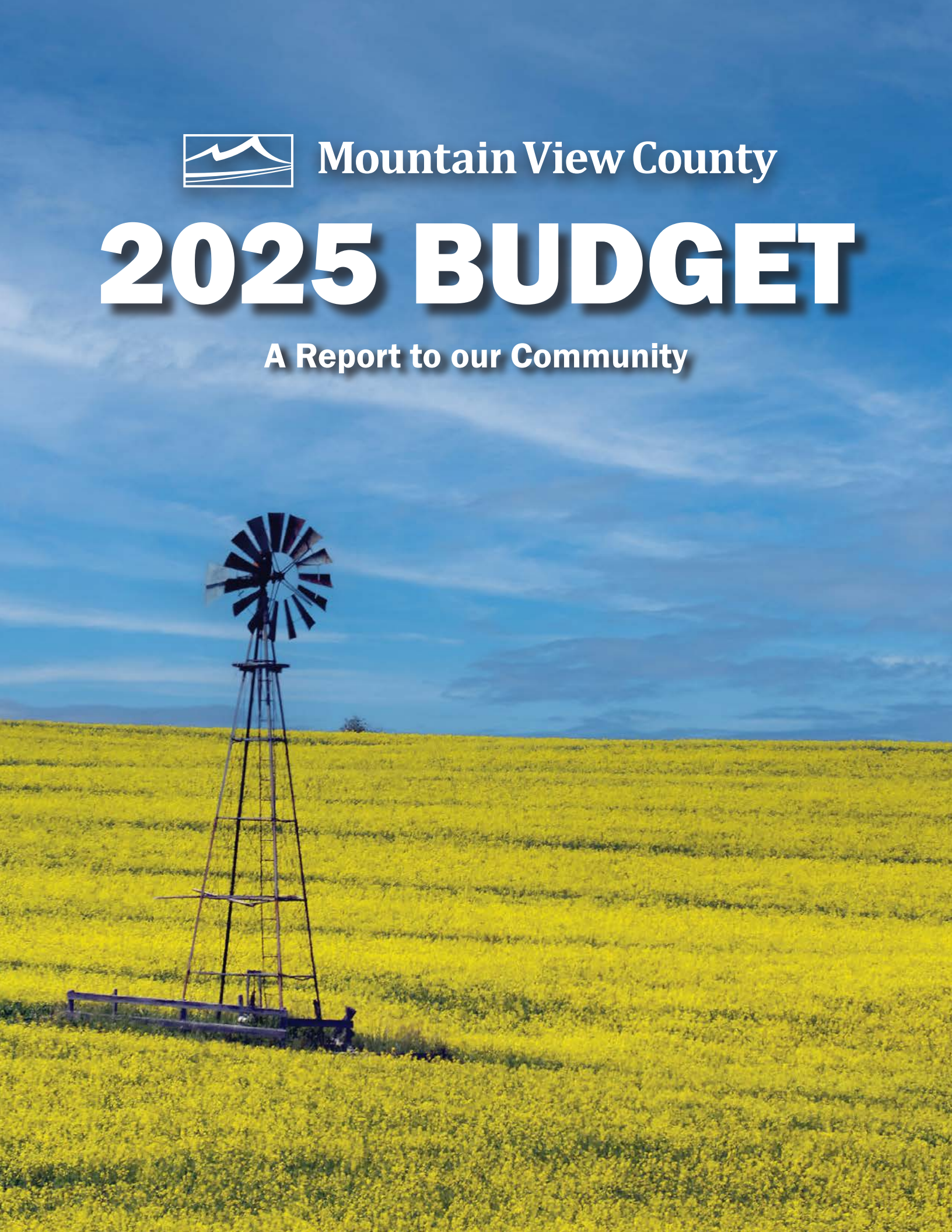




Mountain View County

2025 BUDGET

A Report to our Community



Mountain View County's Budget Cycle

Each year, County departments develop the Operating and Capital Budget, with Corporate Services providing guidance and analysis to ensure alignment with financial trends and cost escalations. As part of the process, an in-depth budget workshop and two public presentations are held with Council to review and discuss the proposed budget. About 75% of operating expenses are funded through tax revenue, with the remainder from government grants, reserves, and other revenue sources such as rentals, sales, recoveries, and fees.



