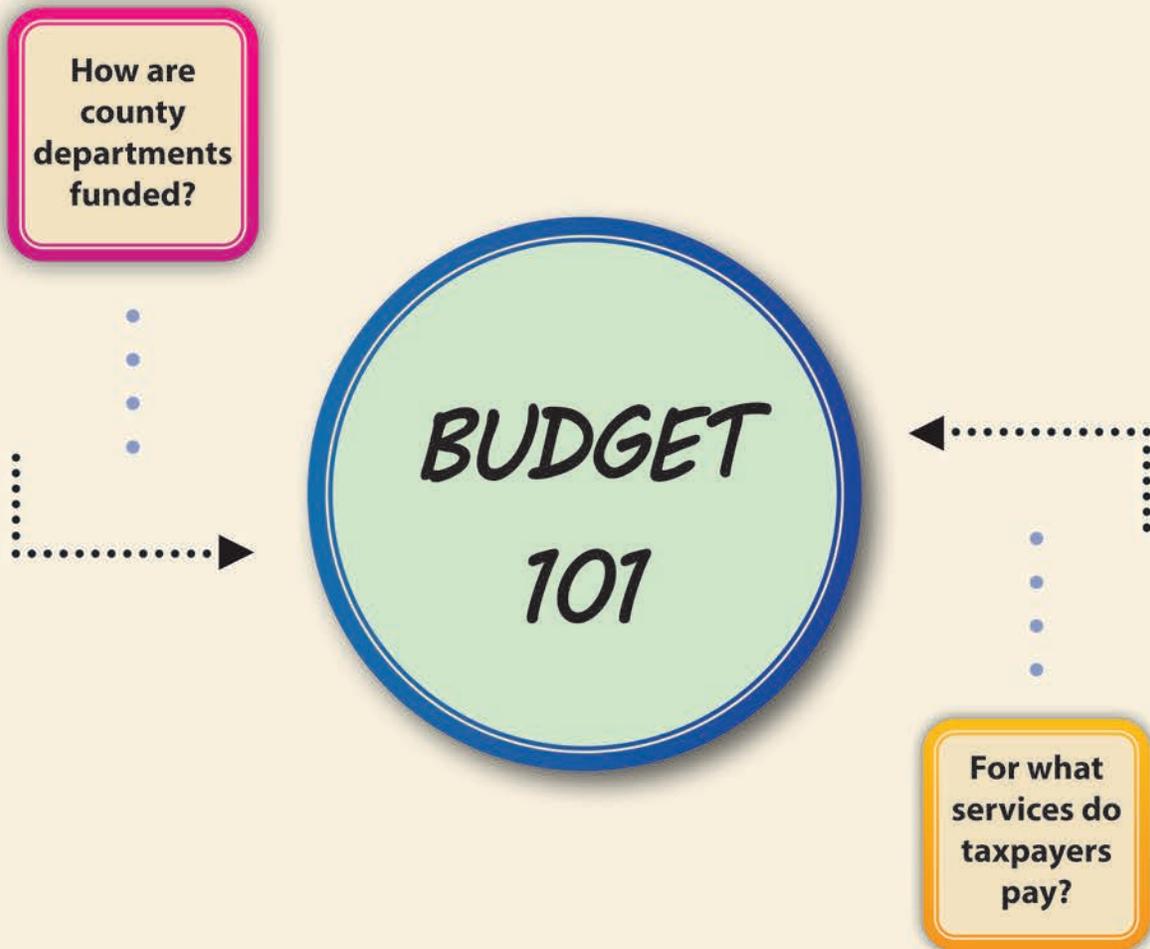




Marion County Board of County Commissioners  
601 SE 25th Ave., Ocala, Florida 34471



*A basic guide to the Marion County government budget and the funds that support county public services.*

Published by the Marion County Office of Public Information  
as a public service of the Marion County Board of County Commissioners

**For more information:**

Telephone: 352-438-2300

Online: [www.MarionCountyFL.org/Budget](http://www.MarionCountyFL.org/Budget)

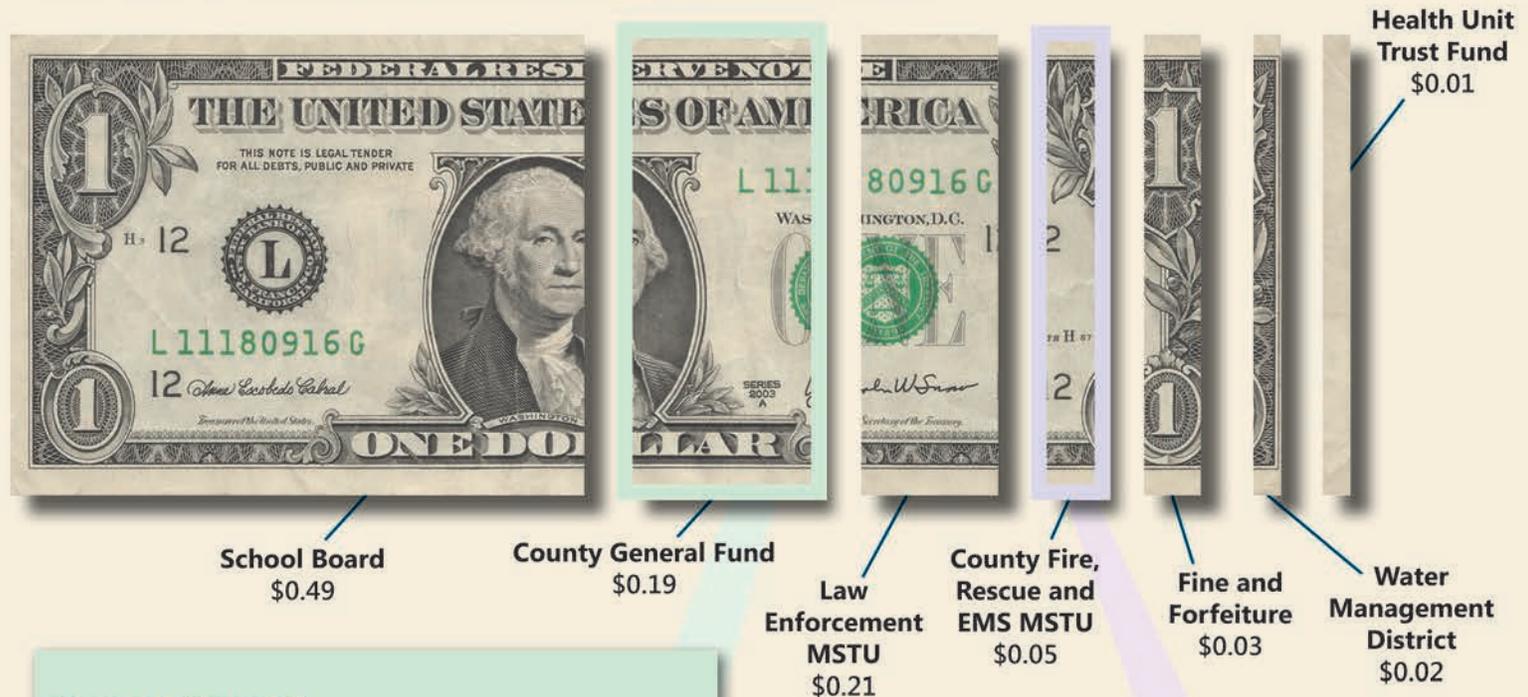
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# Property taxes: where do they go?

Below is a representation of how each property tax dollar is divided for property owners in the unincorporated areas of Marion County\*.

(This does not include MSTU/MSBU assessments within specific subdivisions or residential areas. This also does not include tax exemptions such as agriculture and homestead.)



## General Fund

This funds the programs and services provided by Marion County departments, including: emergency medical services, public safety communications (911), animal services, parks, facilities management, libraries, veterans services, growth services (code enforcement, planning, zoning), administration, extension services (such as 4-H), procurement, community services, fleet management and more.

The general fund also includes the funding for four Marion County constitutional offices (Clerk of the Court, Property Appraiser, Supervisor of Elections and Tax Collector), as well as for jail operation and emergency management services managed by the Marion County Sheriff's Office.

## Fire, Rescue and EMS MSTU

This is a Municipal Services Taxing Unit (MSTU) paid by property owners in the unincorporated areas for fire rescue services.



Property owners in unincorporated Marion pay only **\$0.24 per property tax dollar for all of the county services** provided by Marion County Board of County Commissioners departments. Examples of those services are highlighted in the green and purple boxes.

All other property tax funds are overseen by separate entities, as follows:

**Marion County School Board** - School Board funds

**Marion County Sheriff's Office** - Law Enforcement MSTU and Fine and Forfeiture funds

**Southwest Florida/St. Johns River water management districts** - Water Management District funds

**Florida Department of Health** - Health Unit Trust Fund

\*Based on FY 2015-16 adopted budget.

08/2016

For more information, please contact Marion County Office of Fiscal Review at 352-438-2300.

# General Fund: for what does it pay?

The General Fund pays for many services and programs for citizens countywide (including those who live in municipalities). It is made up of a variety of funding sources, including property taxes.

**Here's a snapshot of where the General Fund monies go\*:**

## Emergency Medical Transport and 911 Dispatch\*\*

- Countywide ambulance service.
- Emergency call-taking and dispatch.

\*\* Services provided by Marion County's Public Safety division.



16%

## Reserves and Transfers

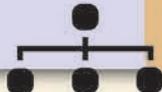
- Reserves for natural disasters and emergencies.



10%

## Other Constitutional Offices

- Clerk of the Court.
- Supervisor of Elections.
- Property Appraiser.
- Tax Collector.



10%

## Courts and Criminal Justice

- Court administration technology.
- Guardian Ad Litem technology.
- Public defender technology.
- Drug and teen courts.



2%

## Partner Agencies

- The Centers, Inc.
- Marion Senior Services/Transit.
- Heart of Florida Center and others.



2%

## Marion County Sheriff's Office

- Jail administration and operations.
- Emergency management.



20%

## General Marion County Board of County Commissioners Departments

- **Public services** (examples: veterans office, libraries, parks and recreation, community services, extension service, 4-H, Southeastern Livestock Pavilion, economic development).
- **Public works** (examples: engineering services, water resources planning).
- **Animal services** (examples: adoptions, animal center services, animal control, Neuter Commuter).
- **Growth services** (examples: planning and zoning reviews, code enforcement).
- **County administration** (examples: citizen liaison, human resources, hiring, training, employee health clinic, public information).
- **Fleet management** (examples: fuel and maintenance for county vehicles that respond daily to citizen concerns).
- **Administrative services** (examples: facilities maintenance, procurement, computer and electronic equipment maintenance and troubleshooting).
- **Capital improvements** for fiscal year 2015-16.



