



# 2015 FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Fiscal Year ending September 30, 2015

**PREPARED BY**

Department of Management & Budget  
Laurie Van Pelt, Director

Fourth of July Celebration lights up the sky over Lake Orion  
presented by the Lake Orion Fireworks Association



# to the residents OF OAKLAND COUNTY, MI

I am pleased to present the county's Financial Summary for Fiscal Year 2015. This document will help you to better understand your county government and how it utilizes your tax dollars. Oakland County has a reputation for fiscal excellence.

Our prudent fiscal management is a result of our balanced three-year budget which allows us to continue to provide residents with outstanding services, innovate the way in which we deliver those services, while continuing to manage fluctuations in tax revenue. We exercise "thoughtful management not crisis management." It's what earns the county a AAA bond rating every year from Moody's Investors Service and Standard & Poor's (S&P).

Oakland County adopts the long term view – the long range vision – and has the patience and discipline to get there. Our countywide elected officials are all on board working cooperatively with us as we manage costs. Each year, Oakland County publishes a document called the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR). Much of the information in the CAFR is technical and complex, resulting in a document that is not very user-friendly for the average person. It contains the county's financial statements which are prepared in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP) and the standards and guidelines set by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board.

The CAFR also includes an independent auditor's report which states the information contained in the financial statements has been reviewed by the firm, and with reasonable assurance, the financial information is complete, presented accurately, and in the correct format. Oakland County offers this financial summary for residents to provide a clearer, simpler picture of county finances. It also includes a brief discussion of select county programs and initiatives.

Oakland County's Financial Summary for 2014 received the prestigious Popular Annual Financial Report Award from the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) of the United States and Canada, which is detailed on page 20 of this document.

I hope you enjoy our 2015 edition.



Oakland County Executive  
**L. Brooks Patterson**





# BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

## fiscal year 2015



MICHAEL J. GINGELL  
CHAIRPERSON



JEFF MATIS  
VICE-CHAIRPERSON

### COMMISSIONERS

- David E. S. Bowman
- Hugh D. Crawford
- William Dwyer
- Wade Fleming
- Marcia Gershenson
- Michael J. Gingell
- Robert Gosselin
- Robert Hoffman
- Janet Jackson
- Eileen T. Kowall
- Christine Long
- Jeff Matis
- Gary R. McGillivray
- Thomas Middleton
- Nancy L. Quarles
- John A. Scott
- Michael Spisz
- Shelley G. Taub
- Philip J. Weipert
- Dave Woodward
- Helaine Zack

### CITY/TWP OF RESIDENCE

- Pontiac
- Novi
- Farmington Hills
- Troy
- Bloomfield Hills
- Independence Township
- Troy
- Waterford
- Southfield
- White Lake
- Commerce Township
- Rochester
- Madison Heights
- Clarkston
- Southfield
- Waterford
- Oxford
- Bloomfield Township
- South Lyon
- Royal Oak
- Huntington Woods



# an overview OF OAKLAND COUNTY

## did you know?

The county’s museums include Cranbrook Academy of Art, Cranbrook Institute of Science and the Holocaust Memorial Center.

Some of the world’s top musicians perform at DTE Energy Music Theatre in Independence Township, Meadow Brook Amphitheatre in Rochester and the Palace of Auburn Hills.

The Detroit Zoo is located in Oakland County with its nationally renowned exhibits such as the Polk Penguin Conservation Center, the Artic Ring of Life, and the Holden Reptile Conservation Center.

Popular annual events in Oakland County include the Fire & Ice Festival; Woodward Dream Cruise; Arts, Beats & Eats; Quake on the Lake; the Oakland County International Airport Open House and Air Show and the Michigan Renaissance Festival.

Oakland County, Michigan is synonymous with excellence. Its prosperous communities, natural landscapes, premier entertainment venues, diverse restaurants, quality schools, leading medical facilities and dependable business resources offer an unparalleled quality of life for those who live, work or spend leisure time in Oakland County.

Over 1.2 million residents enjoy distinct neighborhoods including rural regions, walkable downtowns and thriving cities. Oakland County’s diverse collection of cities, villages and townships offers a broad selection for every budget and lifestyle – from rolling farmland to established city neighborhoods with tree-lined streets, parks and nearby schools, and newer developments and housing options.

Business leaders – from small startups to major corporations – depend on Oakland County’s world-class resources, thriving business climate and proven infrastructure. The county offers a solid environment of support, with programs and technologies focused on ongoing economic growth and development.

Oakland County’s top ten employers cover a diverse mix of manufacturing, health and government sectors:

1. Beaumont Health Systems
2. Chrysler Group LLC
3. General Motors Corporation
4. Ascension Michigan
5. U.S. Postal Service
6. Henry Ford Health Systems
7. Oakland County Government
8. Trinity Health
9. Magna International of America, Inc.
10. Comerica Bank

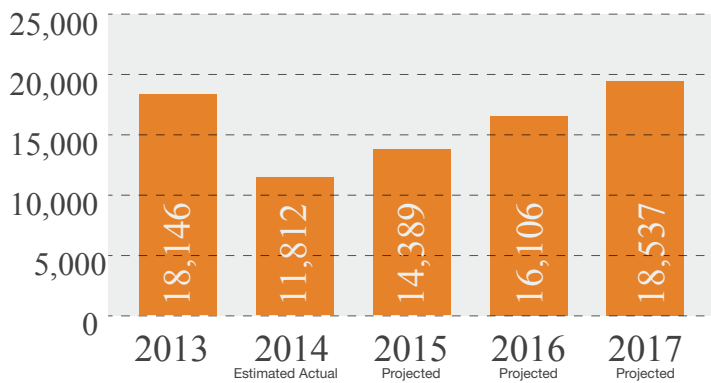
Oakland County has a reputation as home to many of the region’s top educational facilities, from Pre-K through higher education to dedicated research facilities focused on high-tech skills that meet the region’s increasing need for tech-savvy talent.

Quality of life advantages include 88,000 acres of park land, over 1,400 fresh-water lakes, and miles of trails and pathways for hiking, biking and horseback riding. There are a wide variety of shopping experiences ranging from small boutiques to large high-end multi-level malls. Whether you’re looking for a place to call home, raise a family, work or spend leisure time, there’s a community with your name on it in Oakland County.



# OAKLAND COUNTY'S economy

## PROJECTED JOB GROWTH IN OAKLAND COUNTY



Source: George Fulton and Donald Grimes, Institute of Research on Labor, Employment, and the Economy, University of Michigan

Figure 1

Oakland County is one of the most prosperous local economies in the United States. Oakland County's economy is continuing to improve since the days of the "Great Recession." Over the period of 2009 to 2014, the county's job growth rate of 12.8% greatly outpaced both the nation's growth rate of 6.0% and the state's growth rate of 8.0%.

According to the April 2015 Oakland County Economic Outlook report prepared by University of Michigan economists, over 49,000 new jobs will be added in Oakland County over the three-year period from 2015 through 2017. **Figure 1** illustrates this upward trend.

While the job growth is expected to increase for higher-education, blue-collar, and lower-education service industries, the most rapid growth is projected to occur in the higher-education service industries.

