



# **2025 BUDGET PRESENTATION**

**MAYOR & COUNCIL MEETING  
TUESDAY, APRIL 1, 2025**

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**BOROUGH OF HIGHLAND PARK, MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY**



2025 BUDGET PRESENTATION  
BOROUGH OF HIGHLAND PARK, MIDDLESEX COUNTY

2025 PROPERTY TAX SNAPSHOT

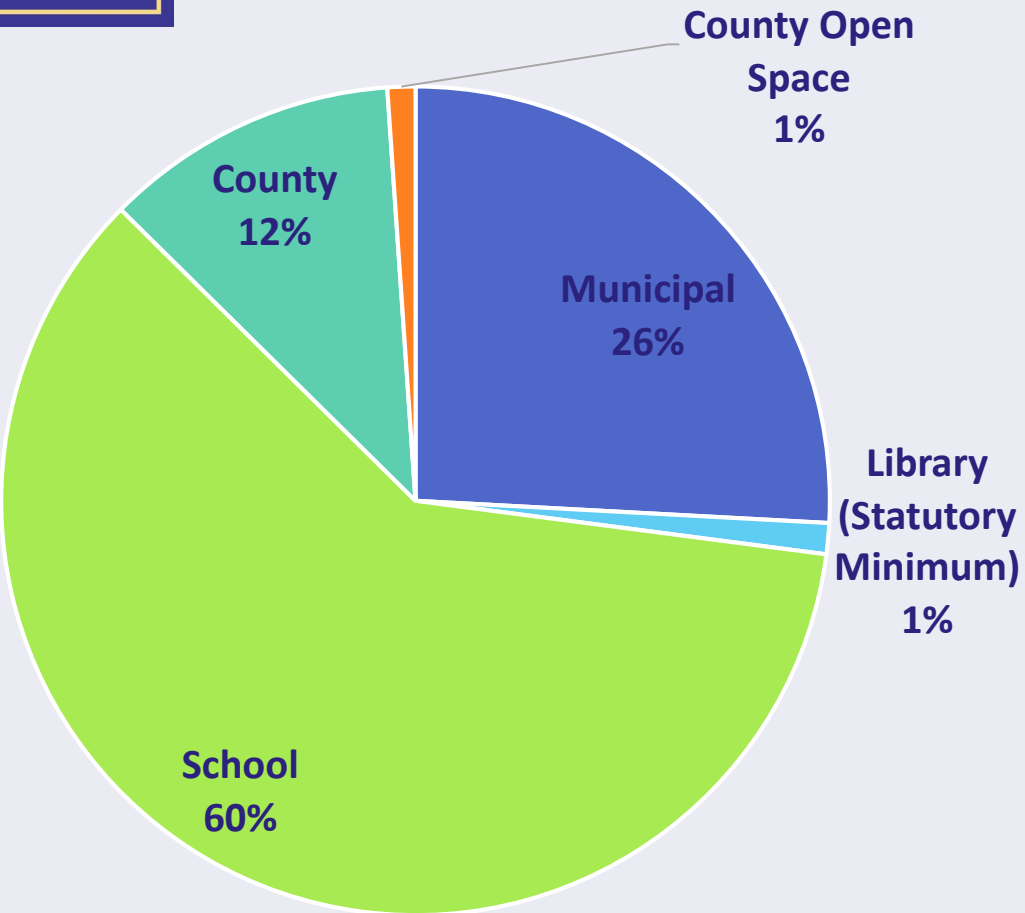
	2024	2025 EST.	CHANGE
TOTAL TO BE RAISED BY PROPERTY TAXES	\$55,181,572.02	\$57,401,937.91	+\$2,220,365.89
TOTAL ASSESSED VALUE	\$2,146,292,700.00	\$2,145,431,000.00	-\$861,700.00
PROPERTY TAX RATE (PER \$100 ASSESSED)	2.571	2.676	+0.104
AVERAGE PROPERTY TAX BILL (2025 AVERAGE ASSESSMENT = \$481,500)	\$12,340.63	\$12,882.74	+542.11