The Audit Committee

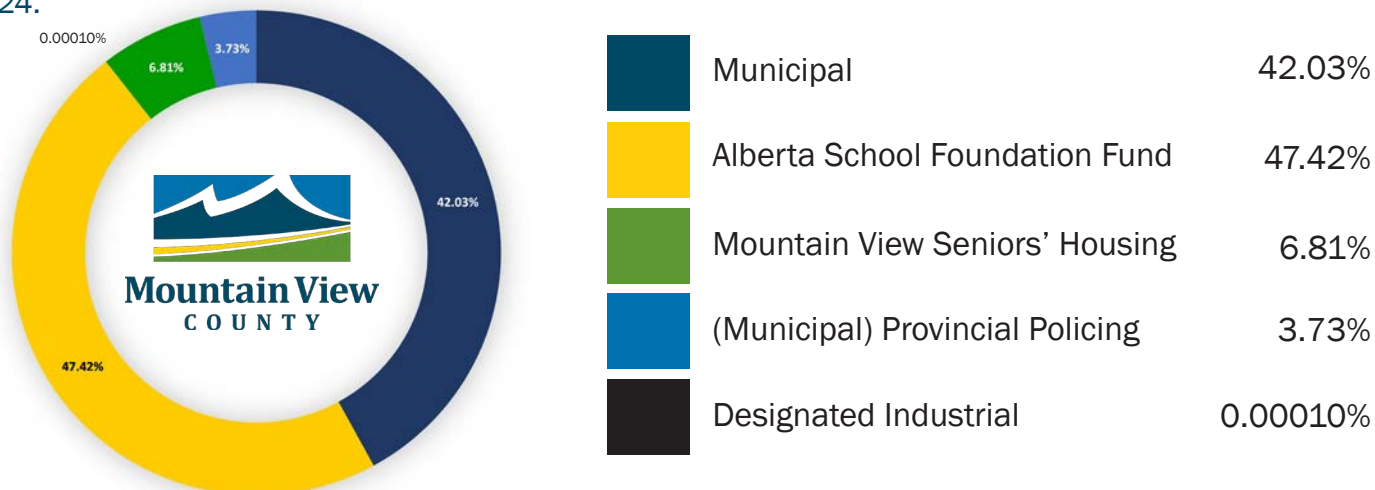
Made up of three Council members and one Member-at-Large, the Audit Committee oversees financial processes, audits, and compliance. It reviews proposed budgets and projects before they go to Council, which sets mill rates based on tax revenue requirements and the assessment base. Property taxes are calculated by multiplying the mill rate by the provincially regulated assessment.

Residential Tax Dollars

For residential taxpayers, the education requisition accounts for \$0.47 of every dollar on your 2025 property tax bill, while \$0.42 goes toward municipal services. The remaining \$0.11 is collected on behalf of Mountain View Seniors' Housing (MVSH) and for provincial policing services.

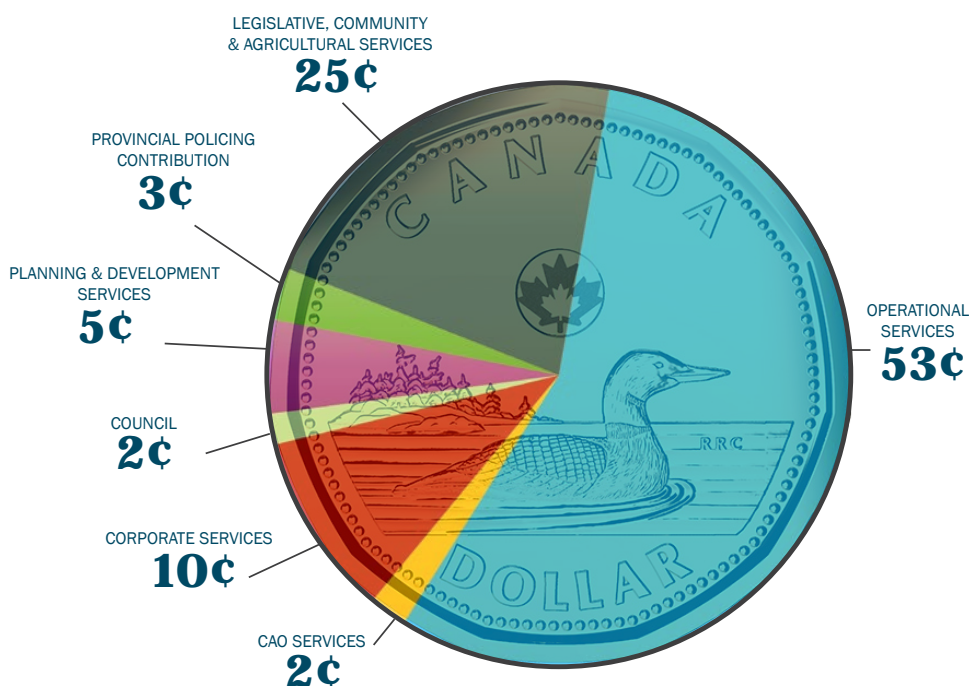
Mountain View County is required to collect these portions on behalf of the Province of Alberta and MVSH. These funds support K–12 education, RCMP operations, and seniors' housing in Carstairs, Sundre, Olds, and Didsbury. Although collected by the County, these amounts are forwarded directly to the respective authorities and are not retained locally.

