

2025 Operating Budget Priorities and Parameters

Council Work Session #1
August 13, 2024





2025 Operating BudgetSources of Funds

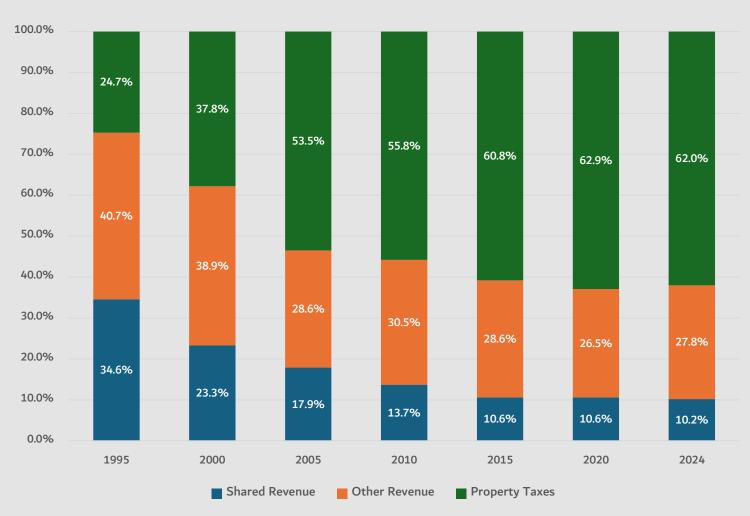
- Property Tax
 - Levy Limits
 - Net New Construction
- State Shared Revenue
- Charges for Services
- Intergovernmental Revenue
- State Transportation Aids





2025 Operating BudgetSources of Funds

Percent of Total General Fund Revenue



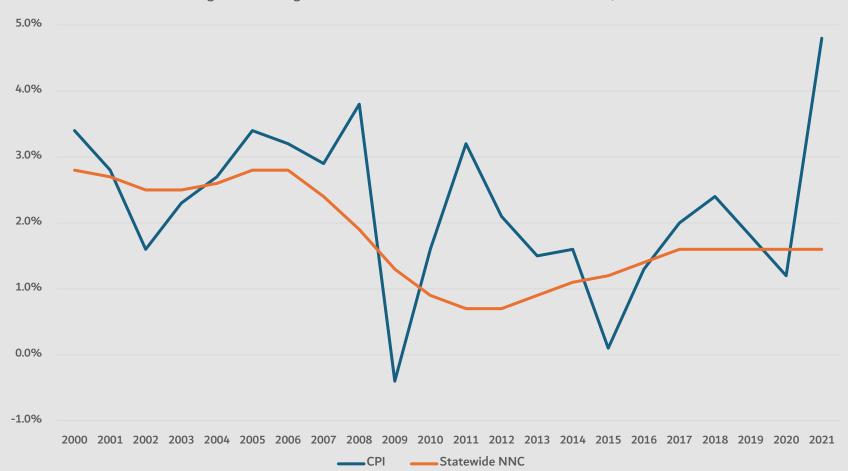




2025 Operating BudgetFunding Constraints

Allowable Growth in Levy Rarely Matches CPI

Average annual change in CPI vs. Wisconsin statewide net new construction, 2000-2021







2025 Operating Budget Levy Limits

- <u>Levy Limits</u> A municipality is allowed to increase its levy over the amount it levied in the prior year by the percentage increase in equalized value from net new construction. If no new construction occurred in your community, then your allowable levy increase is zero percent.
 - 2024 3.03% 2025 Projected 2.6%
 - Post-2005 debt service levy exempt from levy limits
 - Can exceed limits if approved by referendum





2025 Operating Budget Levy Limits

- On or after July 2, 2013, if a municipality adopts a new fee or a fee increase for covered services (which were partly or wholly funded in 2013 by property tax levy), that municipality must reduce its levy limit in the current year by the amount of the new fee or fee increase
- Covered Services include garbage collection, fire protection, snow plowing, street sweeping, and storm water management.