## UNEMPLOYMENT RATES

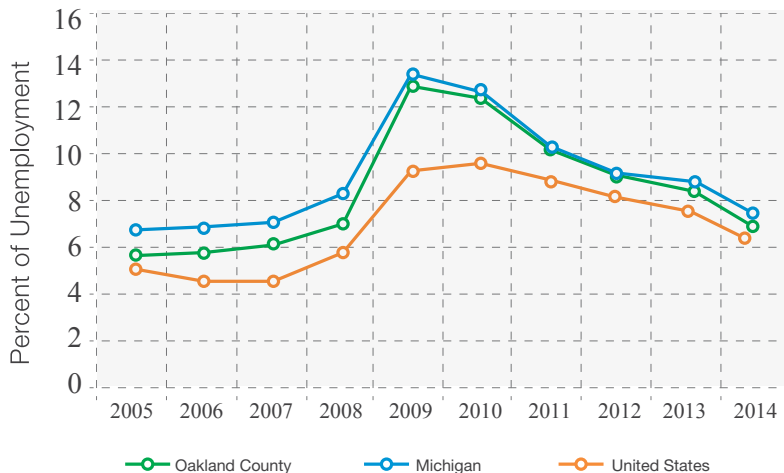


Figure 2

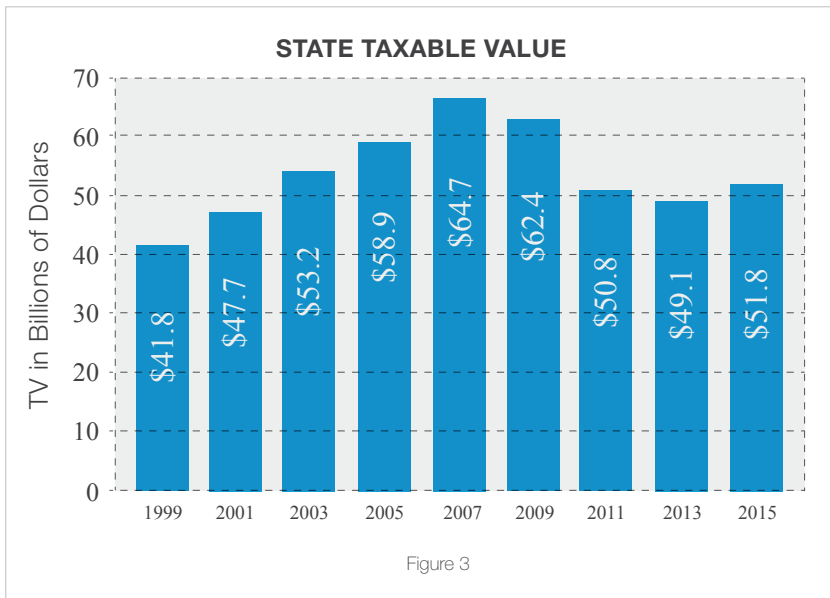
Oakland County's per capita income (PCI) was \$59,759 in 2014, the highest among Michigan's 83 counties. Oakland's PCI also compares favorably to the national average of \$46,049 and state average of \$40,740.

In September 2015, the unemployment rate in Oakland County of 4.6% was equal to the State of Michigan's 4.6% and slightly lower than the national average of 4.9%. Unemployment rates for the past decade are illustrated in **Figure 2**.





# OAKLAND COUNTY'S tax base



Oakland County's collective property values remain the highest of all 83 counties in Michigan, and represents 15.9% of the state's total value (Oakland County's population represents approximately 12% of Michigan's total). The majority of the County's taxable value is within the residential class of property, which is approximately 72.7% of the total property tax base.

The county continues to exercise a prudent and conservative approach to tax revenues by controlling the millage rate levied on the tax base. The county millage rate for the July 1, 2015 property tax levy was reduced from 4.19 mills to 4.09 mills (out of an authorized levy of 4.2168 mills) for operations, one of the lowest county tax rates in the State of Michigan.



Oakland County severely felt the impact of the real estate market decline experienced by our state and nation over the last several years. Recent indicators, including a decline in property foreclosures, reflect a promising recovery. In 2015, there were approximately 1,600 foreclosures, the lowest level in the ten-year period dating back to 2005.

The 2015 market value of property in Oakland County was approximately \$121.6 billion, an increase of approximately \$11.4 billion from 2014 to 2015 (10.39%). State Taxable Value (STV), the calculation on which property tax revenue is based, increased 3.69%. This is the third year of increase in property value following five (5) consecutive years of decline and is further evidence that Oakland County's economy is on the rebound. Changes in the County's taxable value and tax levies are depicted in **Figures 3 and 4.**



# OAKLAND COUNTY'S financial condition

## did you know?

Oakland County Executive L. Brooks Patterson, in partnership with the Board of Commissioners and other countywide elected officials, has structurally reformed Oakland's pension and other post-employment benefit plans to make them sustainable and less costly for taxpayers.

Oakland County employs policies and practices designed to ensure its continuing ability to provide quality services despite economic or budgetary challenges. The county's strong financial position is primarily a reflection of its adherence to policies and practices that result in strong long-term financial planning, low debt obligations, and maintaining responsible fund balance amounts in conformance with GFOA Recommended Practices.

The hallmark of the county's focus on long-term financial planning is preparation and adoption of a triennial budget and five-year forecast. Not only is the budget adopted for the next three fiscal years, the triennial budget is considered a "rolling" budget. When it is amended, the amendment always reflects the impact for both the remainder of the current fiscal year and the impact on the entire next two fiscal years. The mantra adopted by the county administration is "thoughtful management" not "crisis management."

The county has continually maintained a AAA bond rating. This rating allows Oakland County to borrow at the lowest possible interest rate, saving the county millions of dollars in future borrowing costs. Local municipalities can also utilize the county's bond rating to borrow funds.

The issuance of debt is also limited. Debt is only issued after other sources of funding (operating budget, existing fund balance, etc.) have been explored. The county has the authority to issue up to \$5.35 billion in debt (10% of its State Equalized Value); however, the actual outstanding debt is \$727.92 million, 11.97% of the permissible amount.

Oakland County was the first county in the nation to fully fund its long-term retiree health care obligation. The most recent actuarial reports issued for the Oakland County VEBA and Employee's Retirement System are for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2014. The VEBA fund assets were reported at 121% of the fund actuarially determined liabilities. The Oakland County Employee's Retirement System assets were reported as 106% funded. It is important to note that the annual cost of retiree pension and health care benefits, both for the current year's expense and the actuarially determined amount for the future years' costs are accounted for in each year's operating budget. None of the costs are hidden and none are pushed off onto future generations.

The General Fund is the county's principal operating fund. A favorable General Fund balance is an indicator of a healthy operating environment. Oakland County's sustainable long-term goal is to maintain a General Fund balance equating to approximately 20% of annual General Fund / General Purpose expenditures. In fact, the County adopted a resolution in July of 2015 to formally codify the fund balance policy for the General Fund.

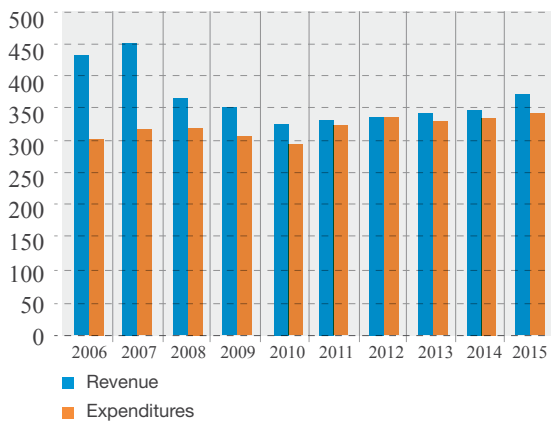
Since 2006, Oakland County's general fund balance has increased by a total of \$186.1 million. The increase is primarily attributable to the county's effort to limit spending while maintaining services. A concentrated effort to build additional resources to cover anticipated revenue reductions has also contributed to the increase in recent years.

