

Broward Commissioners Pass Final Fiscal Year 2012 Budget

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Broward County Commissioners have passed the fiscal year 2012 budget, keeping the property (millage) rate the same as this year. The total fiscal year 2012 budget of \$3.2 billion decreases by \$768.7 million from the current budget. The combined millage rate has been set at \$5.553 per thousand of taxable value. The flat millage rate results in the County collecting approximately 2 percent less in property taxes or \$20 million for a cumulative reduction of \$257 million since fiscal year 2007.

The majority of taxpayers will experience either flat or reduced taxes on the Broward County portion of their tax bill. Taxpayers who will see a slight increase in their County taxes are those whose taxable values have increased and are homesteaded property subject to the state "recapture rule."

The fiscal year 2012 budget provides funding to reopen County parks full time, restore Sunday hours at six regional libraries and maintain public transportation and social services.

Other service enhancements include the midyear opening of the Young at Art Museum and Children's Library, whose operations will be primarily funded by Young at Art. In addition, the Northeast Transit Center will be opening in the fall. This center will provide seamless transfers between four Broward County Transit fixed routes and two municipal community bus routes and will serve as a drop-off location for commuters. There is also a full-year budget for the new Inspector General's Office, mandated by voters last year.

In addition to Broward County, property is taxed by municipalities, the Broward County School Board, hospital districts, water districts, etc. In fact, more than 80 taxing authorities exist in Broward County with the authority to impose a tax on your property.

For more information on the Broward County budget, visit broward.org/budget.