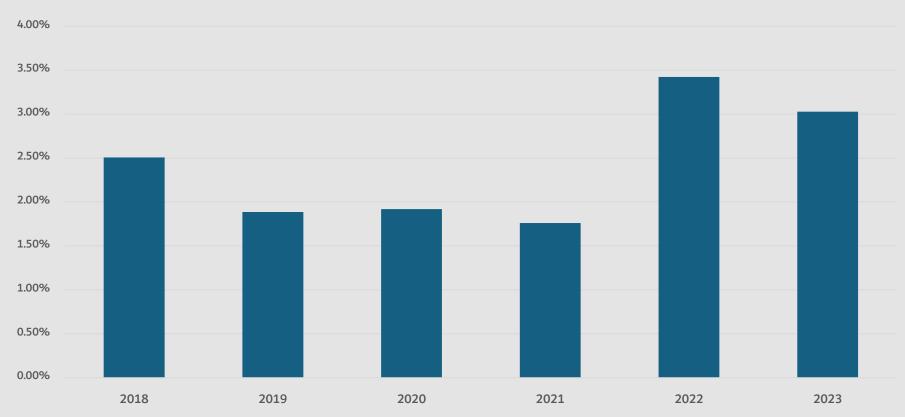




2025 Operating BudgetNet New Construction

Net New Construction % - City of Eau Claire

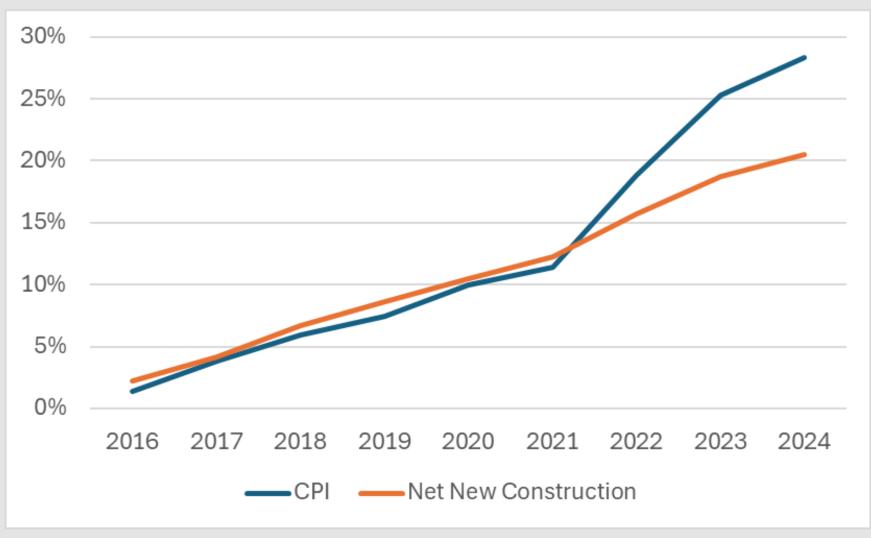
2018-2023







2025 Operating BudgetFunding Constraints







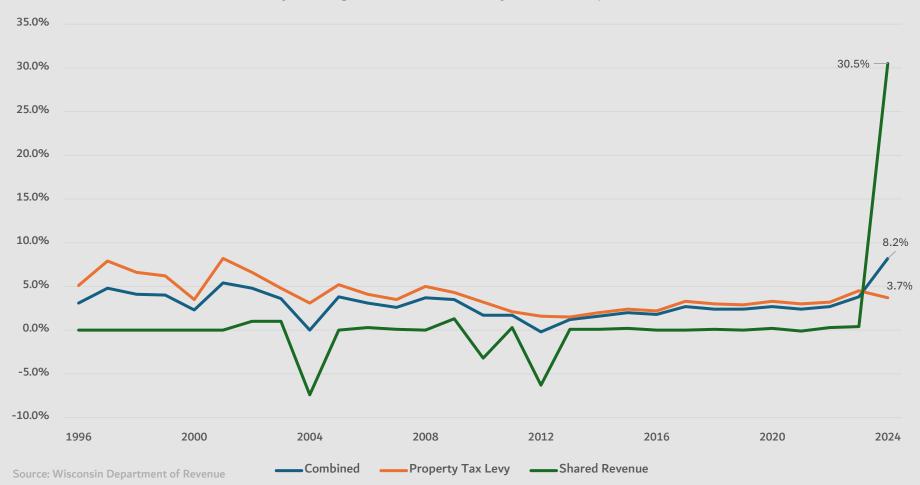
With the passage last summer of state legislation known as 2023 Wisconsin Act 12, most Wisconsin municipalities this year are receiving their first substantial increase in state shared revenue in many years. However, these increases vary widely by community, with some receiving much larger amount per capita than others.





