

# ERIE COUNTY, OHIO

Produced By: Richard H. Jeffrey, Erie County Auditor

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### Dear Erie County Residents,



The Erie County Auditor's Office proudly presents the County's 2022 Popular Annual Financial Report (PAFR). It was primarily created to provide transparency and to increase confidence in the County's elected officials. It was also created to give the citizens of Erie County a better understanding of the County's operations.

The information in this PAFR was taken from our Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR), which provides a more in depth look at the County's finances. This PAFR is not presented in conformity with GAAP Generally Accepted Accounting Principles), nor is it audited by Auditor of State, Keith Faber. Its purpose is to provide readers a summary of the County's financial activity in an easy to understand format.

The 2022 ACFR was audited by the office of Rea & Associates, Inc. and received an unmodified opinion.

For those seeking the more detailed information contained in the ACFR, a copy is available at the Erie County Auditor's Office, or on our website at www.erie.iviewauditor.com.

Thank you for taking the opportunity to review our PAFR. I hope this publication will help you gain a better understanding of the County you live in.

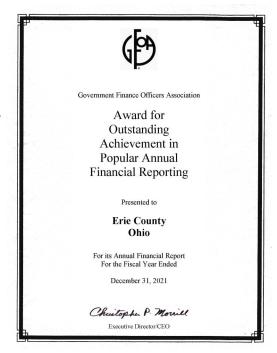
Sincerely,

Richard H. Jeffrey Erie County Auditor

Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA) has given an Award for Outstanding Achievement in Popular Annual Financial Reporting to Erie County, Ohio for its Popular Annual Financial Report for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2021. 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. We believe our current report continues to conform to the Popular Annual Financial Reporting requirements, and we are submitting it to GFOA to determine its eligibility for another Award.



### Overview of Erie County Auditor's Office

#### CHIEF FISCAL OFFICER

As Chief Fiscal Officer of your county, the Auditor is the bookkeeper for all County elected officials and many of the County agencies. It is the Auditor's responsibility to account for all revenues the County receives and to issue warrants (checks) in payment of all County obligations. As part of that bookkeeping responsibility, the County Auditor serves as the paymaster for all County employees.



#### COUNTY FINANCIAL REPORTS

As the issuer of financial reports for the County, it is the Auditor's duty to make sure that financial records are kept properly and is required by law to prepare the Annual Financial Report. Erie County prepares an Annual Comprehensive Financial Report, which is then reviewed by the Auditor of State's Office or external independent audit firm to ensure the County's finances are in order and that proper internal controls are in place. They test these controls and make recommendations to the county offices and agencies to assure that your money is spent properly.

In 2016, the County's checkbook was uploaded to OhioCheckbook.com, a site launched by the former State Treasurer, Josh Mandel, in an effort to make government more transparent and accountable to the taxpayers. Users can easily navigate, search and compare County spending across multiple years. The direct link and a "how-to" guide for easy viewing of Erie County's checkbook can be found on the Auditor's website: <a href="https://www.erie.iviewauditor.com">www.erie.iviewauditor.com</a>.



### REAL ESTATE APPRAISAL & ASSESSMENT

Erie County has 46,476 parcels of real property. It is the duty of the Auditor to ensure that every parcel of land and the buildings on it are fairly and uniformly assessed for tax purposes. A general re-evaluation is mandated by Ohio law every six years with a statistical update at the three year midpoint. The Auditor's Office maintains appraisal records of each parcel in the County. These records are open for public inspection. The next countywide re-evaluation will be completed in 2024.

#### REAL ESTATE TAXES & RATES

The Erie County Auditor cannot raise or lower property taxes. Tax rates are determined by the budgetary requests of each government unit, as authorized by the vote of the people. Tax rates are computed in strict accordance with procedures required by the Ohio Department of Taxation, Division of Tax Equalization. Tax bills are based on the tax rate multiplied by your valuation determined by the valuation process. Property owners are assessed at 35% of the fair market value. Ohio law limits the amount of taxation without a vote of the people to 10 mills (\$10 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation). Any additional real estate taxes must by voted in by County residents.

#### MANUFACTURED HOMES

The Auditor's Office is also responsible for assessing taxes on manufactured housing. Under Ohio law, mobile home owners must register their homes with the Auditor's Office for tax purposes. The Auditor assesses each manufactured home annually and prepares a tax list. The manufactured home tax is distributed back to the local tax districts in the same manner as real estate taxes.

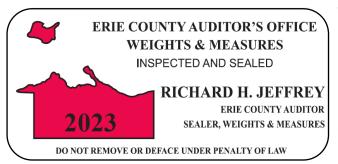
### CRITICAL RESPONSIBILITIES FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

Your County Auditor also helps watch over local governments within your County by:

- Estimating the tax a local government wants to put on the ballot according to what they define as their need
- Issuing a certificate when the local government wants to borrow money, assuring that the debt of that government does not exceed what is allowed by Ohio law
- Preparing a certificate of estimated resources on behalf of local governments to ensure that local governments do not spend more than they can expect to receive
- Distributing taxes to local governments including: real estate, cigarette, gasoline, motor vehicle, and other taxes
- Consulting, advising, and assisting local governments and county departments on proper governmental accounting procedures

#### WEIGHTS & MEASURES

The Auditor is the Sealer of Weights and Measures for the entire County, maintaining "Equity in the Marketplace," thus protecting both buyer and seller from possible loss which may occur from faulty measuring devices. The Auditor is charged with the legal responsibility of ensuring that all state and federal laws relating to Weights and Measures are strictly enforced.



Sealers perform inspections and tests on both commercial and some non-commercial devices to ensure those devices meet the criteria of the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) and the National Type Evaluation Program (NTEP). Audits and tests are performed on random packed items a store may weigh, such as: meats, cheeses, and produce and standard packed items. These tests are conducted to ensure the product meets or exceeds the requirements of Handbook 130, Checking the Net Contents of Packaged Goods. Scanning and price verification tests are also performed to make sure there is no misrepresentation of pricing.

