



Administrator's Digest

October 25, 2024

A Note From the Administrator

During the October 10th Board of Commissioners Meeting, I had the privilege of presenting a recommended balanced budget, which was adopted as proposed. The budget is the result of collaboration with many individuals who contributed to the final product and kept the Board engaged in its development over several months. I am particularly pleased with the extensive planning that comprises the budget, including multi-year operational plans, 20+ year capital plans, vehicle plans, compensation, grants, fees, and overall strategic plans. Staying proactive through planning allows us to look ahead with vision and be prepared for various scenarios while keeping our long-range goals progressing. Recently, the County received confirmation of its AA bond rating, affirming its strong policies and management.



I am enthusiastic about the customer service enhancements moving forward at the County. We held an Open House for the renovated County Services Building and received several positive comments about the direct and efficient layout for customers. Even though we had to work through some challenges to finalize the plan, I am pleased that the Treasurer and Drain Services will soon be available at the County Services Building. I look forward to collaborating with these offices.

The Well and Septic Grant Program is now underway in partnership with Community Action of Allegan County (CAAC). This program will provide financial assistance to repair or replace well and septic systems to improve water quality and availability in Allegan County. The program will utilize approximately \$700K of the County's American Rescue Plan Act funds. For more information, please contact CAAC at (269) 673-5472.

Please consider attending the Rededication Ceremony of the Civil War Statue on Veterans Day, Monday, November 11, please see Attachment C of this Digest for details.

Robert J. Sarro, Administrator

IN THIS ISSUE:

Free Ride to the Polls,
Animal Shelter Seizure,
Broadband Project,
And MORE!

Services

12th Annual Allegan County Veteran Stand Down – Allegan County, in partnership with the Veterans Administration (VA), served over 90 veterans through a free community event on Thursday, October 17, 2024, at the First Baptist Church in Allegan (pictures below). Stand Down is a resource event for veterans featuring local, state, and federal resources and nonprofit services available for veterans and their families. This year’s event featured over 35 service vendors, a hot meal, a military surplus, and great comradery. For additional information, contact Jen Garcia, Senior and Veteran Services Director, at (269) 686-5144 or jgarcia@allegancounty.org.



Free Ride to the Polls – To eliminate transportation barriers for voters, the County offers subsidized (free) rides now through November 5 for riders participating in early voting, dropping off ballots at drop boxes, and voting in person on Election Day. This service is available for residents living in Allegan County. To set up a ride, call the scheduling office at (269) 673-4229 by noon the day before travel is needed to arrange transportation; no ID is required. When calling, please provide travel details, including the polling location (drop-off/destination) and drop and pickup times. Trips to polling locations will be co-mingled with other scheduled trips. Please allow a half-hour pick-up window for both pick-up and return trips. For a list of early voting locations, ballot drop boxes, and polling sites, visit Michigan.gov/vote. For more information, please contact Whitney Ehresman, Transportation Director, at wehresman@allegancounty.org or (269) 686-4529.

Resource Recovery Program, Hazardous Waste Event – The Resource Recovery Program held its final hazardous waste event for the year on October 5, 2024, at the Otsego Department of Public Works. The event was open to all residents within Allegan County, and 164 cars dropped off items at this collection. Of those 164 cars, 92 belonged to various townships that could not participate in the past due to non-participation within the program. Allegan City, Otsego City, and Plainwell City comprised most of the 92 cars. Many of these participants expressed gratitude for being eligible for this service. For questions about services and participation, please contact Heather Bausick, Resource Recovery Coordinator, at hbausick@allegancounty.org.



Services

Animal Shelter Seizure – On October 1, Animal Control Officers brought in an emaciated dog, one of five on the loose from the same location. A deputy had been investigating this house for several months. After documenting the dog's medical status with pictures, the deputy sought a warrant to seize the remaining dogs in the home. On October 3, a team went to the house to obtain the remaining 13 dogs from the home.

The 14 dogs from the seizure, 4 surrenders resulting from death, and 3 strays, all on the same day, were taxing on the facility and staff. There was an immediate need for volunteers and consumable items, such as towels, blankets, leashes, harnesses, treats, and temporary kennels. After sharing these needs on social media, the community stepped in and provided many donations. The County received over \$4,000 in donations, new and used items ranging from dog kennels, towels, blankets, leashes, harnesses, assorted food and treats, and more. In the first initial days of intake, partners at Wishbone provided 12 additional volunteers for 20 on Saturday to help clean and exercise animals for 160 hours over 4 days. Six new foster homes opened up their homes to create more space and reduce stress. There are 18 dogs from 3 court holds now receiving food, medical treatment, and improved quality of life.



For more information, please contact Stephanie Keuning, Animal Shelter Supervisor, at skeuning@allegancounty.org.

Services

Hearing and Vision Program – For 75 years, Michigan Public Health has provided hearing and vision screening services to children throughout the State. In 2023 the Health Department conducted 14,588 screenings. Contact the County at (269) 673-5411 to schedule a screening. For more information about the Hearing or Vision Programs, please contact Lisa Letts, BSN RN, the Personal Health Services Manager, at (269) 686-4535 or lletts@allegancounty.org.

Transportation Outreach – On October 5, County Transportation was represented at the Wayland Expo, an annual event that draws a crowd of over 500 individuals. Transportation ended a busy season of outreach events by providing transportation at the Fennville Goose Fest, which took place from October 10-13, 2024. Transportation was offered during the event, with approximately 65 individuals taking advantage of the opportunity to utilize the bus to get to and from this event. For more information, please contact Whitney Ehresman, Transportation Director, at wehresman@allegancounty.org or (269) 686-4529.



Wayland Expo (pictured above)



Engagement



9

CURRENT OPEN POSITIONS

Position	Department	Current Status
Administrative Assistant	Public Defender's Office	Unfilled
Canine Behavioral Specialist	Animal Shelter	Unfilled
Deputy Sheriff (2)	Sheriff's Office	Unfilled
Telecommunicator (5)	Central Dispatch	Unfilled
Plus various Boards & Commissions opportunities:		
Board of Public Works		
Brownfield Redevelopment Authority		
Commission on Aging		
Community Corrections Advisory Board		
Community Economic Developments Strategies		
Economic Development Commission		
Local Emergency Planning Committee		
Material Management Planning Committee		
Parks Advisory Board		
Road Commission		
Tourist Council		
West Michigan Regional Planning Commission		



For more information, please contact Lyn Holoway, Human Resources Manager, at (269) 673-0537, lholloway@allegancounty.org.

Engagement



Employment (Last Updated on 7/3/2024)
2024 as of Quarter 3:

TURNOVER/RETENTION (Regular FT & PT Only)	Q1	Q2	Q3
# of Terminations (includes Retirees)	12	13	24
Average length of tenure of terminated REG employees	8.2 years	4.6 years	3.3 years
Turnover % of new REG employees (<=1 year)	12.50%	31.25%	13.60%
Turnover % of REG employees	2.70%	2.90%	5.40%
Total average number of REG Employees	432	445	441
Notes: # of terminations due to retirement	0	1	5
RECRUITMENT	Q1	Q2	Q3
Jobs Posted	16	16	14
# of Days to Hire (KPI)	52	57	58
# of New Hires	24	38	22
# of Promotions or Transfers	7	24	16

CURRENT NUMBER OF ACTIVE REGULAR FULL-TIME AND REGULAR PART-TIME EMPLOYEES:

440



For more information, please contact Lyn Holoway, Human Resources Manager, at (269) 673-0537, lholloway@allegancounty.org.

Engagement



3 NEW HIRES

Position	Department
Corrections Officer	Sheriff's Office
Maintenance Tech 1	Facilities
Youth Specialist	Youth Home

1 LEFT EMPLOYMENT

Position	Department
Courthouse Security	Sheriff's Office

3 PROMOTIONS/TRANSFERS

Position	Department
Deputy Treasurer/Acct 1	Treasurer's Office
Legal Specialist	Public Defenders Office
SWET Detective	Sheriff's Office



For more information, please contact Lyn Holoway, Human Resources Manager, at (269) 673-0537, holoway@allegancounty.org.

Operations

Courthouse Construction (Last Updated on 9/13/24) – Interior framing and drywall work is progressing. At this point, the project is still on track to be completed by December 31, 2024.



Finishing work has begun in the Friend of the Court and Probate Court office suites, with anticipated completion by November 8, 2024. The office should be fully restored before the Thanksgiving holiday. Renovation work is also well underway in the former Register of Deeds office to prepare for the Clerk's and Vital Records offices to relocate once completed. Provided no delays are experienced in furniture acquisition, both offices should be moved into their new space by December 20, 2024. The County is working closely with all offices to coordinate timelines and resource needs to help this transition go as smoothly as possible for the staff and customers.

As this renovation sequence approaches completion, the construction teams will start pivoting to the next spaces in sequence, the current Treasurer and Clerk offices. As the Treasurer's office is relocated to the County Services Building (11/6 - 11/15), staggered demolition will begin in this space, followed shortly afterward by the Clerk's Office once they are moved into their new space several weeks later.



For more information, please contact Steve Sedore, Executive Director of Services, at (269) 673-0373, ssedore@allegancounty.org.

Operations

Broadband Project (Last Updated on 7/3/24) – 123Net has 1021 Active customers and 228 customer installations pending. Zone status is as follows:

- Zones 5, 9 and 10 are complete
- Zone 11 - conduit and fiber are in, 113 of 541 addresses are tested and released for ordering.
- Zone 1 - conduit 77% complete; fiber 23% complete. Cabinet has power.
- Zone 7 - conduit 5%

The big picture metrics, zone targets, and % complete, along with a zone map and updates from other providers building fiber, can be found in Attachment A. For more information, please contact (269) 673-0588, broadband@allegancounty.org or visit www.allegancounty.org/broadband.

County Services Building Renovation (Last Updated on 9/13/24) – The Open House held on October 10 had over 50 visitors walking through the building. Many great comments were collected, notably the new public service spaces. Following the Register of Deeds Office move last month, the Treasurer’s Office will begin moving into the County Services Building from November 6th through the 15th. Conversations continue with the Drain Office to solidify their move-in schedule. For more information, please contact Steve Sedore, Executive Director of Operations, at ssedore@allegancounty.org or (269) 673-0373.



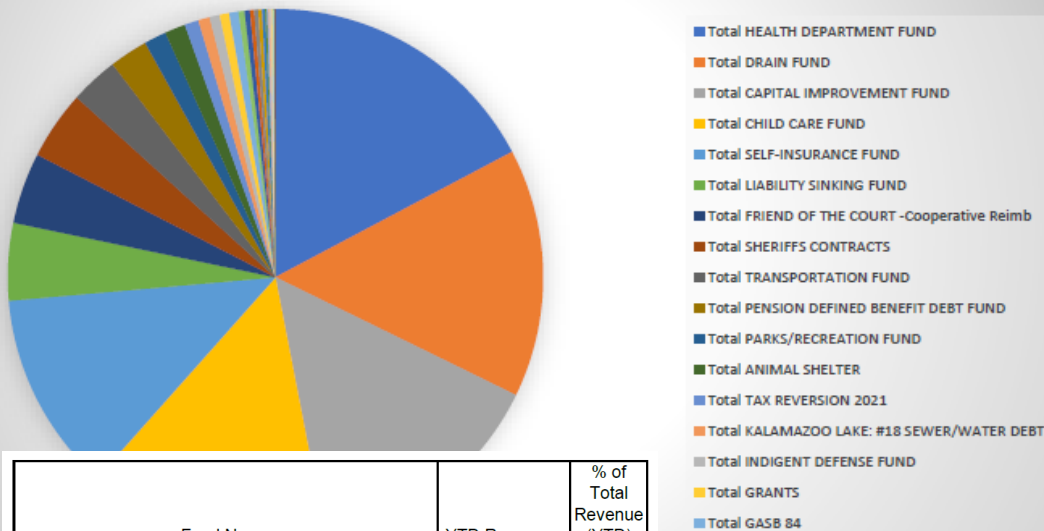
Financial

MONTHLY FINANCIAL MEMORANDUM For Month ending September 30, 2024

NOTE: The monthly financial memo is meant to analyze the current financial conditions of Allegan County's funds. This information is unaudited data and should be used for informational purposes only.

FY 2024 YTD (All Funds) Compared to 09/30/2023		
Total Revenue	6,660,733	8.48%
Total Expense	9,633,505	11.14%

Allegan County Revenues by Fund, 20% of Revenues
Month Ending 09/30/2024



Fund Name	YTD Revenues	% of Total Revenue (YTD)
Total GENERAL FUND	29,848,070.14	29.08%
Total COUNTY ROAD FUND	25,797,126.77	25.13%
Total LIABILITY SINKING FUND	6,388,113.22	6.22%
Total HEALTH DEPARTMENT FUND	4,905,116.25	4.78%
Total INDIGENT DEFENSE FUND	4,632,593.40	4.51%
Total SELF-INSURANCE FUND	4,151,257.81	4.04%
Total CHILD CARE FUND	4,046,487.48	3.94%
Total SENIOR SERVICES FUND	3,250,500.49	3.17%
Total CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND	2,516,431.14	2.45%
Total TRANSPORTATION FUND	2,004,739.81	1.95%
Total CENTRAL DISPATCH FUND	1,685,287.46	1.64%
Total SHERIFFS CONTRACTS	1,519,188.37	1.48%
Total SOLID WASTE / RECYCLING	1,355,814.10	1.32%
Total FRIEND OF THE COURT -Cooperative Reimb	1,308,300.49	1.27%
Total DRAIN FUND	1,275,047.58	1.24%
ALL FUNDS UNDER 1% OF TOTAL REVENUES	7,958,313.76	7.75%
	102,642,388.27	



For more information, please see Attachment B or contact Jennifer Ludwick, Executive Director of Finance, at (269) 673-0228, jludwick@allegancounty.org.



Feedback is important to us.
Please take the time to fill out a
survey on any county service
you may have received.
[Click here to tell us how we are doing.](#)

Allegan County Administration
County Services Building
3283 122nd Avenue
Allegan, MI 49010
269.673.0239
administration@allegancounty.org

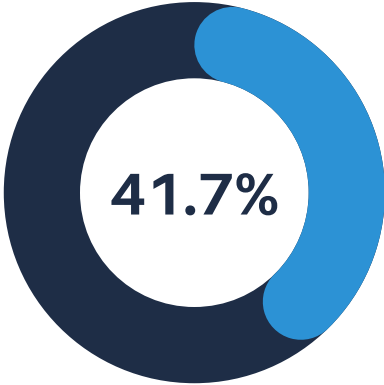
123NET FIBER TO THE HOME



RESIDENTS
WITH ACCESS



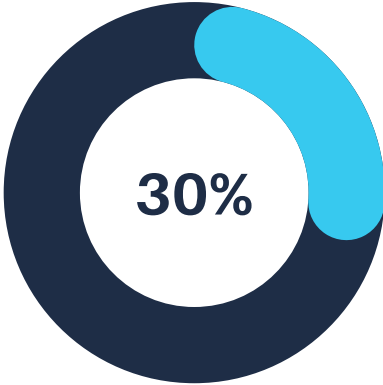
CONDUIT
MILES



CONDUIT
PERCENTAGE



FIBER
MILES

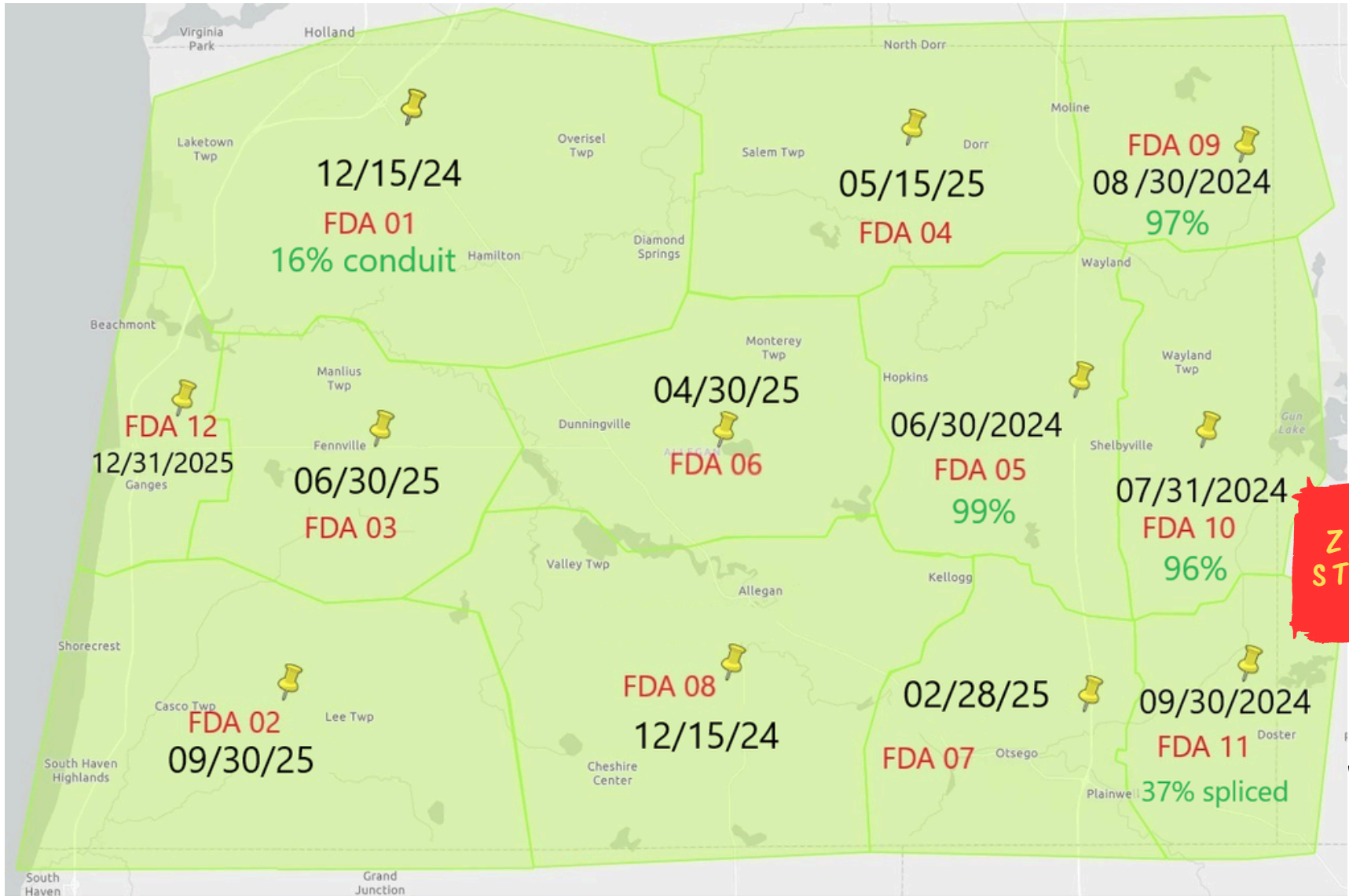


FIBER
PERCENTAGE

As of Oct 3, 2024

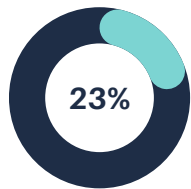
ZONE MAP - 123NET

Look up address: www.123.net/home-fiber-internet/sign-up/



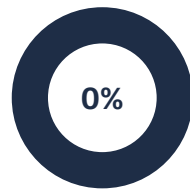
ZONE STATUS - 123NET

Target Dates and % Fiber in place



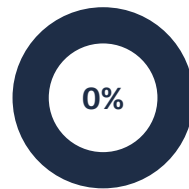
FDA 01

11/15/2024



FDA 02

06/30/2025



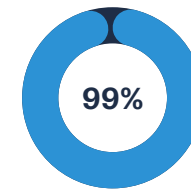
FDA 03

03/15/2025



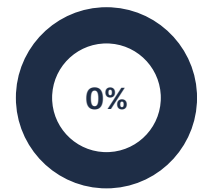
FDA 04

10/31/2024



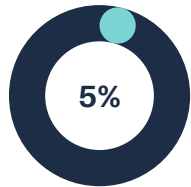
FDA 05

06/30/2024



FDA 06

03/31/2025



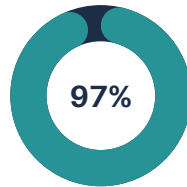
FDA 07

01/31/2025



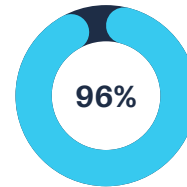
FDA 08

11/30/2024



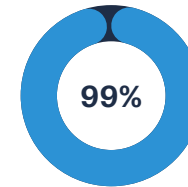
FDA 09

08/30/2024



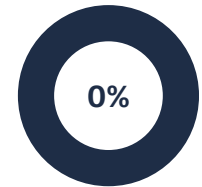
FDA 10

07/31/2024



FDA 11

09/30/2024



FDA 12

12/31/2025

As of Oct 3, 2024

OTHER BUILD PROJECTS

BLOOMINGDALE COMMUNICATIONS

Building fiber in eastern Cheshire, western Trowbridge and southern Valley Townships. Expect to be complete by end of 2024.

www.Bloomingtondalecom.com

MERCURY BROADBAND

Currently offering fixed wireless service in limited portions of Allegan County. Planning to start fiber construction in October 2024.

Mercurybroadband.com

MIDWEST ENERGY & COMMUNICATIONS

Visit the www.internet.teammidwest.com to check the map and sign up for service.

2024 - Lee and Casco Township Q3 2024; Cheshire and Trowbridge have been pulled into Q4 2024.

2025: Ganges Twp

2026: Otsego Twp

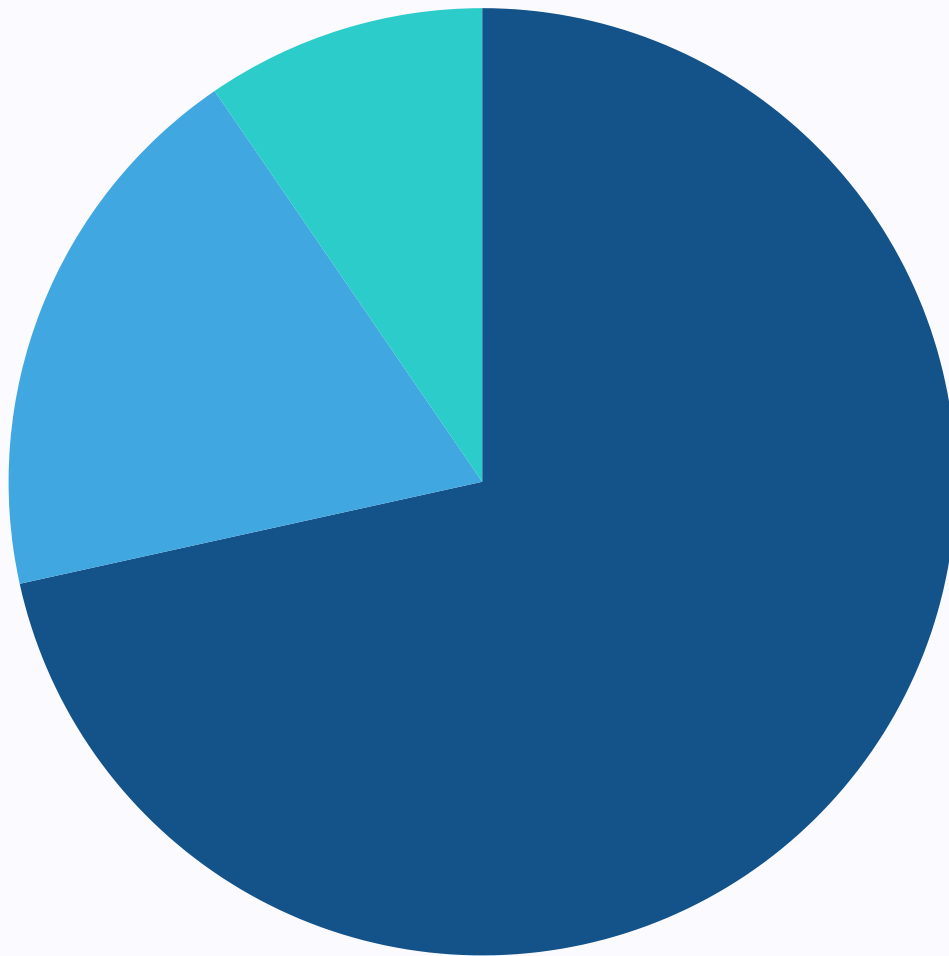
SPECTRUM

Spectrum received Rural Digital Opportunity Fund grants. Please visit spectrumruralexpansion.com to determine if your address is serviceable or when an address may be able to receive Spectrum services.

As of Oct 3, 2024

CUSTOMER STATS

As of Oct 3, 2024



○ Under Construction
8602

● Available/No order
1237

● Pending Installation
228

● Active Customers
1031



MONTHLY FINANCIAL MEMORANDUM For Month ending September 30, 2024

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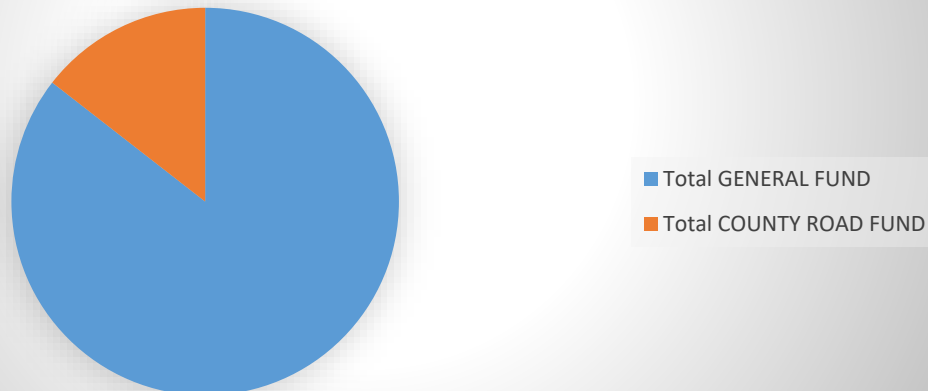
FY 2024 YTD (All Funds) Compared to 09/30/2023		
Total Revenue	6,660,733	8.48%
Total Expense	9,633,505	11.14%

Revenue Highlights:

Total revenues through September are up \$6.7M as compared to last year at this time. The driving force behind that increase is:

- General Fund (up 11% or \$3.20M)
- Indigent Defense Fund (up 36% or \$1.47M)
- Liability Sinking Fund (up 55% or \$2.33M)
- Health Department Fund (up 15% or \$659K)

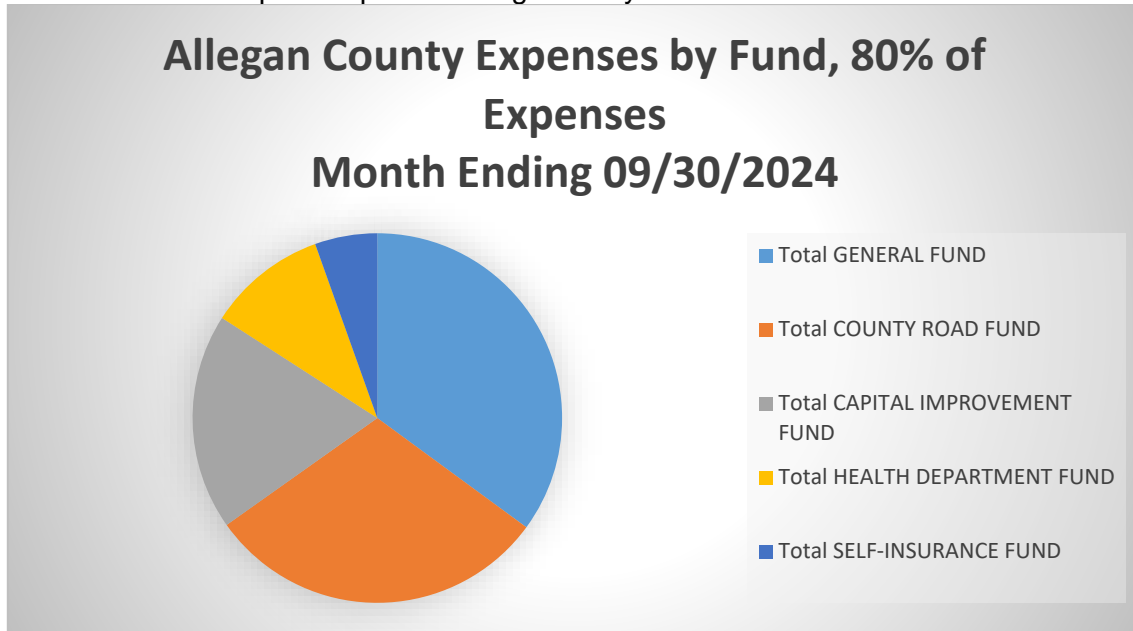
Allegan County Revenues by Fund, 80% of Revenues Month Ending 09/30/2024



Expense Highlights:

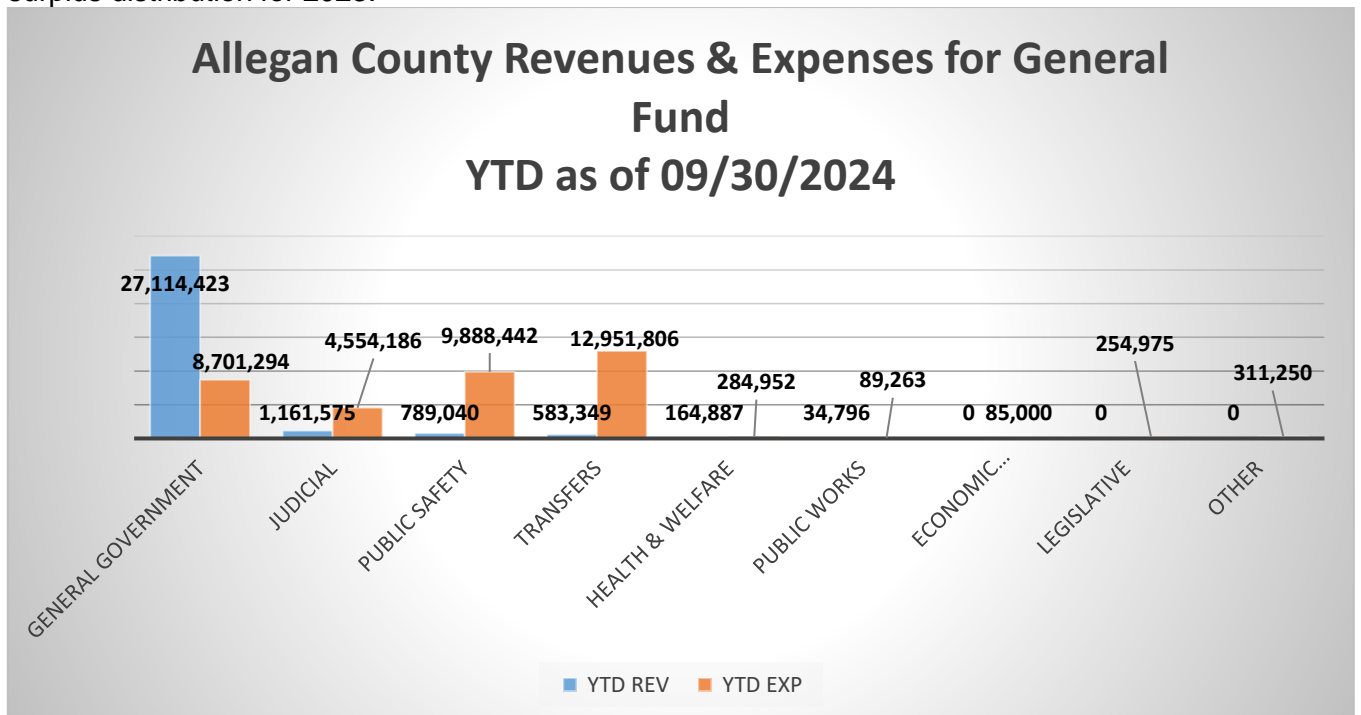
Total expenses through September have increased by \$9.6M as compared to last year at this time. This reflects an increase of 11.14%. The three funds that are driving this increase are Capital Improvements (up \$4.2M), General Fund (up \$3.9M), and American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Fund (up \$2.9M).

- Capital Improvements includes renovation work on both the Courthouse and County Services Building.
- General Fund includes \$5.53M in transfers that are related to the distribution of Fund Balance surplus as per the Budget Policy.



General Fund Highlights:

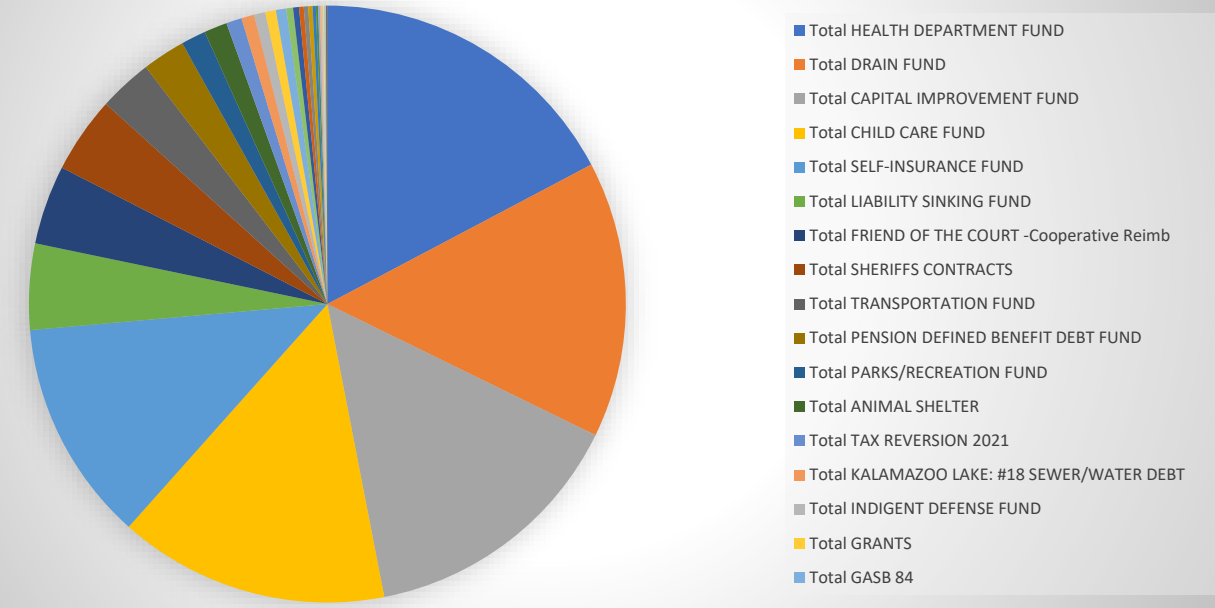
As of September 30, the year-to-date spend within the General Fund is slightly elevated as compared to last year. Overall, expenses are up 12% compared to 2023. This is due to the surplus distribution for 2023.



**Allegan County Revenues by Fund, 80% of Revenues
Month Ending 09/30/2024**

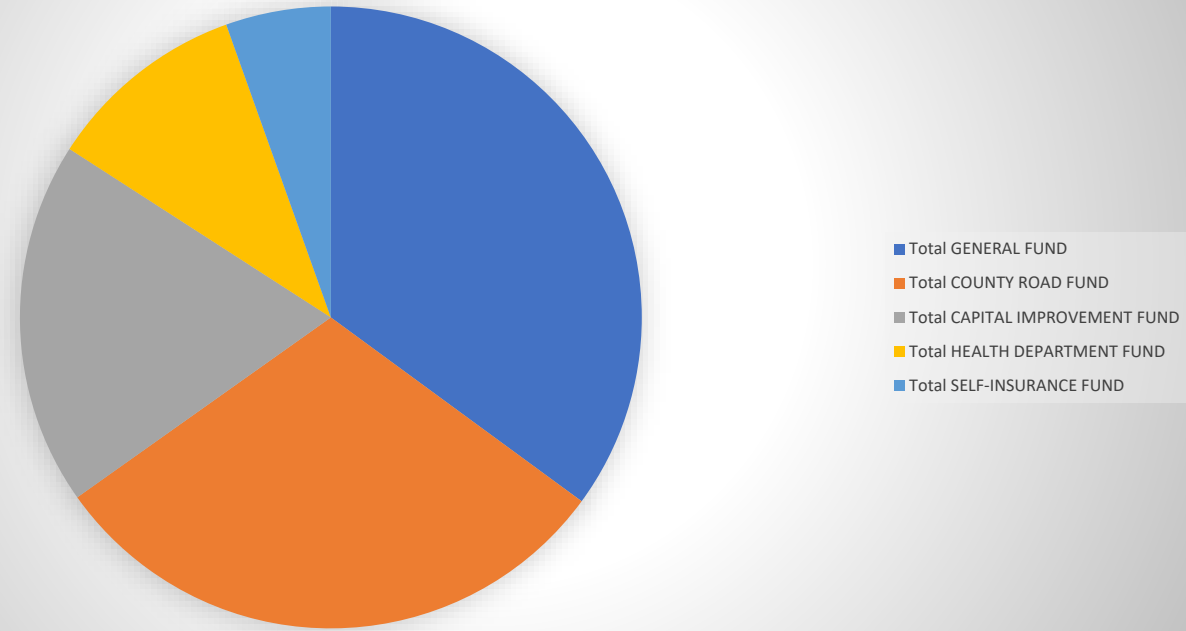


**Allegan County Revenues by Fund, 20% of Revenues
Month Ending 09/30/2024**

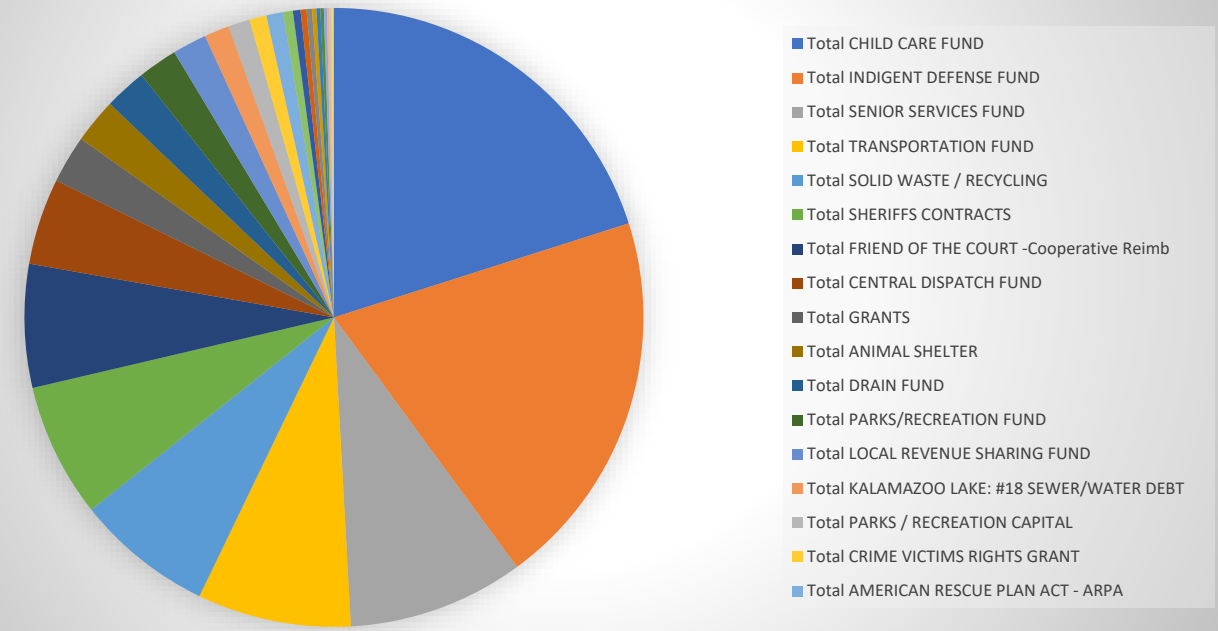


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**Allegan County Expenses by Fund, 80% of Expenses
Month Ending 09/30/2024**

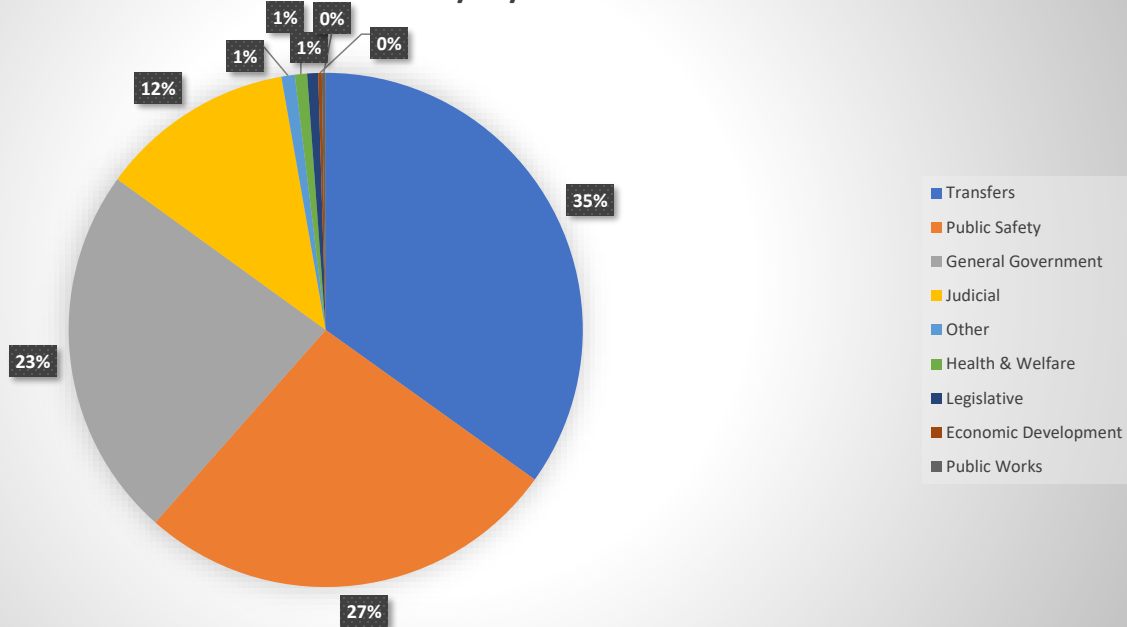


**Allegan County Expenses by Fund, 20% of Expenses
Month Ending 09/30/2024**

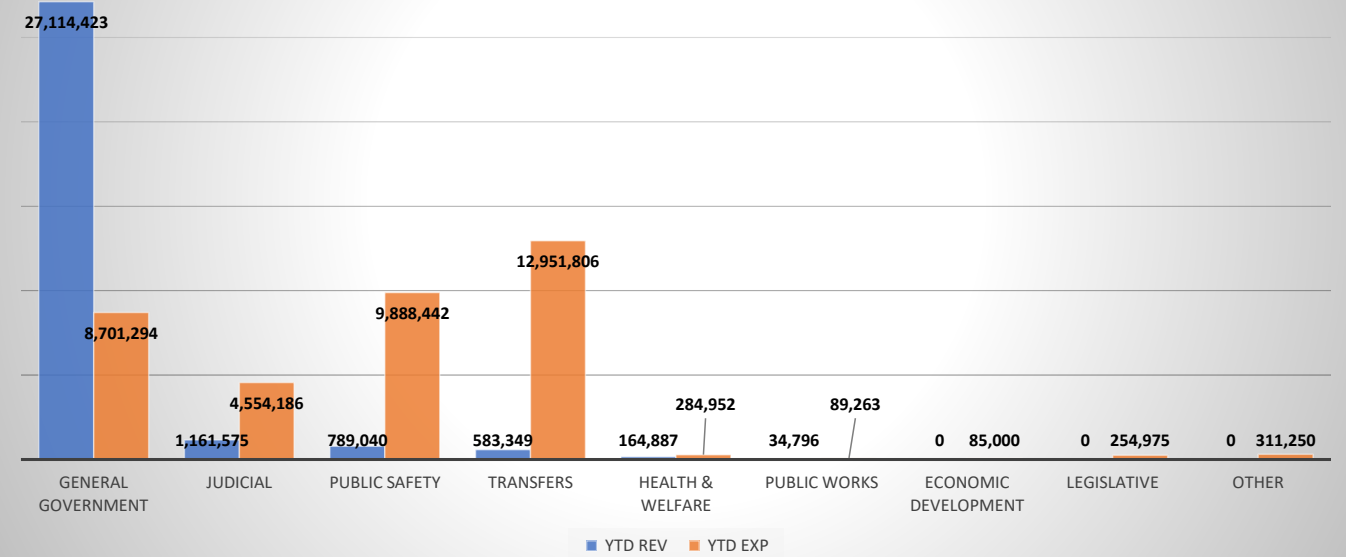


Fund Name	YTD Expenses	% of Total Expense (YTD)
Total GENERAL FUND	37,121,168.63	34.70%
Total COUNTY ROAD FUND	23,679,642.14	22.14%
Total CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND	5,504,758.23	5.15%
Total SELF-INSURANCE FUND	5,407,518.87	5.06%
Total CHILD CARE FUND	4,785,300.07	4.47%
Total AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT - ARPA	3,781,569.96	3.54%
Total HEALTH DEPARTMENT FUND	3,720,356.34	3.48%
Total INDIGENT DEFENSE FUND	3,353,846.63	3.14%
Total CENTRAL DISPATCH FUND	2,190,911.27	2.05%
Total SENIOR SERVICES FUND	2,082,143.65	1.95%
Total DRAIN FUND	1,923,760.50	1.80%
Total SHERIFFS CONTRACTS	1,850,025.92	1.73%
Total TRANSPORTATION FUND	1,791,737.84	1.67%
Total FRIEND OF THE COURT -Cooperative Reimb	1,332,056.49	1.25%
ALL FUNDS UNDER 1% OF TOTAL EXPENSES	8,445,347.36	7.90%
	106,970,143.90	