In 2025, the provincial education tax increased by 14% and the MVSH requisition rose by 6% compared to 2024.



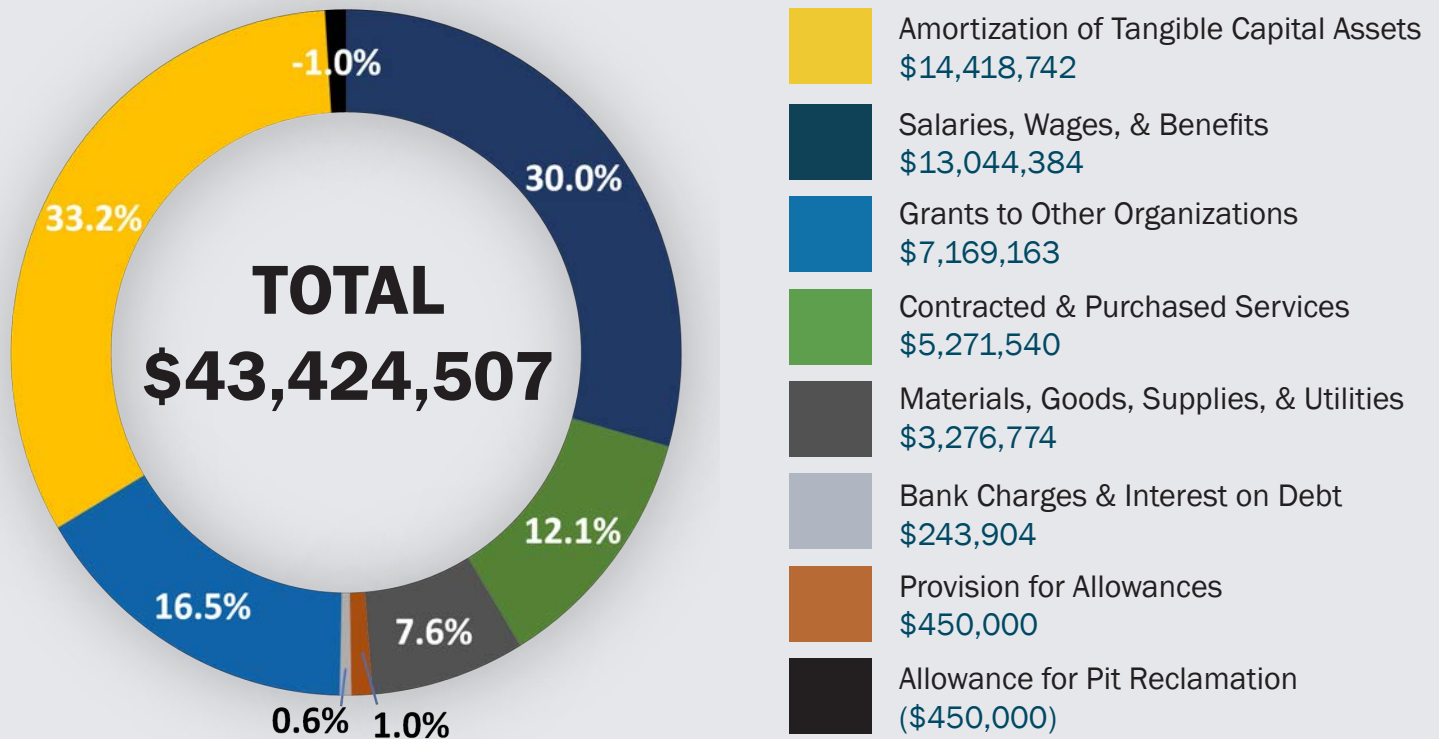
Where Your Municipal Tax Dollar Goes

Here's a breakdown of where each dollar of Mountain View County's portion of your tax dollars are spent:

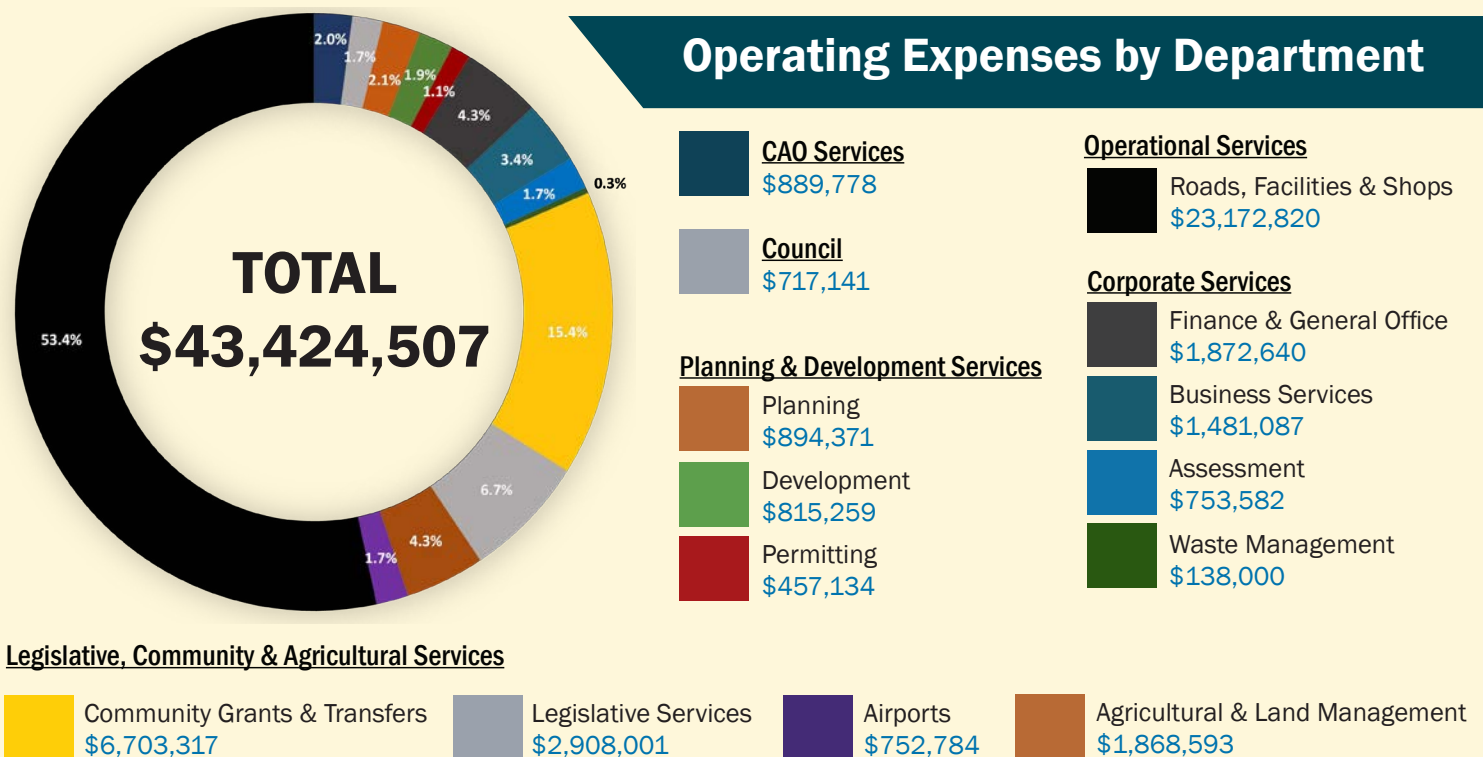


Operating Expenses by Type

Mountain View County's 2025 Operating Expenses include the anticipated costs associated with conducting the County's affairs. These expenditures include the delivery of essential services and programs to County residents, whether provided directly or in collaboration with the four towns (Olds, Sundre, Didsbury and Carstairs) and village (Cremona) partners.