40%

\*Based on FY 2015-16 adopted budget.

Funding sources for the General Fund include user fees and grants, for example.

08/2016

For more information, please contact Marion County Office of Fiscal Review at 352-438-2300.

# The Other Property Tax Dollars: where do they go?

A portion of your property tax dollars, 24%, funds the Fire, Rescue and EMS MSTU (for fire rescue services) and the General Fund (for many services and programs for citizens countywide). **Read on to find out where the rest of your property tax dollars go\* and for examples of the types of services for which they are used:**

## Law Enforcement MSTU

Funds overseen by Marion County Sheriff's Office.

- Deputy patrol for unincorporated areas of Marion County and its associated expenses.
- Criminal investigations.



21%

## Water Management District

Funds overseen by Southwest Florida/St. Johns River Water Management District.

- Water resource and supply development.
- Surface water restoration.
- Regional flood protection.
- Natural systems protection and restoration.

2%

## Health Unit Trust Fund

Funds overseen by Florida Department of Health.

- County's portion of the funding for the Marion County Health Department.



1%

## School Board



49%

Funds overseen by Marion County School Board.

- **General operating expenses** (examples: salaries, utilities, materials and supplies).
- **Capital expenditures** (examples: buses and building improvements).

## Fine and Forfeiture



Funds overseen by Marion County Sheriff's Office, with some portions overseen by the Marion County Clerk of the Court and the State Attorney's office.

- Sheriff's office administration and bailiff.
- Clerk of the Court communication services.
- State Attorney communication services and utilities.

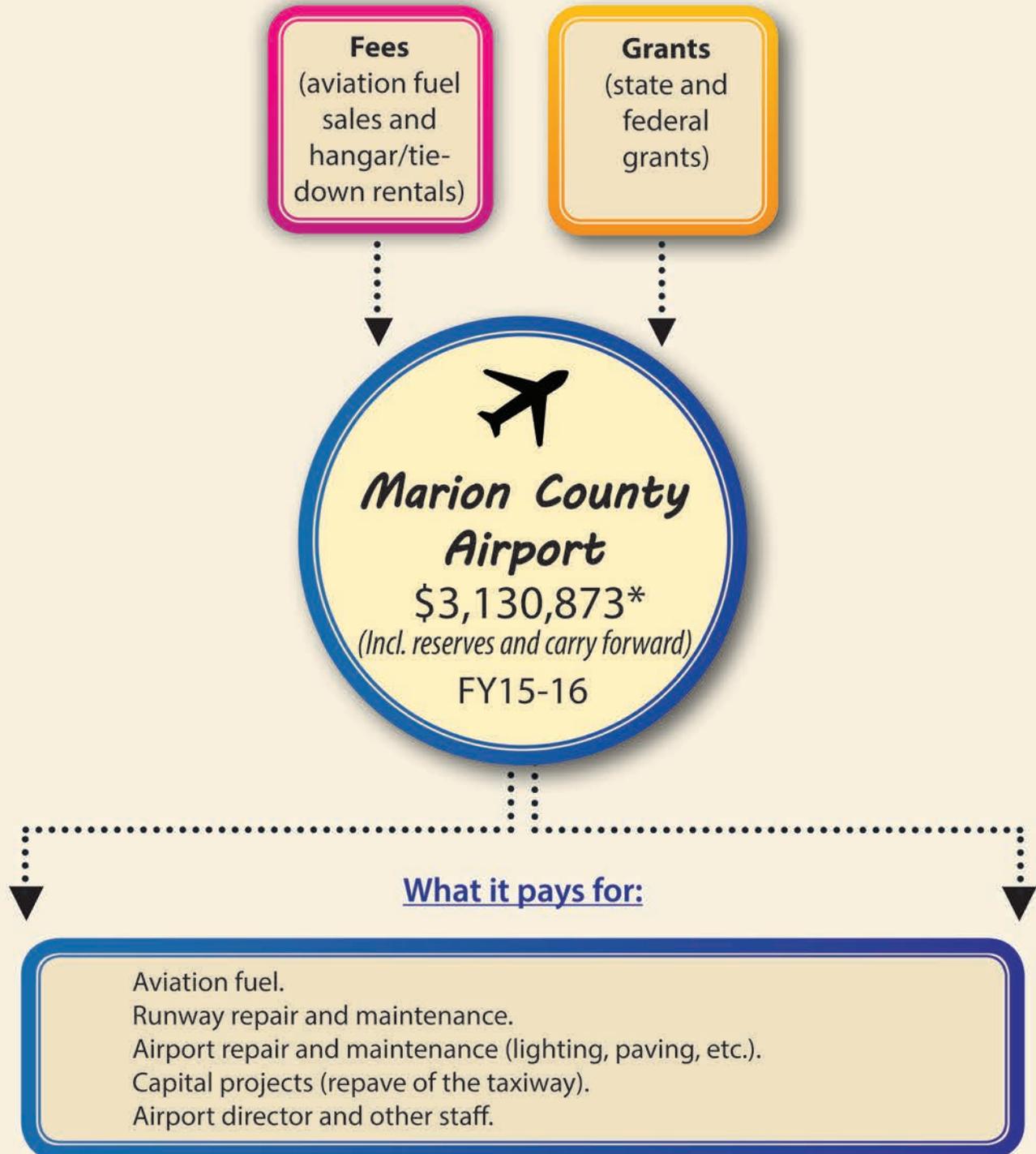
3%

The **General Fund** received 19% in property tax funding for services provided by Marion County departments, funding for the Clerk of the Court, Property Appraiser, Supervisor of Elections and Tax Collector, as well as jail operation and emergency management services provided by the Marion County Sheriff's Office. The **Fire, Rescue and EMS MSTU** received 5% for fire rescue services.

\*The percentages in property tax distribution are based on the fiscal year 2015-16 adopted budget.

# Budget 101: Marion County Airport

## How the department is funded:



\*This department does not receive general fund money (property taxes). It is funded solely by its users (rentals and fuel sales) and grants.

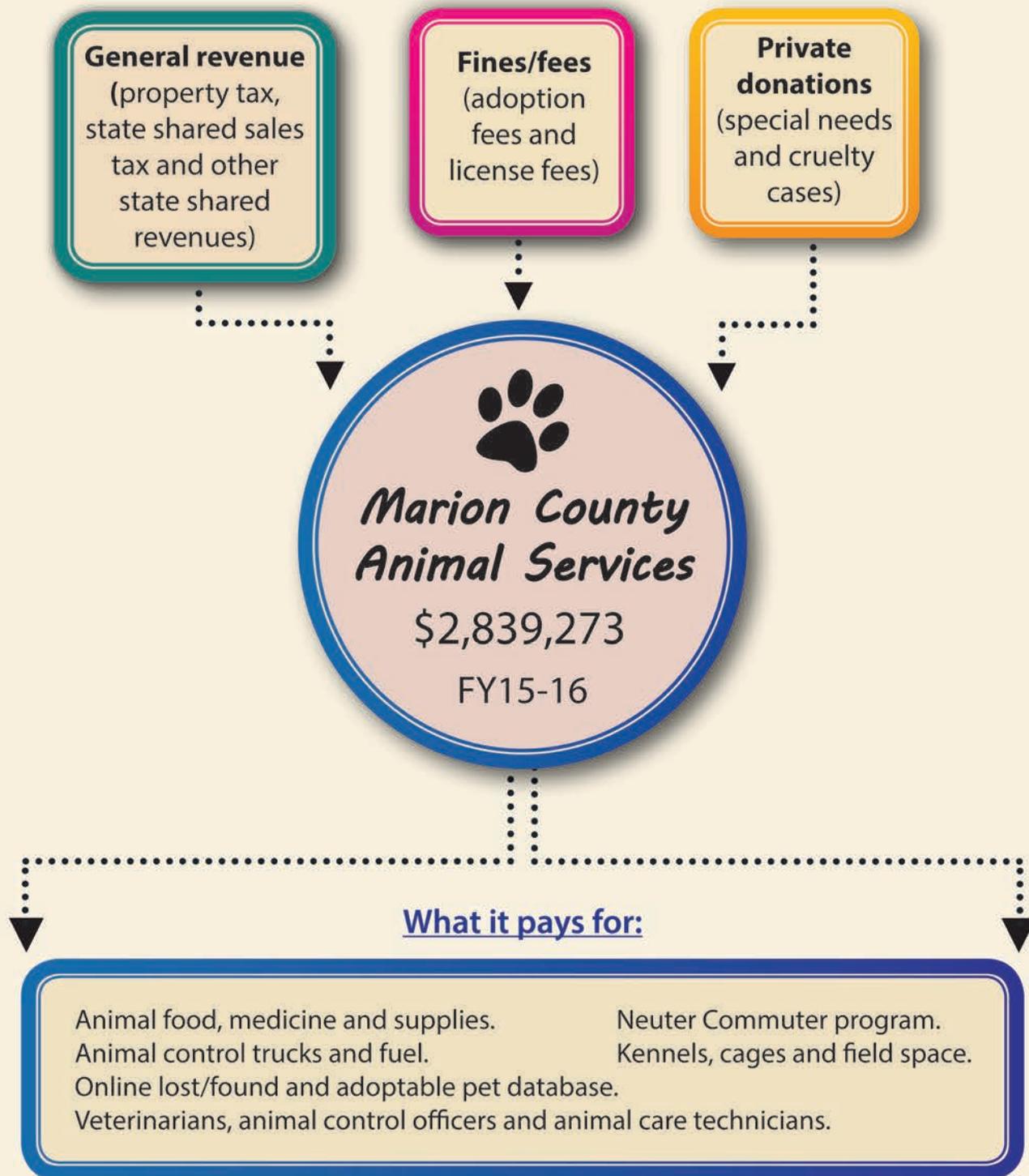


**Marion County Airport**  
14968 SW 110th St., Dunnellon  
352-465-8545  
[Airport@MarionCountyFL.org](mailto:Airport@MarionCountyFL.org)  
[www.MarionCountyFL.org/Airport](http://www.MarionCountyFL.org/Airport)



