



ADMINISTRATOR'S DIGEST



Rob Sarro, Administrator

A NOTE FROM THE ADMINISTRATOR

The topic of government efficiency is being discussed at the national level and questions have recently surfaced locally. For Allegan County Government, it is an exciting time to share information about our efforts to increase efficiency. With the support of the Board of Commissioners, efficiency has been a longstanding expectation rooted within our vision,

“Provide our citizens superior and innovative service, be judicious and efficient in the expenditure of resources, and promote a safe, clean, healthy environment in which to live, work and play.”

Since the 2008 downturn, known as the “Great Recession,” the County has progressively built a strategic, continuous improvement culture. At the time, we made short-term, mid-term, and long-term cost reductions of approximately \$5M. Efficiency is more than cost reduction; it includes making the best use of resources to maximize results. With this in mind, we turned to successful local corporate employers to learn how to use tools like LEAN to reduce waste and still be effective in a government environment. Examples of efficiencies include:

- reducing the high number of employee medical benefit plans down to three plans to manage,
- joining a health insurance pool as one of the first counties (today, that pool has 231 school and municipal organizations),
- investing in a successful economic development agency through a partnership agreement rather than creating a county department,
- collaborating with other agencies to share services such as technology and law enforcement,
- deploying innovative technology to reduce time on manual tasks,
- developing a standardized project management and contracting process, and
- cross-training positions to ensure service continuity especially where we have limited staffing.

What are some indicators that we are successful in this strategy?

- Results from a periodic third-party independent benchmarking survey.
- Allegan County is the fourth fastest-growing county in the state, yet our County tax rate is less than 63 of the 83 counties in Michigan.
- Recognized as a leader in innovation nationally and as a best-in-class employer.
- Cost-effectively deploy certain large infrastructure projects without a millage request and without paying interest through bonds.
- Increased our bond rating from AA- to AA.

Examples of continuous improvement occur daily within Allegan County Government and I look forward to sharing them in future updates.

Thank you for taking the time to read this Digest.

IN THIS ISSUE:

- Recycling Events,
- Senior Expo,
- Current Open Positions,
- and MORE!



SERVICES

Volunteer Fair (Last Updated on 3/13/25) – The Allegan County Community Foundation hosted its second annual Volunteer Fair on March 19, 2025. The event brought together nearly 50 nonprofit organizations, including County Transportation and Senior Services, the Health Department, the Animal Shelter, and partner Wishbone Pet Rescue. The transportation service area focused its messaging on the scheduling app and using public transit to connect to volunteer opportunities within the community. The Health Department talked to community members about the Community Links Program and Michigan Volunteer Registry to seek volunteer opportunities throughout the state, including the County. Senior Services talked about its different programs and volunteer opportunities. Animal Shelter and Wishbone were able to talk with prospective volunteers about opportunities to help in the shelters; currently, there is a need for dog walkers to help provide shelter dogs with enrichment and exercise.



Copies of the [Community Update](#) were shared with table visitors during this event. For more information, please contact Dan Wedge, Deputy County Administrator of Services, at (269) 686-5235 or dwedge@allegancounty.org.

Parks Recreation and Tourism Newsletter (Last Updated on 1/9/25) – Parks, Recreation, and Tourism is excited to release its first quarterly newsletter to inform the community about what is happening in our county and the surrounding areas relevant to Parks, Recreation, and Tourism. This initiative aims to enhance communication, increase public awareness, and engage both residents and visitors with updates and opportunities across our parks, programs, and tourism offerings. The first issue was released on March 24, 2025.

To subscribe to and view the newsletter, visit our website or scan the QR code.
<https://www.allegancounty.org/departments/parks-recreation-and-tourism/newsletters>



For more information, please contact Brandy Gildea, Parks Manager, at bgildea@allegancounty.org.



Animal Micro Chip Scanners Deployed – The Animal Shelter purchased five new handheld scanners and a wand scanner for the road patrol deputies to utilize. Donations funds were used. In 2025 to date, 153 stray animals were brought to the shelter, 37 of which had microchips and could have been brought directly home. The added microchip scanners can ensure pets are being reunited with their owners as soon as possible. For more information, please contact Stephanie Keuning, Animal Shelter Supervisor at skeuning@allegancounty.org.



SERVICES

Materials Management Plan (MMP) Work Program Approved – On March 31, the county received notification that the MMP work program was approved by the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes and Energy (EGLE) with an increased grant budget amount of \$112,404.75. The next steps will be to finalize the grant and begin the important planning process. The MMP Committee will review the request for a consultant proposal at the June 3, Meeting. Based on the approved work program timeline, the goal is to hire a consultant by the end of 2025. For more information, please contact Heather Bausick, Resource Recovery Coordinator, at hbausick@allegancounty.org.

Recycling Events –



Household Hazardous Waste Collection:

Saturday, May 3, 2025 @ Hardings, Wayland 9:00am-12:00pm
Saturday, June 14, 2025 @ Fennville City Hall 9:00am-12:00pm
Saturday, October 4, 2025 @ Otsego DPW 9:00am-12:00pm

Countywide Tire Recycling:

Tuesday, April 22, 2025 @ Otsego DPW 9:00am-12:00pm
Saturday, August 2, 2025 @ Salem Twp Transfer Station 9:00am-12:00pm
Saturday, August 16, 2025 @ Casco Twp Transfer Station 9:00am-12:00pm
Tuesday, August 26, 2025 @ Otsego DPW 9:00am-12:00pm

Littlejohn Lake Park Disc Golf Course (Last Updated on 9/13/24) – This fall, Disc Golfers United in Charity (DGUC) partnered with community volunteers to raise awareness, build excitement, and begin construction on a new disc golf course at Littlejohn Lake Park. Working closely with professionals, they have designed a course that complements the park's existing features and users. Construction is expected to be completed by the first week of May, with a Grand Opening scheduled for Saturday, May 10, 2025, at 10:00 AM. DGUC, local volunteers, the Parks Advisory Board, and parks staff formally invite the Board of Commissioners to attend this event. To prevent early play before the course is fully completed, advertising for the event will begin on April 28, 2025. For more information, please contact Brandy Gildea, Parks Manager, at (269) 686-9088 or bgildea@allegancounty.org.