Operating Expenses by Department



The primary source of operating revenue for Mountain View County is municipal property taxes. The tax revenue is based on actual property assessments for the prior year.

Total Revenues Collected:

Net Taxes	\$33,188,298	Capital Revenue	\$4,953,073
Sale of Goods	\$318,600		
Sale of Services.....	\$333,250	Total Capital Revenue:	\$4,953,073
Fees & Levies	\$688,500		
Fines & Penalties	\$304,350		
Recoveries	\$286,165		
Rentals	\$204,500		
Return on Investments	\$2,005,085		
Gov't Transfers for Operating	\$1,297,656		

Total Operating Revenues: \$38,626,404

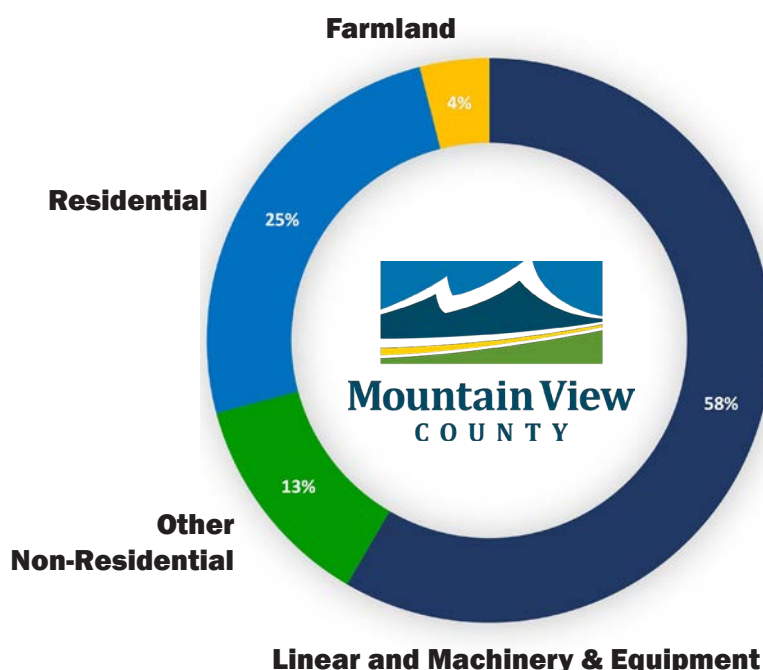
**Combined Total Operating and
Capital Revenue: \$43,579,477**

Percentage of Municipal Services Funded by Each Assessment Class

Of the total taxes collected, 58% comes from the Linear and Machinery & Equipment property classes.

The remaining Non-Residential property class contributes 13%.

Residential equates to 25% and Farmland at 4%.



2020 \$295,000 - Actual

2021 \$522,500 - Actual

2022 \$706,634 - Actual

2023 \$1,045,000 - Actual

2024 \$1,218,727 - Actual

2025 \$1,208,201 - Budget

Policing Costs Per Year

To the left, you'll see the annual policing costs for Mountain View County from 2020 through to the 2025 budget. Over this period, the County's contribution has grown from \$295,000 to just over \$1.2 million—a significant increase driven by a provincial cost-sharing model introduced in 2020.

For 2025, the County has budgeted \$1,208,201 for Provincial Policing, a modest increase from the 2024 budget of \$1,200,726. Actual 2024 costs came in slightly higher at \$1,218,727.

These contributions are determined by the Province using a formula that considers both population and equalized assessment. While the County has no control over this calculation, we continue to work within our means to support essential public safety services for our residents.



Community Grant Funding

Each year, Mountain View County has Community Grant Funding available that's directly provided to organizations (such as the Museum Grant, and STARS grant) or is applied for by community groups to provide programs or services that benefit County residents. Some of the grant programs allow groups from the Urban Municipalities within Mountain View County to apply, provided the program and/or service is available and deemed beneficial to County residents.