# Budget 101: Marion County Animal Services

## How the department is funded:



### Marion County Animal Services

5701 SE 66th St., Ocala FL, 34480

352-671-8700

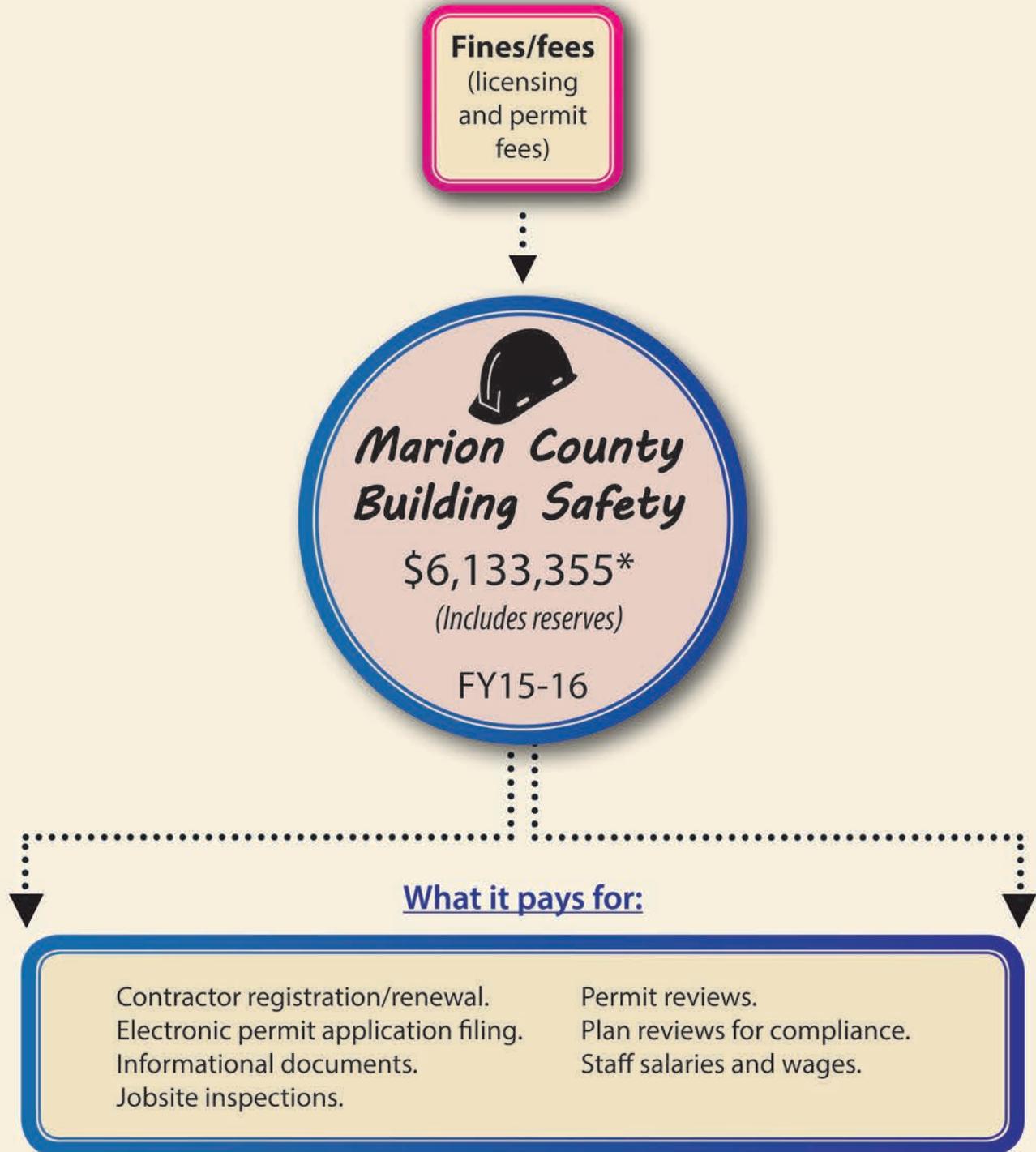
[AnimalServices@MarionCountyFL.org](mailto:AnimalServices@MarionCountyFL.org)

[www.MarionCountyFL.org/Animal](http://www.MarionCountyFL.org/Animal)



# Budget 101: Marion County Building Safety

## How the department is funded:



\*This department does not receive general fund money (property taxes). It is funded solely by its users (fines and fees).



**Marion County Building Safety**  
2710 E. Silver Springs Blvd., Ocala, FL 34470  
352-438-2400  
Building@MarionCountyFL.org  
www.MarionCountyFL.org/Building



# Budget 101: Marion County Community Services

## How the department is funded:



## What it pays for:

- Administers state and federal grants for housing and community development programs.
- Determines eligibility and accuracy in requests for payment for state-mandated Health Care Responsibility Act and unclaimed bodies programs.
- Handles eligibility for county WeCare indigent assistance program.

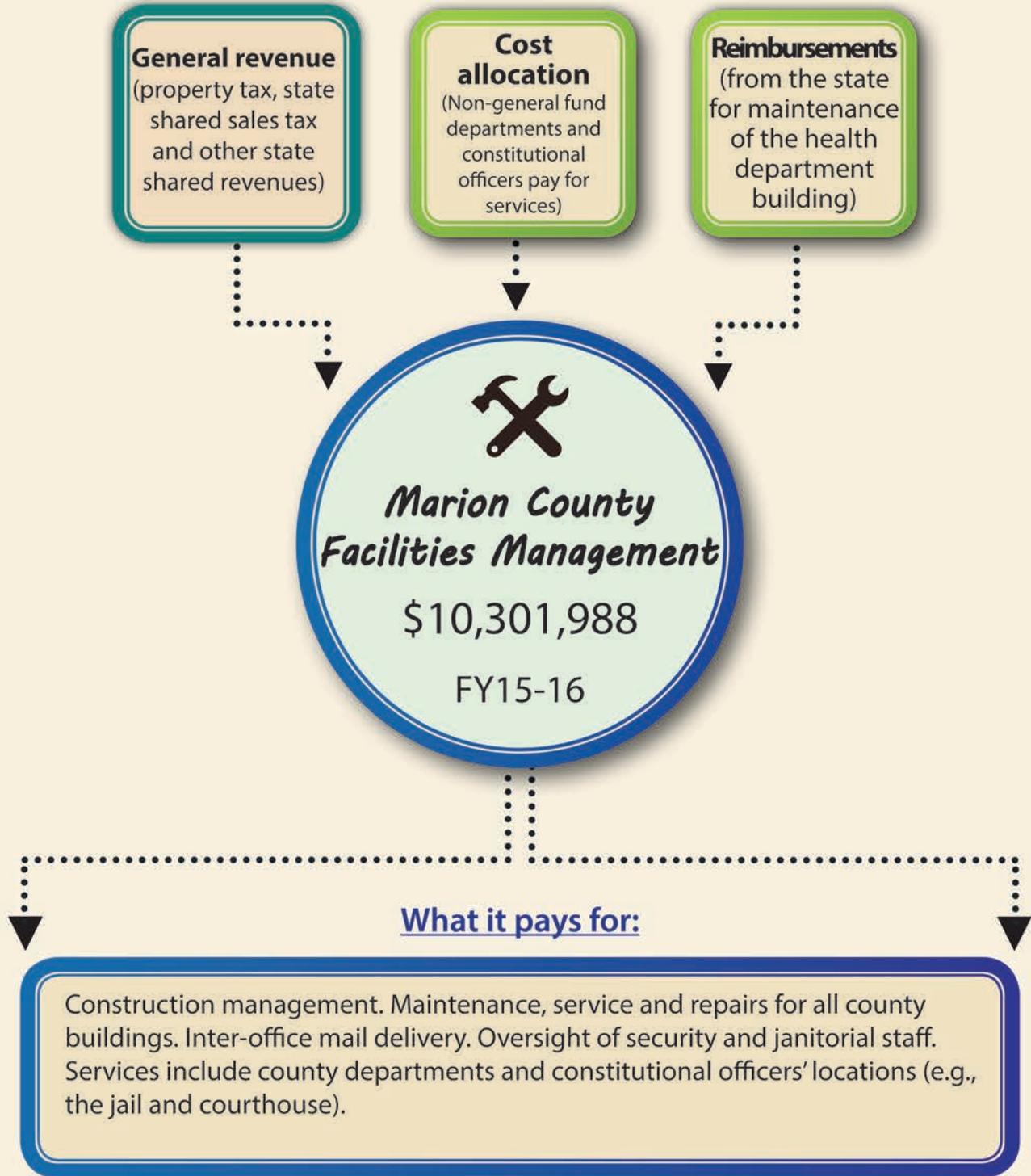


**Marion County Community Services**  
2631 SE Third St., Ocala  
352-671-8770  
[CommunityServices@MarionCountyFL.org](mailto:CommunityServices@MarionCountyFL.org)  
[www.MarionCountyFL.org/CommunityServices](http://www.MarionCountyFL.org/CommunityServices)



# Budget 101: Marion County Facilities Management

## How the department is funded:



**Marion County Facilities Management**  
2602 SE Eighth St., Ocala  
352-671-8750  
[www.MarionCountyFL.org/Facilities](http://www.MarionCountyFL.org/Facilities)



# Budget 101: Marion County Fire Rescue

## How the department is funded:

### Ambulance service (countywide)

#### General revenue

**What:** State-shared sales tax, other state-shared revenues and a portion of county-wide millage rate (property tax).

**The countywide millage rate is a tax,** based on property values, paid for by all property owners in Marion County.

**Pays for:** The ambulance service portion of MCFR, which serves all citizens of Marion County, including those living in incorporated cities and towns.

### Fire rescue service

(countywide, except for the cities of Ocala and Dunnellon, which provide their own fire departments)

#### Fire rescue EMS millage rate (Property tax)

**What:** A tax, based on property values, paid for by all property owners in Marion County, except for those in Ocala and Dunnellon.

**Pays for:** Non-transport EMS provided by crews on fire engines. MCFR fire engines are Advanced Life Support -licensed, meaning crews can provide life-saving services until an ambulance arrives (as well as fire suppression).

## FY15-16 Marion County Fire Rescue

Expenditure budget\*  
**\$57,095,206**

\*Excluding reserves of:  
**\$8,760,701**

#### Fire assessment

**What:** A fee on all Marion County properties that have a structure/dwelling on them or land over 5 acres (with a cap of 640 acres), except for those in Ocala, Dunnellon and Rainbow Lakes Estates.

**Pays for:** Fire rescue services.

#### Fees

(ambulance fees)

#### Fees

(impact fees, licenses and inspection fees, illegal burn fines)

#### Grants

(state and local grants)

Note: Box size not representative of funding magnitude.

Marion County Fire Rescue's (MCFR) budget pays for staff salaries and training, fire stations, ambulances, fire trucks, fuel, equipment and medical supplies.