Public Health Newsletter (Last Updated on 3/13/25) – Public Health shares monthly e-newsletters with the community and specific audiences. These newsletters include information from community partners, community spotlights, public health news/related topics, and topics like wastewater surveillance, testing information, and other preventative education/tools. The most recent healthcare provider newsletter was published on 3/13/2025. <https://mailchi.mp/allegancounty/achd-provider-updates-march-2025>

Previous Community Newsletters can be found at <https://www.allegancounty.org/health/health-department-news> or <https://bit.ly/3Ujuc8z>. For more information, please contact Grant Ruppert, the Planning and Preparedness Manager, at (269) 686-4515 or gruppert@allegancounty.org.

Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) Update – The Health Department and other CHNA workgroup partners presented the CHNA health needs findings to members of the Multi-Agency Collaborative Council on March 26, 2025. This meeting provided valuable feedback from community stakeholders and allowed partners to participate in an asset-mapping activity to assess the community resources available for each identified health need. The CHNA is currently in draft form and has not yet been published. For more information, please contact Grant Ruppert, the Planning and Preparedness Manager, at (269) 686-4515 or gruppert@allegancounty.org.



SERVICES

Senior Expo 2025 – Allegan County invites those 55 years of age and older to the Senior Expo 2025, formerly Boomer Bash. This free annual event features complimentary breakfast and lunch, a senior-focused vendor fair with prizes and giveaways, health screenings, fun-filled and informative workshop sessions, and entertainment; Save the Date Flyer below. Registration opens soon, stay up to date on event details by visiting [Facebook](#). For more information, please contact Jen Garcia, Director of Senior and Veteran Services, at (269) 686-5144 or jgarcia@allegancounty.org.

ALLEGAN COUNTY
Senior Expo
formerly Boomer Bash

SAVE THE DATE
THURSDAY,
JUNE 26, 2025

ALLEGAN COUNTY
Senior Services

Save the Date: June 26, 2025
Time: 8:00AM – 1:00PM
Location: First Baptist Church, 1290 32nd Street (M-40), Allegan 49010

- FREE SENIOR EVENT!
- Grab n' Go Breakfast & Served Lunch
- Senior Vendor Fair & Giveaways
- Fun-Filled Workshops
- Health Screenings
- Entertainment

Questions?
Call 269-673-3333 or
Email tgalloway@allegancounty.org

REGISTRATION INFORMATION COMING SOON!



SERVICES

County Park Programs (Last Updated on 3/13/25) – The County is excited to partner again with the Outdoor Discovery Center (ODC) to offer engaging, family-friendly programs at our county parks. All programs are free to the public, but participants must register through the Outdoor Discovery Center (ODC) at <https://outdoordiscovery.org/programs/#communityprograms>. Below is the schedule of upcoming events:

Thursday, May 22, 2025 – Springtime Story

Location: Gun Lake County Park

Time: 10:00 AM – 11:00 AM

Bring the little ones for a fun story and stroll through the park! Learn about animals waking up for spring, returning wildlife, and how animals prepare for the warmer season. You may even meet an animal ready for spring!

Wednesday, June 25, 2025 – Family Kayaking

Location: Littlejohn Lake Park

Time: 6:00 PM – 7:30 PM

Join naturalists from ODC for an evening of kayaking on Ely Lake. Kayaks, paddles, and life vests are provided. Whether you're a beginner or an experienced paddler, this program is perfect for learning or enjoying a relaxed paddle along the shoreline.

Friday, July 25, 2025 – Up Close and Wild

Location: West Side County Park

Time: 11:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Learn about Michigan's reptiles, amphibians, and birds during this live animal presentation. Engage with a naturalist and, depending on the group size, get a chance to handle some of the wildlife during or after the program.

Tuesday, August 19, 2025 – Birds of Prey

Location: Gun Lake Park

Time: 6:00 PM – 7:00 PM

Experience live hawks, owls, falcons, and eagles up close! Learn about their unique adaptations, hunting strategies, and conservation efforts during this captivating presentation led by expert naturalists.

Saturday, August 16, 2025 – Family Kayaking

Location: New Richmond Bridge Park

Time: 9:30 AM – 11:00 AM

Paddle the Kalamazoo River and enjoy the calm waters with ODC naturalists. All equipment is provided, and this relaxed paddle is great for beginners or anyone looking to explore the marshy and forested sections of the river.

Saturday, September 13, 2025 – Incredible Insects

Location: Bysterveld County Park

Time: 11:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Discover the fascinating world of insects through hands-on activities, live displays, and a chance to catch insects in a meadow using sweep nets. Learn about their vital role in ecosystems and their incredible adaptations.

Friday, October 10, 2025 – Night Hike

Location: New Richmond Bridge Park

Time: 7:30 PM – 8:30 PM

Explore the wonders of the outdoors after dark! Compare your senses to those of nocturnal animals as you experience the sounds, smells, and sights of the night. This engaging program is perfect for families and nature lovers.

For more information, please contact Brandy Gildea, Parks Manager at (269) 686-9088 or

bgildea@allegancounty.org.



ENGAGEMENT

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OPEN POSITIONS

Apply Now

Position	Department	Current Status
Assistant Prosecuting Attorney	Prosecutors Office	Unfilled
Assistant Public Defender	Public Defenders' Office	
Corrections Office	Sheriff's Office	
Deputy Sheriff	Sheriff's Office	
Food Service Aide - Call In	Youth Home	
Marine Patrol Officer - Part Time	Sheriff's Office	
Sanitarian	Health Department	
Treatment Specialist - Call In	Cheever Treatment Center	

Various Boards & Commissions Opportunities



- Brownfield Redevelopment Authority
- Economic Development Commission
- Material Management Planning Committee
- Community Mental Health Board
- Tourist Council

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



ENGAGEMENT

Employment: 2024 as of Quarter 4:

TURNOVER/RETENTION (Regular FT & PT Only)	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
# of Terminations (Includes Retirees)	12	13	24	12
Average length of tenure of terminated REG employees	8.2 Years	4.6 Years	3.3 Years	15 Years
Turnover % of new REG employees (<=1 year)	12.50%	31.25%	13.60%	18.75%
Turnover % of REG employees	2.70%	2.90%	5.40%	2.70%
Total average number of REG employees	432	445	441	440
Notes: # of terminations due to retirement	0	1	5	2
RECRUITMENT	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Jobs Posted	16	16	14	16
# of Days to Hire (KPR)	52	57	58	33
# of New Hires	24	38	22	16
# of Promotions or Transfers	7	24	16	9

CURRENT POSITIONS

450

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



ENGAGEMENT



Position	Department
Assistant Prosecuting Attorney III	Prosecutors Office
911 Telecommunicator (2)	Central Dispatch
Janitor (Part Time)	Facilities Management
Deputy Drain Maintenance Specialist	Drain Office
Network Systems Administrator	Information Systems
Youth Specialist (Part Time)	Youth Home

7

NEW HIRES

2

PROMOTIONS/ TRANSFERS

Position	Department
Corrections Officer	Sheriff's Office
Emergency Management Specialist	Sheriff's Office

Position	Department
Juvenile Probation Officer	Circuit Court
Janitor	Facilities Management
Registered Sanitarian	Health Department

3

LEFT EMPLOYMENT

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



OPERATIONS



Courthouse Renovation (Last Updated on 3/13/25) – On March 6, 2025, the Clerk and Vital Records moved into the new offices. Relocation of the files/records took the better part of two weeks to complete. The construction team can now concentrate on renovating the entire center area where the Treasurer, Clerk, and Vitals offices were to make ready for the new Prosecuting Attorney Office.

On April 4, the Circuit Court Jury Assembly Room will be completed, followed by the new Records Management suite and Friend of the Court Hearing Room later in the month. For more information, please contact Steve Sedore, Deputy County Administrator of Operations, at ssedore@allegancounty.org.

Eden Replacement – On March 1, 2027, the Eden solution will reach its end of life, and as such, the Board has added this to its 5 YR Strategic Plan. Eden is the software system used to record and report on all financial transactions made in the County. These transactions are the basis for the audited financial statements and budgets, which can be found on the [County's website](#).

While it will remain operational, technical support and updates will no longer be available. To ensure a smooth transition, the County has formed a cross-functional Steering Team to guide the selection and implementation of its replacement. This project is expected to span at least the next two years. The first meeting was held on March 24, 2025. For more information, please contact Steve Sedore, Deputy County Administrator of Operations, at ssedore@allegancounty.org.



Equalization Update (Last Updated 3/13/25) – County Equalization is in the final stages of reviewing assessment roll data from local units. The service area works closely with assessors to ensure that data is accurate and consistent with county equalization study findings and statutory guidelines. 23 of 33 assessment rolls were received from local units following the March Boards of Review (MBORs).

The county is actively processing these submissions to ensure compliance with statutory requirements and finalize equalization studies. The remaining 10 units are expected to submit assessment rolls in the coming days. For more information, contact Matt Woolford, Director of Equalization, at mwoolford@allegancounty.org or (269) 673-0245.



FINANCIAL

MONTHLY FINANCIAL MEMORANDUM For Month ending February 28, 2025

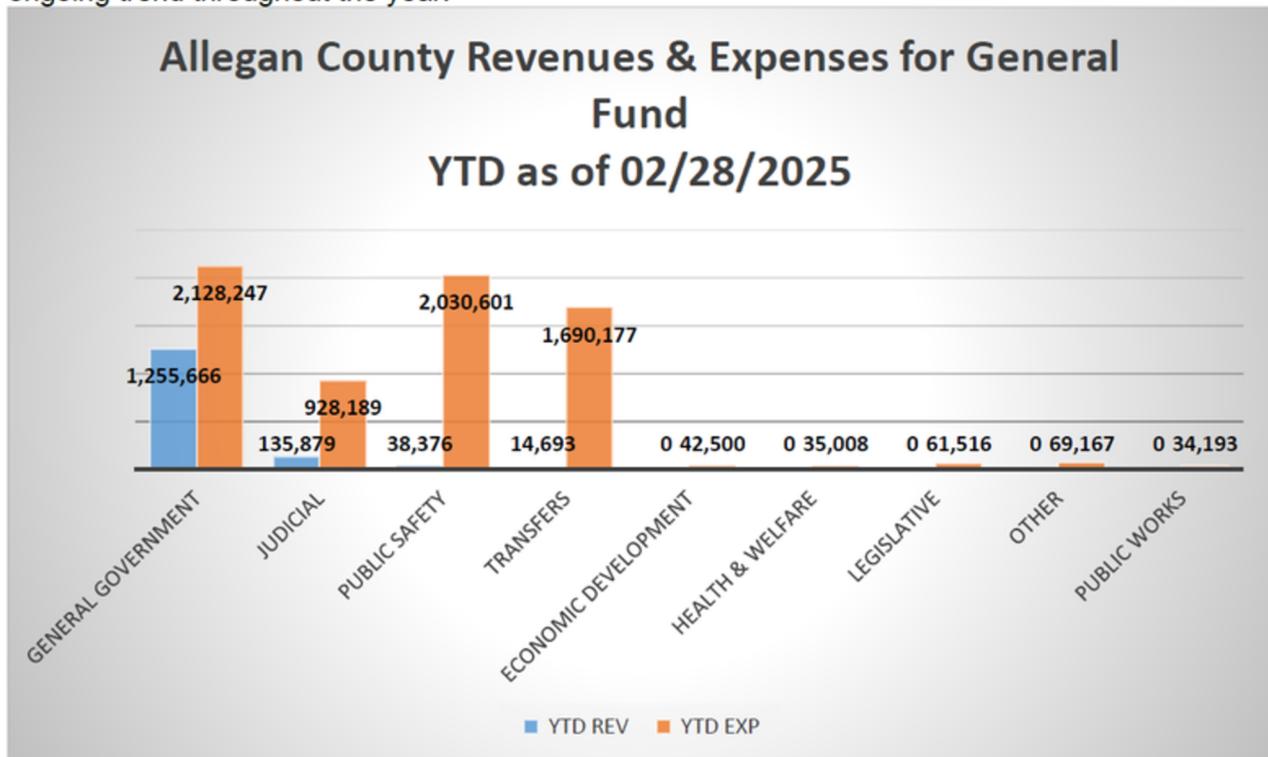
NOTE: The monthly financial memo is meant to analyze the current financial conditions of Allegan County's funds. This information is unaudited data and should be used for informational purposes only.

