



2009 Princeton Township Budget Summary

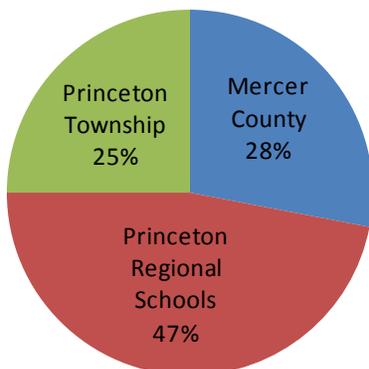
This document was prepared by the Citizens' Finance Advisory Committee (CFAC), with the assistance of Administrative Staff, at the direction of The Township Committee. The CFAC wishes to present to citizens clear and detailed information regarding Township revenues and expenditures.

***2009 Tax Rate:**

Mercer County	1.01
Princeton Regional Schools (PRS)	1.71
Princeton Township	<u>.91</u>
Total Tax Rate:	3.63

*Per \$100 of assessed valuation

Where your taxes go:



NJ State Law requires Princeton Township to collect taxes for Mercer County and PRS

The increase for Princeton Township is 3 cents:

- This is the smallest increase in 7 years
- The Township's portion of the average tax bill will increase \$139.35

Township Budget Strategy:

- Restrict spending in an unstable economy
- Maintain a fiscally responsible approach that is sustainable over a period of years by maintaining adequate reserves for future unanticipated needs.

Actions taken by Township Committee:

- Cut Capital spending by 25% this year which will reduce debt service expense in future years
- Kept all controllable spending flat except for Joint Agencies where spending was reduced 5%
- Appropriated modestly more surplus to minimize Local Tax increase
- Held wage increase to 3% for personnel not covered by collective bargaining agreements

Looking Ahead:

- ◊ Continue to work with the Borough on the evaluation of additional shared services and potential consolidation
- ◊ Continue talks with tax exempt institutions to secure fair voluntary payments in lieu of taxes
- ◊ Pursue opportunities to secure Federal Stimulus Funds and Grant monies
- ◊ Support initiatives to increase local control over state mandated expenditures.

Grant expenditures are funded with dedicated revenues of the same amount and do not increase the tax rate. They include grants from all sources, and shared services

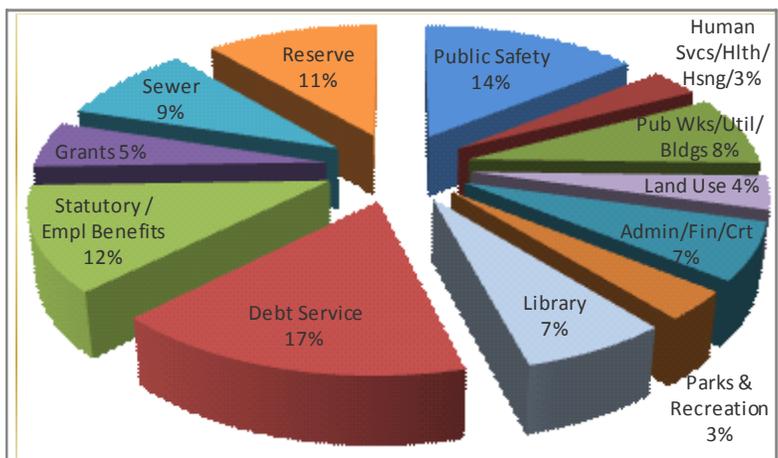
The Township maintains a reserve for contingencies. Unspent amounts are carried forward from year to year. This year's reserve is netted against reserves of prior year.

Debt Service is payment of principal and interest on bonds issued to finance our capital budget.

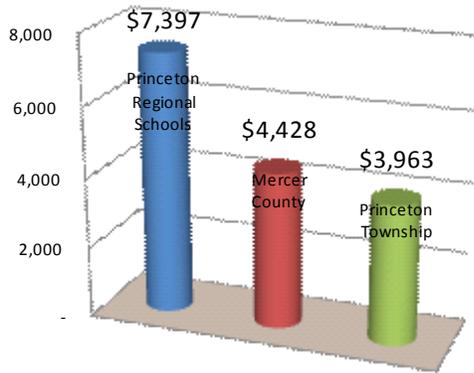
39% of our budget is from non-tax revenues such as grants and user fees, the remaining 61% is from property tax.

This issue is dedicated to **Diantha Johnson Allenby** a respected member of the CFAC who passed away earlier this year.