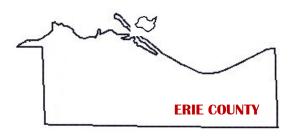
The Sealer of Erie County conducted over 1,100 tests on devices across the County in 2022. These services are performed to maintain "Equity in the Marketplace." If you believe a device is not performing properly, or for more information, please contact the Erie County Auditor's Office, Weights & Measures Division at (419) 626-7746. For additional resources, visit the Weights and Measures page on the Ohio Department of Agriculture's webpage: <a href="https://www.agri.ohio.gov">www.agri.ohio.gov</a>.

#### LICENSES

The County Auditor's Office is responsible for the issuance of licenses for dogs, vendors, and cigarette sales. Vendor licenses authorize businesses to sell tangible property to the public and collect sales tax, a part of which is returned for use on the local level.

### ADDITIONAL DUTIES

- Secretary of the Budget Commission
- Secretary of the Board of Revision
- Secretary of the Fiscal Report Review Committee
- Chair of the Tax Incentive Review Council
- Member of the Records Commission



### Your Erie County Government

Erie County was formed by an Act of the Ohio General Assembly on March 16, 1838. The Ohio government decided to divide larger counties into smaller areas of land. Its name came from the Erie Indians, who inhabited the land before the Iroquois drove them out in the mid-1600s. It borders Lake Erie in north-central Ohio, extending 28 miles in an east-west direction and 11 miles in a north-south direction, with a total area of 264 square miles, including 8,560 acres of wetlands. The County seat is Sandusky, which is located halfway between Toledo and Cleveland.

Erie County is comprised of three cities (Huron, Sandusky and Vermilion), nine townships (Berlin, Florence, Groton, Huron, Margaretta, Milan, Oxford, Perkins and Vermilion) and five villages (Bay View, Berlin Heights, Castalia, Kelleys Island and Milan).

Erie County is governed by the Board of County Commissioners who are elected by the voters of Erie County. In addition to the three

Commissioners, there are eight other elected officials who operate independently following legislation of the Ohio Revised Code. These elected officials also serve four year terms and include: Auditor, Clerk of Courts, Coroner, Engineer, Prosecuting Attorney, Recorder, Sheriff and Treasurer. Erie County has five Judges, each elected to six year terms: Common Pleas Court (two), Probate Court, Juvenile Court and County Municipal Court.

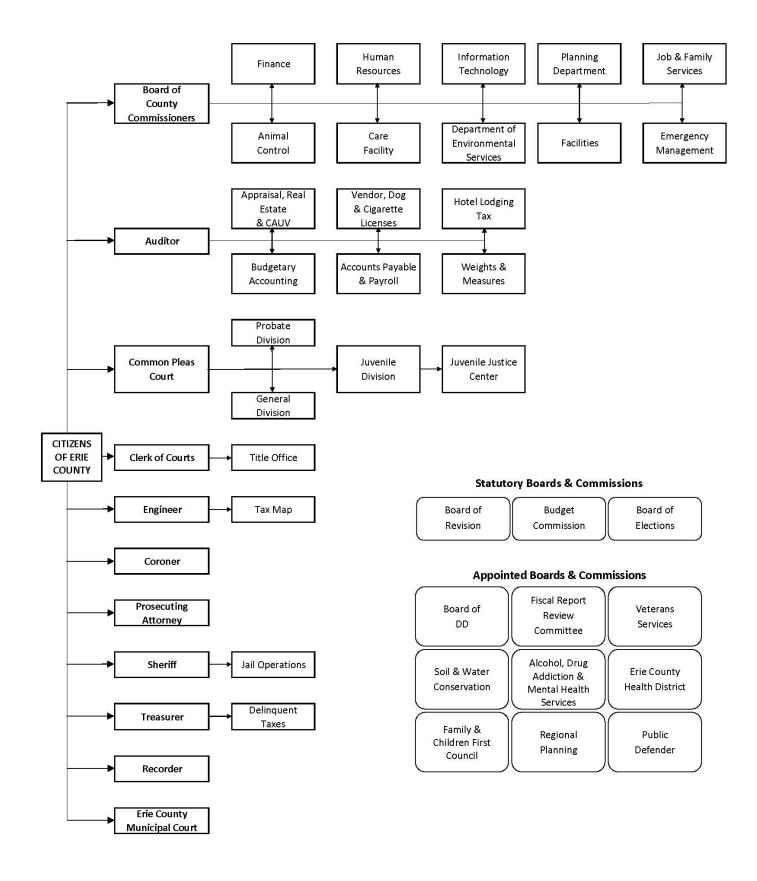
The County employed over 800 full time, part time and seasonal employees in 2022 to provide services such as: capital improvements to roads/bridges/sewers, public safety, veterans services, tax collections, job and family services, emergency management services, economic development, animal control and health services just to name a few.

The following chart shows how Erie County departments are currently organized.



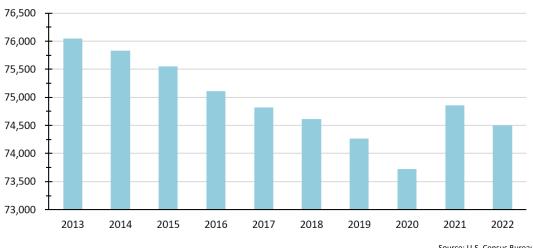
**CEDAR POINT - SANDUSKY** 

## **Organizational Chart**



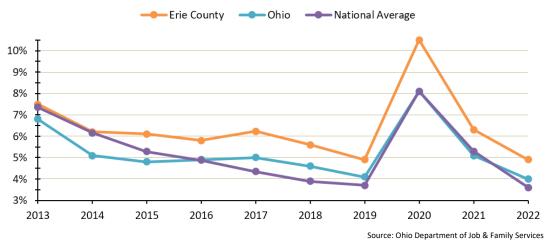
# Erie County Demographics and Statistics

### **ESTIMATED POPUATION**

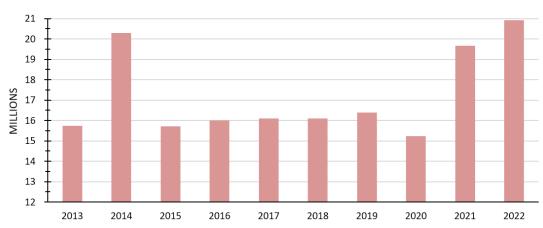


Source: U.S. Census Bureau

### **UNEMPLOYMENT RATE**



### **SALES TAX COLLECTION**



49.1 % MALE

**50.9 % FEMALE** 

ESTIMATED POPULATION 74,501

MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME - \$60,149

86.3 % WHITE

9.0 % AFRICAN AMERICAN

4.7 % OTHER

2022
POPULATION
STATISTICS

12.6 % POVERTY LEVEL

91.9 % HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA 25.2 % BACHELOR'S DEGREE

MEAN TRAVEL TIME
TO WORK - 20.8 MINUTES

MEDIAN VALUE OF SINGLE-FAMILY HOME - \$152,800

### TOP TEN EMPLOYERS

#### # OF **EMPLOYER EMPLOYEES** CEDAR FAIR L.P. 6,500 FIRELANDS REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER 2,002 **VENTRA** 1,900 KALAHARI RESORTS 1,053 **ERIE COUNTY** 826 OHIO VETERANS HOME 627 SANDUSKY CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT 478 **MEIJER** 475 CORSO'S FLOWER & GARDEN CENTER 400 WALMART 350 TOTAL 14,611 TOTAL COUNTY EMPLOYMENT 35,200

### TOP TEN TAXPAYERS

| TAXPAYER                    | TAXABLE<br>ASSESSED<br>VALUE | % OF TOTAL COUNTY TAXABLE ASSESSED VALUE |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------|--|
| NEXUS GAS TRANSMISSION      | \$156,490,930                | 7.24 %                                   |
| AMERICAN TRANSMISSION       | 61,905,110                   | 2.87 %                                   |
| OHIO EDISON                 | 54,431,940                   | 2.53 %                                   |
| CEDAR POINT PARK LLC        | 37,637,830                   | 1.74 %                                   |
| LMN DEVELOPMENT LLC         | 25,356,810                   | 1.18 %                                   |
| COLUMBIA GAS OF OHIO LLC    | 21,595,260                   | 1.00 %                                   |
| NORFOLK & WESTERN RAILWAY   | 11,123,050                   | 0.52 %                                   |
| SANDUSKY MALL COMPANY       | 6,350,290                    | 0.29 %                                   |
| GWR SANDUSKY PROPERTY       | 5,487,190                    | 0.25 %                                   |
| CROSSING ROAD LLC           | 5,015,940                    | 0.23 %                                   |
| TOTAL                       | 385,394,350                  | 17.86 %                                  |
| TOTAL COUNTY ASSESSED VALUE | \$2,157,988,030              |  |
|                             |                              |  |

### County's Financial Position

The County's financial statements distinguish functions that are principally supported by taxes and intergovernmental revenues (governmental activities) from other functions that are intended to recover all or a significant portion of their costs through user fees and charges (business-type activities). This report contains information related to the County's governmental and business-type activities. Please refer to the County's 2022 ACFR for more detailed information.

**Assets** provide financial benefits to the County. **Current and Other Assets** are mainly comprised of cash, investments and demand deposits (whether held in the pool managed by the County Treasurer or in outside bank accounts), property taxes receivable, sales tax receivable and monies due from other governments. **Capital assets** are land, buildings and improvements, roads, bridges, water/sewer lines, equipment and construction in progress, and are shown net of accumulated depreciation.

**Liabilities** place a financial burden on the County. **Current and Other Liabilities** include monies due to other governments, deferred revenues, accounts payable, compensated absences and accrued wages payable. **Long-term liabilities** represent bonds, notes and loans that are being repaid over a period of years as well as payments under capital leases.

**Deferred Inflows/Outflows of Resources** are inflows and outflows of resources related to pension liabilities resulting from the County's employer contributions to OPERS. Any part of pension expense or income not recognized in the County's financial statements in the year they occur will be recorded as **deferred inflows** or **outflows**, and amortized appropriately.

**Net Position** represents the difference between assets and liabilities. **Investment in capital assets, net of related debt,** consists of capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation, reduced by the outstanding balances of any borrowing used or the acquisition, construction or improvement cost of those assets. Net position is reported as **restricted** when there are limitations imposed on their use either through the enabling legislation adopted by the County, or through external restrictions imposed by creditors, grantors, or laws and regulations of other governments. The County applies restricted resources when an expense is incurred for purposes for which both restricted and unrestricted net assets are available. **Unrestricted net position** may be used to meet the County's ongoing obligations to citizens, employees and creditors.



MERRY-GO-ROUND-MUSEUM - SANDUSKY

For more information on the County's assets and liabilities, please refer to the Statement of Net Position, found on page 17 in our 2022 Annual Comprehensive Financial Report.