**Figure 5** provides a historical view of the county's General Fund balance.





### GENERAL FUND REVENUES & EXPENDITURES (IN MILLIONS OF DOLLARS)



### CHANGE IN GENERAL FUND EQUITY (IN MILLIONS OF DOLLARS)

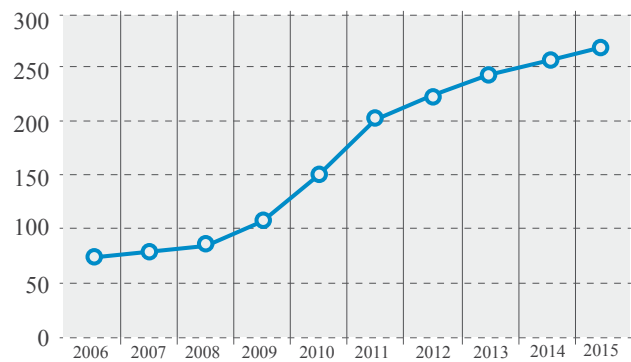


Figure 5

Source: Oakland County Comprehensive Annual Financial Report

### REVENUE AND EXPENDITURES (IN MILLIONS)

	2006(a)	2007(a)	2008	2009	2010	2011(b)	2012	2013	2014	2015
Total Revenue	\$432.9	\$452.1	\$365.1	\$353.0	\$326.9	\$328.9	\$335.4	\$342.9	\$347.5	\$372.1
Total Expenditures	<u>303.0</u>	<u>319.2</u>	<u>320.1</u>	<u>307.3</u>	<u>296.1</u>	<u>324.4</u>	<u>337.1</u>	<u>329.8</u>	<u>335.3</u>	<u>345.3</u>
Excess (Deficiency)	\$129.9	\$132.9	\$45.0	\$45.7	\$30.8	\$4.5	\$(1.7)	\$13.1	\$12.2	\$26.8
Other Financing Sources (Uses)	(121.2)	(128.2)	(39.5)	(23.7)	11.9	26.7	23.9	6.3	(1.0)	(20.6)
Beginning Equity	<u>65.4</u>	<u>74.1</u>	<u>78.8</u>	<u>84.3</u>	<u>106.3</u>	<u>170.0</u>	<u>201.2</u>	<u>223.4</u>	<u>242.8</u>	<u>254.0</u>
Ending Equity	\$74.1	\$78.8	\$84.3	\$106.3	\$149.0	\$201.2	\$223.4	\$242.8	\$254.0	\$260.2
As a % of Revenue	17.12%	17.43%	23.09%	30.11%	45.58%	61.17%	66.61%	70.81%	73.09%	69.93%

(a) 2006 & 2007 revenues/expenditures reflect an increase in the July levy due to an acceleration in the collection of County property taxes pursuant to Michigan Public Act 357 of 2004.

(b) 2011 Beginning Equity adjusted per GASB 54 restatement; included in Note 20 of the FY2011 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report.

Figure 5



# OAKLAND COUNTY'S financial condition (cont.)

Fiscal stability is also enhanced through the annual budget process which appropriates for full utilization of the county's 4,543 authorized positions. Should vacancies occur or positions be filled at a level lower than authorized, the resulting favorable variance has a positive impact on fund balance.

Many other types of funds are used in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles to record the programs and services provided by the county.

- Special Revenue funds are used to record the activities that receive monies for restricted purposes such as Friend of the Court and grant-funded activities.
- Debt Service funds account for the accumulation of resources for and the payment of general long-term debt principal and interest, usually bonds.
- Capital Project funds account for the purchase or construction of major capital facilities, such as buildings, drains and sewer projects.
- Enterprise funds account for functions that are financed primarily through user charges and operate similar to businesses, such as the airports, water and sewer operations and the parks.
- Internal Service funds account for the financing of goods or services provided by one county department or agency to other departments or agencies on a cost-reimbursement basis.

The overall revenues and expenses for county functions illustrated in **Figure 6** are derived from Governmental and Proprietary Fund Statements presented in the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report. Governmental activities generally are financed through taxes, intergovernmental revenues, and other nonexchange revenues. Business-type activities are financed in whole or in part by fees charged for goods or services. The Revenue Trend graph provides a 5-year history on county revenue sources. The Expense Trend graphs show expenses by major activities within the county. For additional information regarding changes by activity, please refer to the Management Discussion and Analysis section in the Fiscal Year 2015 CAFR.

Internal Service fund revenues and expenses have not been included in these totals. Also, the funds of the component units (Road Commission and Chapters 20 & 21 Drainage Districts) are not presented as these services are provided by other county entities. However, General Fund transfers to the Internal Service funds are included as expenses to more accurately reflect the use of county tax revenues.