FY 2025 YTD (All Funds) Compared to 02/28/2024		
Total Revenue	2,629,364	14.07%
Total Expense	1,017,603	6.60%



General Fund Highlights:

As of February 28, the year-to-date spend within the General Fund is slightly more as compared to last year. Overall, expenses are up 1.2% compared to 2024. We do not expect this to be an ongoing trend throughout the year.



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

THANK YOU



*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



MONTHLY FINANCIAL MEMORANDUM

For Month ending February 28, 2025

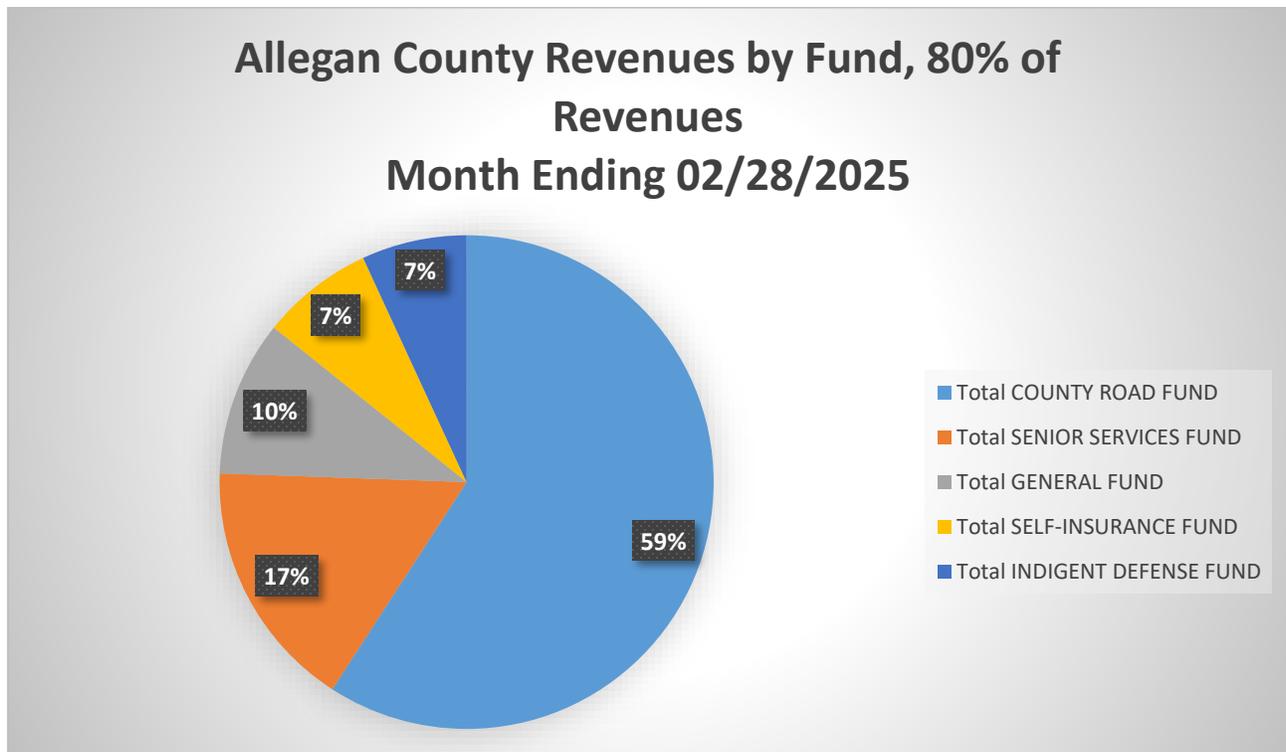
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FY 2025 YTD (All Funds)		
Compared to 02/28/2024		
Total Revenue	2,629,364	14.07%
Total Expense	1,017,603	6.60%

Revenue Highlights:

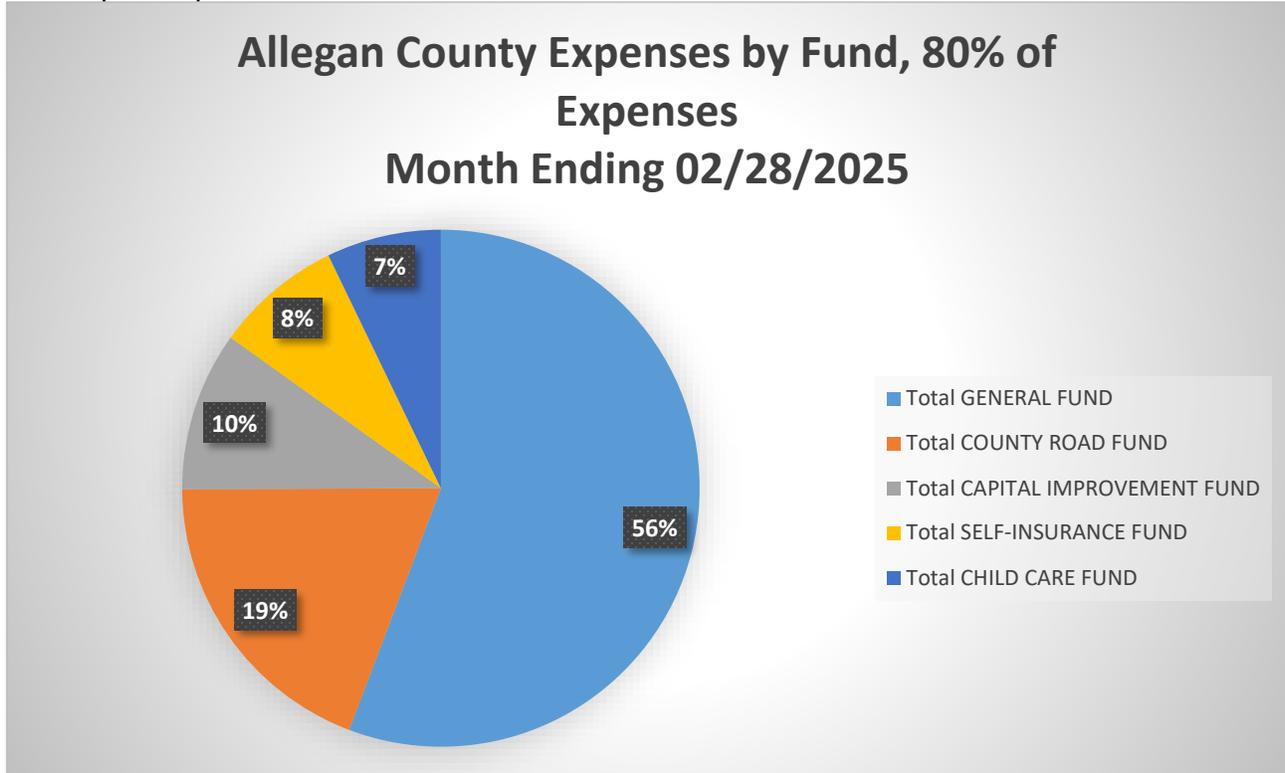
Total revenues through February are up \$2.63M as compared to last year at this time. The driving force behind that increase is:

- County Road Fund (up 51.4% or \$3.8M)



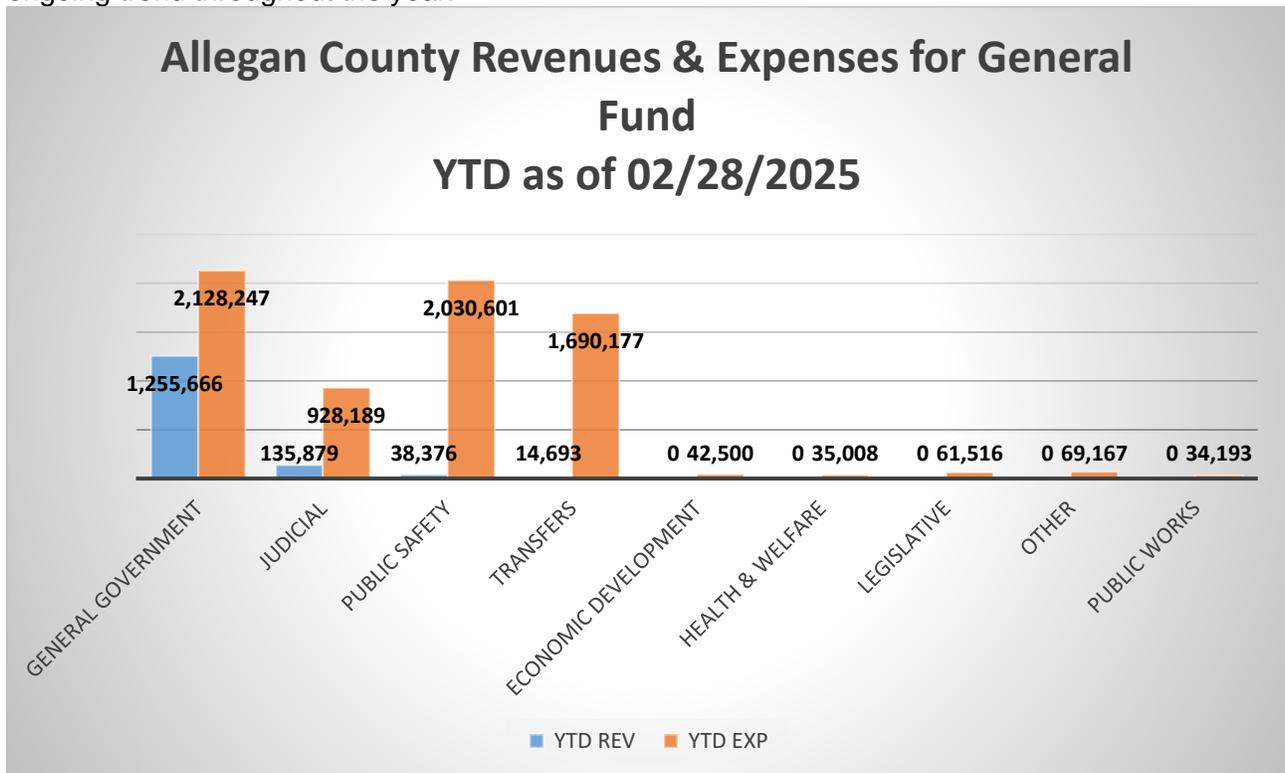
Expense Highlights:

Total expenses through February have increased by \$1.07M as compared to last year at this time. This reflects an increase of 6.60%. The two funds that are driving this increase are Drain Fund and Capital Improvement Fund.