### **NET POSITION**

|   | Governmental Activities |               | Business-T    | ype Activities | Total          |                |
|---|-------------------------|---------------|---------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
|   | 2022                    | 2021          | 2022          | 2021           | 2022           | 2021           |
| <u>Assets</u>                             | _                       |               |               |                |                |                |
| Current & Other Assets                    | 121,939,206             | 112,987,358   | 44,299,890    | 36,351,366     | 166,239,096    | 149,338,724    |
| Net OPEB Asset                            | 5,250,308               | 3,190,183     | 1,395,651     | 792,147        | 6,645,959      | 3,982,330      |
| Capital Assets, Net                       | 56,180,773              | 57,004,003    | 104,612,348   | 107,093,151    | 160,793,121    | 164,097,154    |
| Total Assets                              | 183,370,287             | 173,181,544   | 150,307,889   | 144,236,664    | 333,678,176    | 317,418,208    |
| Deferred Outflows of Resources            |                         |               |               |                |                |                |
| Deferred Charge on Refunding              | -                       | -             | 211,849       | 317,140        | 211,849        | 317,140        |
| Pension & Other Postemployment Benefits   | 6,743,531               | 5,733,505     | 1,597,599     | 1,598,545      | 8,341,130      | 7,332,050      |
| Total Deferred Outflows of Resources      | 6,743,531               | 5,733,505     | 1,809,448     | 1,915,685      | 8,552,979      | 7,649,190      |
| Liabilities                               |                         |               |               |                |                |                |
| Current & Other Liabilities               | 25,145,859              | 16,583,285    | 6,736,019     | 6,290,281      | 31,881,878     | 22,873,566     |
| Long-Term Liabilities                     |                         |               |               |                |                | , ,            |
| Net Pension Liability                     | 15,570,155              | 27,642,710    | 3,652,258     | 6,862,479      | 19,222,413     | 34,505,189     |
| Other Amounts                             | 36,602,693              | 39,681,313    | 58,560,297    | 60,491,682     | 95,162,990     | 100,172,995    |
| Total Liabilities                         | 77,318,707              | 83,907,308    | 68,948,574    | 73,644,442     | 146,267,281    | 157,551,750    |
| Deferred Inflows of Resources             |                         |               |               |                |                |                |
| Pension & Other Postemployment Benefits   | 25,400,627              | 21,768,536    | 6,454,013     | 5,573,719      | 31,854,640     | 27,342,255     |
| Property Taxes & Payment in Lieu of Taxes | 16,620,213              | 14,258,673    | <u> </u>      |                | 16,620,213     | 14,258,673     |
| Total Deferred Inflows of Resources       | 42,020,840              | 36,027,209    | 6,454,013     | 5,573,719      | 48,474,853     | 41,600,928     |
| Net Position                              |                         |               |               |                |                |                |
| Net Investment in Capital Assets          | 50,035,560              | 49,483,295    | 54,428,805    | 54,489,804     | 104,464,365    | 103,973,099    |
| Restricted                                | 47,293,748              | 44,859,107    | -             | -<br>-         | 47,293,748     | 44,859,107     |
| Unrestricted                              | (26,555,037)            | (35,361,870)  | 22,285,945    | 12,444,384     | (4,269,092)    | (22,917,486)   |
| Total Net Position                        | \$ 70,774,271           | \$ 58,980,532 | \$ 76,714,750 | \$ 66,934,188  | \$ 147,489,021 | \$ 125,914,720 |

The County's overall net position increased \$21.6 million from 2021. There are several non-operating factors that can cause the net position to increase or decrease (capitalization/depreciation of capital assets, issuance/retirement of long-term obligations and changes in the net pension liability). But there were a few key areas that are worth mentioning:

The County continues to experience an increase in hotel lodging tax collection, 43% higher than 2021, which can be attributed from increased tourism business and an increasing number of short term transient rentals Countywide. Sales tax also increased 5% from the prior year. Erie County received the second half of the allocated American Rescue Plan Act funds in 2022. All of the \$14.4 million ARPA funds received by the County remain unspent at year-end, which caused a large increase in the current liabilities for unearned income.

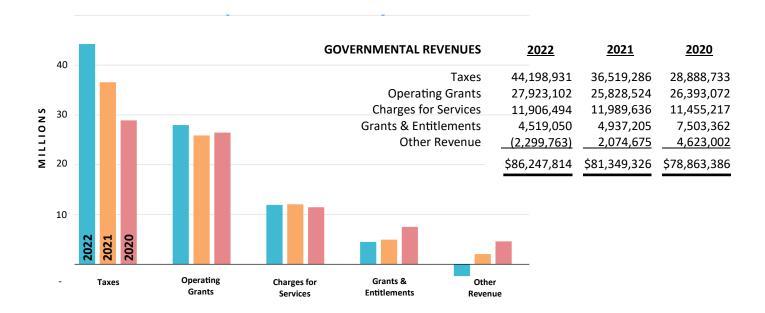
The Mental Health and Recovery Board of Erie and Ottawa Counties (MHRB) disbanded effective the 4th quarter of 2021. Erie County created a single board, the Alcohol, Drug Addition and Mental Health Services Board of Erie County (ADAMHS). 2022 is the first full year of activity presented within the County's financial statements.



OLD WOMAN'S CREEK - HURON

### Governmental Revenues

The dollars presented here are reported as governmental activities in the 2022 ACFR's government-wide statement of activities. Revenues are typically recorded when the underlying event occurs, regardless of when the money will be received. Major sources of revenue for the County include sales tax, property tax, grants and charges for services. Other revenue sources include payments in lieu of taxes and investment earnings.



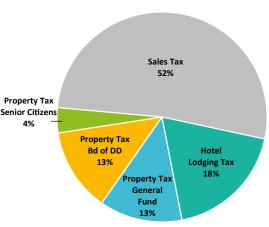
General revenues primarily consist of property and sales tax collections. As previously discussed, increased tourism business and increased short term transient rental locations, along with relaxed pandemic-related restrictions are contributing to collections for both sales tax and hotel lodging taxes. The County collected over \$1 million more in sales tax dollars than the prior year. The hotel lodging tax collections increased significantly, 41% from the prior year. The County uses 1% of the hotel tax revenue to repay the revenue bonds that were issued to finance the development of the Sports Force Park complex in partnership with Cedar Point.

The Board of Developmental Disabilities saw a rate increase in their levy, which is partially responsible for the higher property tax collected for 2022.

Other revenue includes investment earnings which fluctuates with market performance.

| TAX REVENUE                          | <u>2022</u>  | <u>2021</u>  | <u>2020</u>  |
|--------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| Property Taxes - General Fund        | 5,320,335    | 5,083,649    | 4,915,449    |
| Property Taxes - Board of DD         | 5,353,033    | 4,114,906    | 6,427,250    |
| Property Taxes - Senior Citizen Levy | , 1,618,412  | 1,147,581    | 1,028,025    |
| Sales Taxes                          | 21,633,456   | 20,675,937   | 15,181,533   |
| Hotel Lodging Taxes                  | 7,742,734    | 5,497,213    | 1,336,476    |
|                                      | \$41,667,970 | \$36,519,286 | \$28,888,733 |
|                                      |              |              |              |

# TAX REVENUE



### Governmental Expenses

The expenses shown below are those of the County's governmental activities. Expenses are recorded when the liability is incurred.

**Legislative and Executive** expenses are incurred by most elected officials offices including: Commissioners, Auditor, Treasurer, Prosecutor, Recorder, as well as the Facilities, Information Technology, Human Resources and Finance departments.

**Human Services** expenses are those incurred by the County's Job and Family Services Department. Services provided include adoption assistance, child care subsidies, emergency assistance payments, food stamps and job training programs.

Public Safety expenses are those incurred by the Sheriff's department to ensure the safety of persons and property.

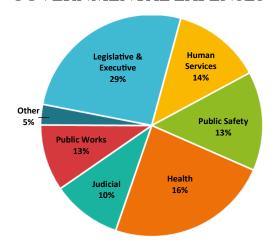
**Health** expenses are those incurred primarily by the County's Board of Developmental Disabilities to provide services to developmentally disabled citizens of Erie County.

**Judicial** expenses are incurred by the County's Courts: two Common Pleas Courts, Probate Court, Juvenile Court and County Municipal Court.

**Public Works** expenses are incurred by the Engineer's department for maintenance of Erie County's roads, bridges and ditches.

**Other** expenses represent economic development and assistance costs (CDBG programs) as well as interest charges and other miscellaneous expenses.

### **GOVERNMENTAL EXPENSES**



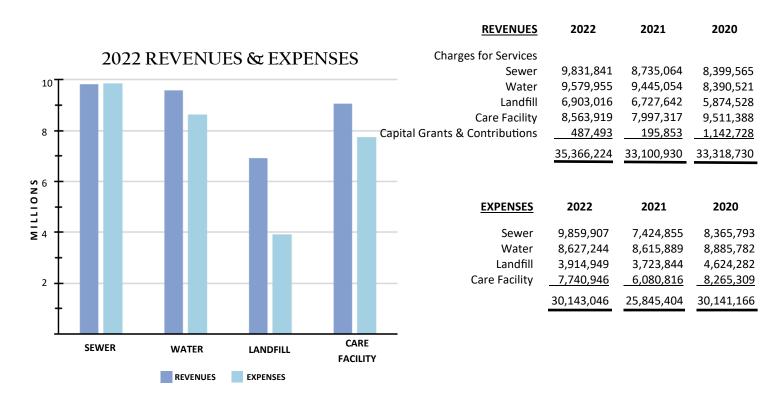
| GOVERNMENTAL EXPENSES   | <u>2022</u>  | <u>2021</u>  | <u>2020</u>  |
|-------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| Legislative & Executive | 18,566,718   | 14,085,683   | 48,218,028   |
| Human Services          | 9,169,075    | 6,741,934    | 10,006,147   |
| Public Safety           | 10,241,686   | 6,552,200    | 12,613,411   |
| Health                  | 16,809,665   | 7,887,946    | 9,771,175    |
| Judicial                | 7,176,424    | 4,960,037    | 8,461,419    |
| Public Works            | 6,877,885    | 6,077,952    | 7,258,571    |
| Other                   | 2,112,300    | 2,507,306    | 2,651,946    |
|                         | \$70,953,753 | \$48,813,058 | \$98,980,697 |

Nearly every category of governmental expenses increased from the prior year due, in part, to the change in pension and OPEB (other post employment benefits) accruals that is out of the County's control.

The Erie County Health Department paid off a building lease with the County early. Therefore, resulting in a loss on the sale of the building and land for the County's financials.

### **Business-Type Activities**

The dollars presented here are reported as business type activities in the 2022 ACFR's government-wide statement of activities. Revenues typically are recorded when the underlying event occurs, regardless of when the money will be received. The major source of revenue for business type activities is charges for services, where fees are collected from customers for a service that is being provided. The County continues to deal with delinquent customers, which can positively or negatively affect collections for the year. The departments included in business-type activities are: Sewer, Water, Landfill and the Care Facility.



In 2022, business-type revenues totaled \$35.4 million, while expenses totaled \$30.1 million. The business-type activities had an overall increase of \$9.8 million in net position from the prior year.

The water, sewer and landfill funds all experienced increases in revenues, which are primarily generated from charges for services. The Sewer fund had the largest change, mainly due to the completion of the Mittiwanga Sewer project that included the construction of a new sewer forcemain, a lift station and upgrades to another sewer lift station in Huron.

The revenues and expenses for the County Care Facility also increased in 2022. Understaffing and retaining current staff continues to be a challenge. The large increase in the County Care Facility expenses is mainly contributed to employee overtime and employee retention costs. Higher bed counts and private pay residents are helping to offset these higher costs by bringing in more revenue. The Care Facility still experienced an increase in net position of \$1.3 million in 2022.

State and federal laws require the County to place a final cover on its landfill when it stops accepting waste and to perform certain maintenance and monitoring functions at the site for 30 years after closure. These closure/post-closure costs are driven by the total estimated remaining capacity. As of 12/31/2022, the liability totals nearly \$12 million based on the usage of the landfill's current capacity. Actual costs may differ due to inflation, deflation, changes in technology or changes in regulations.

### Long Term Debt

Moody's Rating Service has assigned Erie County bond ratings an "AA2" rating, indicating that our bonds are a safe, reliable investment. This is due to the County's below-average debt burden, strong general fund reserves and overall sound financial management. Total outstanding debt decreased \$2.9 million in 2022. The following table summarizes the outstanding long-term obligations at year-end.

### LONG-TERM OBLIGATIONS, TREND ANALYSIS

Includes Business-Type Activities (water, sewer & landfill debt) & Governmental (all other debt)

|   | 2022        | 2021        | 2020        | 2019        | 2018        |
|---|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| General Obligation Bonds                  | 7,735,000   | 9,500,000   | 11,990,000  | 15,255,000  | 19,085,000  |
| OWDA Loans                                | 41,980,125  | 42,909,312  | 42,186,717  | 44,171,490  | 46,075,452  |
| Revenue Bonds                             | 36,961,121  | 39,627,508  | 40,999,021  | 42,276,521  | 43,530,084  |
| Capital Lease Obligation                  | 269,926     | 354,133     | 435,610     | -           | 5,918       |
| Landfill Closure & Post Closure Liability | 11,968,313  | 11,280,582  | 10,807,487  | 10,327,662  | 9,830,884   |
| Net Pension Liability                     | 19,222,413  | 34,505,189  | 75,468,202  | 91,644,367  | 61,177,610  |
| Claims Payable                            | 2,380,632   | 2,001,981   | 1,799,941   | 1,929,644   | 1,509,738   |
| Unamortized Bond Premiums                 | 360,239     | 432,288     | 546,305     | 660,321     | 774,337     |
| Compensated Absences                      | 3,773,744   | 3,812,444   | 3,994,116   | 3,864,634   | 3,277,760   |
|   | 124,651,513 | 144,423,437 | 188,227,399 | 210,129,639 | 185,266,783 |

### General Obligation Bonds

These bonds are long-term debt instruments which are repaid from the County's general revenue resources.

#### Special Assessment Bonds

These bonds are issued to pay for improvements benefiting property owners. The owners pay the County over a set period for the debt.

#### OWDA Loans

These loans provide low-interest funding for infrastructure, primarily water and sewer projects.

#### Revenue Bonds

The County has pledged 1% of hotel tax revenue to pay off the revenue bonds that financed the of the Cedar Point Sports Park.

### Capital Lease Obligation

These obligations are payments to be made to the vendors for leases entered into by the County.

### Landfill Closure & Post Closure Liability

This liability shows what amount is needed to perform all closure and post closure care as of 12/31/22.

#### Net Pension Liabilities

Obligations related to employee compensation are paid from the fund benefiting from their service. OPERS made several significant changes to the health care plan that resulted in a significant decrease in expenses that the County reports.

### Claims Payable

Insurance premiums are charged to the fund from which the employee is paid and claims are paid from the applicable internal service fund.

### Unamortized Bond Premiums

These premiums are deferred and amortized over the term of the bond.

### Compensated Absences

This liability is due to employees for services provided to the County, where leave was earned but not taken as of 12/31/22.



**VERMILION** 

# **Property Taxes**

### TAX RATES FOR ERIE COUNTY—TAX YEAR 2021, PAYABLE IN CALENDAR YEAR 2022

|   |          | State    |        |               |            | Vocational | l        | City or     |            | Residential<br>Agricultural  | Commerical<br>Industrial                |
|---|----------|----------|--------|---------------|------------|------------|----------|-------------|------------|--|---|
| TAX                                       | Tax      | Taxing   | County | School        | Library    | School     | Township | Village     | Full       | Effective  | Effective                               |
| DISTRICTS                                 | District | District | Levies | Levies        | Levies     | Levies     | Levies   | Levies      | Tax Rate   | Tax Rate   | Tax Rate                                |
| BERLIN TOWNSHIP                           |          |          |        |               |            |            | 0        | r           |            | 20   |   |
| Edison Schools                            | 01-04    | 22-0010  | 9.10   | 64.67         | 1.80       | 4.45       | 5.30     | n/a         | 85.320     | 46.6483  | 54.7817                                 |
| Berlin Heights Village                    | 06       | 22-0020  | 9.10   | 64.67         | 1.80       | 4.45       | 3.50     | 15.50       | 99.020     | 58.7781  | 65.9102                                 |
| Huron Schools                             | 05       | 22-0030  | 9.10   | 72.04         | 1.50       | 4.45       | 5.30     | n/a         | 92.390     | 45.8865  | 57.4414                                 |
| FLORENCE TOWNSHIP                         |          | F 1      |        |               |            | r          | I        |             |            | I  |   |
| Firelands Schools                         | 07-08    | 22-0040  | 9.10   | 53.76         | 0.00       | 2.45       | 7.10     | n/a         | 72.41      | 47.3404  | 48.2495                                 |
| Edison Schools                            | 09       | 22-0050  | 9.10   | 64.67         | 1.80       | 4.45       | 7.10     | n/a         | 87.12      | 48.3604  | 57.3063                                 |
| Vermilion Schools Western Reserve Schools | 10       | 22-0060  | 9.10   | 66.98         | 1.625      | 4.45       | 7.10     | n/a         | 89.255     | 47.5769  | 69.9805                                 |
| western Reserve Schools                   | 11       | 22-0070  | 9.10   | 31.10         | 0.00       | 4.45       | 7.10     | n/a         | 51.75      | 37.2641  | 40.9650                                 |
| GROTON TOWNSHIP                           |          |          |        |               |            |            |          |             |            |  |   |
| Bellevue Schools                          | 26       | 22-0080  | 9.10   | 41.20         | 1.00       | 4.45       | 5.75     | n/a         | 61.50      | 49.3649  | 55.4020                                 |
| Bellevue City                             | 61       | 22-0085  | 9.10   | 41.20         | 1.00       | 4.45       | 5.75     | 6.60        | 68.10      | 54.4230  | 61.8520                                 |
| Margaretta Schools                        | 27       | 22-0090  | 9.10   | 60.20         | 0.00       | 4.45       | 5.75     | n/a         | 79.50      | 42.0372  | 60.0444                                 |
| Monroeville Schools                       | 28       | 22-0100  | 9.10   | 37.60         | 1.00       | 4.45       | 5.75     | n/a         | 57.90      | 46.0237  | 49.8567                                 |
| Perkins Schools                           | 29       | 22-0110  | 9.10   | 67.80         | 1.50       | 4.45       | 5.75     | n/a         | 88.60      | 47.7587  | 59.5258                                 |
| HURON TOWNSHIP                            |          |          |        |               |            |            |          |             |            |  |   |
| Huron Schools                             | 39       | 22-0120  | 9.10   | 72.04         | 1.50       | 4.45       | 5.30     | n/a         | 92.39      | 45.8061  | 58.1828                                 |
| Huron City                                | 42-49    | 22-0130  | 9.10   | 72.04         | 1.50       | 4.45       | 0.40     | 4.90        | 92.39      | 45.7568  | 58.1813                                 |
| Edison Schools                            | 40       | 22-0140  | 9.10   | 64.67         | 1.80       | 4.45       | 5.30     | n/a         | 85.32      | 46.5679  | 55.5231                                 |
| Perkins Schools                           | 41       | 22-0150  | 9.10   | 67.80         | 1.50       | 4.45       | 5.30     | n/a         | 88.15      | 47.4114  | 58.7024                                 |
| MADC ADETTA TOM/NICHID                    |          |          |        |               |            |            |          |             |            |  |   |
| MARGARETTA TOWNSHIP  Margaretta Schools   | 33-37    | 22-0160  | 9.10   | 60.20         | 0.00       | 4.45       | 12.20    | n/a         | 85.95      | 47.5300  | 64.7462                                 |
| Bay View Village                          | 30       | 22-0170  | 9.10   | 60.20         | 0.00       | 4.45       | 0.00     | 20.00       | 93.75      | 51.6787  | 68.6572                                 |
| Castalia Village                          | 31       | 22-0170  | 9.10   | 60.20         | 0.00       | 4.45       | 9.70     | 11.41       | 94.86      | 55.5275  | 73.2536                                 |
| Perkins Schools                           | 38       | 22-0190  | 9.10   | 67.80         | 1.50       | 4.45       | 12.20    | n/a         | 95.05      | 53.2515  | 64.2276                                 |
|   |          |          |        | 51.155        |            |            |          | , -         |            |  |   |
| MILAN TOWNSHIP  Edison Schools            | 50       | 22-0200  | 9.10   | 64.67         | 1.80       | 4.45       | 6.55     | n/o         | 86.57      | 47.2742  | 56.2746                                 |
| A   | 53       | 22-0200  | 9.10   | 64.67         | 1.80       | 4.45       | 5.55     | n/a<br>8.80 | 94.37      | 52.7424  | 61.5894                                 |
| Milan Village Huron Schools               | 51       | 22-0210  | 9.10   | 72.04         | 1.50       | 4.45       | 6.55     | n/a         | 93.64      | 46.5124  | 58.9343                                 |
| Perkins Schools                           | 52       | 22-0220  | 9.10   | 67.80         | 1.50       | 4.45       | 6.55     | n/a         | 89.40      | 48.1177  | 59.4539                                 |
| T ET KITTS SCHOOLS                        | JZ       | 22-0230  | 5.10   | 07.00         | 1.50       | 4.43       | 0.55     | II/a        | 85.40      | 40.11//  | 33.4333                                 |
| OXFORD TOWNSHIP                           |          |          |        |               |            |            |          |             |            |  |   |
| Edison Schools                            | 23       | 22-0240  | 9.10   | 64.67         | 1.80       | 4.45       | 6.50     | n/a         | 86.52      | 47.5827  | 56.7653                                 |
| Monroeville Schools                       | 24       | 22-0250  | 9.10   | 37.60         | 1.00       | 4.45       | 6.50     | n/a         | 58.65      | 46.6912  | 50.2755                                 |
| Perkins Schools                           | 25       | 22-0260  | 9.10   | 67.80         | 1.50       | 4.45       | 6.50     | n/a         | 89.35      | 48.4262  | 59.9446                                 |
| PERKINS TOWNSHIP                          |          |          |        |               |            |            |          |             |            |  |   |
| Perkins Schools                           | 32       | 22-0270  | 9.10   | 67.80         | 1.50       | 4.45       | 21.75    | n/a         | 104.60     | 61.5922  | 74.6996                                 |
| VERMILION TOWNSHIP                        |          |          |        |               |            |            |          |             |            |  |   |
| Vermilion Schools                         | 12-16    | 22-0280  | 9.10   | 66.98         | 1.625      | 4.45       | 4.75     | n/a         | 86.91      | 45.6617  | 67.9819                                 |
| Vermilion City                            | 18-22    | 22-0290  | 9.10   | 66.98         | 1.625      | 4.45       | 0.00     | 11.75       | 93.905     | 52.7174  | 74.9625                                 |
| Edison Schools                            | 17       | 22-0300  | 9.10   | 64.67         | 1.80       | 4.45       | 4.75     | n/a         | 84.77      | 46.4453  | 55.3077                                 |
| KELLEYS ISLAND VILLAGE                    |          |          |        |               |            |            |          |             |            |  |   |
| Kelleys Island Schools                    | 54       | 22-0310  | 9.10   | 9.85          | 0.80       | 4.45       | n/a      | 10.67       | 34.87      | 28.3286  | 30.1185                                 |
| SANDUSKY CITY                             |          |          |        |               |            |            |          |             |            |  |   |
| Sandusky Schools                          | 55-60    | 22-0320  | 9.10   | 83.800        | 1.50       | 0.00       | n/a      | 5.06        | 99.460     | 55.5550  | 68.8042                                 |
| a <del></del>                             |          | a.       |        | The second of | Anapatrant |            |          |             | - Contract | a de la companya de l | 1 |
| BELLEVUE CITY                             |          | I        |        |               |            |            |          |             |            |  |   |
| Bellevue Schools                          | 62       | 22-0330  | 9.10   | 41.20         | 1.00       | 4.45       | n/a      | 6.60        | 62.35      | 44.3722  | 56.1283                                 |