## FIVE YEAR REVENUE & EXPENDITURE TRENDS (IN MILLIONS OF DOLLARS)

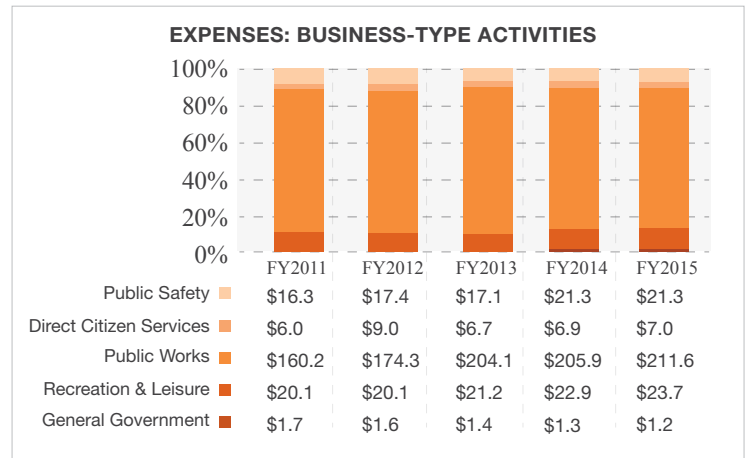
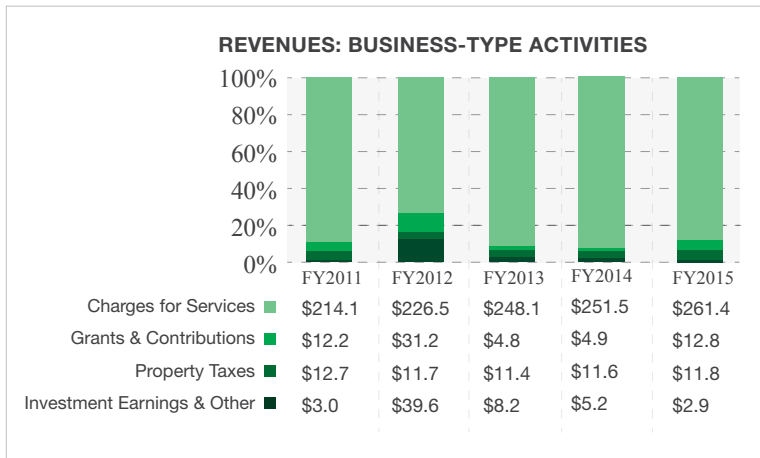
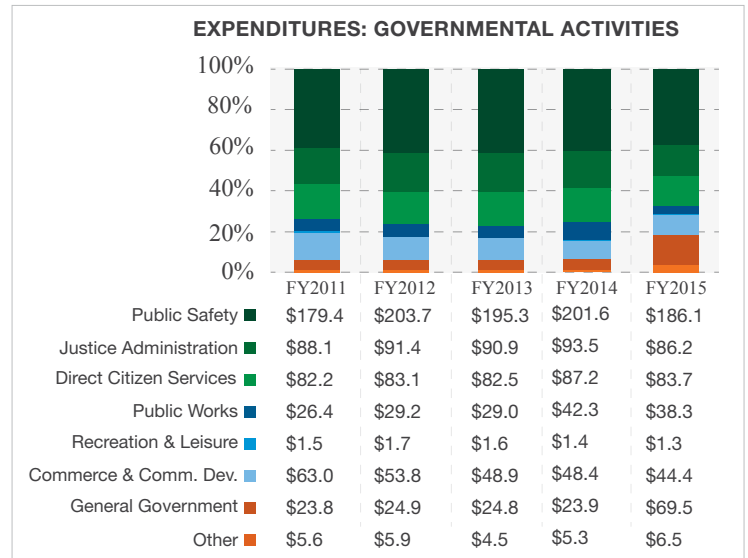
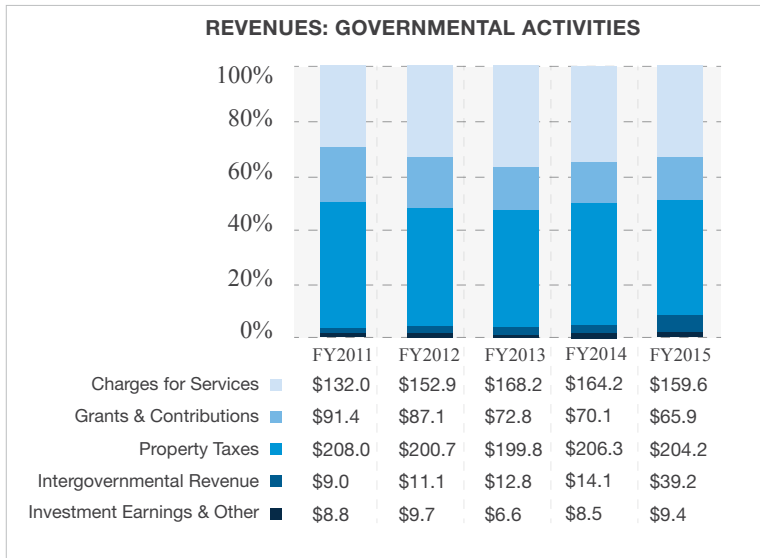
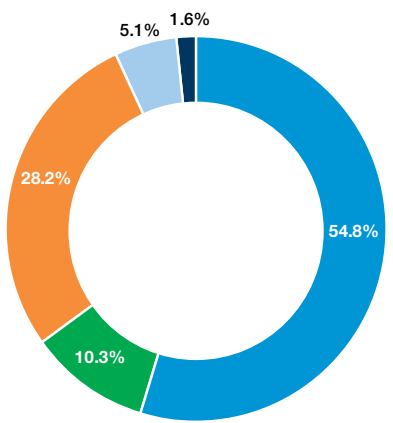


Figure 6





# revenues



- Charges for Services
- Grants & Contributions
- Property Taxes
- Intergovernmental Revenue
- Investment Earnings & Other

The receipt of county revenues are defined as follows:

**Property Taxes:** The county's actual property tax for General Fund operations is based on a rate of 4.09 mills which is less than the maximum authorized millage rate of 4.2168 mills. Parks and Recreation is also supported by taxes of .2410 mills and is reported as an Enterprise fund.

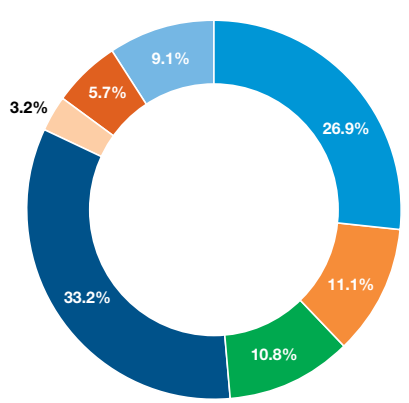
**Grants and Contributions:** Restricted funding provided by federal or state governments.

**Intergovernmental:** Revenue from state or local governments in the form of shared revenue or reimbursements.

**Charges for Services:** Revenue from fees received for purchased services.

**Investment Earnings and Other:** Interest on investments, revenue from rebates, refunds of prior year's expenditures, transfers in from other funds and miscellaneous sources.

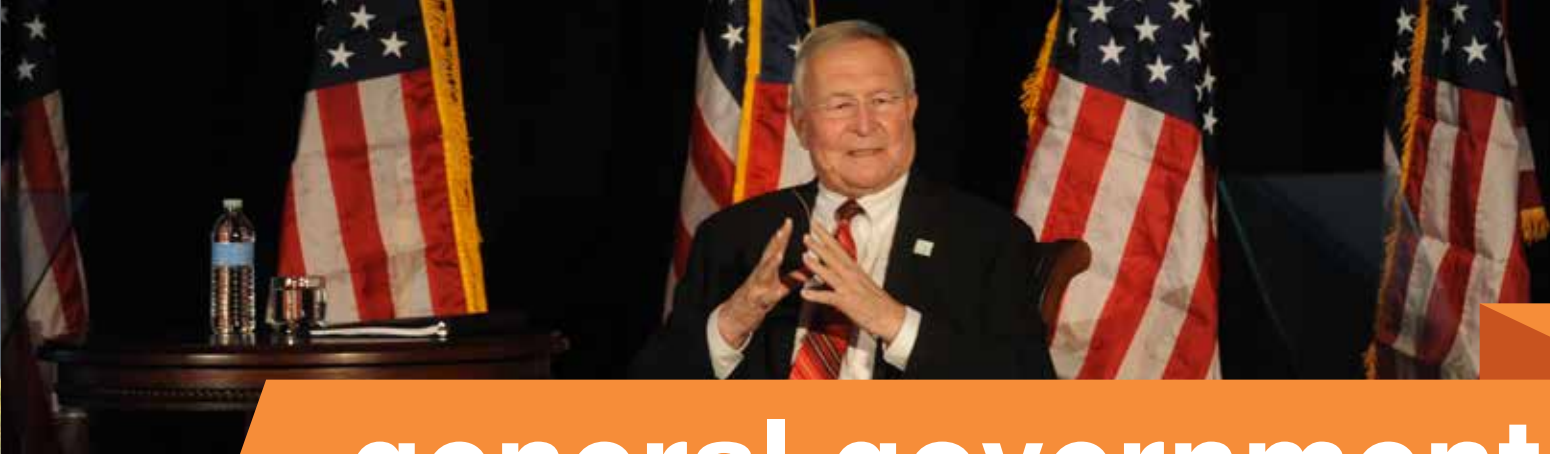
# MAJOR PROGRAM expenditures



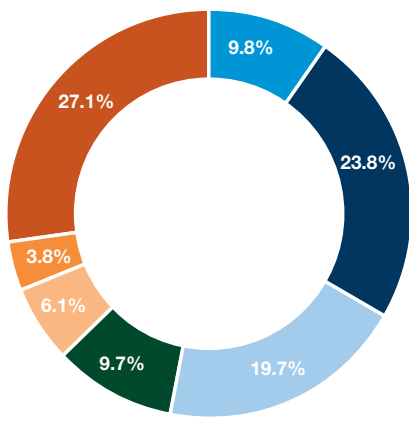
For presentation purposes, county expenditures were broken into seven broad program areas: General Government, Public Safety, Justice Administration, Recreation and Leisure, Direct Citizen Services, Commerce and Community Development, and Public Works.

