San Miguel County has been serving the public since its incorporation in 1883.

San Miguel County’s annual budget is prepared in accordance with Colorado law. It is developed in compliance with Colorado Taxpayer Bill of Rights (TABOR) provisions. The full budget can be downloaded at https://www.sanmiguelcountyco.gov/budget2017. San Miguel County has a long and continued commitment to addressing the needs of county residents, providing quality service and practicing prudent fiscal management.

**County Service Levels**

The 2017 budget funded 121.63 Full-Time Equivalent positions (FTEs), representing an increase of 1.35% over 2011 staffing levels. Budget years 2009 through 2015 saw declines in staffing levels due to the recession. Personnel costs comprise approximately 51% of the county’s 2017 Adopted Budget.
San Miguel County’s 2017 budgeted revenues are $190,479 more than 2016, representing less than a 1% increase. Approximately 41% of the county revenue is from property taxes. Property tax revenues for 2017 decreased by $69,141, due to a $6.4 million decrease in assessed valuations within the county (see page 6). Sales tax for 2017 is conservatively projected not to increase over 2016 levels. About 60% of the county is untaxable federal public land. The county received $1.1 million in federal Payments-in-Lieu-of-Taxes (PILT) in 2017. PILT funds require authorization and funding by Congress annually.

2017 Budgeted Revenues are $19,478,477. 2017 Budgeted Expenditures are $22,045,674.

The County’s General Fund supports most of the County’s departments. The General Fund allocations in 2017 were fairly typical of many years. Public Safety/Sheriff’s Office account for 42% of the General Fund’s budgeted expenditures. Budgeted Public Health and Environment Fund expenditures are down 13.74% compared to 2016.
Property tax revenue estimates are based on the assessed valuation provided by the County Assessor multiplied by the mill levies. A mill levy is a tax that is applied to each property's taxable value which is based on the assessed value reduced by the assessment rate (see Example Calculation below). One mill equates to one dollar per $1,000 of taxable value. In Colorado, the assessment rate depends on type of use of the property. For example, the 2017 assessment rate on residential property is 7.96%, while the assessment rate on commercial or vacant property is 29%.

The assessed valuation of all property within San Miguel County fell 1.1% between 2016 and 2017 and remains 12.5% lower than the pre-recession 2008 assessed valuation level. The assessed valuation decreased by $6,420,800, representing a combined $69,141 decrease in property tax revenue for all funds. Property tax revenues account for 41% of the 2017 Adopted Budget revenues, decreasing 1.8% from the prior year.

The San Miguel County Treasurer collects property taxes for all taxing districts within the county. Mill levies are set by special taxing districts or authorities such as municipal governments, school districts, recreational districts, hospital districts, fire protection and water districts. The County Government itself collects 10.120 mills for five specific county funds. While the county’s total mill levy is 10.120 mills per property, the actual mills collected vary from 30.896 to 69.644 because the County Treasurer distributes funds collected for other taxing districts.

### Example Calculation of the San Miguel County Portion of Property Tax For a Residential Property Having an Assessed Value of $400,000

1. Take the Total Assessed Value = $400,000.
2. Multiply by the 2017 Residential Assessment Rate (7.96%): $400,000 x 0.0796 = $31,840.
3. Multiply by the County's Mill Levy (10.120 mills): $31,840 x 0.010120 = $322.22.
4. $322.22 is the amount of revenue from 10.120 mills levied on a residential property worth $400,000.
2017 Allocation of Property Taxes by Tax Area

Norwood Residents (Area 201) Total Mills: 69.644
- Norwood Sanitation District (12.643 Mils)
- County Govt (10.120 Mils)
- School District (29.292 Mils)
- Water Conservation District (0.872 Mils)
- Recreation District (1.000 Mils)
- Town Govt (15.192 Mils)
- Fire District (10.600 Mils)
- Library District (10.428 Mils)

Telluride Residents (Area 101) Total Mills: 36.622
- SMART Transit (0.752 Mils)
- County Govt (10.520 Mils)
- School District (11.447 Mils)
- Water Conservation District (0.395 Mils)
- Cemetery District (0.130 Mils)
- Hospital District (2.260 Mils)
- Town Govt (4.800 Mils)
- Fire District (2.756 Mils)
- Library District (0.995 Mils)

West End Residents (Area 301) Total Mills: 39.666
- Solid Waste Disposal District (0.232 Mils)
- County Govt (10.110 Mils)
- School District (19.393 Mils)
- Water Conservation District (0.395 Mils)
- Fire District (8.000 Mils)

Mountain Village Residents (Area 108) Total Mills: 57.185
- SMART Transit (0.250 Mils)
- County Govt (10.320 Mils)
- School District (11.447 Mils)
- Water Conservation District (0.395 Mils)
- Cemetery District (0.130 Mils)
- Hospital District (2.260 Mils)
- Town Govt (4.800 Mils)
- Metro Dist (11.447 Mils)
- Fire District (2.358 Mils)
- Library District (0.456 Mils)

Fall Creek/Piscenella/Tartans/Ski Ranches (Area 104) Residents Total Mills: 31.798
- SMART Transit (0.750 Mils)
- County Govt (10.110 Mils)
- School District (11.447 Mils)
- Water Conservation District (0.395 Mils)
- Hospital District (2.360 Mils)
- Fire District (1.765 Mils)
- Library District (1.366 Mils)
- Solid Waste Disposal District (0.296 Mils)
- SMC Rec. Dist (0.000 Mils)

Hillside/Last Dollar/Ski Ranches (Area 103) Residents Total Mills: 31.948
- SMART Transit (0.750 Mils)
- County Govt (10.320 Mils)
- School District (11.447 Mils)
- Water Conservation District (0.395 Mils)
- Cemetery District (0.130 Mils)
- Hospital District (2.260 Mils)
- Town. Govt (4.800 Mils)
- Fire District (1.766 Mils)
- Library District (1.366 Mils)
- Solid Waste Disposal District (0.296 Mils)
- SMC Rec. Dist (0.000 Mils)

Wilson Mesa (Area 106) Residents Total Mills: 53.933
- SMART Transit (0.750 Mils)
- County Govt (10.110 Mils)
- School District (11.447 Mils)
- Water Conservation District (0.395 Mils)
- Wilson Mesa Metro Dist (22.135 Mils)
- Hospital District (2.290 Mils)
- Fire District (2.556 Mils)
- Library District (1.266 Mils)
- Solid Waste Disposal District (0.132 Mils)
- SMC Rec. Dist (0.000 Mils)

Ophir Residents (Area 105) Total Mills: 58.521
- County Govt (10.320 Mils)
- School District (11.447 Mils)
- Water Conservation District (0.395 Mils)
- Town Government (27.665 Mils)
- Hospital District (2.280 Mils)
- Fire District (2.260 Mils)
- Library District (0.995 Mils)

* Incorporated Area
Commissioners

Hilary Cooper        Kris Holstrom

Joan May

Our Mission
The San Miguel County Board of Commissioners works to ensure that our residents are healthy and flourishing and that our communities are safe and vibrant by:

- Providing essential community services,
- Practicing responsible stewardship of our environment,
- Prioritizing long-term fiscal stability, and
- Partnering with others to enhance the quality of life in San Miguel County and the region.

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