\$28,500 Cemetery Grants	\$6,000 Citizenship Awards	\$10,000 Community Engagement Sites	\$24,000 Museums	\$15,000 Health Funding
\$51,924 STARS	\$7,500 Rural Crime Reduction Initiative	\$4,000 Music Education (Strings & Keys)	\$32,500 Public Transportation	\$4,000 Other Misc. Grants
\$101,210 Community Halls	\$78,720 Rural Community Grants	\$87,000 Recurring Community Grants	TOTAL \$450,354	

Urban Funding - Based on 2025 Budget Estimates

URBAN FUNDING	TOWN OF CARSTAIRS		VILLAGE OF CREMONA		TOWN OF DIDSBURY		TOWN OF OLDS		TOWN OF SUNDRE		TOTAL
FCSS	\$	30,744.00	\$	57,808.00	\$	43,092.00	\$	51,210.00	\$	62,478.00	\$ 245,332.00
Fire Operating	\$	263,880.00	\$	508,896.00	\$	325,000.00	\$	329,953.00	\$	280,000.00	\$ 1,707,729.00
Fire - Capital Equipment	\$	370,962.00	\$	-	\$	95,040.00	\$	64,712.00	\$	880,603.00	\$ 1,411,317.00
Libraries	\$	34,115.00	\$	52,197.00	\$	44,746.00	\$	53,595.00	\$	63,996.00	\$ 248,649.00
Recreation - Operating	\$	232,409.00	\$	253,995.00	\$	473,000.00	\$	566,548.00	\$	676,496.00	\$ 2,202,448.00
Other - Capital					\$	47,313.00					\$ 47,313.00
Total	\$	932,110.00	\$	872,896.00	\$	1,028,191.00	\$	1,066,018.00	\$	1,963,573.00	\$ 5,862,788.00



Community Collaborations

MUNICIPAL PARTNERSHIPS



The County maintains numerous agreements with its urban partners to deliver services to the broader community.

These agreements cover a range of services, from Family and Community Support Services to Fire Protection. In addition, the County funds recreation, culture, and Intermunicipal Collaboration Reserves annually, which Urban Partners can access for capital projects.

RECREATION FUNDING



Urban Municipalities and the County collaborate to provide shared facilities and services. County recreation and culture funding is based on a per-capita rate for the rural population in each district, with higher

rates for communities that have a swimming pool. Rates are adjusted annually based on the Consumer Price Index (CPI). For 2025, the rates are \$203.68 (with pool) and \$131.26 (no pool) per capita.

Cremona's recreation funding is based on a per-capita rate of \$93.76, distributed through the Cremona & District Recreation Board, as outlined in Policy and Procedure No. 8016. An additional \$37.52 per capita is allocated to the Cremona Intermunicipal Collaboration Reserve for non-recreation capital projects deemed mutually beneficial.

The County also maintains a capital recreation fund, drawn from the remaining portion of 9% of net tax revenue after operating contributions, which may be granted to Urban Municipalities for major capital projects at Council's discretion.

FIRE SERVICES FUNDING



The County provides both operating and capital funding to the five municipal Fire Departments serving Mountain View County.

Operating costs are covered either through a mutually agreed percentage or a lump sum, depending on the department. Capital costs are guided by a Capital Replacement Plan between the County and each Urban Municipality. The County directly operates the Cremona and District Emergency Services Department, covering 80% of operating and all capital expenses, while the Village contributes 20% of operating costs for the Cremona Fire Hall as part of the partnership.

LIBRARY FUNDING



Library funding is provided annually to Urban Municipalities to support the operation of local libraries. In 2025, the per-capita rate is \$19.27, based on the rural population in each recreation district and adjusted annually

using the Consumer Price Index (CPI). In the Cremona Recreation District, funding is split 70/30 between the Cremona Library and the Water Valley Library.

Additionally, the County pays a requisition to the Parkland Library System, budgeted at \$127,344 for 2025. This system-level funding supports all local libraries within the Parkland network.

Icon Source: [flaticon.com](https://www.flaticon.com)

Agricultural Services Expenses

Mountain View County Council places a strong focus on agriculture and land management in its **Strategic Plan**, which is illustrated on the following page. This includes developing policies and bylaws to preserve agricultural land and support business growth. Council also allocates funding to the Agricultural Services Department and Agricultural Service Board to maintain service levels and achieve strategic goals.

For 2025, the approved budget for Agricultural, Lands & Parks Services is \$1,868,593 allocated as follows:

\$142,335 for land management, including maintenance of the County’s land inventory, business park upkeep, and general land management.

\$121,141 for parks management, covering day-use areas like Bagnall Park, Hillers Dam, Davidson Park, Winchell Lake, and the Water Valley Campground.

\$1,605,117 for Agricultural Services, primarily guided by the Agricultural Service Board. This funds brushing, mowing, spraying (Right of Way management), and other programs listed to the right.