- Public Safety
- Justice Administration
- Direct Citizen Services
- Public Works
- Recreation & Leisure
- Commerce & Community
- General Government

Figure 8



# general government



- Legislative
- Executive
- Finance
- Human Resources
- Support Services
- Elections
- Treasury

## did you know?

Oakland County Board of Commissioners meetings can be viewed online, either live or recorded at [OakGov.com](http://OakGov.com).

The County's Wellness Program, OakFit™, assists Oakland County employees, retirees and dependents in taking ownership of their health and wellness in order to improve quality of life, enhance productivity, and stabilize long-term employee/employer health care costs.

General Government includes all areas of the county involved in the administration and financial aspects of county business. Included in this program are the County Executive, Board of Commissioners, Treasurer, Management and Budget, Human Resources and Central Services Departments. The Elections Division is also included.

**EXECUTIVE:** The County Executive is responsible for coordinating county activities, maintaining fiscal policies and interacting with the County Board of Commissioners and other countywide elected officials. Centralized internal auditing and purchasing functions are performed by the Compliance Office under the County Executive.

**LEGISLATIVE:** The Board of Commissioners is the governing body of Oakland County. The board is responsible for the adoption of the annual budget, establishing the county property tax millage rate, formulating and establishing county policies, making appointments to various boards and commissions, and adopting ordinances and rules.

**TREASURY:** The Treasurer serves as the banker of the county and acts as the custodian of all county funds and as the collector and distributor of all revenues.

**FINANCE:** The Department of Management and Budget oversees the finance functions of the county including Equalization and Fiscal Services. The Director is designated as the Fiscal Officer of the county and is responsible for ensuring that the county operates within a balanced budget and that all financial transactions and financial reporting are completed in accordance with the accounting and reporting standards set by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board.

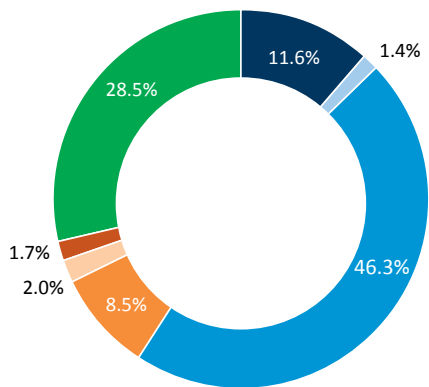
**HUMAN RESOURCES:** The Human Resources Department, as mandated by Public Act 139, "directs the performance of all personnel and labor relations functions for the county."

**SUPPORT SERVICES:** Central Services is responsible for the overall administration and operations of the Support Services Division which provides a wide variety of governmental and internal services to county departments including Vehicle Operations, Record Retention, Mailroom, and the Courthouse Cafeteria. This department also oversees the three County Airports.

**ELECTIONS:** The Elections Division is responsible for overseeing all county and multi-jurisdictional elections, programming elections tabulators, printing ballots, training poll workers and maintaining permanent records of election results. The division also maintains all campaign finance records for local offices and updates the statewide Qualified Voter File (QVF) database. Additionally, the Elections Division records and maintains the official minutes of the Board of Commissioners.



# public safety



- Incarceration
- Alternative Corrections Program
- Animal Control
- Homeland Security
- Community Law Enforcement
- Law Enforcement
- Crime Prevention

## did you know?

The Sheriff's Office website contains valuable resources for community members, including an Active Shooter Response guide and an Emergency Handbook which provides detailed information on formulating an action plan when faced with a life threatening situation.

Public Safety consists of all aspects of law enforcement.

### LAW ENFORCEMENT / INCARCERATION / COMMUNITY LAW ENFORCEMENT

**SUPPORT:** The **Sheriff's Office** is divided into seven (7) divisions: the Sheriff's Office, which houses the command staff; Administrative Services, conducting the business operations; Corrective Services, which oversees operations of the main jail and inmate support services; Corrective Services - Satellites, which oversees the operations of facilities outside the main jail, including court security; Emergency Preparedness; Patrol Services, which administers law enforcement activities including contracted patrol; and Investigative/ Forensic Services, which provides countywide police service support including investigations for numerous areas such as narcotics, fire, homicide, crime scene and computer crime in addition to forensic lab services.

**Children's Village** is the county's residential facility for children and youths, ranging in age from birth to 18 years, who are court-ordered into care or who have been placed in the facility by the Michigan Department of Human Services.

**Information Technology** programs that support local community law enforcement are also included under Public Safety.

**ALTERNATIVE CORRECTIONS PROGRAMS:** The **Community Corrections Division** provides a wide array of sentencing alternatives for all types of non-violent offenders. These programs offer rehabilitative value without compromising public safety. All programs are cost effective alternatives to incarceration, which allows for the jail space to be reserved for the most serious offenders.

The **Circuit Court Probation Division** provides the Oakland County Circuit Court with a Pre-Sentence Investigation Report consistent with Michigan Compiled Law 771.14 prior to sentencing on each defendant convicted of a felony and referred by the court. The Circuit Court Probation Division is a multi-funded agency, which is funded by both the State of Michigan and Oakland County.

**HOMELAND SECURITY:** The **Homeland Security** Division provides emergency management planning, response, recovery and mitigation services for natural, technological, national security and nuclear emergencies or disasters affecting Oakland County.

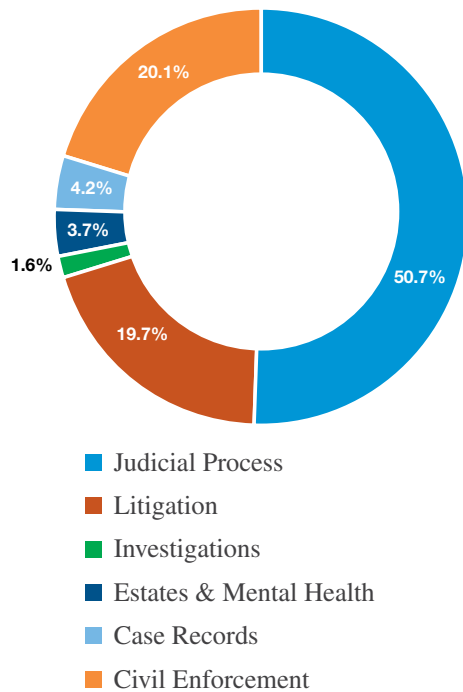
**ANIMAL CONTROL:** **Animal Control** is responsible for the enforcement of state laws pertaining to domestic animals and livestock.

**CRIME PREVENTION:** The **Youth Assistance Program**, within **Circuit Court**, is designed to strengthen youth and families to prevent and reduce delinquency, abuse, and neglect through community and volunteer involvement.