AVERAGE PROPERTY TAX BILL INCREASE OF 4.4%  
(\$542.11 PER YEAR OR \$45.18 PER MONTH)



# 2025 BUDGET PRESENTATION

## BOROUGH OF HIGHLAND PARK, MIDDLESEX COUNTY



MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT RESPONSIBLE FOR 26% OF THE OVERALL PROPERTY TAX BILL

TOTAL 2025 TAX LEVY = \$57,401,937.91

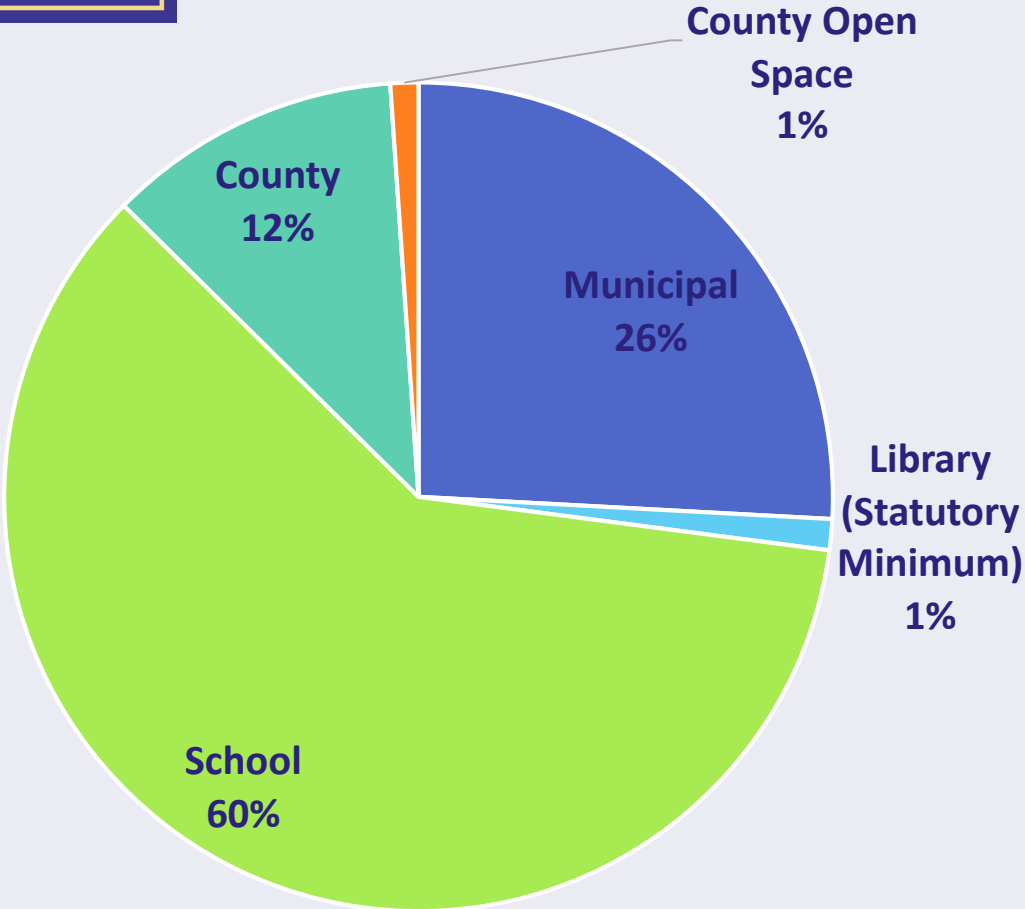
### 2025 DISTRIBUTION OF TAX DOLLARS:

- 60% SCHOOLS**  
IRVING, BARTLE, MIDDLE SCHOOL, HIGH SCHOOL
- 26% MUNICIPAL**  
POLICE, FIRE, GARBAGE, ROADS, COURT, RECREATION, AGING, GENERAL ADMINISTRATION, ETC.
- 12% MIDDLESEX COUNTY**  
PARKS, ROADS, SHERIFF, ETC.
- 1% MIDDLESEX COUNTY-OPEN SPACE**  
OPEN SPACE TAX
- 1% LIBRARY (STATUTORY MINIMUM)**  
STATUTORY MINIMUM = \$693,515.11