General \$538,715	Extension Services \$13,352
Invasive Plant Management \$126,832	Right of Way Management \$635,550
Environment \$239,450	Recurring Projects \$1,500
Town Weed Inspection \$16,400	Pest Control \$33,318

Our Mission:
Provide high quality services in support of a healthy, safe, and vibrant rural community.

Our Vision:
An engaged rural and agricultural community inspired by the unique and diverse qualities of our people and environment.

Our Values:
* Ethical * Open-Minded
* Transparent * Respectful



Mountain View County's Strategic Plan

Mountain View County Council is responsible for guiding the growth, direction, and long-term sustainability of the region. Through its strategic priorities, Council provides clear direction to administration in delivering essential services that support the well-being and safety of residents. These services include traffic enforcement, road and public works maintenance, property assessments, agricultural programs, land development, fire protection, policing, emergency response, and the maintenance of recreational facilities.

Below is an overview of the 2022 - 2027 Strategic Direction Priorities that shape Council's decisions and guide the County's ongoing work:

Rural and Agricultural Focused Community
Support traditional, innovative, and value-added agriculture industry.
Promote a vibrant, inclusive, rural culture.
Protect and preserve the natural environment through programs, education, and collaboration.
Economy and Financial Health
Programs and services are delivered efficiently within a fiscally responsible framework.
Support business diversification and retention.
Asset Management
Develop long-range plans to ensure adequate resources are available to meet Council approved service levels.
Provide and maintain sustainable infrastructure efficiently, effectively, and in an environmentally responsible manner.
Engagement and Communications
Adhere to a culture of open communication and good governance.
Engage in respectful, positive, and productive relationships while maintaining our local autonomy.
Community Well-Being
Promote safe communities.
Provide and support cultural and recreational opportunities.
Foster an environment for people to age in their communities.
Collaborate with urban partners to deliver shared services.

Annual Capital Programs

Mountain View County’s Operational Services implements several strategic programs to ensure the longevity and quality of its road infrastructure. The **Re-Chipping Program**, an annual initiative, focuses on selecting 122 km of chip-sealed roads for re-chipping, following a seven-year life cycle. The **Base Stabilization Program**, known as Rip and Chip, addresses repair issues on chip-sealed roads, optimizing cost efficiency and extending the roadway’s life cycle. The **Re-Gravel Program** targets 488 km of re-graveling per year for gravel roads, aiming for an assumed spread of 222 tonnes/km. The **Long Patching Program** strategically addresses critical sections of hard surface roads, applying asphalt patches to enhance road integrity temporarily. Lastly, the **Subdivision Chip Program** annually re-chips the roadways within County Subdivisions based on need. Each program is meticulously designed to meet specific maintenance and enhancement goals, ensuring a resilient and reliable County road network. Further details regarding each program, including their 2025 budgeted allocations, are provided on the following page.

Capital & Operating Projects

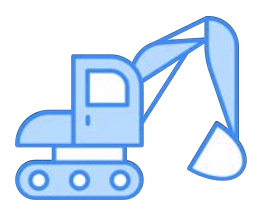
In 2025, Council approved \$43,614,057 in Capital Projects and \$3,181,933 in Operating/Inventory projects for a total Project Budget of \$46,795,990. Of this total, \$11,802,663 are carry-forwards from 2024 projects that are not yet complete. These projects include:



Capital Bridge Program
(includes carry forwards)
\$6,852,924



Cremona Shop Replacement
\$3,027,555



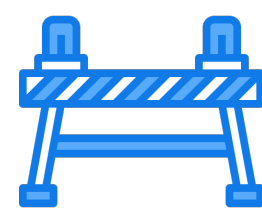
Equipment Replacement Program
(includes carry forwards)
\$6,145,332



Olds Shop Equipment and Wash Bay
\$850,618



Annual Capital Road Projects
\$6,115,300



Township Road 292 Upgrade
\$16,626,280

Re-Chipping Program

Mountain View County Operational Services annually selects 122 km of hard surfaced, chip sealed roads for re-chipping. The re-chipping is scheduled on a seven year life cycle. This program's major cost driver is paving oil, making it subject to the volatility of crude oil pricing.

2025 Re-Chipping Program Budget: \$1,996,140

Base Stabilization Program

The Base Stabilization Program (nicknamed Rip and Chip) targets repairs on chip-sealed roads to enable sealing of multiple kilometers by either contractors or County staff. Roads are selected for ripping in year one and chipping in year two. Each year's budget includes funding for both the current year's ripping and the previous year's chipping. The program is designed to be cost-effective and extend the road's life cycle.

