



2026 Proposed Budget

Dan Starry, Washington County Sheriff

August 26, 2025

The mission of the Washington County Sheriff's Office is to work in partnership with the community to provide quality public safety services in a reasonable manner through innovation, leadership, and the cooperation of dedicated people.



Key Factors Impacting the Budget



Retention

Recruitment and retention continue to be a key challenge for sworn positions. As of August 18, 2025, 127 agencies across the state are recruiting for multiple positions in their department, many within the metro area, and are offering higher pay for lateral applicants.

Technology

Victims expect law enforcement to have the necessary tools and training available to hold the perpetrators accountable. We know that those involved in human and sex trafficking rely heavily on technology to prey on their victims.

Public Safety Radio



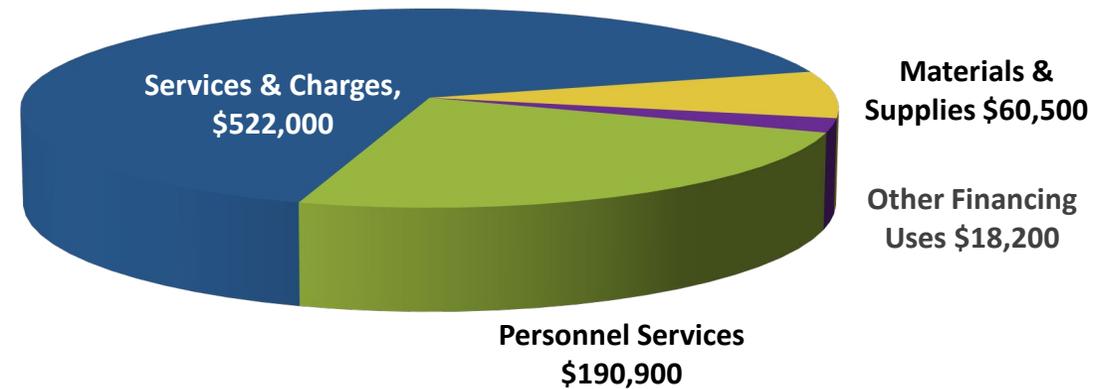
Revenue

Revenue	2025	2026	% Change
County Net Levy	\$0	\$0	0%
Non-Levy Revenue	\$760,500	\$791,600	4.09%



Expenditures

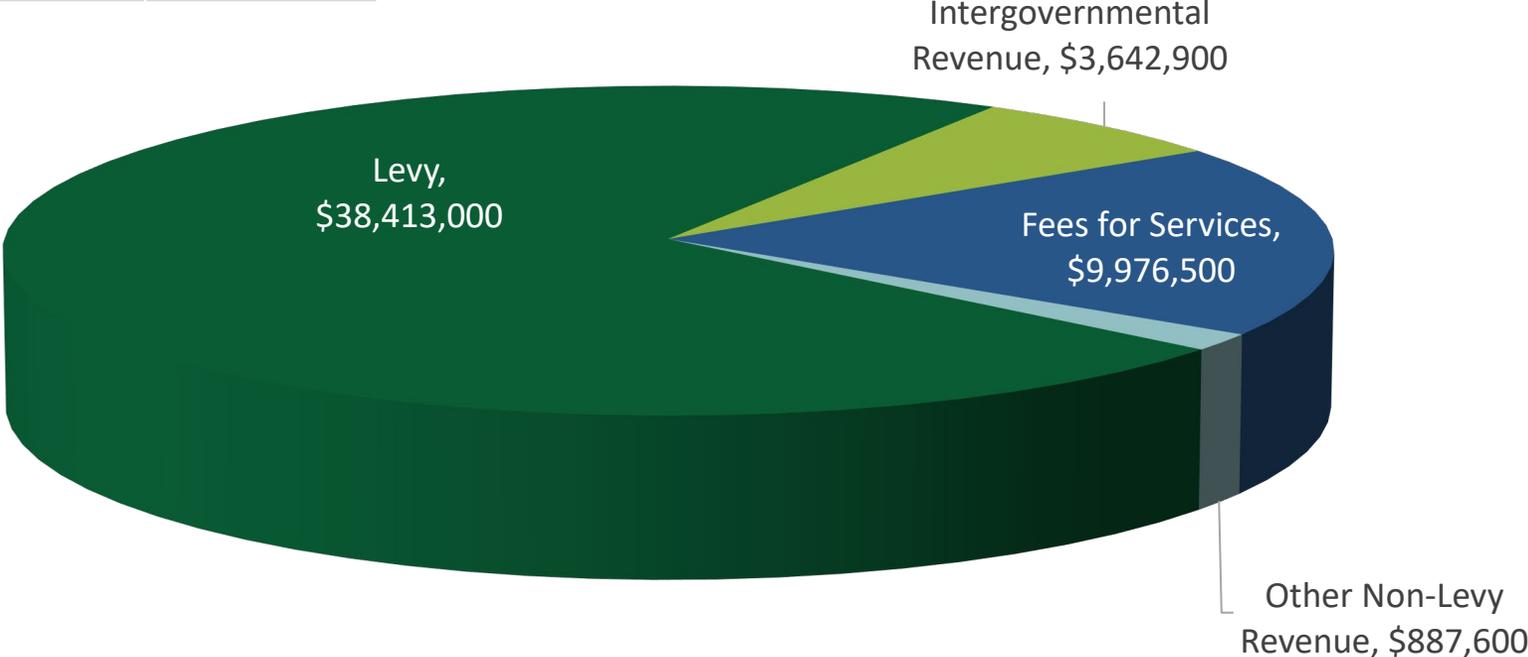
Expenditures	2025	2026	% Change
Personnel Services	\$186,000	\$190,900	2.63%
Services & Charges	\$560,100	\$522,000	-6.80%
Materials & Supplies	\$14,400	\$60,500	320.14%
Other Financing Uses	\$0	\$18,200	