# justice administration



Justice Administration includes the Circuit, 52nd District and Probate Courts as well as the Prosecuting Attorney’s Office. A portion of the County Clerk, the official recorder of county records and Clerk to the Circuit Court, is also included.

**JUDICIAL PROCESS:** The **6th Judicial Circuit Court** serves all the citizens of Oakland County. It hears civil, criminal, and family cases, as well as appeals from district courts, administrative agencies, and some Probate Court matters. The job of the court is to dispense justice, interpret the law, and settle disputes.

The **52nd District Courts** have jurisdiction over all misdemeanor, ordinance and charter violations and preliminary examinations on all felony cases. The District Court has exclusive jurisdiction over General Civil actions when the amount in controversy does not exceed \$25,000, Landlord Tenant and Land Contract Forfeiture cases, as well as Small Claims cases with disputes not exceeding \$5,500. The District Court may also conduct marriages. There are four divisions of the court: Division I in Novi, Division II in Clarkston, Division III in Rochester Hills and Division IV in Troy.

**ESTATES AND MENTAL HEALTH: Probate Court** is responsible for the probating of wills, guardianships, conservatorships and the administration of estates of deceased persons by personal representatives.

**LITIGATION/INVESTIGATIONS:** The **Prosecuting Attorney** is the chief law enforcement officer of the county, primarily charged with the duty to see that state criminal laws are faithfully enforced. The Prosecuting Attorney represents the People of the State of Michigan in all State law criminal matters pending before all courts in Oakland County, advocates for new legislation and other reforms in the system, and assists in the training of police officers to ensure they are able to perform their functions in accordance with the law.

**CASE RECORDS:** The Office of the **County Clerk** is responsible for recording and maintaining all 6th Judicial Circuit Court paper and electronic documents in accordance with all statutory and Supreme Court guidelines.

**CIVIL ENFORCEMENT: Fiscal Services Reimbursement** is responsible for managing collections for the Circuit, Family, and Probate Courts for all court ordered fees and determines the ability to pay for various court services. Prosecuting Attorney and Friend of the Court Child Support Enforcement Programs are also included in this area.

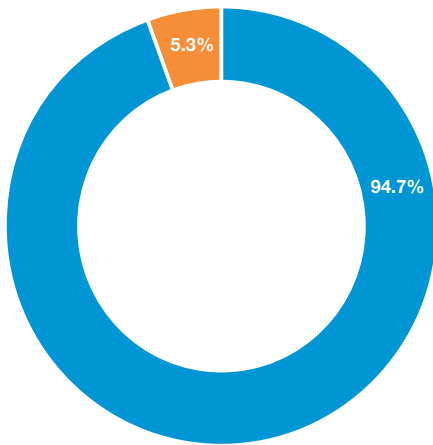
## did you know?

For \$25, residents can store their will for safekeeping with the Probate Court.

//////////  
Circuit Court legal records can be searched online through Court Explorer.



# recreation & leisure



- Parks & Recreation
- Library

Recreation and Leisure includes services that promote recreational, leisure and cultural activities for county citizens which are provided by Parks and Recreation, the Library and the Office of Arts, Culture & Film.

**PARKS AND RECREATION:** With 6,700 acres of natural landscapes and outdoor recreation for Oakland County residents, the 13 Oakland County parks offer a wide variety of year-round recreation opportunities ranging from camping, hiking, swimming, boating, golfing and picnicking to cross-country skiing, ice skating and ice fishing. Explore Oakland County **Parks and Recreation** at [DestinationOakland.com](http://DestinationOakland.com).

Parks and Recreation is also responsible for the management and operation of the Oakland County Market. The market is a mainstay for providing grower-direct fresh produce and flowers to county residents and visitors. The venue features a Farmers Market that operates three days a week and welcomes more than 300,000 visitors annually.

**LIBRARY:** The Adams-Pratt Oakland County Law Library provides an extensive, up-to-date legal research collection for use by the general public and legal professionals alike. It is the largest public county law library in the State of Michigan, serving the public, government and court employees, attorneys, students and other visitors. The library assists the public with court proceedings by providing court rules, procedural information, forms and free computer access for legal research.

**ARTS, CULTURE & FILM:** While Oakland County no longer administers the regional regranteeing program directly, the county still provides administrative staff to enhance, strengthen and promote the arts and cultural life in Oakland County through advocacy, promotion, funding and programming initiatives.

**The MI Great Artist™** is an online art competition for visual artists, 18+ years of age. Artists are able to submit up to 5 images and descriptions of their work for public voting at [info@migreatartist.com](mailto:info@migreatartist.com).

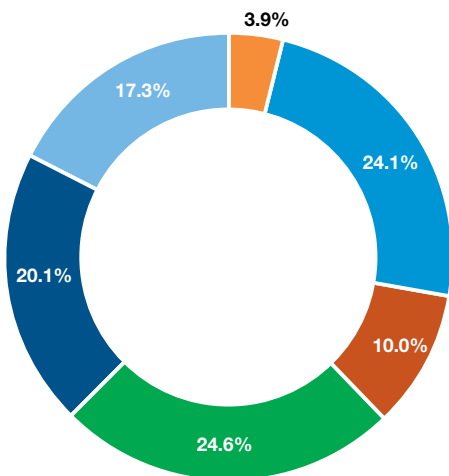
## did you know?

Parks and Recreation has award-winning waterparks; Red Oaks Waterpark in Madison Heights and Waterford Oaks Waterpark in Waterford feature multiple aquatic features, picnic space, locker rooms and food concessions.

There are three downhill ski sites in Oakland County: Pine Knob in Independence Township, Mt. Holly in Groveland Township and Alpine Valley in White Lake Township.



# direct citizen services



- General Services
- Health Services
- Environmental Health Services
- Family Services
- Mental Health
- Child Welfare

Direct Citizen Services represents all areas which provide direct services to individual citizens.

**HEALTH SERVICES / ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICES:** The **Health Division** protects the public's health through health promotion, disease prevention and protection of the environment. In addition to its traditional public health role, the Health Division is committed to protecting the public through continual review and improvement of its emergency response capabilities, having developed nationally recognized preparedness programs. The Health Division executes all of these responsibilities in an exemplary manner in an environment of limited resources and increasing requirements from State and Federal authorities.

**GENERAL SERVICES: Michigan State University Extension (MSUE)** is part of the National Cooperative Extension Service (CES) system that provides unbiased research-based education to address critical issues. The mission of MSUE is to help people improve their lives through an educational process that applies knowledge to critical issues, needs and opportunities.

The **Veterans' Services** Division provides technical, local-level advocacy and assistance to Oakland County veterans and/or dependents to obtain federal, state and local veterans' benefits.

The **County Clerk Vital Records Unit** is responsible for recording and safeguarding birth, death, marriage, notary public and assumed names documents in addition to processing concealed weapons permits.

The **Medical Examiner's** office investigates and determines cause and manner of death in any violent, sudden, unexpected, suspicious or otherwise unexplained death, inclusive of all jail deaths and deaths in police custody occurring within Oakland County.

Pet adoptions through the **Animal Control and Pet Adoption Center** are also included in this area.

**CHILD WELFARE: Children's Village** shelter care for young people who are in need of protection for reasons of abuse or neglect and MSUE 4-H Youth programs.

**FAMILY SERVICES: The Prosecuting Attorney Victim Services** Section offers information and support to all crime victims throughout Oakland County. The information helps victims or families understand and exercise their rights, as well as gain an understanding of the criminal court process.