PRINCETON TOWNSHIP 2009 EXPENDITURES - \$36,879,152



Average Tax Bill



Based on the Township 2009 average residential assessment of \$434,108, the 2009 Average Tax Bill in Princeton Township is: \$15,788

\$7,397 Goes to Princeton Regional Schools

\$4,428 Goes to Mercer County

\$3,963 Goes to Princeton Township

Did you know? . . .
Only 25%
Of your property tax bill goes to the Township of Princeton

PRINCETON TOWNSHIP-2009 BUDGET EXPENDITURES

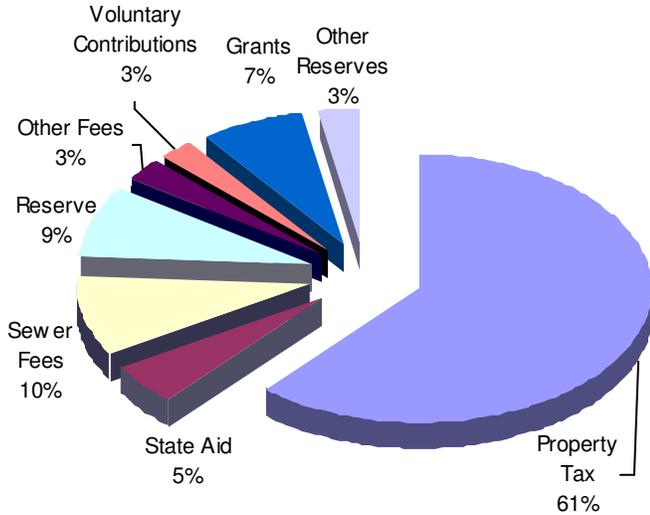
Category	Department	2009 Budget	2008 Budget	% Change
Public Safety	Police / Police Dispatchers	4,222,623	4,184,100	0.9%
	Uniform Fire Safety / Emergency Mgmt	99,720	95,795	4.1%
	Hazardous Route Busing	139,000	131,000	6.1%
	Aid to First Aid** and Fire**/Fire Fac**/ Hydrants	783,241	798,310	-1.9%
Health and Human Svcs	Corner House**	298,573	296,094	0.8%
	Human Services **	171,592	235,599	-27.2%
	Regional Health** / Joint Environmental**	287,722	307,991	-6.6%
	Animal Control**/Deer Mgmt	146,949	140,644	4.5%
	Contribution to Affordable Housing	200,000	200,000	0
Sewer	Sewer**	3,314,876	3,153,367	5.1%
Public Works/Utilities	Utilities /Community Services Act	668,500	583,000	14.7%
	Roads / Vehicle Maintenance	1,673,213	1,567,190	6.8%
	Buildings and Grounds	351,713	349,768	0.6%
	Recycling/Shade Tree	255,204	251,016	1.7%
Planning / Land Use	Regional Planning Board**	355,553	344,731	3.1%
	Zoning /Historic Preservation	215,448	200,191	7.6%
	Engineering	835,928	871,847	-4.1%
General Government	Administration/Finance/Court/Tax	1,723,447	1,691,411	1.9%
	Legal / Prosecutor / Public Defender	536,000	561,327	-4.5%
	Information Technology*	365,971	250,908	45.9%
Statutory / Empl Benefits	Insurances (Medical, Liability, WC, FICA)	2,769,464	2,584,541	7.2%
	Pensions	1,334,503	1,125,521	18.6%
Parks/Recreation/Seniors	Parks and Playgrounds/Joint Recreation Board**	1,222,134	1,204,669	1.4%
	Suzanne Patterson Senior Citizen Center**	65,930	55,780	18.2%
Library	Joint Public Library**	2,510,925	2,514,302	-.01%
Debt Service for Capital Investment	Bonds and Notes	5,834,203	5,688,411	2.6%
	Down payments	300,000	300,000	0
Reserve	Reserve for Uncollected Taxes and Unanticipated budget appropriations	4,130,897	3,718,817	11.1%
	Revaluation pay down	110,000	0	0
Grants	Grants	1,955,823	1,120,817	74.5%
Total Expenditures		36,879,152	34,527,147	

* Increase due to centralization of Information Technology spending for all departments