Department Revenues



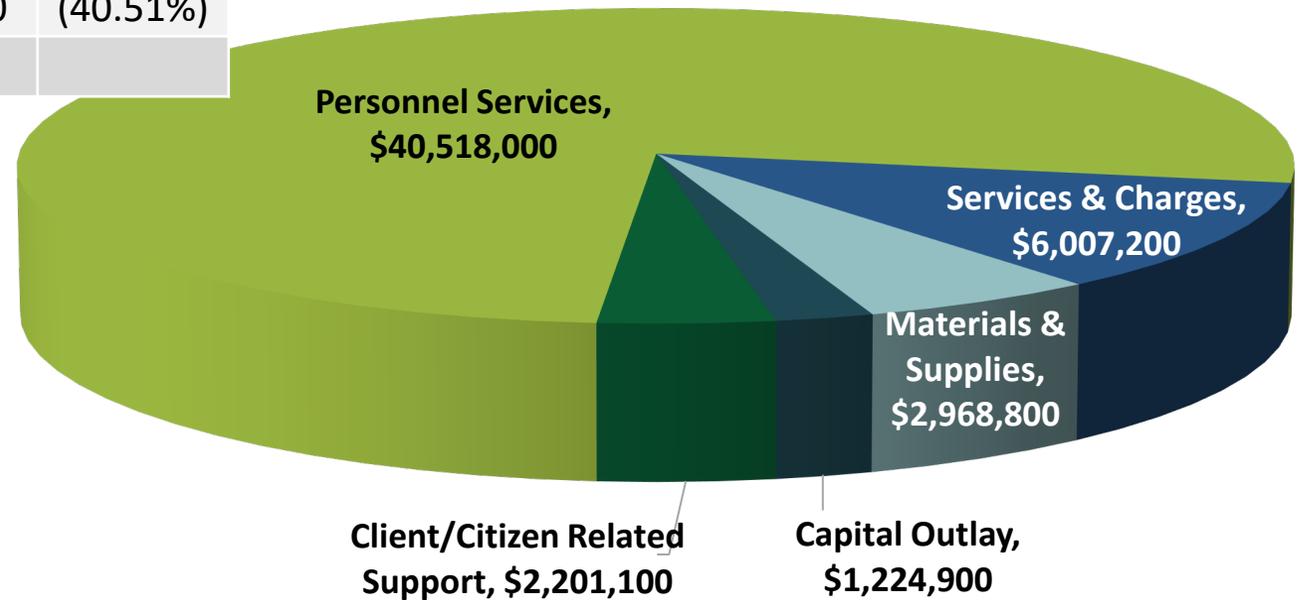
Revenue	2025	2026	% Change
County Net Levy	\$36,275,400	\$38,413,000	5.89%
Non-Levy Revenue	\$15,162,300	\$14,507,000	(4.32%)