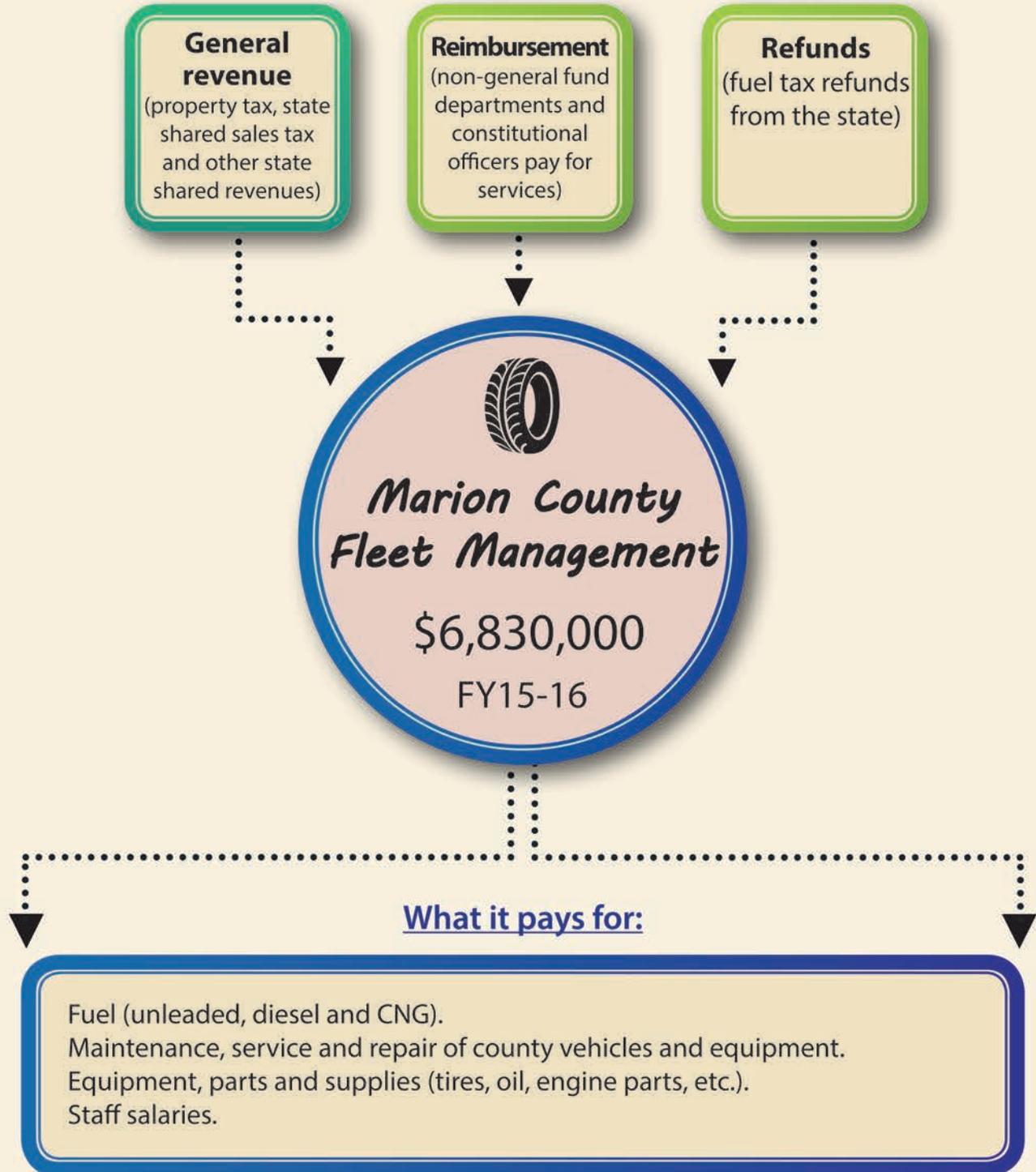


**Marion County Fire Rescue**  
2631 SE Third St., Ocala, FL 34471  
352-291-8000  
[www.MarionCountyFL.org/FireRescue](http://www.MarionCountyFL.org/FireRescue)



# Budget 101: Marion County Fleet Management

## How the department is funded:

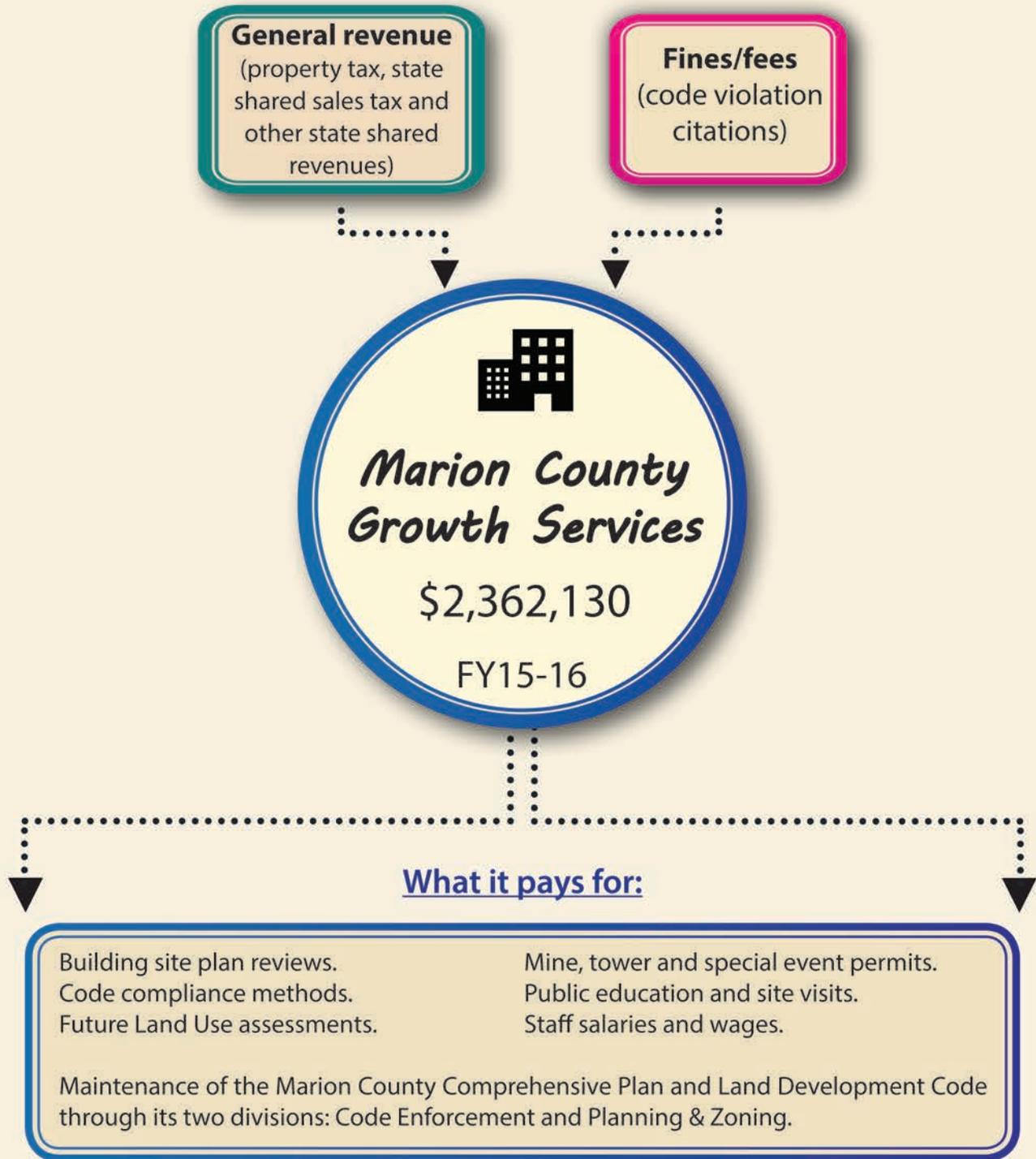


**Marion County Fleet Management**  
3330 SE Maricamp Road  
352-671-8570  
[www.MarionCountyFL.org/Fleet](http://www.MarionCountyFL.org/Fleet)



# Budget 101: Marion County Growth Services

## How the department is funded:

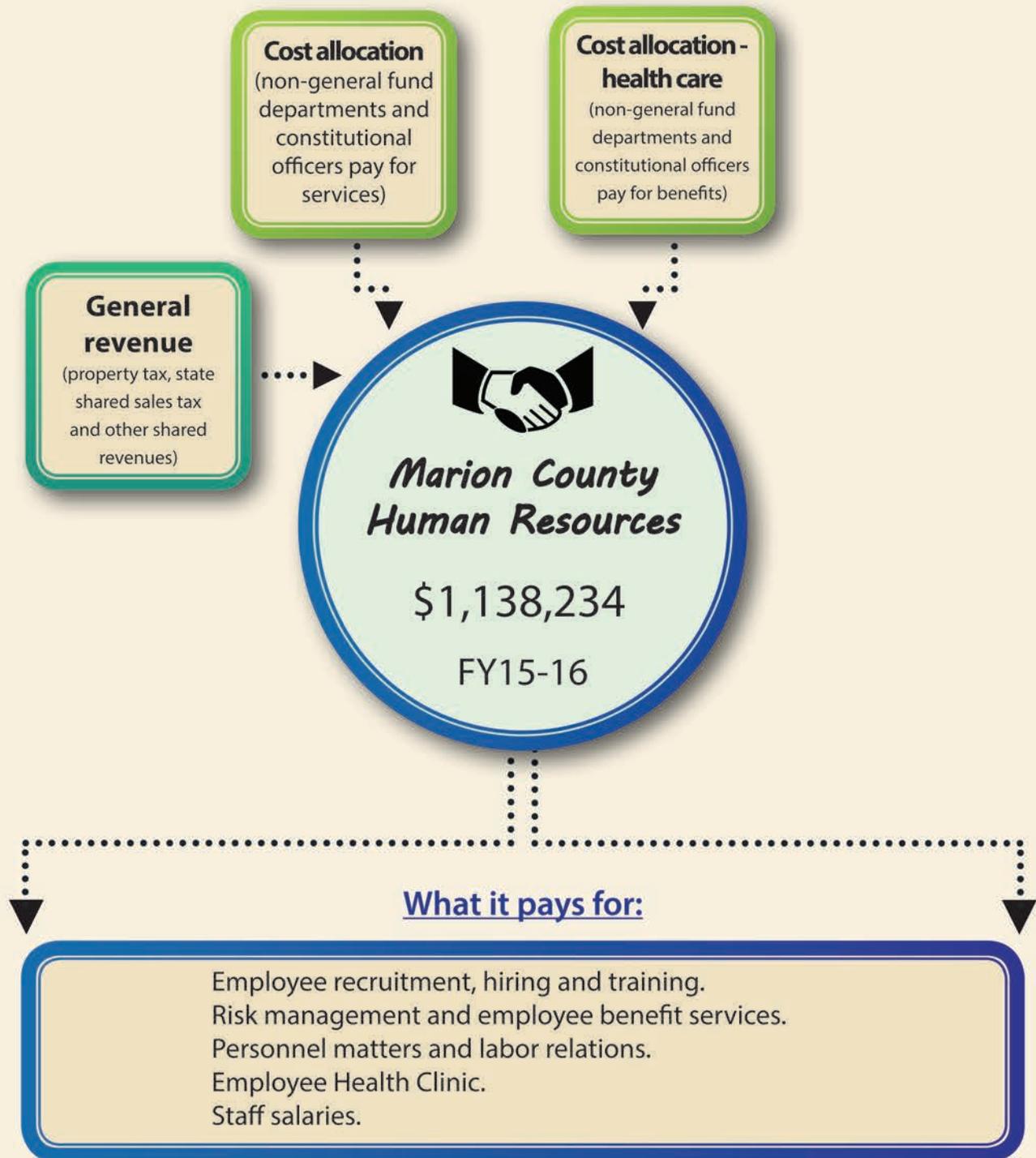


**Marion County Growth Services**  
2710 E. Silver Springs Blvd., Ocala, FL 34470  
352-438-2600  
GrowthServices@MarionCountyFL.org  
[www.MarionCountyFL.org/GrowthServices](http://www.MarionCountyFL.org/GrowthServices)