2025 Base Stabilization Program Budget: \$1,260,720

Re-Gravel Program

Graveled roadways require re-gravelling, on average, once every four years. The Regravel Program targets 488 km of re-gravel per year, based on an assumed spread of 222 tonnes/km.

2025 Re-Gravel Program Budget: \$1,996,140

Long Patching Program

Operational Services identifies the most critical sections of hard surface roads for long patching—a temporary repair method that applies asphalt to larger failing sections of chip-sealed or paved roads, rather than spot patching. This approach helps preserve road integrity and extend its lifespan until full reconstruction can occur. The County averages 0.4 km of long patching per year.

2025 Long Patching Program Budget: \$630,360

Subdivision Chip Program

A program to re-chip the portion of roadway within County Subdivisions on an annual basis. The program is based on need.

2025 Subdivision Chip Program Budget: \$231,940

Our Contribution to STARS

In 2024, Mountain View County generously contributed \$51,924 to support STARS flight operations from the Calgary and Edmonton bases that serve the central and southern region of Alberta. Over the past 15-years, (from 2010 up to and including December 31, 2024) because of this support, STARS was able to carry out a total of 840 critical inter-facility, search and rescue, and scene missions within Mountain View County and the hospitals located within our area. Below is an overview:



MOUNTAIN VIEW COUNTY STARS 15-YEAR MISSION REPORT	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	TOTAL
NEAR CARSTAIRS	2	5	2	3	3	2		5	3	3	1	2	7		3	41
NEAR CREMONA	1	1		5	4	2	2	6	4		2	2	4	1	2	36
NEAR CROSSFIELD*													1			1
DIDSBURY HOSPITAL IFT's	4	2	8	10	5	6	8	6	10	17	6	13	10	15	3	123
NEAR DIDSBURY	3	6	5		1	1	4	2	3	2	3	5	5	3	2	45
NEAR LINDEN*													1			1
NEAR MADDEN*												1		1		2
OLDS HOSPITAL IFT's	12	7	10	8	20	22	12	12	10	10	8	18	16	18	10	193
NEAR OLDS	8	4	1	5	3	1		1	4	3	4	5	4	2		45
SUNDRE HOSPITAL IFT's	16	15	11	17	23	17	13	11	14	11	4	16	19	8	7	202
NEAR SUNDRE SCENE + SAR	10	7	10	8	17	9	18	12	6	4	5	6	5	10	6	133
NEAR TORRINGTON*										1				1		2
NEAR WATER VALLEY*	1			1			3		2	1	1	2	2	2	1	16
TOTAL	57	47	47	57	76	60	60	55	56	52	34	70	74	61	34	840

* Scene calls and search & rescue (SAR) coded to nearest community - Actual mission location used to identify each occurrence within Mountain View County boundaries

Mountain View County Honorary Brand

Mountain View County has a new Honorary Brand, inspired by Carstairs-area youth resident Zander Ewert. Unlike standard livestock brands, Honorary Brands can feature more intricate and creative designs, allowing for greater artistic expression while still reflecting traditional agricultural roots.

In late 2024, the County launched a contest inviting youth to submit designs that represented the spirit of Mountain View County. The contest received a number of thoughtful and creative entries from across the community. Following the submission deadline, Council reviewed the entries, approved the winning design, and directed Administration to register it with Livestock Identification Services, securing its official recognition.



The new Honorary Brand will be incorporated into future marketing initiatives, showcasing our pride in agriculture and tradition of Mountain View County. Council formally recognized Zander's contribution with a commemorative belt buckle, featuring the brand design. We extend our thanks to all the youth who participated and shared their talents with us.



Mountain View C O U N T Y

**10 - 1408 - Twp Rd 320
Postal Bag 100
Didsbury, AB T0M 0W0**

Main: 403-335-3311
Fax: 403-335-9207
Toll Free: 1-877-264-9754

Email: info@mvcountry.com
Website: mountainviewcounty.com

Hours of Operation:
Mon - Fri 8:00am - 4:00pm
Closed Statutory Holidays



Download Our App!

By downloading our app,
it's easy to stay connected
to what's happening in our
community.

The MVC App features:
latest notices, upcoming
events, reporting features
& more!

Visit our website or scan
the QR Code below:

