

Environmental Resources

Mission: Increase environmental awareness county-wide. Engage the community by creating and offering environmental awareness programs to the public.

Susan Erlenwein
Director

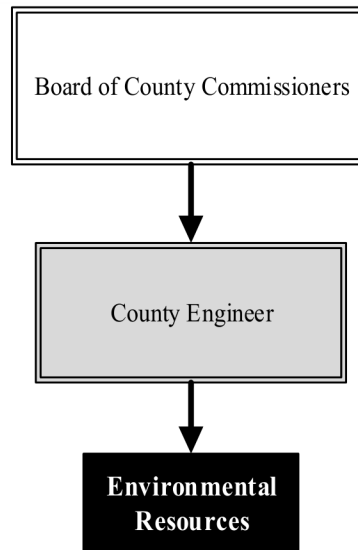
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Overview

Environmental Resources manages and enforces the Sedgwick County Solid Waste Plan and Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Facility and provides community assistance and education regarding adherence to solid waste and stormwater regulations. The Department provides permits and inspections for the Sedgwick County Stormwater Management Plan, testing of surface waters, Hazard Communication training for County employees, chemical inspections of County departments, environmental assessments for Sedgwick County, and technical consultation for environmental projects affecting Sedgwick County. Staff work with Federal, State, and local agencies and serve on committees pertaining to water quality, air quality, stormwater runoff, conservation, solid waste, and natural resources.



Strategic Goals:

- Engage the community in proper recycling by offering special waste minimization projects and multiple HHW disposal options, and increase compliance with the Sedgwick County Solid Waste Code through enforcement and education
- Improve the quality and quantity of water resources within Sedgwick County through stormwater permitting, inspections, conservation practices, and education
- Increase environmental compliance and awareness of Sedgwick County through research, environmental assessments and consultations, and presentations

Highlights

- Reviewed 1,693 outfall locations for stormwater violations to make sure they conform with State law
- Received 2,714,960 pounds of waste tires at their three-day free Waste Tire Collection Event in 2025. This reduced illegal dumping and road hazards
- In 2025, the HHW Facility was expanded to better serve the community and increase safety
- In the past five years, the HHW Facility received 5,842,558 pounds of hazardous waste



Accomplishments and Strategic Results

Accomplishments

Environmental Resources worked on County-owned properties with the Kansas Division of Water Resources to expand water appropriations to accommodate future growth. State law requires Sedgwick County to test impaired surface water bodies for specific pollutants. Environmental Resources developed a plan for testing these water bodies and worked with the Conservation District to implement best management practices to reduce surface water runoff and associated chemicals from entering these lakes and rivers. Due to this program, the number of Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) declared impaired surface water bodies in Sedgwick County has decreased by 80.0 percent.

The Department endeavors to reach more citizens by offering improved solid waste programs and projects to the citizens every year. In 2025, Environmental Resources continued free drug disposal sites at ten city police stations throughout the county and also provided five remote HHW collection events to help better serve the citizens. The Department also provided a waste tire collection event, Bulky Waste Coupons, a new mattress coupon program, Christmas tree recycling, illegal dumping cleanups, nuisance abatements, and collection of HHW at the newly-expanded facility located on Stillwell.

Strategic Results

Environmental Resources is proud of their services to the community, and was recognized by the Solid Waste Association of North America for having an Outstanding Solid Waste Project, and by Coleman Environmental Magnet Middle School, who awarded us with their first Green Apple Community Award.

The Department tracks several strategic goals related to their services. One strategic goal is to provide one large annual special waste event each year. In 2025, Environmental Resources provided a waste tire collection event that received 135,748 passenger tire equivalents (PTE) from 2,340 vehicles. Another strategic goal is to inspect each solid waste disposal facility randomly on a weekly basis for a minimum number of 156 inspections. In 2025, 160 inspections were completed. A third strategic goal is to inspect 1,693 water outfalls annually for illicit water discharges. In 2025, 1,693 water outfalls were inspected for illicit discharges.

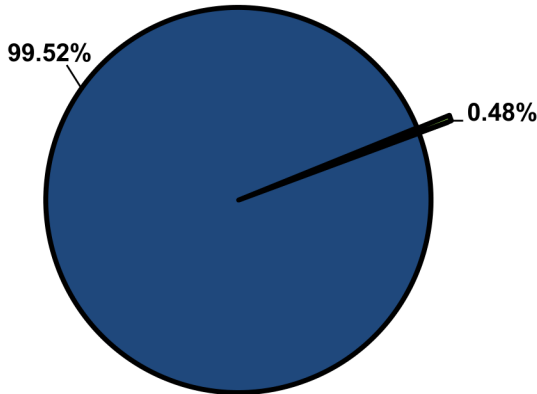


Significant Budget Adjustments

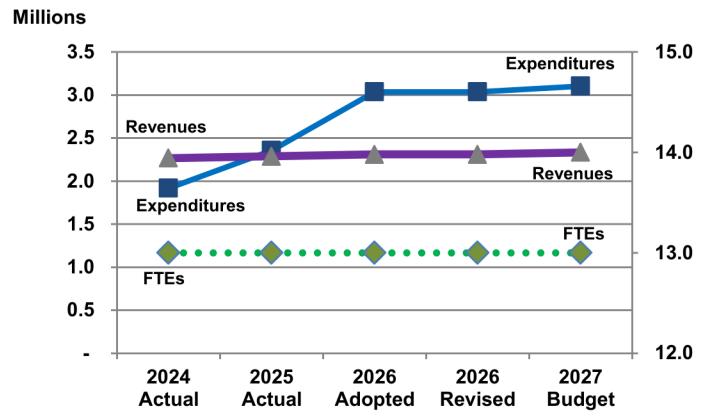
Significant adjustments to Environmental Resources' 2027 Recommended Budget include an increase in charges for services revenue to bring in-line with anticipated actuals (\$19,135) and an increase in transfers out due to an increase in bond payments for the HHW Facility expansion (\$16,250).

Departmental Graphical Summary

Environmental Resources
Percent of Total County Operating Budget



Expenditures, Program Revenue & FTEs
All Operating Funds



Budget Summary by Category

	2024 Actual	2025 Actual	2026 Adopted	2026 Revised	2027 Budget	Amount Chg '26 Rev.-'27	% Chg '26 Rev.-'27
Expenditures							
Personnel	1,052,918	1,129,384	1,192,366	1,192,366	1,244,795	52,429	4.40%
Contractual Services	771,932	1,103,264	1,592,173	1,553,673	1,560,674	7,001	0.45%
Debt Service	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Commodities	92,085	124,793	84,765	123,265	114,634	(8,631)	-7.00%
Capital Improvements	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Capital Equipment	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Interfund Transfers	-	-	168,000	168,000	184,250	16,250	9.67%
Total Expenditures	1,916,935	2,357,441	3,037,304	3,037,304	3,104,353	67,049	2.21%
Revenues							
Tax Revenues	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Licenses and Permits	90,199	60,977	58,082	58,082	61,690	3,608	6.21%
Intergovernmental	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Charges for Services	2,177,453	2,226,299	2,252,454	2,252,454	2,271,589	19,135	0.85%
All Other Revenue	-	-	100	100	-	(100)	-100.00%
Total Revenues	2,267,652	2,287,276	2,310,636	2,310,636	2,333,279	22,643	0.98%
Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs)							
Property Tax Funded	0.80	0.80	0.80	0.80	0.80	-	0.00%
Non-Property Tax Funded	12.20	12.20	12.20	12.20	12.20	-	0.00%
Total FTEs	13.00	13.00	13.00	13.00	13.00	-	0.00%

Budget Summary by Fund

	2024 Actual	2025 Actual	2026 Adopted	2026 Revised	2027 Budget	Amount Chg '26 Rev.-'27	% Chg '26 Rev.-'27
Fund							
General Fund	132,535	140,473	150,628	150,628	155,269	4,641	3.08%
Solid Waste	1,783,850	2,216,968	2,886,676	2,886,676	2,949,084	62,408	2.16%
Env. Resources Grants	550	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Expenditures	1,916,935	2,357,441	3,037,304	3,037,304	3,104,353	67,049	2.21%

Significant Budget Adjustments from Prior Year Revised Budget

	Expenditures	Revenues	FTEs
Increase in charges for services revenue to bring in-line with anticipated actuals		19,135	
Increase in transfers out due to bond payments for the HHW Facility expansion	16,250		

Total	16,250	19,135	-
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Budget Summary by Program

Program	Fund	2024 Actual	2025 Actual	2026 Adopted	2026 Revised	2027 Budget	% Chg '26 Rev.-'27	26-'27' FTEs
Env. Resources Admin.	110	92,535	100,473	110,628	110,628	115,269	4.20%	0.80
Conservation District	110	40,000	40,000	40,000	40,000	40,000	0.00%	-
Project Management	208	210,218	219,038	256,376	256,376	256,148	-0.09%	2.30
Solid Waste Enforcement	208	109,022	113,400	121,918	121,918	126,957	4.13%	1.00
Waste Minimization	208	206,434	220,818	425,053	425,053	453,479	6.69%	1.50
Special Projects	208	358,152	434,274	496,000	496,000	496,000	0.00%	-
Household Haz. Waste	208	900,025	1,229,437	1,337,330	1,337,330	1,366,501	2.18%	7.40
Storm Debris Cont.	208	-	-	250,000	250,000	250,000	0.00%	-
Kansas Innovation Grant	270	550	-	-	-	-	0.00%	-
Total		1,916,935	2,357,441	3,037,304	3,037,304	3,104,353	2.21%	13.00

Personnel Summary by Fund

Position Titles	Fund	Grade	Budgeted Compensation Comparison			FTE Comparison		
			2026 Adopted	2026 Revised	2027 Budget	2026 Adopted	2026 Revised	2027 Budget
Dir. of Environmental Resources	110	GRADE 70	39,313	39,713	39,713	0.30	0.30	0.30
Env. Resources Project Mgr.	110	GRADE 60	27,477	28,576	28,576	0.50	0.50	0.50
Dir. of Environmental Resources	208	GRADE 70	91,730	92,665	92,665	0.70	0.70	0.70
Senior Environmental Inspector	208	GRADE 59	144,818	148,324	148,324	2.00	2.00	2.00
HHW Operations Supervisor	208	GRADE 61	66,747	69,410	69,410	1.00	1.00	1.00
Env. Resources Project Mgr.	208	GRADE 60	27,477	28,576	28,576	0.50	0.50	0.50
Zoning Inspector	208	GRADE 67	54,662	56,846	56,846	1.00	1.00	1.00
Senior Technician - HHW	208	GRADE 54	101,774	105,830	105,830	2.00	2.00	2.00
Administrative Support III	208	GRADE 54	96,179	100,027	100,027	2.00	2.00	2.00
HHW Technician	208	GRADE 52	121,347	126,173	126,173	3.00	3.00	3.00
Subtotal					796,140			
Add:								
Budgeted Personnel Savings					-			
Compensation Adjustments					37,246			
Overtime/On Call/Holiday Pay					1,574			
Benefits					409,836			
Total Personnel Budget					1,244,795	13.00	13.00	13.00

• Environmental Resources Administration

Environmental Resources provides information on environmental issues affecting County government such as the sale of environmentally sensitive County-owned land, the purchase of property, and the safe handling and disposal of hazardous materials formerly used by County departments. The Department conducts research and provides environmental consultation on county and community-wide projects, such as renewable energy, county water appropriations, data centers, and on issues dealing with surface and groundwater quality and quantity in Sedgwick County. Environmental Resources is responsible for mapping and inspecting stormwater outfalls, issuing stormwater permits, and testing surface water after certain rain events. The Department works with the Conservation District on erosion and water issues.

Fund(s): 110 - County general

Expenditures	2024 Actual	2025 Actual	2026 Adopted	2026 Revised	2027 Budget	Amnt. Chg. '26 - '27	% Chg. '26 - '27
Personnel	89,344	93,015	96,966	96,966	101,607	4,641	4.8%
Contractual Services	2,808	4,137	11,331	11,331	10,112	(1,219)	-10.8%
Debt Service	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Commodities	383	3,321	2,331	2,331	3,550	1,219	52.3%
Capital Improvements	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Capital Equipment	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Interfund Transfers	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Total Expenditures	92,535	100,473	110,628	110,628	115,269	4,641	4.2%
Revenues							
Taxes	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Intergovernmental	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Charges For Service	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
All Other Revenue	675	3,330	675	675	3,330	2,655	393.3%
Total Revenues	675	3,330	675	675	3,330	2,655	393.3%
Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs)	0.80	0.80	0.80	0.80	0.80	-	0.0%

• Conservation District

The Conservation District provides water quality monitoring, increased irrigation efficiency, assistance to urban and rural landowners in best management practices, and improvement of onsite waste water systems. The Conservation District receives State funding to help local landowners implement best management practices on their land to decrease erosion and contamination of water. Sedgwick County's contribution to the Conservation District provides funding for external staff, water quality testing, education, supplies, and equipment.