Allegan County General Fund Expenses YTD as of 09/30/2024



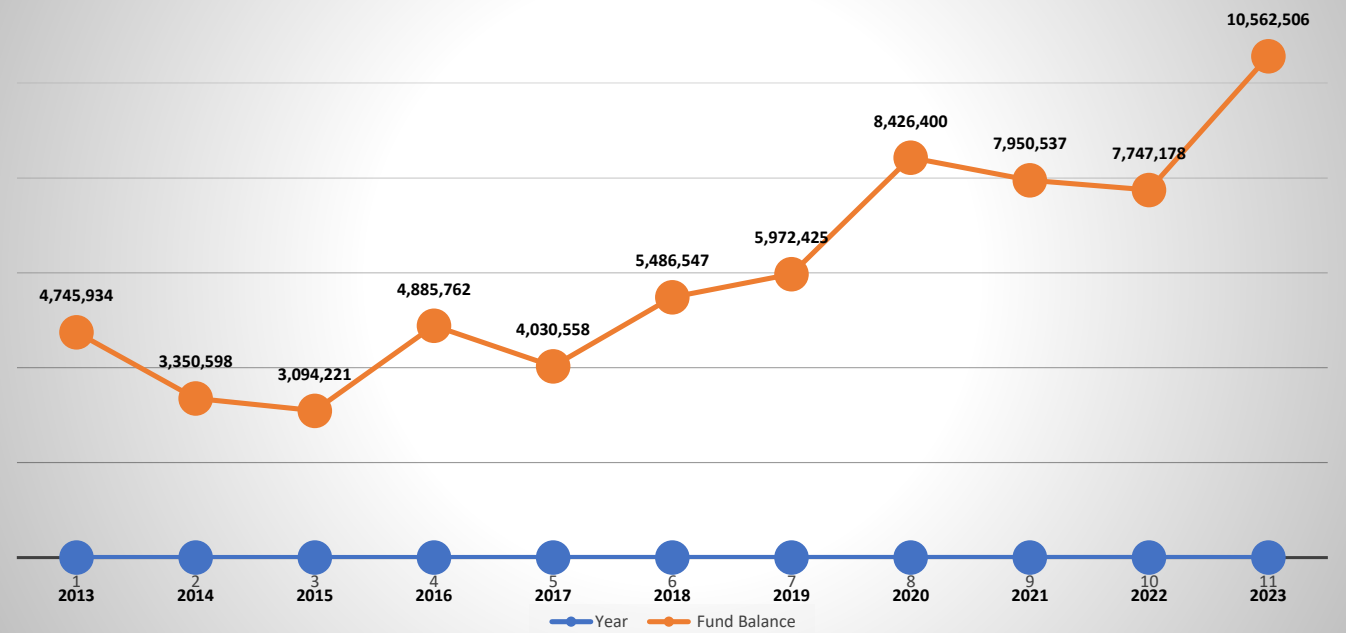
Allegan County Revenues & Expenses for General Fund YTD as of 09/30/2024



General Fund Revenues by Function	MTD	YTD	BUDGET	YTD	
	09/01 to 09/30/24	01/01 to 09/30/24	01/01 to 12/31/24	AVAILABLE BALANCE	% REVENUES COLLECTED
General Government	14,585,369	27,114,423	42,849,679	15,735,256	63.28%
Transfers In	550,016	583,349	50,000	(533,349)	1166.70%
Judicial	144,958	1,161,575	1,713,320	551,745	67.80%
Public Safety	126,173	789,040	871,290	82,250	90.56%
Health & Welfare	-	164,887	171,155	6,269	96.34%
Public Works	-	34,796	86,990	52,194	40.00%
Other	-	-	-	-	0.00%
Economic Development	-	-	-	-	0.00%
Legislative	-	-	-	-	0.00%
TOTAL GENERAL FUND REVENUES	15,406,516	29,848,070	45,742,434	15,894,364	65.25%

General Fund Expenses by Function	MTD	YTD	BUDGET	YTD	
	09/01 to 09/30/24	01/01 to 09/30/24	01/01 to 12/31/24	AVAILABLE BALANCE	% BUDGET USED
Public Safety	1,092,097	9,888,442	14,226,478	4,338,036	69.51%
General Government	861,740	8,701,294	12,787,318	4,086,024	68.05%
Transfers Out	813,397	12,951,806	15,509,704	2,557,898	83.51%
Judicial	498,441	4,554,186	6,964,037	2,409,851	65.40%
Health & Welfare	38,385	284,952	466,621	181,669	61.07%
Other	34,583	311,250	926,847	615,597	33.58%
Legislative	27,137	254,975	378,757	123,782	67.32%
Public Works	11,993	89,263	203,867	114,604	43.78%
Economic Development	-	85,000	86,189	1,189	98.62%
	3,377,773	37,121,169	51,549,818	14,428,649	72.01%

Allegan County General Fund Balance



Join Us



**ALLEGAN COUNTY VETERAN'S DAY
&
UNION SOLDIER REDEDICATION
CEREMONY**

NOVEMBER 11, 2024 | 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM



★ **HONORING ALL WHO SERVED** ★

**VETERAN'S MEMORIAL MONUMENT - RIVERFRONT PLAZA
UNION SOLDIER STATUE - COURTHOUSE SQUARE
DOWNTOWN CITY OF ALLEGAN**

Allegan County & Allegan American Legion Post 89 invite you to honor our veterans. Light refreshments will be provided. Music presented by Allegan Public Schools Band. Ceremony begins at Riverfront Plaza (Hubbard St./Chestnut St. on Riverfront) then transitions to Courthouse Square (113 Chestnut St./Corner of N Walnut St. & Trowbridge St.). Questions, please call Allegan County Veteran Services at 269-673-0501