Act 12 Spurs Largest Growth in Main Municipal Revenue Sources in Decades

Year-over-year change in revenue collections by source, municipalities statewide

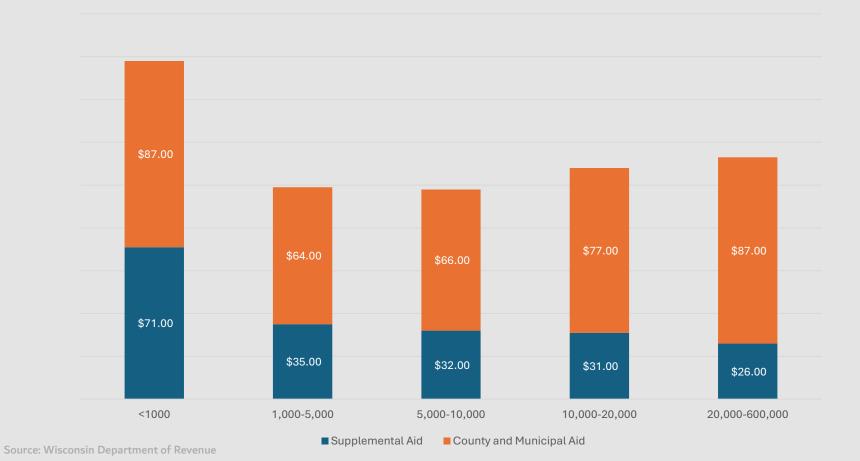






Small Municipalities Benefit Most from Act 12

2024 County and Municipal Aid per capita, by municipal population

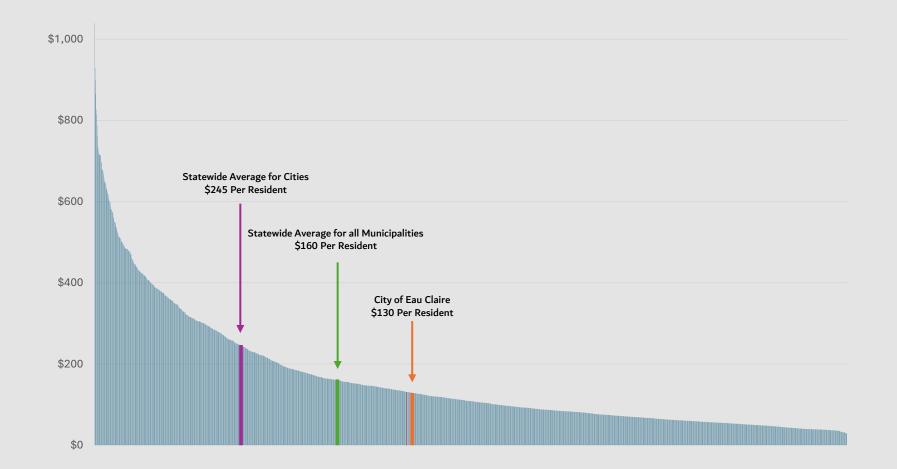






Eau Claire Below Statewide Average in Key Form of State Aid

Total state per capita county and municipal aid following Act 12 legislation, by municipality, 2024 Estimate







2025 Operating BudgetFunding Constraints

Expenditure/Revenue Factor	Amount
FY24 General Fund Expenditures	\$90M
CPI (Oct 23-May 24)	3%
If the City were to implement a 3% CPI Increase	\$2.7M
NNC Increase for 25 applied to General Fund	\$876k
Increase in Shared Revenue in '25	\$169k
Gap between CPI and Revenue	(\$1.65M)

Items to consider:

- Rising utility costs
- Rising material costs
- Rising construction costs
- Higher CPIs prior to '24
- Requests from Directors
- New commitments (maintenance of new parks, new streets)
- New priorities (EDI, Housing, Sustainability)
- Adjustments to salaries beyond COLA/CPI (e.g. step increases)
- Backfill of COVID related grants, such as ARPA and Health Department.





2025 Operating BudgetRevenue Alternatives

- Local Option Sales Tax
- Local Income Tax
- ✓ Referendum (Approved Fall 2022)
- ✓ Local Vehicle Registration Fee (Implemented Fall 2023)
- User Fees (3.30%)
- Parking Benefit District
- Impact, Special Revenue or Special Assessment Fees
- Premier Resort Area Tax





2025 Operating BudgetCalendar

Date(s)	Item
July 19th to July 30th	City Manager reviews departments' budget requests
August 13th	City Council Operating Budget Work Session #1 (Priorities & Parameters)
July 30th to September 30th	Finance prepares Operating Budget
September 30th	City Council receives Proposed Operating Budget
October 7th	Public Discussion/Hearing #1 on Proposed Operating Budget
October 8th	City Council Operating Budget Work Session #2 (Department Directors)
October 11th	Proposed Fees & License Schedule published
October 22nd	City Council Operating Budget Work Session #3 (Amendments Discussion)
November 8th	City Council Amendments Due (Budget and Fees & Licenses)
November 11th	Public Discussion/Hearing #2 on Proposed Operating Budget and Fees & Licenses Schedule
November 12th	City Council action on Proposed Operating Budget, Fees & Licenses Schedule, & Tax Levy





2025 Operating Budget Tax Levy vs. Tax Rate

- <u>Tax Levy</u> The total dollar amount that must be levied in the form of a property tax.
- <u>Tax Rate</u> The Tax Levy divided by the equalized value of the taxing jurisdiction.
 - Expressed as a rate/\$1,000 of assessed value.
 - City Tax Levy/(Total Equalized Value/1,000) = Tax Rate





2025 Operating Budget