Department Expenditures



Expenditures	2025	2026	% Change
Client/Citizen Related Support	\$2,177,700	\$2,201,100	1.07%
Personnel Services	\$38,149,300	\$40,518,000	6.21%
Services & Charges	\$5,694,500	\$6,007,200	5.49%
Materials & Supplies	\$3,050,700	\$2,968,800	(2.68%)
Capital	\$2,059,000	\$1,224,900	(40.51%)
Other Financing Uses	\$306,500	\$0	



FTE Budget Summary



Sheriff's Office

2025 Adopted: 286.5

2026 Proposed: 286.5

Public Safety Radio (PSR)

2025 Adopted: 1.34

2026 Proposed: 1.34

Public Safety Aid (PSA)

2025 Adopted: 3.0

2026 Proposed: 3.0

By the Numbers



Calls for Service

In 2024, Washington County deputies responded to **72,972** calls for service. This includes **16,371** traffic stops, **1,262** arrests, and **1,243** crashes. This also resulted in the Records Unit processing over **46,029** reports.



Jail Population

In 2024, the Washington County Jail booked **3,846** adult and **129** juvenile inmates with an average daily population of **138**. In an average year, our jail kitchen staff serves over **120,200** meals.



Inmate Life

In 2024, social workers visited inmates **1,698** times; inmates visited the dentist **170** times; the nurses saw inmates on over **2,956** occasions; over **3,860** inmate days were served on the Electronic Home Monitoring Program; and nearly **418** inmate transports were completed.



Community Impact Unit (CIU)



COMMUNITY SURVEY – public's rating out of 100:

- Distracted Driving: 57%
- Drunk Driving: 69%
- Walking / Biking on the Road: 64%

CIU STATISTICS – Beginning January 1, 2025

- 100+ citations issued for violations to Use of Wireless Communication Device
- 200+ speeding citations issued, one as high as 105mph
- 27 DUI Arrests
- 100+ unlicensed drivers
- 150+ uninsured motorists
- 110+ arrests for other violations and warrants



Washington County Drug Task Force



Lake Elmo 1st Degree Possession

- 10lbs Marijuana
- \$20,000 cash
- assault rifle and handgun

1st Degree Possession

- 9lbs Methamphetamine
- multiple handguns
- cash

Felon with DOC warrants

- 2lbs Methamphetamine
- felon in possession of weapon containing obliterated serial number

Washington County Drug Task Force



Methamphetamine seizure = 162 pounds

Fentanyl seizure (largest in state history)

- 280,000 pills
- 66 pounds
- Estimated \$2.2 million



Human Trafficking Unit



CRIME

5 charged after alleged attempts to solicit minors for sex in Washington County, officials say

The East Metro Human Trafficking Task Force has investigated 33 cases since 2023

LOCAL NEWS

Minnesota men charged in trafficking, assault of 14-year-old girl

The girl was allegedly given drugs and sexually assaulted by the men, according to the sheriff's office.

Canine Unit



Sheriff's Office Canines

- Six (6) dual purpose patrol dogs
- Two (2) single purpose narcotics detection dogs
- One (1) therapy dog

Statistics

- 270 canine deployments
- 46 canine public presentations
- 2,721 hours of logged training
- Sheriff's Office canines are state and nationally recognized



School Resource Officers (SRO)



School Resource Officer (SRO) Programs across the nation are founded as collaborative efforts by agencies, law enforcement officers, educators, students, parents, and communities.



Embedded Social Workers | Co-Response



JAIL

Kesha Marson – Sr. Clinical Social Worker
Meg Mikulski – Clinical Social Worker
Gillian Pearson – Social Worker



INVESTIGATIONS

Nate Wilberg – Social Worker
Hannah Driver – Sr. Clinical Social Worker



Dan Starry, Washington County Sheriff

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