TAX RATES EXPRESSED IN MILLS
MILL = \$1 IN TAX FOR EVERY \$1,000 IN TAXABLE VALUE

### How to Calculate Your Tax Bill

### PROPERTY TAX CALCULATION

Market Value x 35% = Assessed Value

Assessed Value x Full Total Tax Rate / 1,000 = Gross Tax Per Year

Assessed Value x Effective Tax Rate / 1,000 = Adjusted Tax

Gross Tax—Adjusted Tax = H.B. 920 Credit

Gross Tax—H.B. 920 Credit = Net Taxes

Net Taxes x Non-Business Credit Percent = Non-Business Credit

Net Taxes x Owner Occupancy Credit Percent = Owner Occupancy Credit

Net Taxes—Non-Business and Owner Occ. = Taxes Charged

Taxes Charged / 2 = Half Year Tax

Half Year Tax + Special Assessments, Penalties, etc. = Total Half Year Tax

EXAMPLE: If a taxpayer lives in Sandusky City, in Sandusky City School District, Real Estate Taxes on a \$100,000 owner-occupied home with no special assessments would be:

\$100,000 x 35% = \$35,000.00 Assessed Value

\$35,000 x 99.56 / 1,000 = \$3,484.60 Gross Tax Per Year

\$35,000 x 56.0723 / 1,000 = \$1,962.53 Adjusted Tax

\$3,484.60 - \$1,962.53 = \$1,522.07 H.B. 920 Credit

\$3,484.60 - \$1,522.07 = \$1,962.53 Net Taxes

\$1,962.53 x 10% = \$196.25 Non-Business Credit

\$1,962.53 x 2.5% = \$49.06 Owner Occupancy Credit

\$1,962.53 - \$196.25 - \$49.06 = \$1,717.22 Taxes Charged

\$1,717.22 / 2 = \$858.61 Half Year Tax

#### The \$1,717.22 in Annual Taxes are distributed as follows:

| Tax Recipient  | Tax Rate | Taxes Paid  |
|--|----------|-------------|
|  |          |             |
| Sandusky Schools                                       | 47.5060  | 1,454.87    |
| Sandusky City  | 2.8780   | 88.14       |
| Sandusky Public Library                                | 0.8448   | 25.87       |
| County General Fund                                    | 1.2954   | 39.69       |
| Board of Developmental Disabilities                    | 1.2672   | 38.81       |
| General Health District                                | 0.5632   | 17.25       |
| Alcohol, Drug Addiction & Mental Health Services Board | 0.6758   | 20.69       |
| Serving Our Seniors                                    | 0.4224   | 12.93       |
| Erie Metroparks  | 0.6195   | 18.97       |
|  | 56.0723  | \$ 1,717.22 |



**SANDUSKY** 

### 2022 Erie County Projects

### LAKE ERIE ARMS



Lake Erie Arms is constructing a first of its kind, 94,000 square foot facility situated on 17 acres. The two-story \$14 million complex will house an indoor shooting range, retail space, public dining area, and customization counters, along with membership only access areas such as a vault room, locker rooms with sauna steam rooms and restaurant/bar area. The second floor will be completed with a media room, event room, classroom spaces and viewing windows.

The Milan Township facility is expected to open in late summer of 2023.

In 2022, American Colors embarked on a \$3 million investment to expand manufacturing, warehousing and research and development capacity located in Sandusky. They are a manufacturer of high quality liquid pigment systems and intermediates that are used for a range of products: caulk, sealants, coatings, molded plastics, grout and cosmetics. The 12,500 square foot expansion will enable the company to expand their overall capacity, efficiency and market outreach.

American Colors Inc. is headquartered in Sandusky, Ohio with three additional American facilities, as well as manufacturing plants in Asia and Europe.

### AMERICAN COLORS EXPANSION



### **BUCKEYE SPORTS CENTER**



Buckeye Sports Center, a family-owned boat dealership based in Cuyahoga Falls, announced they planned to open a second location, based in Huron. The 20,000 square foot showroom will have 30-40 boats on display, new and used boats for sale, a service facility, along with a pro shop. Plans also include two 12,000 square foot storage facilities. An onsite test pond is also available. The \$10 million facility is situated on 5.5 acres directly off of State Route 2 in Huron.

Buckeye Sports Center had their grand opening ceremony in January 2023.





CASTALIA

PERKINS TOWNSHIP







MARGARETTA TOWNSHIIP

MILAN

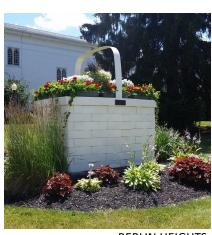
HURON



SANDUSKY







BERLIN HEIGHTS

# 2022

# ERIE COUNTY ELECTED OFFICIALS

| AUDITOR              | RICHARD H. JEFFREY  | 419-627-7746 |
|----------------------|---------------------|--------------|
| CLERK OF COURTS      | LUVADA WILSON       | 419-627-7705 |
| COMMISSIONER         | MATHEW R. OLD       | 419-627-7672 |
| COMMISSIONER         | PATRICK J. SHENIGO  | 419-627-7672 |
| COMMISSIONER         | STEPHEN L. SHOFFNER | 419-627-7672 |
| CORONER              | DR. BRIAN A. BAXTER | 419-625-0654 |
| ENGINEER             | JOHN D. FARSCHMAN   | 419-627-7710 |
| PROSECUTOR           | KEVIN J. BAXTER     | 419-627-7697 |
| RECORDER             | BARBARA A. SESSLER  | 419-627-7686 |
| SHERIFF              | PAUL A. SIGSWORTH   | 419-627-7668 |
| TREASURER            | CALEB A. STIDHAM    | 419-627-7701 |
| COMMON PLEAS JUDGE   | ROGER E. BINETTE    | 419-627-7732 |
| COMMON PLEAS JUDGE   | TYGH M. TONE        | 419-627-7731 |
| COUNTY COURT JUDGE   | CARL J. KAMM        | 419-499-4689 |
| JUVENILE COURT JUDGE | ROBERT C. DELAMATRE | 419-627-7782 |
| PROBATE COURT JUDGE  | BEVERLY K. McGOOKEY | 419-627-7750 |