# Budget 101: Marion County Human Resources

## How the department is funded:

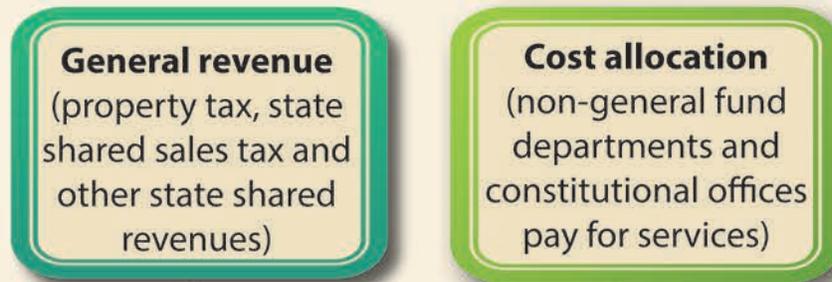


**Marion County Human Resources**  
521 SE 26th Court, Ocala  
352-438-2345  
HumanResources@MarionCountyFL.org  
[www.MarionCountyFL.org/HumanResources](http://www.MarionCountyFL.org/HumanResources)



# Budget 101: Marion County Information Technology

## How the department is funded:

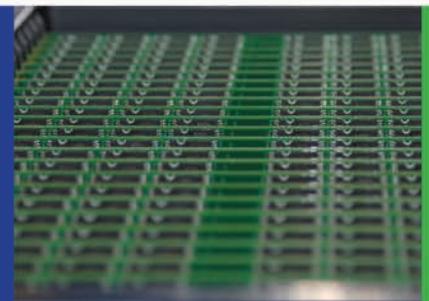


## What it pays for:

- Staff salaries and wages.
- Service, installation and maintenance for all county computers, software, networking equipment, printers, video security and other electronic equipment, as well as the phone systems for the constitutional offices housed at the McPherson Governmental Complex.

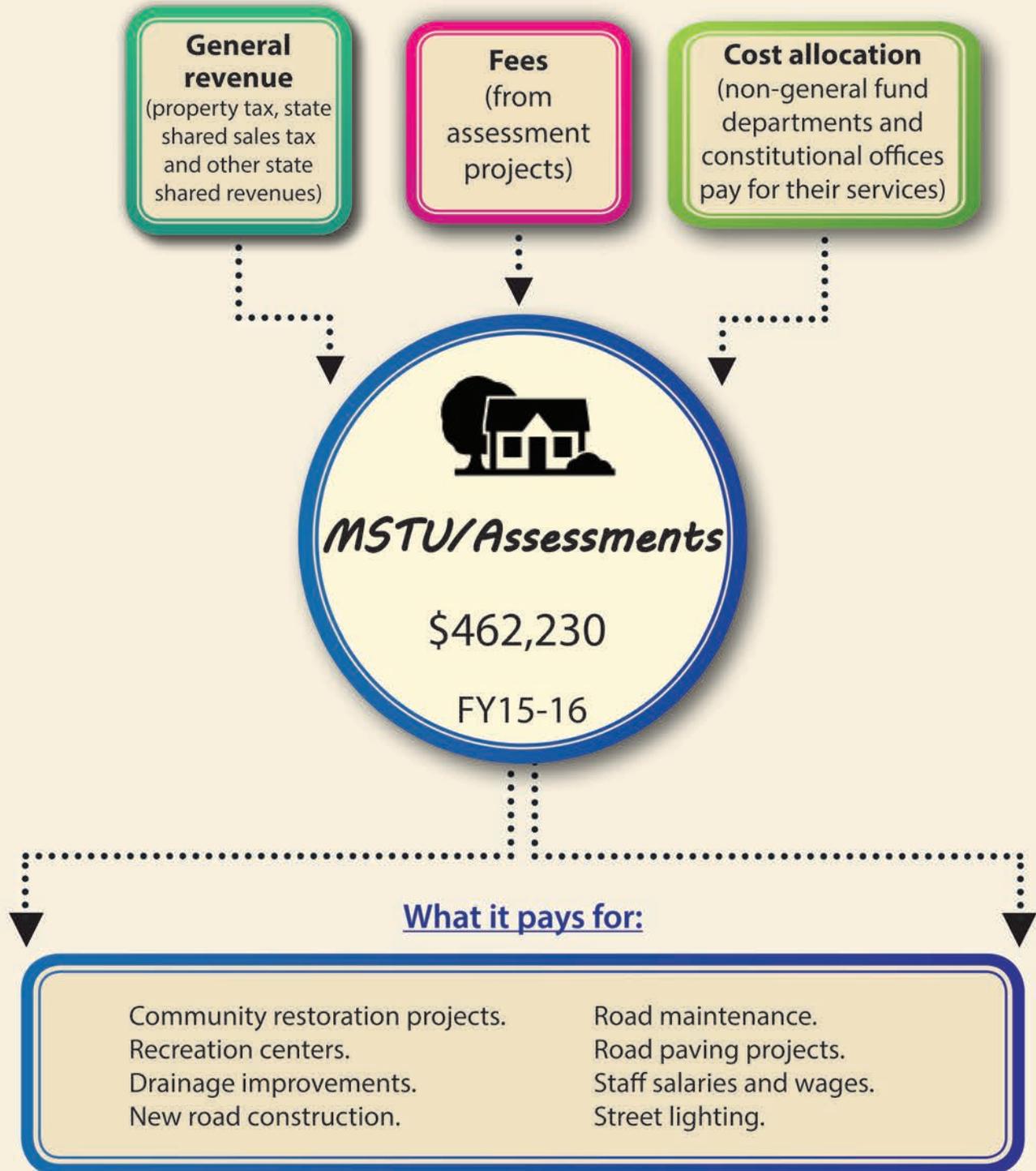


**Marion County Information Technology**  
2511 SE Third St., Ocala, FL 34471  
352-671-8809  
[InformationTechnology@MarionCountyFL.org](mailto:InformationTechnology@MarionCountyFL.org)  
[www.MarionCountyFL.org/InformationTechnology](http://www.MarionCountyFL.org/InformationTechnology)



# Budget 101: MSTU/Assessments

## How the department is funded:

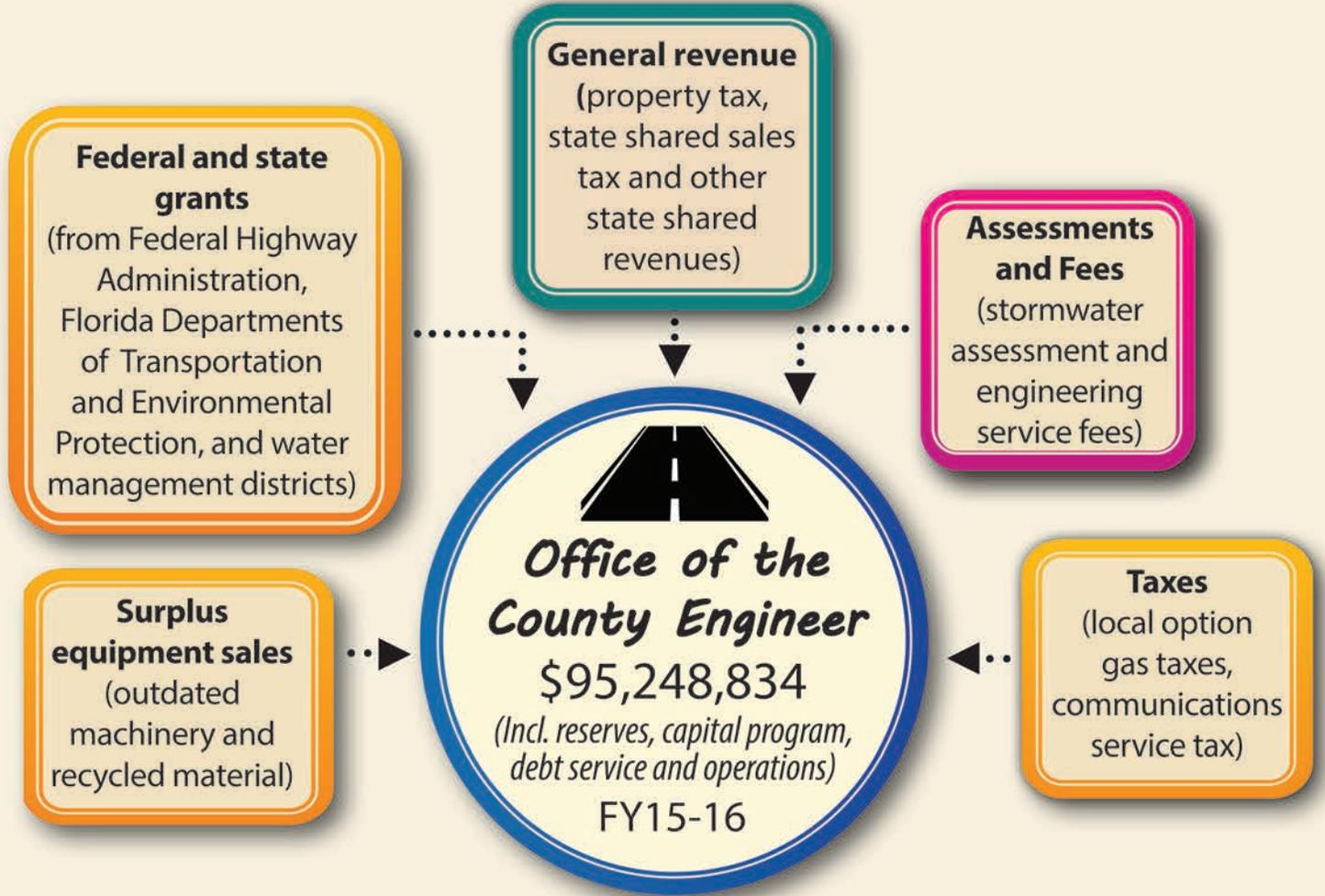


**Marion County MSTU/Assessments**  
2710 E. Silver Springs Blvd., Ocala, FL 34470  
352-438-2650  
MSTU@MarionCountyFL.org  
www.MarionCountyFL.org/MSTU