# 2025 BUDGET PRESENTATION

## BOROUGH OF HIGHLAND PARK, MIDDLESEX COUNTY



**AVERAGE PROPERTY TAX BILL = \$12,882.74**  
\$1,073.56 PER MONTH

- 60% SCHOOLS = \$7,773.87**  
\$647.82 PER MONTH
- 26% MUNICIPAL = \$3,330.94**  
\$277.58 PER MONTH
- 12% MIDDLESEX COUNTY = \$1,481.83**  
\$123.49 PER MONTH
- 1% MIDDLESEX COUNTY-OPEN SPACE = \$140.46**  
\$11.70 PER MONTH
- 1% LIBRARY (STATUTORY MINIMUM) = \$155.65**  
\$12.97 PER MONTH



2025 BUDGET PRESENTATION  
BOROUGH OF HIGHLAND PARK, MIDDLESEX COUNTY

SNAPSHOT OF MUNICIPAL PORTION OF PROPERTY TAXES

	2024	2025	CHANGE
<b>TOTAL APPROPRIATIONS</b> <i>Total without grant appropriations</i>	\$20,348,284.06 <i>\$19,765,847.20</i>	\$22,266,927.46 <i>\$20,320,015.00</i>	+\$1,918,643.39 <i>+\$554,167.80</i>
<b>AMOUNT RAISED BY TAXES</b>	\$14,424,978.84	\$14,841,753.48	+\$416,774.64
<b>AVG. MUNICIPAL PORTION OF TAX BILL</b> (2025 AVERAGE ASSESSMENT = \$481,500)	\$3,225.96	\$3,330.94	+\$104.99