Fund(s): 110 - County general

Expenditures	2024 Actual	2025 Actual	2026 Adopted	2026 Revised	2027 Budget	Amnt. Chg. '26 - '27	% Chg. '26 - '27
Personnel	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Contractual Services	40,000	40,000	40,000	40,000	40,000	-	0.0%
Debt Service	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Commodities	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Capital Improvements	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Capital Equipment	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Interfund Transfers	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Total Expenditures	40,000	40,000	40,000	40,000	40,000	-	0.0%
Revenues							
Taxes	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Intergovernmental	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Charges For Service	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
All Other Revenue	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Total Revenues	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs)	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%

• Project Management

Environmental Resources is responsible for implementing Sedgwick County's Solid Waste Management Plan. This includes staffing and educating the Solid Waste Management Committee, developing annual updates of the Solid Waste Management Plan, performing research, and designing special projects. Project management includes funding for the operation of environmentally friendly storm debris equipment purchased in 2015.

Fund(s): 208 - Solid Waste

Expenditures	2024 Actual	2025 Actual	2026 Adopted	2026 Revised	2027 Budget	Amnt. Chg. '26 - '27	% Chg. '26 - '27
Personnel	206,324	215,792	223,704	223,704	235,348	11,644	5.2%
Contractual Services	1,303	1,298	26,922	26,922	6,900	(20,022)	-74.4%
Debt Service	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Commodities	2,591	1,949	5,750	5,750	13,900	8,150	141.7%
Capital Improvements	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Capital Equipment	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Interfund Transfers	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Total Expenditures	210,218	219,038	256,376	256,376	256,148	(228)	-0.1%
Revenues							
Taxes	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Intergovernmental	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Charges For Service	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
All Other Revenue	-	-	100	100	-	(100)	-100.0%
Total Revenues	-	-	100	100	-	(100)	-100.0%
Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs)	2.30	2.30	2.30	2.30	2.30	-	0.0%

• Solid Waste Enforcement

Solid Waste Enforcement is responsible for enforcing various Sedgwick County codes including random weekly inspections of various disposal facilities, investigating illegal dumping, and licensing waste haulers and disposal facilities.

Fund(s): 208 - Solid Waste

Expenditures	2024 Actual	2025 Actual	2026 Adopted	2026 Revised	2027 Budget	Amnt. Chg. '26 - '27	% Chg. '26 - '27
Personnel	108,053	110,981	113,418	113,418	117,957	4,539	4.0%
Contractual Services	-	-	3,000	3,000	3,000	-	0.0%
Debt Service	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Commodities	969	2,419	5,500	5,500	6,000	500	9.1%
Capital Improvements	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Capital Equipment	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Interfund Transfers	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Total Expenditures	109,022	113,400	121,918	121,918	126,957	5,039	4.1%
Revenues							
Taxes	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Intergovernmental	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Charges For Service	93,313	136,128	126,293	126,293	138,864	12,571	10.0%
All Other Revenue	89,524	57,647	57,407	57,407	58,360	953	1.7%
Total Revenues	182,837	193,775	183,700	183,700	197,224	13,524	7.4%
Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs)	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	-	0.0%

• Waste Minimization

Environmental Resources strives to reduce solid waste by working with local governments; including cities, townships, and improvement districts; citizens; and businesses on minimizing waste. This includes onsite waste analysis of businesses, developing advertisements, writing articles for newspapers, developing recycling booklets, an online guide, staffing departmental booths at public events, and presentations to various groups and the public. Waste minimization also includes funding for the Christmas tree recycling program.

Fund(s): 208 - Solid Waste

Expenditures	2024 Actual	2025 Actual	2026 Adopted	2026 Revised	2027 Budget	Amnt. Chg. '26 - '27	% Chg. '26 - '27
Personnel	139,339	146,978	151,946	151,946	162,561	10,615	7.0%
Contractual Services	57,197	59,610	99,107	84,107	80,669	(3,438)	-4.1%
Debt Service	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Commodities	9,897	14,231	6,000	21,000	26,000	5,000	23.8%
Capital Improvements	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Capital Equipment	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Interfund Transfers	-	-	168,000	168,000	184,250	16,250	9.7%
Total Expenditures	206,434	220,818	425,053	425,053	453,479	28,426	6.7%
Revenues							
Taxes	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Intergovernmental	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Charges For Service	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
All Other Revenue	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Total Revenues	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs)	1.50	1.50	1.50	1.50	1.50	-	0.0%

• Special Projects

The Special Projects fund center was established within the Solid Waste Fund to provide budget authority for special projects like the Bulky Waste Coupon Program, mattress coupons, Metropolitan Area Building and Construction Department (MABCD) nuisance abatements, Waste Tire Roundup events, township and improvement district cleanups, storm debris cleanup events and projects, the Electronic Waste Collection Recycling event, and pharmaceutical drop-off boxes that are located at local law enforcement stations.