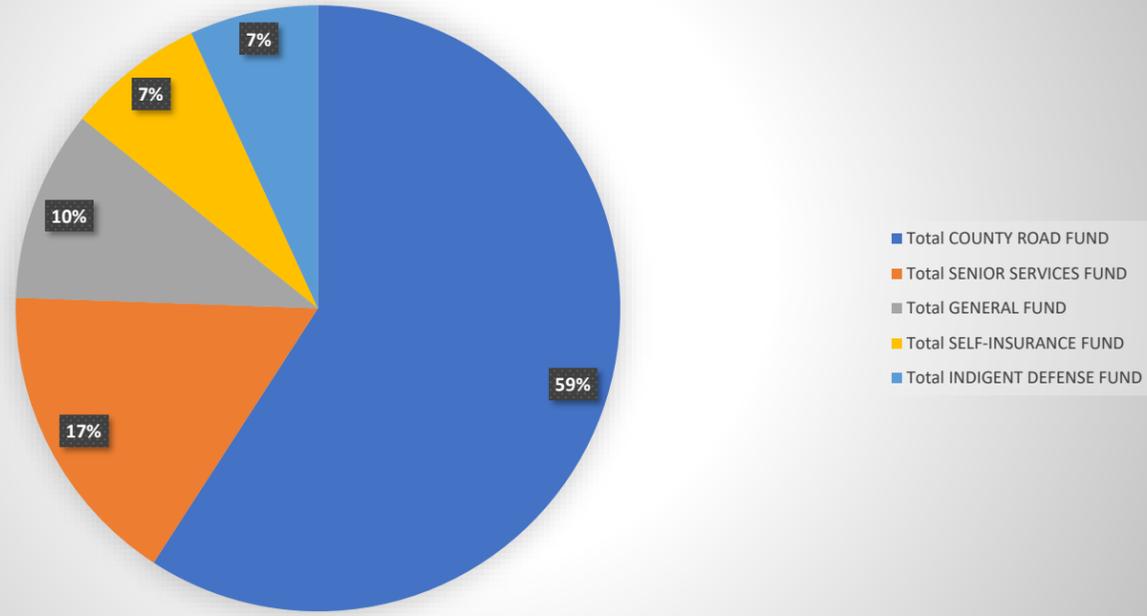


General Fund Highlights:

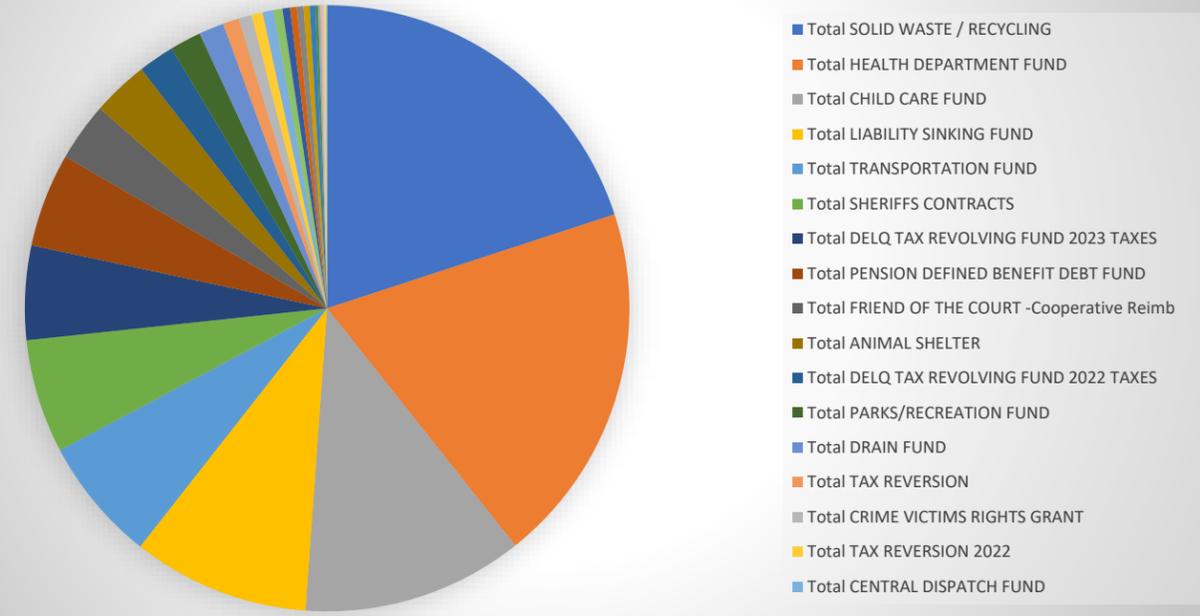
As of February 28, the year-to-date spend within the General Fund is slightly more as compared to last year. Overall, expenses are up 1.2% compared to 2024. We do not expect this to be an ongoing trend throughout the year.



**Allegran County Revenues by Fund, 80% of Revenues
Month Ending 02/28/2025**

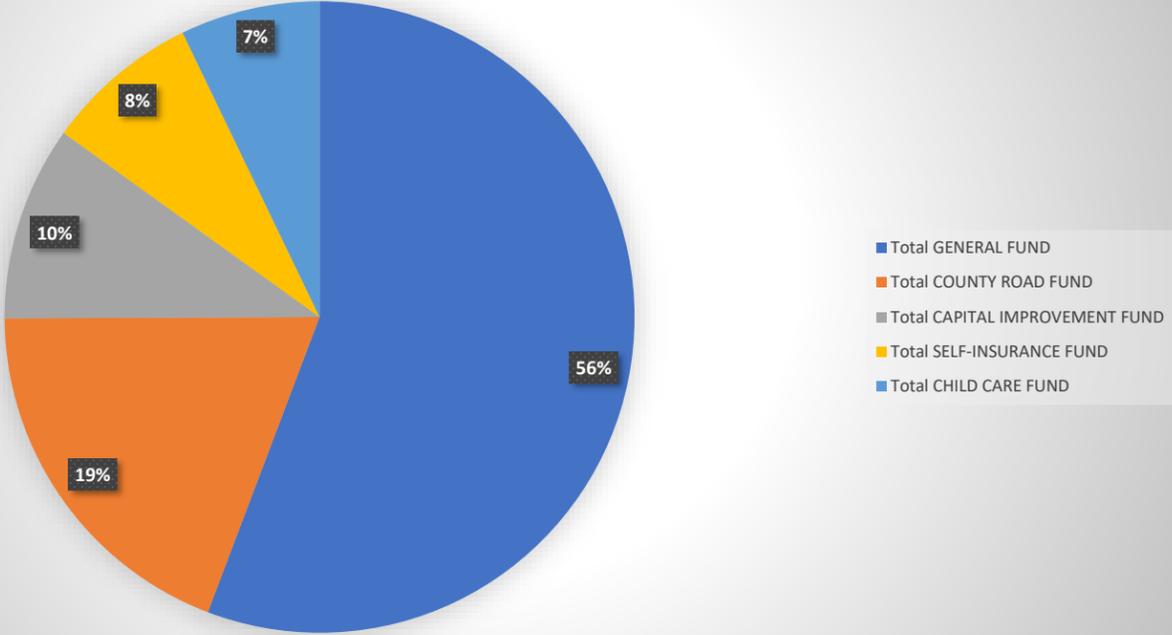


**Allegran County Revenues by Fund, 20% of Revenues
Month Ending 02/28/2025**

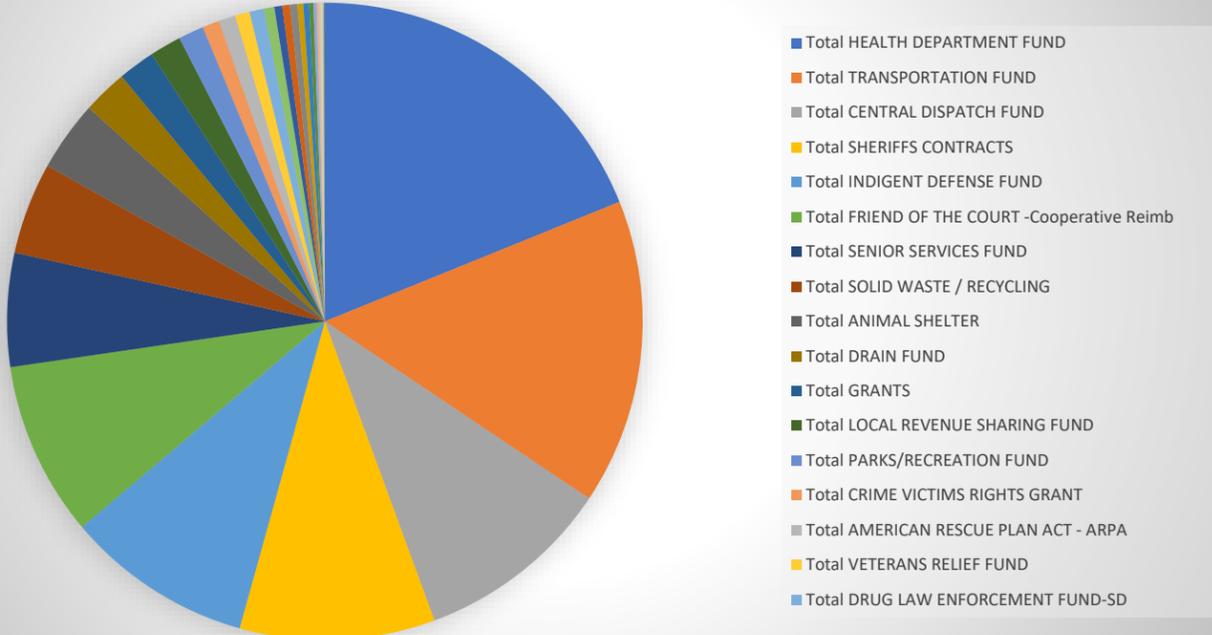


Fund Name	YTD Revenues	% of Total Revenue (YTD)
Total COUNTY ROAD FUND	11,290,483.40	52.97%
Total SENIOR SERVICES FUND	2,505,712.72	11.76%
Total GENERAL FUND	1,444,614.05	6.78%
Total SOLID WASTE / RECYCLING	1,042,762.83	4.89%
Total HEALTH DEPARTMENT FUND	989,112.74	4.64%
Total SELF-INSURANCE FUND	617,650.73	2.90%
Total DRAIN FUND	587,150.41	2.75%
Total INDIGENT DEFENSE FUND	528,342.13	2.48%
Total CHILD CARE FUND	487,759.05	2.29%
Total LIABILITY SINKING FUND	400,000.00	1.88%
Total TRANSPORTATION FUND	296,339.55	1.39%
ALL FUNDS UNDER 1% OF TOTAL REVENUES	1,124,929.27	5.28%
	21,314,856.88	