**AVERAGE MUNICIPAL TAX BILL INCREASE OF 3.2%**  
**(\$104.99 PER YEAR – \$26.25 PER QUARTER – \$8.75 PER MONTH)**

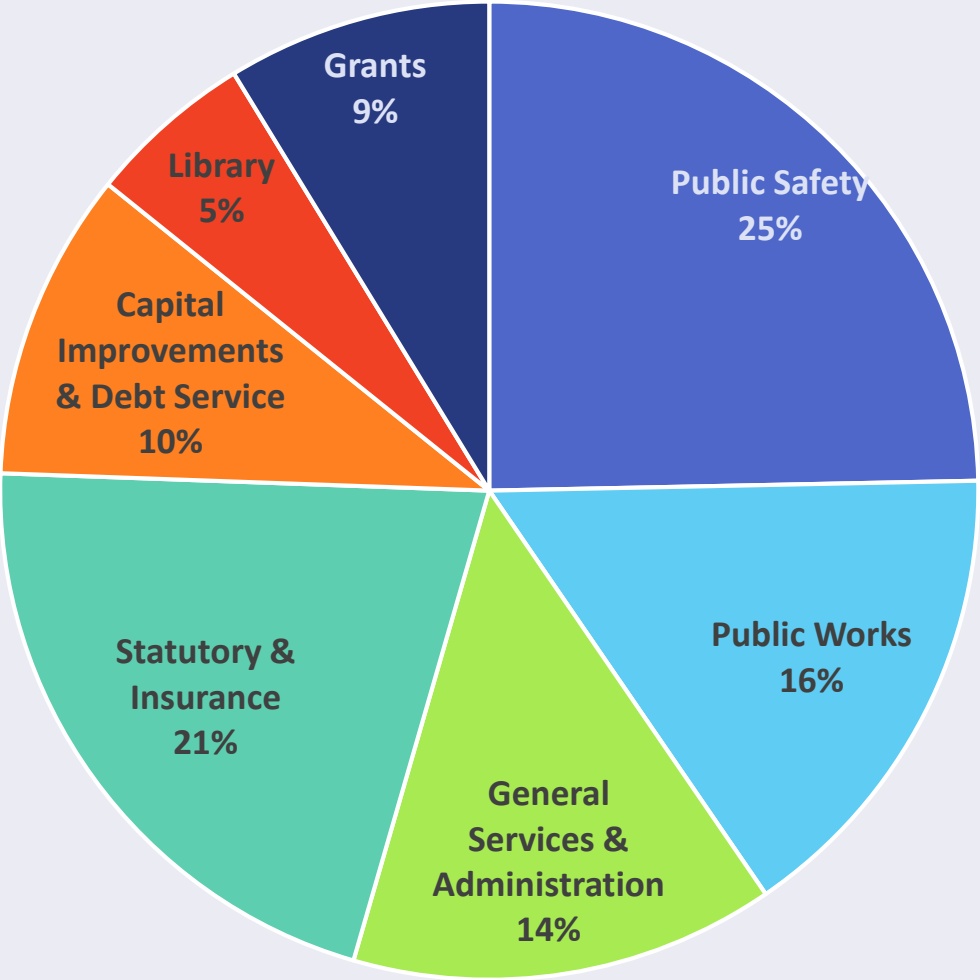


# 2025 BUDGET PRESENTATION

## BOROUGH OF HIGHLAND PARK, MIDDLESEX COUNTY

**TOTAL MUNICIPAL APPROPRIATIONS = \$22,266,927.45**

- 25% PUBLIC SAFETY**  
POLICE, DISPATCH, FIRE, MUNICIPAL COURT, ETC.
- 16% PUBLIC WORKS**  
GARBAGE, RECYCLING, BUILDINGS & GROUNDS, ROADS, ETC.
- 14% GENERAL SERVICES & ADMINISTRATION**  
ADMINISTRATION, RECREATION, AGING, LEGAL, PLANNING, ETC.
- 21% STATUTORY & INSURANCE**  
PFRS, PERS, FICA, UNEMPLOYMENT, GEN. LIABILITY, HEALTH INS.
- 10% CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS & DEBT**  
ROADS, BUILDING UPGRADES, REDEVELOPMENT, ETC.
- 9% GRANTS**  
LEGISLATIVE AID GRANTS, NPP, CDBG, RECYCLING TONNAGE, ETC.
- 5% LIBRARY**  
AMOUNT OVER STATUTORY REQ. = \$527,502.89





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**2025 UTILITY BUDGET SNAPSHOT**

	2024	2025	CHANGE
<b>PURCHASE OF WATER (40%)</b>	\$2,500,000.00	\$2,500,000.00	0.00
<b>OPERATIONS/MAINTENANCE (29%)</b>	\$1,701,500.00	\$1,763,500.00	+\$62,000.00
<b>MCUA SEWER SERVICE (24%)</b>	\$1,726,808.00	\$1,500,000.00	-\$226,808.00
<b>CAPITAL/DEBT SERVICE (7%)</b>	\$458,000.00	\$454,600.00	-\$3,400.00
<b>TOTAL APPROPRIATIONS</b>	<b>\$6,386,308.00</b>	<b>\$6,218,100.00</b>	<b>-\$168,208.00</b>



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**2025 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN HIGHLIGHTS**

**BOROUGH BUILDINGS & GROUNDS**

- Environmental Center – roof replacement, accessibility improvements
- Fire Alarm upgrades
- Sidewalk repairs and parking lot resurfacing

**PARKS**

- Molimock-Graff Park upgrades

**PUBLIC WORKS**

- Motorpool – garage lift, air compressor
- Heavy duty vehicles replacements

**UTILITY**

- So. 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave Water & Sewer Main Upgrades

**ROADWAYS**

- Highland Ave, Graham St, So. 8<sup>th</sup> Ave
- No. 10<sup>th</sup> Ave, Volkert St
- Woodbridge Avenue

**PROJECTS UNDERWAY**

- Community Center – bathrooms, roof replacement
- Sewer main lining project
- Water Service Line Inventory & Test Pit Program