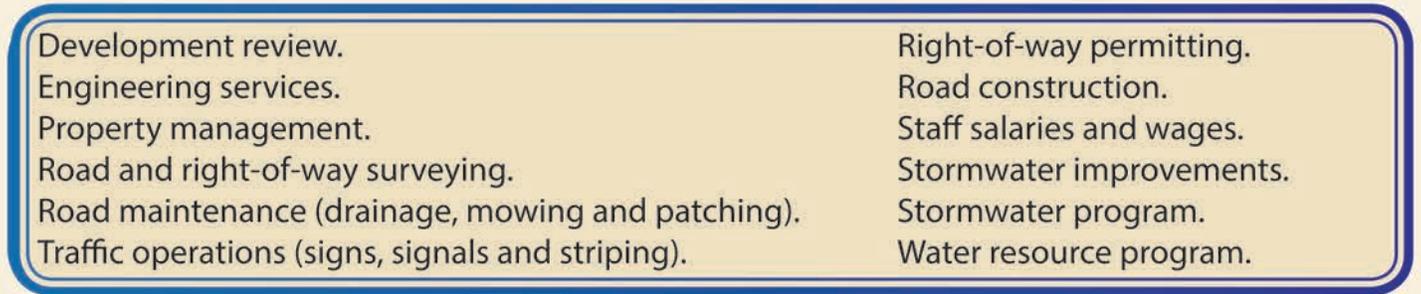


# Budget 101: Office of the County Engineer

## How the department is funded:



## What it pays for:

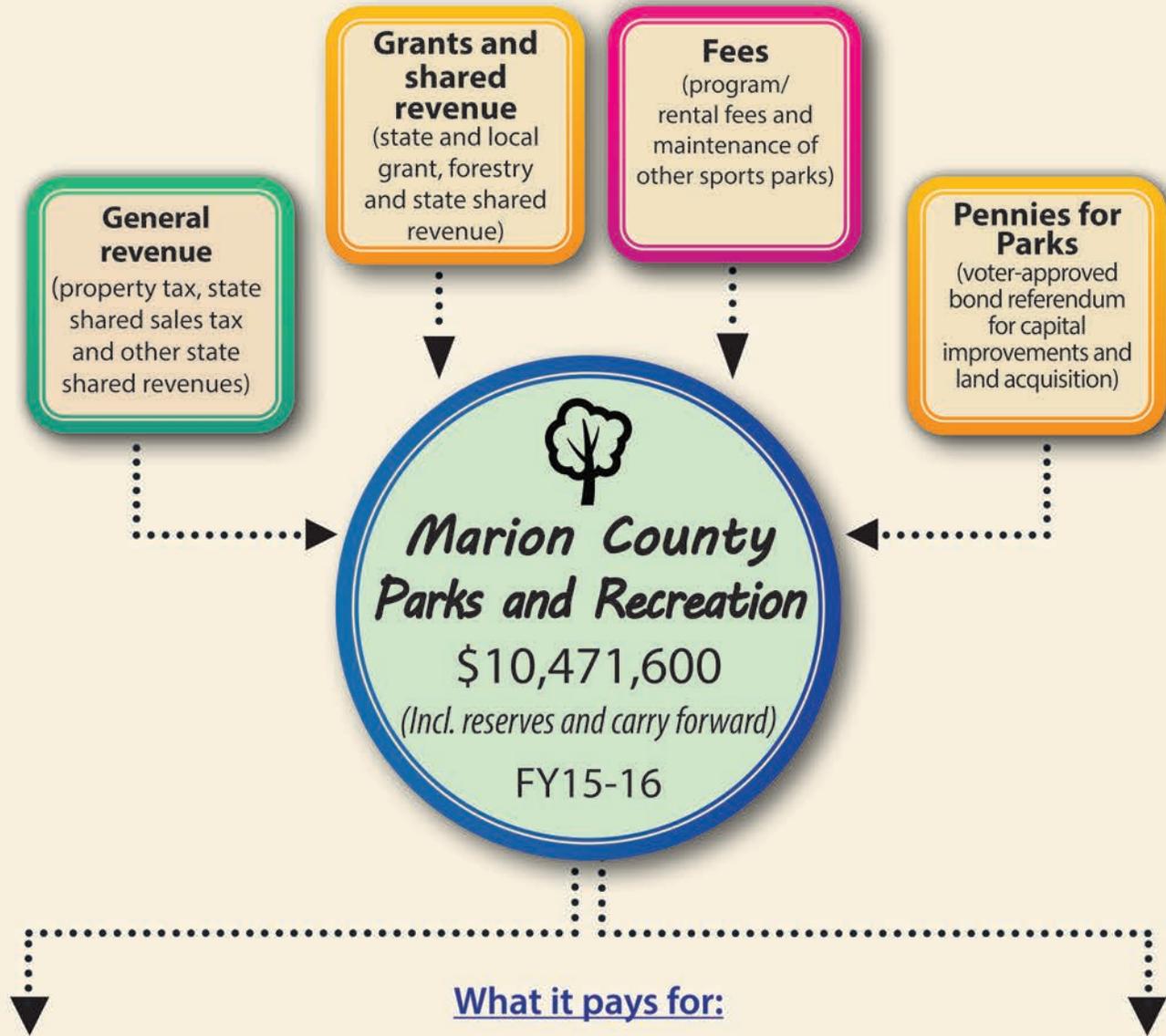


**Marion County Office of the County Engineer**  
412 SE 25th Ave., Ocala, FL 34471  
352-671-8686  
Roads@MarionCountyFL.org  
www.MarionCountyFL.org/CountyEngineer



# Budget 101: Marion County Parks and Recreation

## How the department is funded:



Maintenance, management and improvements to park locations.  
Educational and recreational programs, classes, camps and tours.  
Sports field maintenance.  
Parks partnership grant program.  
Staff salaries.



**Marion County Parks and Recreation**

111 SE 25th Ave., Ocala

352-671-8560

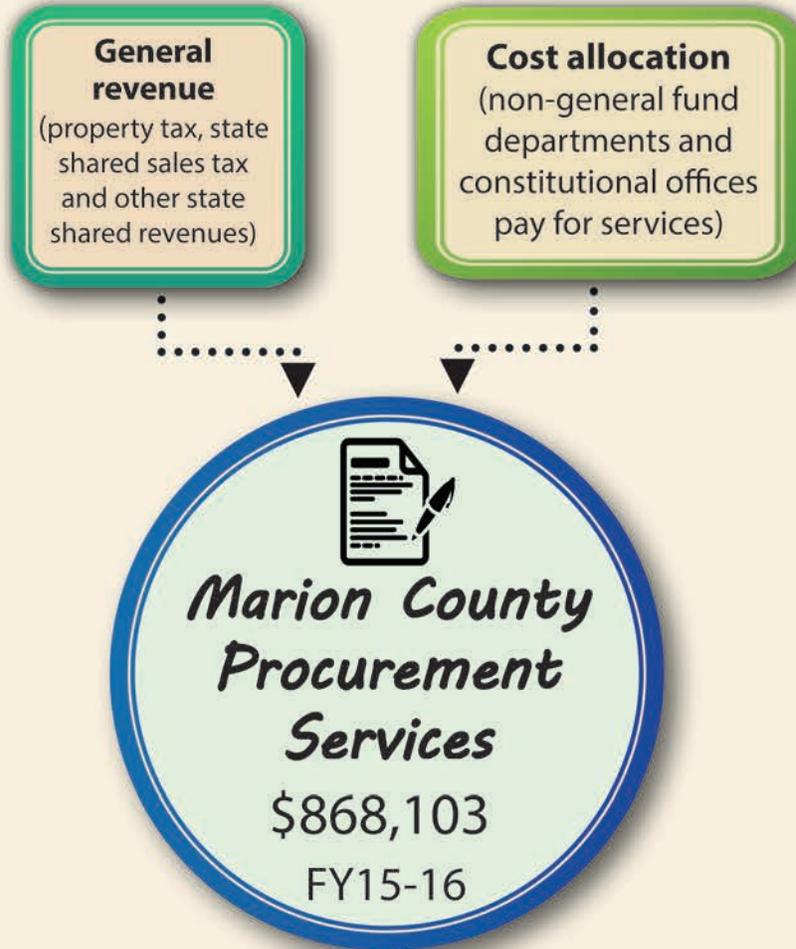
[Parks@MarionCountyFL.org](mailto:Parks@MarionCountyFL.org)

[www.MarionCountyFL.org/parks](http://www.MarionCountyFL.org/parks)



# Budget 101: Marion County Procurement Services

## How the department is funded:



## What it pays for:

Contract administration.  
Cost-effective bidding practices.  
Expenditure transaction processing.  
Local vendor directory maintenance.

Local vendor training sessions.  
Public notice of open bids.  
Purchasing card administration.  
Staff salaries and wages.