**Circuit Court Adoption Services** processes adoption petitions for direct placement, agency, adult, stepparent, and relative adoptions.

**MENTAL HEALTH:** This represents the annual payment to the Oakland County Community Mental Health Authority, as required by the Mental Health Code.

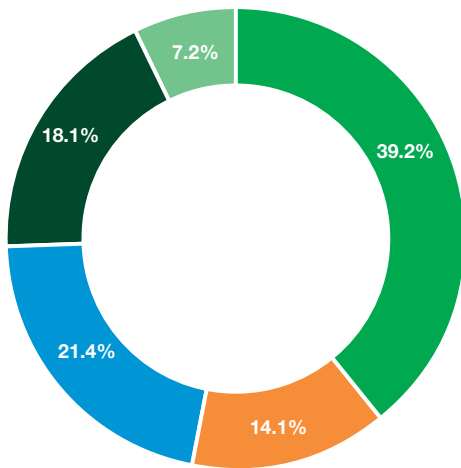
## did you know?

The Sheriff's Office, in partnership with Health & Human Services, offer FREE portable cribs to provide a safe sleeping environment to infants throughout Oakland County. For more information on the **Cops-n-Cribs** program, contact the Health Division's Nurse on Call (N.O.C) at 1-800-848-5533.





# community development



- Economic Development
- Community Development
- Community Services
- Environmental Protection
- Workforce Development

Commerce and Community Development reflects all efforts to promote and sustain a strong business and economic climate, a healthy environment and vibrant communities.

**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT** programs prepare and provide land use information to, and zoning and master plan reviews for, Oakland County communities to improve land use coordination and decision-making. Also, Main Street Oakland County maximizes the economic potential and preserves the heritage and sense of place of the county's historic commercial (downtown) districts.

The **Community & Home Improvement** Division administers federal housing and community development grants from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. These grants are designed to create viable communities by providing decent, safe and sanitary housing, a suitable living environment and expanded economic opportunities for persons of low and moderate income, homeless persons and persons with housing issues.

The **Register of Deeds** records and safeguards all land related documents including subdivision plats and condominium plans. The office has a Super Index, allowing millions of documents filed with Oakland County to become easily searchable by any piece of information contained within them. There is also a Property Records Notification system that notifies citizens by e-mail when a document is recorded with their specified search term(s).

**COMMUNITY SERVICES:** The **Equalization** Division assists the Board of Commissioners in ascertaining whether the real and personal property in the townships and cities of Oakland County have been equally and uniformly assessed at true cash value.

**Access Oakland Account Services** provides secure access to business systems, account management, reporting, and payment options.

The **Water Resources Commissioner** is the delegated authority to maintain the established legal levels of 52 lakes within Oakland County. Under the provisions of the Land Division Act, the Water Resources Commissioner's Office also reviews and approves subdivision plats to ensure that adequate storm drainage facilities have been included in the engineering plan.



## did you know?

Oakland County's newest initiative, tech248, is helping technology companies collaborate and attract, develop and retain talent while promoting the county as a global technology hub.

Medical Main Street is a collaboration of world-renowned hospitals and universities with health care and life science companies in Southeast Michigan. Powered by Oakland County, it's creating a global center of innovation in medical research and development, education and commercialization.

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT** programs support the retention and expansion of existing businesses and entrepreneurs through a comprehensive range of services and information. These programs diversify Oakland County's economic base by attracting new companies throughout the world via its Emerging Sectors initiative. Emerging Sectors companies include areas such as health care and life sciences, communications and information technology, robotics and advanced materials and nanotechnology. Since its creation in 2004, the Emerging Sectors program has had 371 business successes and attracted over \$3.3 billion in investment.

In 2015, Oakland County recognized \$357.0 million of foreign direct investment, more than double the \$171.0 million from 2014, and accounts for about 43% of the County's total private business investment of nearly \$835.0 million.

The **Financial Services** program strives to enhance economic activity by providing small businesses and 501(c)(3) organizations with fixed asset financing at favorable rates through the U.S. Small Business Administration 504 Loan Programs and tax-exempt bonds.

The **Product Development and Services** program researches, collects, and disseminates data and maps that describe Oakland County, its communities, businesses, and demographic/development trends. Through the **One Stop Shop Business Center**, customers are introduced to and assisted in utilizing the state-of-the-art information kiosk to access this data.

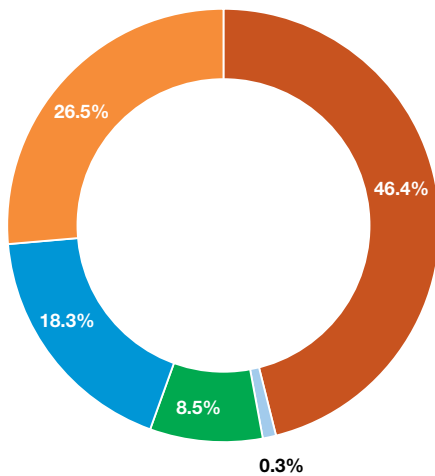
**ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION: Environmental Stewardship** supports sustainable economic growth, development, and redevelopment through the preparation and communication of information, plans, visions, and options which advance proactive, coordinated, locally-driven conservation and recreation initiatives.

The **Waste Resource Management** program develops and administers the county's solid waste planning efforts.

**WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT:** Under the joint direction of the Oakland County Workforce Development Board and the County Executive, the **Workforce Development** Division administers numerous state and federally funded programs that serve the county's job seekers and employers.



# public works



- Public Utilities
- Debt Service
- Transportation
- County Facilities
- Drainage Systems

Public Works refers to all operating systems that form the infrastructure of basic County functions.

**COUNTY FACILITIES:** **Facilities Management** plans, designs, constructs, renovates, operates, maintains, repairs, and provides security for the facilities and grounds owned and maintained by Oakland County.

**TRANSPORTATION:** The **Aviation Division** oversees three county-owned airports; Oakland County International Airport, Oakland/Troy Airport, and Oakland/Southwest Airport.

**PUBLIC UTILITIES/DRAINAGE SYSTEMS:** The **Water Resources Commissioner** provides leadership in areas of regional cooperation in order to make responsible decisions about infrastructure, the environment and water quality. These responsibilities include the operation and maintenance of county-owned sewers and many individual municipal sewer systems and drinking water systems under contract. Other functions of the office include operations and maintenance of facilities such as sewage pump stations, retention treatment basins, storm water retention facilities and lake level augmentation sites. Duties also include drain and sewer construction inspection, sewage flow metering, engineering plan review and permitting, as well as a soil erosion control program to monitor construction activities to protect Oakland County lakes and streams from the effects of soil erosion and sedimentation.

**ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY:** The Department of **Information Technology (IT)** plays an integral role in County operations by developing, integrating and maintaining innovative technology programs. IT provides service to all units of County government, as well local municipalities and County-affiliated companies, organizations and individuals.

The G2G Marketplace was developed by Oakland County to offer solutions from government partners and approved vendors to government agencies through an online store experience. The goal of this initiative is to provide governments with an easy way to research, purchase and implement technology solutions and professional services. The G2G Marketplace will simplify the purchase and licensing process with pre-negotiated blanket purchase agreements so government agencies can utilize technology and services quickly.

CySAFE (Cyber Security Assessment for Everyone) is a free IT security assessment tool to help small and mid-sized government agencies assess, understand and prioritize their basic IT security needs.

Another tool, the GeoVision Assessment was created to provide government agencies with a simple way to evaluate the current state of their Geographic Information System (GIS) technology at a high level. The self-assessment results can be used to discuss new GIS uses with staff, prioritize next steps, and monitor progress.

CySAFE and the GeoVision assessment are both featured in the G2G Marketplace at [G2GMarket.com](http://G2GMarket.com).





# awards & accomplishments IN 2015

Oakland County received 12 Achievement Awards from the National Association of Counties (NACO) in 2015.

**Successful Energy Conservation Practices in the Real World of Local Government:**

During the recession, Oakland County established aggressive energy conservation procedures to become a more sustainable county and reduce energy costs. Numerous projects were undertaken and policies were implemented to assist the county in achieving its goals of saving a cumulative \$5 million and reducing annual energy consumption 15 percent by 2015.

**Homeland Security Flood Response Efforts:** In August 2014, a portion of Oakland County received several inches of rain over a short timeframe causing severe flooding which impacted 11 communities, hundreds of businesses and thousands of homeowners. A coordinated effort among the Homeland Security Division, the Michigan State Police and FEMA resulted in accurate damage assessment reporting and information gathering, culminating in a Presidential Disaster Declaration for the tri-county area of Oakland, Wayne and Macomb.

**Homeland Security School Drill Compliance Initiative:** State legislation requires Homeland Security to record school drill information for over 500 schools. They partnered with Information Technology and the Health Division to create a “School Drill Reporting” tab on an existing online school reporting portal creating an effective tool for sharing the information with local public safety officials, facilitating compliance and compiling statistical reports.

**Nurse on Call Program:** This program serves consumers, professionals, schools and businesses by providing health and general information, community resources and referrals. A call distribution phone system and an online database enable Public Health Nurses to meet the increased need for information by the public due to recent economic and pandemic events.

**Youth Suicide Prevention Initiative:** This Health Division initiative promotes mental health awareness and stigma reduction, while also providing valuable prevention, intervention and post-vention resources to county residents and public service agencies.

**Courts and Law Enforcement Management Information System Computer Aided Dispatch (CLEMIS CAD):** CLEMIS CAD provides Law Enforcement agencies a complete computer aided dispatch system as easy to use as the Internet. CLEMIS CAD is an internally developed and user-driven design that allows users to create, update, track, and manage all public safety calls for service.

**CySAFE - Cyber Security Assessment for Everyone:** CySAFE is a tool for governments working on assessing, planning, and implementing cybersecurity measures.



# awards & accomplishments

## IN 2015 (cont.)

**Investor Relation Management System:** A custom-developed technology tool used by the Department of Management & Budget to manage, coordinate, and satisfy the periodic continuing disclosure requirements for the entire duration of bonds issued through a private placement agreement.

**Space Allocation:** Oakland County Information Technology (OCIT) and Facilities Management (FM) implemented a GIS based Space Allocation program which is used to calculate and manage square footage used for Oakland County departmental billing.

**Oakland County Market Cooking Demonstrations with Edible WoW:** The twice-a-month cooking demonstration series has proven to be a recipe for success where some of the area's best chefs use produce available at the market to demonstrate a variety of delicious, easy recipes that participants can replicate at home.

**Fitness Unleashed:** The County's wellness program (OakFit) provides a no cost initiative that offers a way to engage employees in physical activity and socialize dogs housed at the local Pet Adoption Agency (Animal Control).

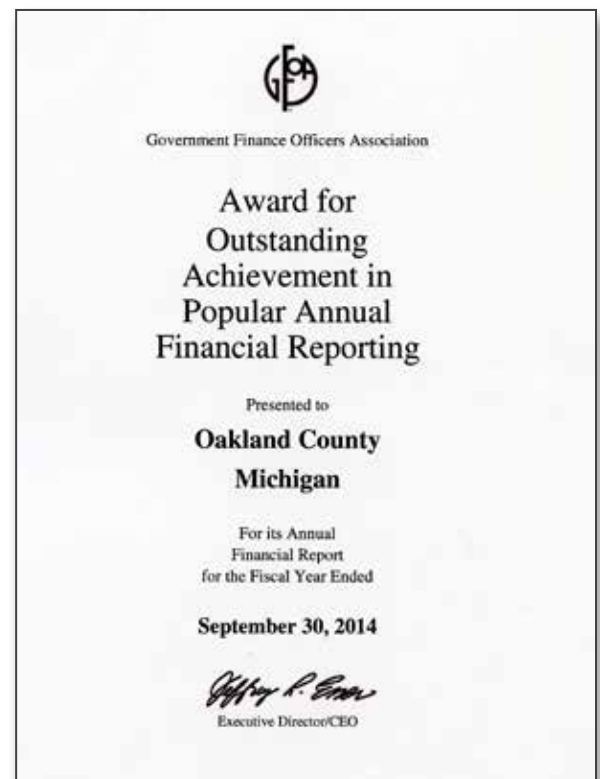
**Oakland County Discounted Fee Policy for Vital Records:** The Clerk's Office offers a program to reduce or waive fees to obtain vital records for residents facing financial hardship or other crises.

## gfoa award

The Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA) has given an Award for Outstanding Achievement in Popular Annual Financial Reporting to Oakland County for its Popular Annual Financial Report for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2014. The Award for Outstanding Achievement in Popular Annual Financial Reporting is a prestigious national award recognizing conformance with the highest standards for preparation of state and local government popular reports.

In order to receive an Award for Outstanding Achievement in Popular Annual Financial Reporting, a government unit must publish a Popular Annual Financial Report, whose contents conform to program standards of creativity, presentation, understandability and reader appeal. An Award for Outstanding Achievement in Popular Annual Financial Reporting is valid for a period of one year only.

Oakland County has received a popular award for the last eighteen consecutive years (fiscal years ending 1997-2014). We believe our current report continues to conform to the Popular Annual Financial Reporting requirements, and we are submitting it to the GFOA.





# additional information

## Oakland County Website

A wealth of information on county services is available on the website at [OakGov.com](http://OakGov.com). Copies of this document as well as the county’s Line Item Budget, Program Budget and Comprehensive Annual Financial Report are also available in pdf format on the website.

## Oakland County Contacts

### General

Main # (248) 858-1000  
Toll Free 1-888-350-0900

### Elected Officials

Board of Commissioners (248) 858-0100  
Clerk/Register of Deeds (248) 858-0581  
County Executive (248) 858-0480  
Prosecutor (248) 858-0656  
Sheriff (248) 858-5000  
Treasurer (248) 858-0611  
Water Resources Commissioner (248) 858-0958

### Courts

Circuit Court (248) 858-0350  
Probate Court (248) 858-0260

### District Courts

52-1 Novi (248) 305-6080  
52-2 Clarkston (248) 625-4880  
52-3 Rochester (248) 853-5553  
52-4 Troy (248) 528-0400

## Comprehensive Annual Financial Report

Complete financial statements of Oakland County, with additional demographic and economic information, are provided in the county’s Comprehensive Annual Financial Report. The document is available in pdf format on the county website. A printed version of this report can be viewed at the following location:

### Adams-Pratt Oakland County Law Library

1200 North Telegraph | Building 14 East – 2nd Floor | Pontiac, MI 48341-0453 | (248) 858-0012

## Acknowledgements

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