**Allegan County Expenses by Fund, 80% of Expenses
Month Ending 02/28/2025**

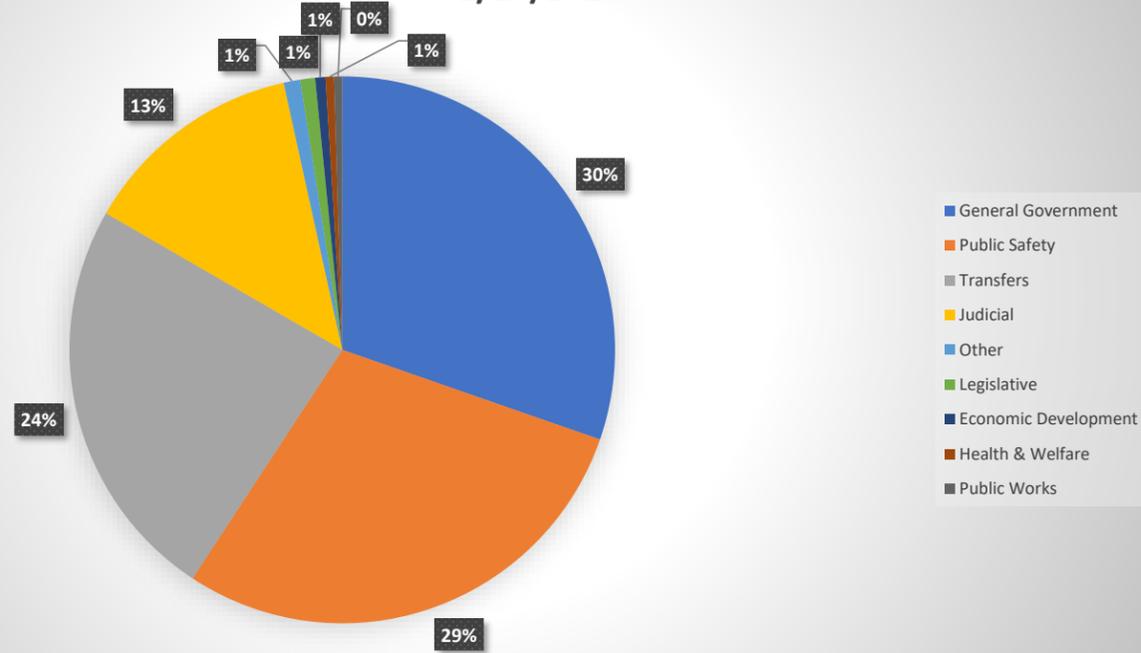


**Allegan County Expenses by Fund, 20% of Expenses
Month Ending 02/28/2025**

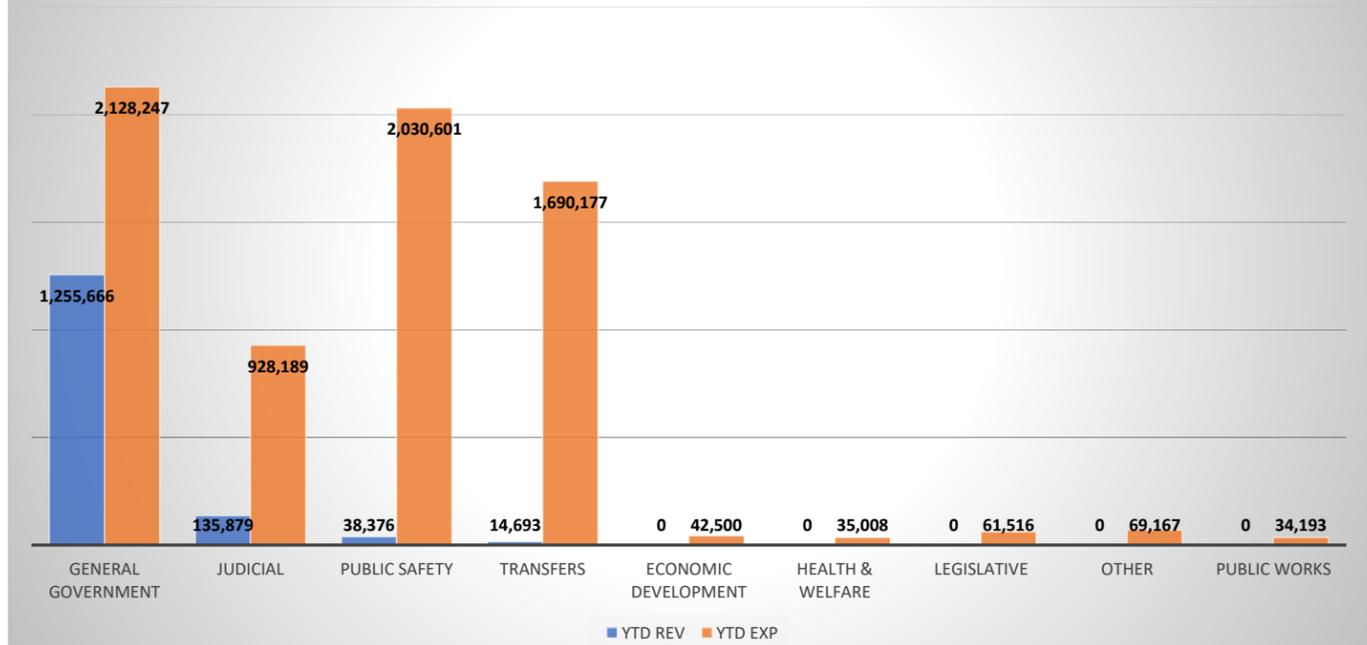


Fund Name	YTD Expenses	% of Total Expense (YTD)
Total GENERAL FUND	7,019,597.86	42.70%
Total COUNTY ROAD FUND	2,259,256.24	13.74%
Total SELF-INSURANCE FUND	1,406,037.72	8.55%
Total CHILD CARE FUND	808,785.07	4.92%
Total CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND	712,075.92	4.33%
Total HEALTH DEPARTMENT FUND	657,963.51	4.00%
Total DRAIN FUND	603,405.06	3.67%
Total CENTRAL DISPATCH FUND	588,545.41	3.58%
Total TRANSPORTATION FUND	521,049.47	3.17%
Total SENIOR SERVICES FUND	354,975.66	2.16%
Total SHERIFFS CONTRACTS	321,182.83	1.95%
Total FRIEND OF THE COURT -Cooperative Reimb	297,631.66	1.81%
Total INDIGENT DEFENSE FUND	283,905.86	1.73%
ALL FUNDS UNDER 1% OF TOTAL EXPENSES	605,469.97	3.68%
	16,439,882.24	

Allegan Count General Fund Expenses YTD as of 02/28/2025



Allegan County Revenues & Expenses for General Fund YTD as of 02/28/2025



General Fund Revenues by Function	MTD	YTD	BUDGET		YTD
	02/01 to 02/28/25	01/01 to 02/28/25	01/01 to 12/31/25	AVAILABLE BALANCE	% REVENUES COLLECTED
General Government	583,374	1,255,666	45,401,669	44,146,003	2.77%
Judicial	132,147	135,879	1,727,851	1,591,972	7.86%
Public Safety	21,635	38,376	1,008,190	969,814	3.81%
Transfers In	7,347	14,693	88,160	73,467	16.67%
Public Works	-	-	100,000	100,000	0.00%
Health & Welfare	-	-	171,155	171,155	0.00%
Other	-	-	-	-	0.00%
Economic Development	-	-	-	-	0.00%
Legislative	-	-	-	-	0.00%
TOTAL GENERAL FUND REVENUES	744,502	1,444,614	48,497,025	47,052,411	2.98%

General Fund Expenses by Function	MTD	YTD	BUDGET		YTD
	02/01 to 02/28/25	01/01 to 02/28/25	01/01 to 12/31/25	AVAILABLE BALANCE	% BUDGET USED
Public Safety	1,115,885	2,030,601	15,203,112	13,172,511	13.36%
General Government	1,011,709	2,128,247	13,629,523	11,501,276	15.61%
Transfers Out	845,088	1,690,177	9,947,017	8,256,840	16.99%
Judicial	506,806	928,189	7,387,176	6,458,987	12.56%
Other	34,583	69,167	1,125,383	1,056,216	6.15%
Legislative	32,828	61,516	370,489	308,973	16.60%
Health & Welfare	24,866	35,008	470,445	435,437	7.44%
Public Works	1,223	34,193	277,582	243,389	12.32%
Economic Development	-	42,500	86,298	43,798	49.25%
	3,572,988	7,019,598	48,497,025	41,477,427	14.47%

ALLEGAN COUNTY GENERAL FUND BALANCE