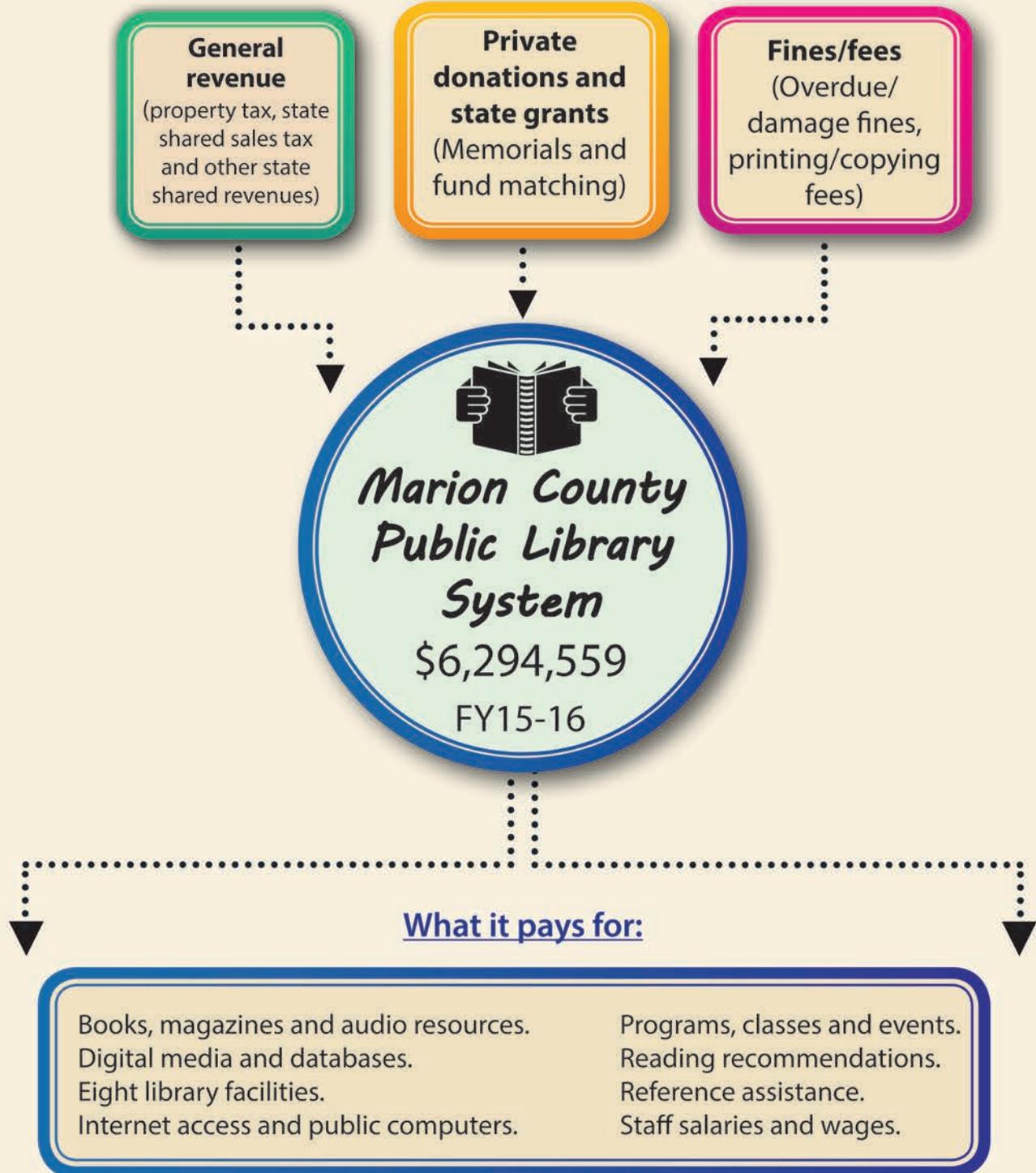


**Marion County Procurement Services**  
2631 SE Third St., Ocala, FL 34471  
352-671-8444  
Procurement@MarionCountyFL.org  
[www.MarionCountyFL.org/Procurement](http://www.MarionCountyFL.org/Procurement)



# Budget 101: Marion County Public Library System

## How the department is funded:

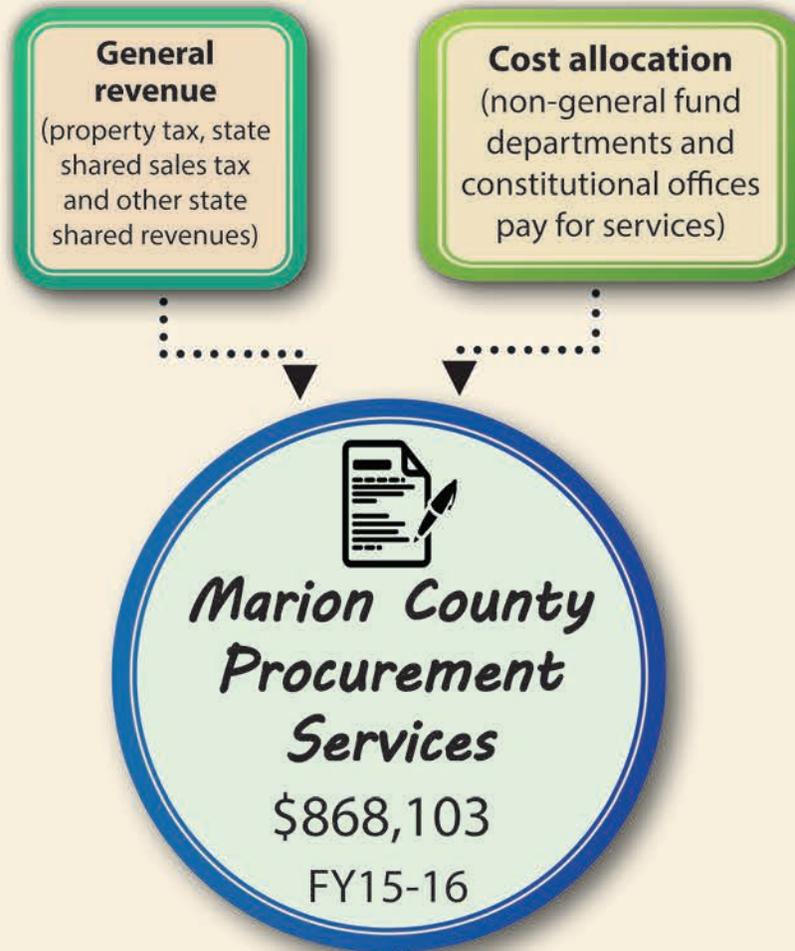


**Marion County Public Library System**  
2720 E. Silver Springs Blvd., Ocala, FL 34470  
352-671-8551  
[Library@MarionCountyFL.org](mailto:Library@MarionCountyFL.org)  
[Library.MarionCountyFL.org](http://Library.MarionCountyFL.org)

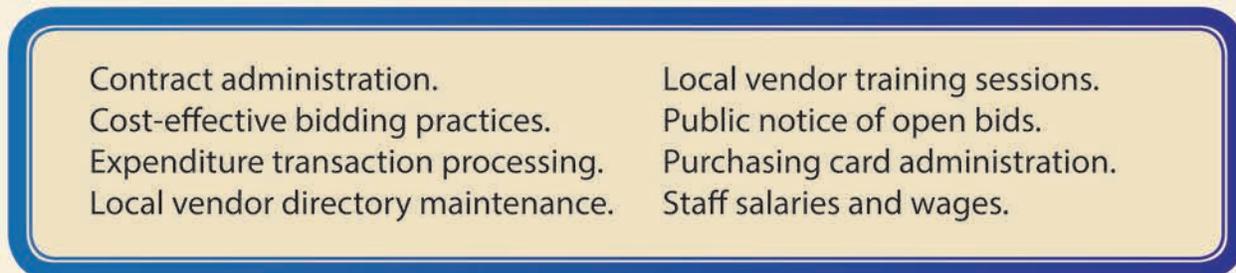


# Budget 101: Marion County Procurement Services

## How the department is funded:



## What it pays for:

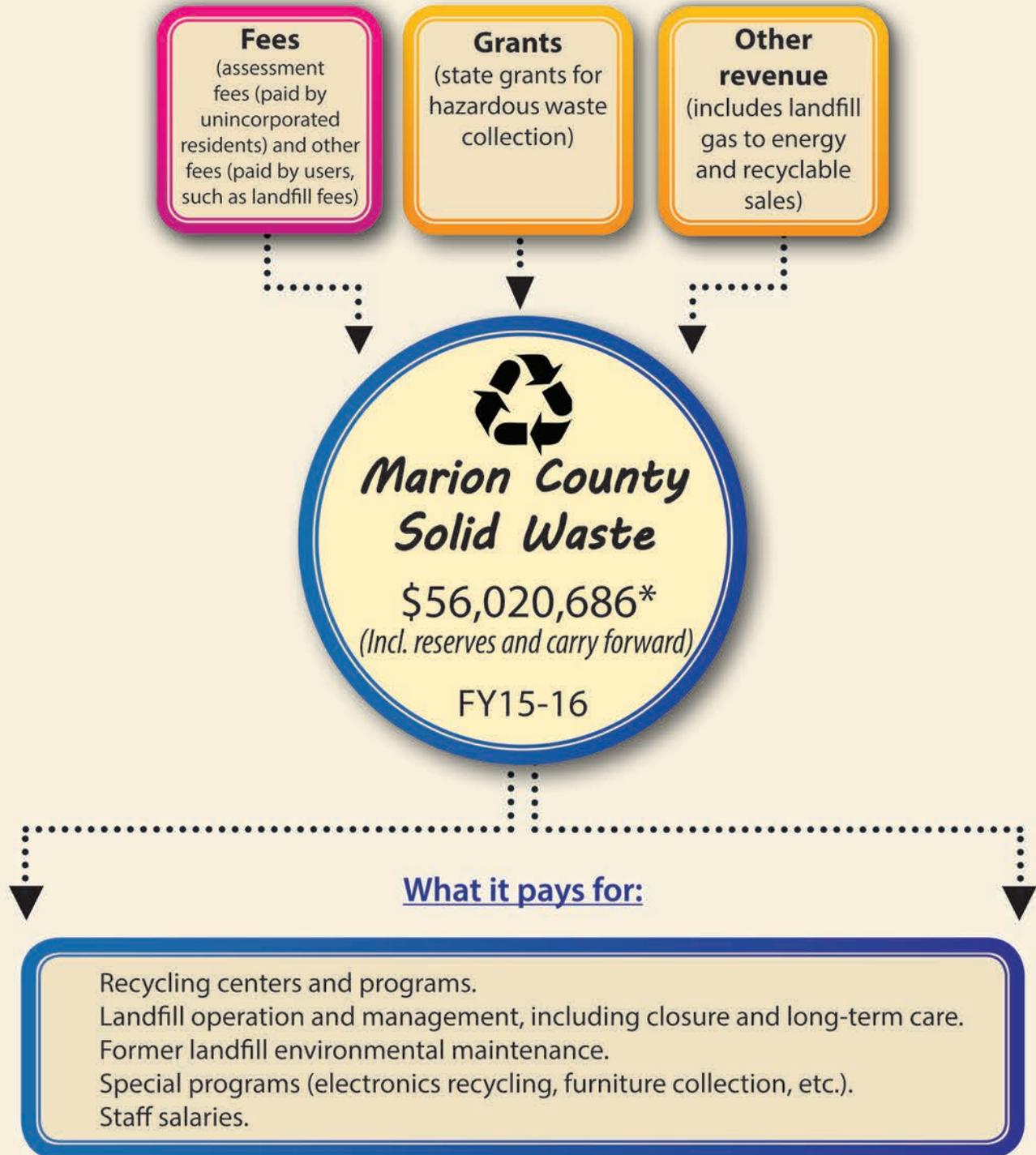


**Marion County Procurement Services**  
2631 SE Third St., Ocala, FL 34471  
352-671-8444  
Procurement@MarionCountyFL.org  
www.MarionCountyFL.org/Procurement



# Budget 101: Marion County Solid Waste

## How the department is funded:



\*This department does not receive general fund money (property taxes). It is funded by its users (fees and assessments), grants and revenue such as LF gas to energy.