Fund(s): 208 - Solid Waste

Expenditures	2024 Actual	2025 Actual	2026 Adopted	2026 Revised	2027 Budget	Amnt. Chg. '26 - '27	% Chg. '26 - '27
Personnel	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Contractual Services	355,376	434,274	496,000	496,000	496,000	-	0.0%
Debt Service	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Commodities	2,776	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Capital Improvements	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Capital Equipment	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Interfund Transfers	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Total Expenditures	358,152	434,274	496,000	496,000	496,000	-	0.0%
Revenues							
Taxes	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Intergovernmental	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Charges For Service	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
All Other Revenue	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Total Revenues	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs)	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%

• Household Hazardous Waste Services

The Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Facility accepts common household hazardous wastes from individuals at no charge, keeps convenient hours, and features a swap-n-shop from which citizens may take and reuse selected materials. The swap-n-shop saves the County an average of \$69,000 annually in disposal fees. Small businesses qualifying as conditionally exempt, small quantity generators may use the facility and pay the County's contract disposal rate. In 2024, 247 businesses used the HHW facility. HHW partners with sponsoring communities and businesses to hold five remote collection events annually.

Fund(s): 208 - Solid Waste

Expenditures	2024 Actual	2025 Actual	2026 Adopted	2026 Revised	2027 Budget	Amnt. Chg. '26 - '27	% Chg. '26 - '27
Personnel	509,858	562,618	606,333	606,333	627,323	20,991	3.5%
Contractual Services	315,248	563,945	665,813	642,313	673,993	31,680	4.9%
Debt Service	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Commodities	74,919	102,874	65,184	88,684	65,184	(23,500)	-26.5%
Capital Improvements	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Capital Equipment	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Interfund Transfers	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Total Expenditures	900,025	1,229,437	1,337,330	1,337,330	1,366,501	29,171	2.2%
Revenues							
Taxes	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Intergovernmental	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Charges For Service	2,083,589	2,090,172	2,126,161	2,126,161	2,132,725	6,564	0.3%
All Other Revenue	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Total Revenues	2,083,589	2,090,172	2,126,161	2,126,161	2,132,725	6,564	0.3%
Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs)	7.40	7.40	7.40	7.40	7.40	-	0.0%

• Storm Debris Contingency

The Storm Debris Contingency was established within the Solid Waste Fund to provide budget authority for unplanned disposal costs of solid waste. Initially established after the 1991 Haysville tornado, the primary focus of this fund center was to assist with the tipping fees and other costs of disposing of the aftermath of storm damage. Originally included in the budget, it was shifted to a separate fund center for improved visibility. A resolution authorizing the original program was rescinded in 2015; however, the program was reestablished in the 2018 budget with an expanded scope for how the Contingency may be used.

Fund(s): 208 - Solid Waste

Expenditures	2024 Actual	2025 Actual	2026 Adopted	2026 Revised	2027 Budget	Amnt. Chg. '26 - '27	% Chg. '26 - '27
Personnel	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Contractual Services	-	-	250,000	250,000	250,000	-	0.0%
Debt Service	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Commodities	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Capital Improvements	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Capital Equipment	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Interfund Transfers	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Total Expenditures	-	-	250,000	250,000	250,000	-	0.0%
Revenues							
Taxes	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Intergovernmental	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Charges For Service	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
All Other Revenue	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Total Revenues	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs)	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%

• Kansas Innovation Grant

In 2024, Environmental Resources was awarded a grant from the Kansas Health Foundation for the purchase of insulated, reusable water bottles for staff at waste collection events. This was used to ensure zero waste at collection events.

Fund(s): 270 - Environmental Resources - Grants

Expenditures	2024 Actual	2025 Actual	2026 Adopted	2026 Revised	2027 Budget	Amnt. Chg. '26 - '27	% Chg. '26 - '27
Personnel	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Contractual Services	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Debt Service	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Commodities	550	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Capital Improvements	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Capital Equipment	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Interfund Transfers	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Total Expenditures	550	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Revenues							
Taxes	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Intergovernmental	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Charges For Service	550	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
All Other Revenue	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Total Revenues	550	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs)	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%