** Represents a Joint Agency or Interlocal Agreement

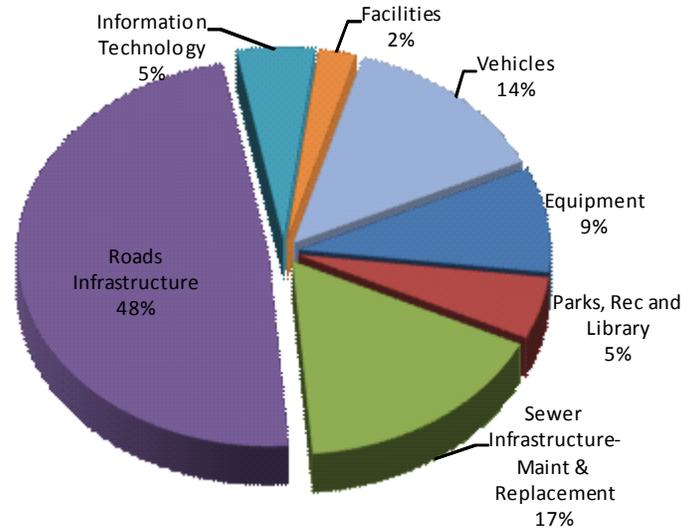
2009 Sources of Revenue

\$36,879,153



2009 Budget Capital Expenditures

\$3,727,479



PRINCETON TOWNSHIP - BUDGET REVENUES

Category	Revenue Source	2009 Budget	2008 Budget	% Change
Reserve	Surplus	3,200,000	3,000,000	7%
Other Fees	Licenses	17,490	17,900	-2%
	Fees and Permits	77,900	72,300	8%
	Municipal Court Fines	350,000	289,900	21%
	Interest	520,400	640,400	-19%
	Total Other Fees	965,790	1,020,500	-5%
Sewer Fees	Sewer Revenue	3,542,500	3,285,000	8%
Voluntary Contributions from tax exempt institutions	Institute for Advanced Study	230,000	210,000	10%
	Tenacre Foundation	477,700	450,000	6%
	Princeton Community Village	248,000	245,000	1%
	Total Voluntary Contributions	955,700	905,000	6%
State Aid	Municipal Property Tax Aid/Other	118,782	244,898	-51%
	Energy Receipts Tax	1,798,996	1,751,537	3%
	Total State Aid	1,917,778	1,996,435	-4%
Grants	Interlocal: Joint Agencies w/Boro	769,213	774,786	-1%
	State / Local Grants	1,664,513	832,087	100%
	Contributions	281,310	278,730	1%
	Total Grants	2,715,036	1,885,603	44%
Other Reserves	Res for Wastewater Treatment	120,774	185,028	-35%
	Reserve for Fire Protection Fund	129,000	128,580	0%
	Res for Debt Svc / Assmt Trust	630,000	521,000	21%
	Capital Surplus	100,000	100,000	0%
	Total Reserves	979,774	934,608	5%
Municipal Taxes	Delinquent Taxes	815,189	603,579	35%
	Property Tax (Municipal portion)	21,787,386	20,896,423	4%
	TOTAL REVENUES	36,879,153	34,527,148	6.8%

The Citizens' Finance Advisory Committee:

Scott Sillars, Chairman
Zvi Eiref, Vice Chairman
Jason Peterson
John Wynne, Jr.
Deputy Mayor Chad Goerner—Liaison
Mayor Bernard P. Miller—Liaison

Township of Princeton

400 Witherspoon Street
Princeton, NJ 08540
Phone: (609) 924-5704
Fax: (609) 688-2031
Website: www.princetontwp.org

PRINCETON TOWNSHIP: A GREAT PLACE TO BE

The Township of Princeton covers an area of 16.5 square miles in the heart of central New Jersey. It surrounds the 1.85 square mile area of the Borough of Princeton. The 2000 census stated the population of the Township to be 16,027. A substantial portion of the property of Princeton University lies within the borders of the Township as does all the property of the Institute for Advanced Study.

IT'S ALL ABOUT SERVICES

The Princeton Township **Police Department** is staffed by 31 sworn officers, 6 civilian communications officers, and 3 civilian administrative secretaries. Together they provide 24/7 service to the citizens and visitors of Princeton, and they take pride in the fact that its makeup mirrors the diverse community which it serves. A recent study indicated Princeton Township enjoys one of the lowest crime rates in the nation.

The Princeton **Recreation Department** has completed its first round of conceptual designs for a renovated pool complex. The Recreation Board and both municipal governments are exploring options for funding this project, which might be a combination of municipal bonds, user fees, and foundation philanthropy. All initial consulting fees and concept plans have been paid for by user fees from the pool's operation. The neighborhood renovation project for Pott's Park, located on Tee-Ar Place in the Borough, and the creation of the Hilltop Park Skate Park were made possible by the Mercer County "At Play" grants. The Recreation Department has extended the duration of some of its most popular summer programs in an effort to accommodate those who are looking at "staycations" for their summer entertainment.

The **Construction / Building Department** covers all of its operating and capital expenditures with permit fees. Last year they issued over 1500 building permits for renovations and new construction.

Corner House provides substance abuse treatment services to Princeton residents. Fees for treatment are based on a sliding scale and no one is turned away for inability to pay. Through outreach to the police department and Princeton schools, they provide early intervention options, evaluations, and assessments for at-risk students. The prevention programs stress positive self-image and effective decision making techniques. The Corner House Student Board spearheads alcohol- and drug-free events for students in Princeton. During the 2008-2009 school year approximately 5000 students attended these programs.

Human Services Department received a \$20,000 grant from J. Seward Johnson 1963 Charitable Trust for the Summer Employment Program for economically disadvantaged youth. This year we have 23 young people working at 11 non-profit organizations. They also provided Holiday Wishes to 190 needy children in the community at no direct cost of tax dollars.

The Township's **Affordable Housing** programs offer low- and moderate-income properties for rent and for sale. Griggs Farm, and Washington Oaks are just two of the many areas offering affordable housing. The resale and rehab aspects of the program are funded from reserve accounts, and an Affordability Trust account funds assistance loans. The Township's program is monitored by the State Council on Affordable Housing (COAH).

The signs at the historic Mountain Lakes were part of a NJ Historic Trust grant, and received an **Historic Preservation Award** in 2008 from the Historic Society of Princeton.

The Township of Princeton is committed to:

- Creating a more sustainable community
- Providing services to continue to make Princeton a great place for you to live
- Reducing costs and improving efficiency while increasing non-tax revenues
- Keeping Princeton a safe place for citizens

The **Princeton Fire Department** is a 100% volunteer organization that serves both Princeton Township and Borough. There are 29 active members working out of three fire stations. The **Princeton First Aid and Rescue Squad** is a combination career and volunteer group manned 24/7. The **Bureau of Fire Prevention** performs annual fire safety inspections in all structures with the exception of owner-occupied homes, assuring compliance

with the New Jersey Uniform Fire Code. Residential dwellings are inspected for compliance with fire code regulations for the placement and/or maintenance of smoke detectors and carbon monoxide detectors when properties change ownership. Through a FEMA grant, the Bureau presented Fire Prevention programs in all of Princeton's elementary schools.

The **Engineering Department** plans, designs and manages infrastructure improvements within the community. Upcoming projects include improvements to Edgerstone and Winant Roads, Cedar Lane, Western and Southern Way. Also in process is reconstruction of Smoyer Park Dam, and the completion of the multi-use bridge and trail across the Stony Brook. Other projects that are in design include the rehabilitation of Mountain Lakes Dam, improvements to Mansgrove Road, Woodland Drive, and Ewing Street between Valley Road and N. Harrison Street.

The **Princeton Community Master Plan** was updated in 2007 and strikes a balance among the many competing needs and goals of the community. Protecting the quality of life for all residents is the plan's underlying goal. The plan balances affordable housing, senior housing and economic development needs with preserving neighborhoods, protecting the environment and encouraging sustainable development

THIRD QUARTER 2009 TAXES ORIGINALLY DUE AUGUST 1, 2009 WILL NOW BE DUE **AUGUST 10, 2009**, THIS INCLUDES A TEN-DAY INTEREST-FREE GRACE PERIOD. THE INTEREST-FREE GRACE PERIOD APPLIES ONLY TO THOSE TAXPAYERS WHO HAVE PAID THEIR TAXES THROUGH THE SECOND QUARTER OF 2009. THOSE ACCOUNTS WITH DELINQUENCIES AND ANY PAYMENTS RECEIVED AFTER **AUGUST 10, 2009** WILL BE CHARGED INTEREST FOR THE THIRD QUARTER FROM AUGUST 1, 2009 TO THE DATE OF PAYMENT AT THE CURRENT AUTHORIZED RATE (8% OF THE FIRST \$1,500 OF DELINQUENCY AND 18% ON THE EXCESS OVER \$1,500). [PER STATE OF NJ, P.L. 1994, C.72, SIGNED JULY 14, 1994.]