Marion County  
FLORIDA

## Marion County Solid Waste

5601 SE 66th St., Ocala

352-671-8465

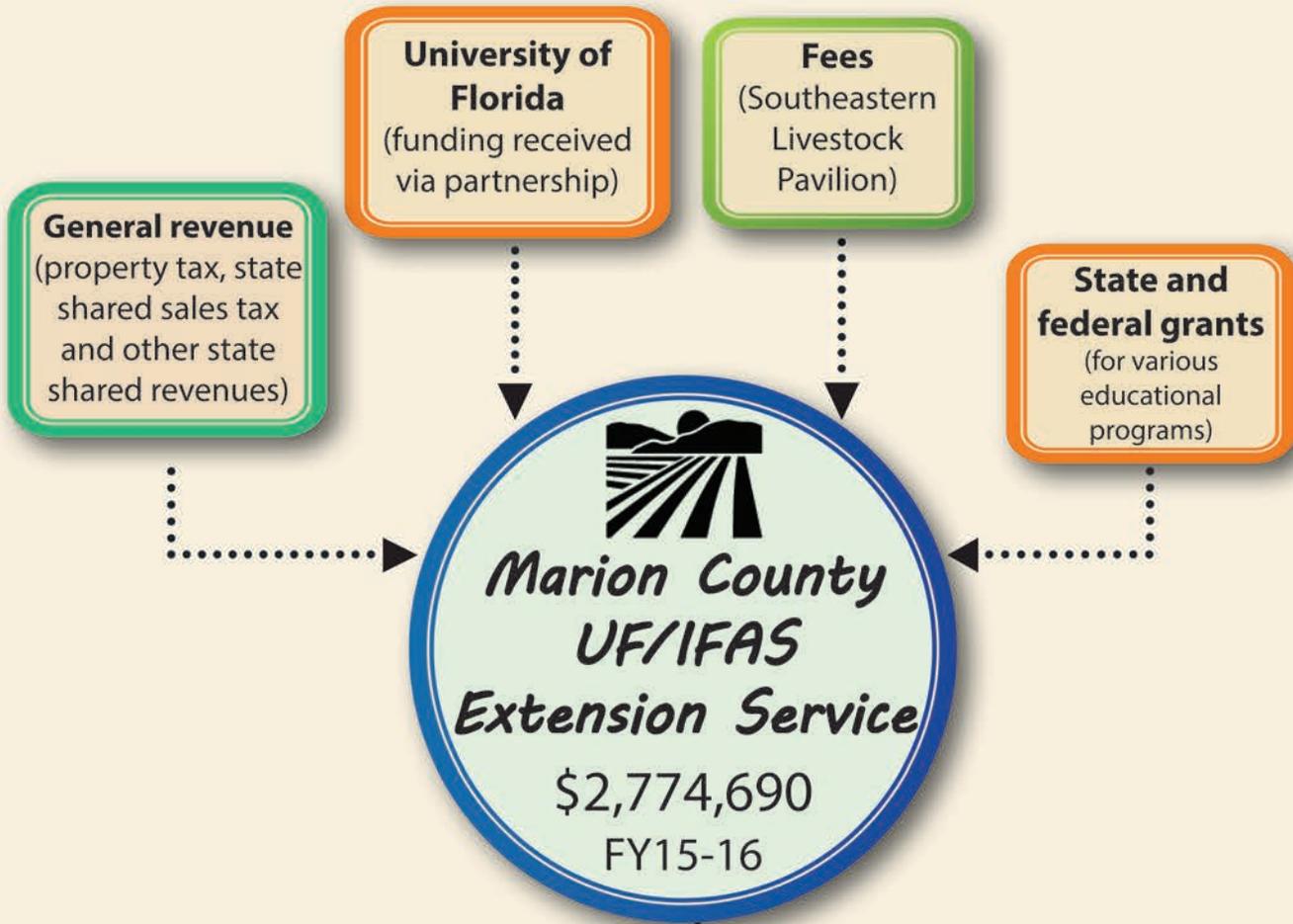
[SolidWaste@MarionCountyFL.org](mailto:SolidWaste@MarionCountyFL.org)

[www.MarionCountyFL.org/SolidWaste](http://www.MarionCountyFL.org/SolidWaste)



# Budget 101: Marion County UF/IFAS Extension Service

## How the department is funded:



## What it pays for:

Agricultural Hall of Fame.  
County 4-H main office.  
Exhibition building.

Field events area.  
Paved parking lot for 1,000 vehicles.  
Picnic pavilion with showers, electric.

Programs, classes and events.  
Southeastern Livestock Pavilion.  
Staff salaries and wages.

Experts in Agriculture, Family and Consumer Sciences, and Lawn and Garden who promote best practices and provide county-specific research and knowledge to citizens in person, as well as via phone, email and newsletters.



**Marion County UF/IFAS Extension Service**

2232 NE Jacksonville Road, Ocala, FL 34470

352-671-8400

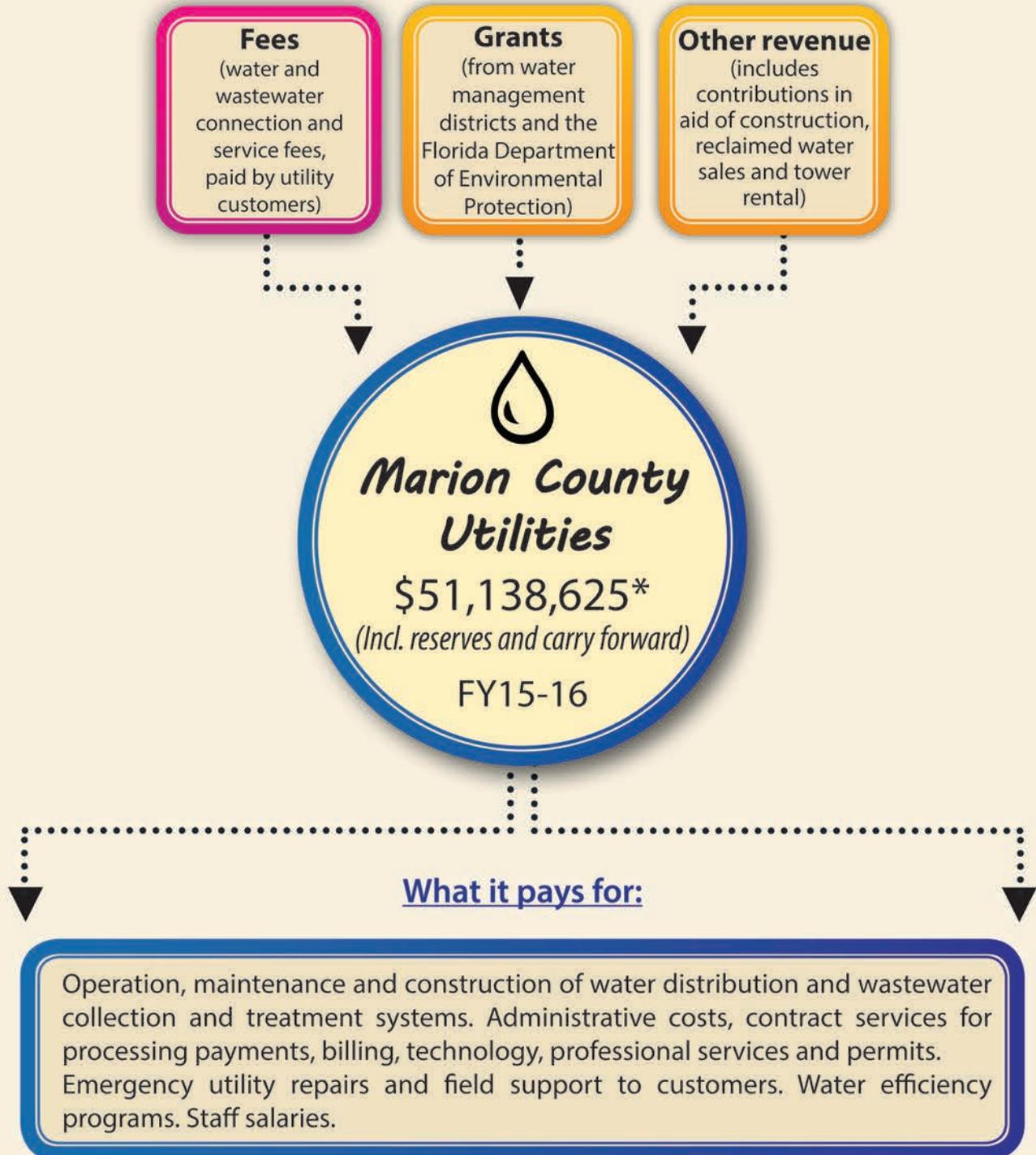
CountyExtension@MarionCountyFL.org

www.MarionCountyFL.org/ExtensionService



# Budget 101: Marion County Utilities

## How the department is funded:



\*This department does not receive general fund money (property taxes). It is funded solely by water and wastewater customers, grants and other revenue.



**Marion County Utilities**  
11800 SE U.S. Highway 441, Belleview  
352-307-4630  
[Utilities@MarionCountyFL.org](mailto:Utilities@MarionCountyFL.org)  
[www.MarionCountyFL.org/Utilities](http://www.MarionCountyFL.org/Utilities)



# Budget 101: Marion County Veterans Services

## How the department is funded:

### General revenue

(property tax, state shared sales tax and other state shared revenues)



## Marion County Veterans Services

\$478,032

FY15-16



## What it pays for:

- Assistance to veterans and their families obtaining Veterans Administration benefits.
- Assistance to veterans seeking to replace lost medals awarded while serving on active duty.
- Ocala-Marion County Veterans Memorial Park management.
- Staff salaries.



**Marion County Veterans Services**  
2528 E. Silver Springs Blvd., Ocala  
352-671-8422  
[www.MarionCountyFL.org/VeteransServices](http://www.MarionCountyFL.org/VeteransServices)



# Budget 101: Visitors and Convention Bureau

## How the department is funded:

**Tourist development tax**  
(tax on overnight stays in short-term accommodations)



## What it pays for:

Grows Marion County's travel and tourism industry through domestic and international marketing and outreach, as well as grant opportunities for events held within the county, per Florida State Statute 125.0104.

\*This department does not receive general fund money (property taxes). It is funded solely by taxes on overnight stays in short-term accommodations (< 6 months).



**Marion County Visitors and Convention Bureau**  
112 N. Magnolia Ave., Ocala  
352-438-2800  
[www.OcalaMarion.com](http://www.OcalaMarion.com)

