

Popular Annual Financial Report  
September 30, 2015



# Williamson County Texas

**Issued by:**  
**David U. Flores**  
**Williamson County Auditor**

# County Auditor

Dear Citizens of Williamson County,

I am pleased to present the annual Williamson County Citizens' Financial Report (also known as the Popular Annual Financial Report or "PAFR") for fiscal year ended September 30, 2015. This financial summary provides a less technical discussion of County finances. It also includes discussions of County initiatives and trends in the local economy. This important economic data presents a brief explanation of where county-wide resources come from and how those dollars are spent; then, focusing only on the County's major funds, how those transactions affect you, the citizen.

The Williamson County Auditor's Office has generated this Citizens' Report using financial information taken from the 2015 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) that was audited by Weaver and Tidwell, LLP, and received an unqualified opinion. An unqualified opinion indicates that the financial statements are prepared according to Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP) and are free of material misstatement concerning the overall financial position of the County. Unlike the CAFR, this report is not presented according to GAAP and reporting standards, meaning it's a financial report that is user-friendly.

This report is not intended to replace the CAFR; it is simply presented as a means of increasing public confidence in County government. For a complete set of County financials, please refer to the CAFR, which is available from the Williamson County Auditor's Office located in the historic Williamson County Courthouse at 710 Main St., Suite #301, Georgetown, TX 78626. In addition, both the CAFR and PAFR are available on the County website at [www.wilco.org](http://www.wilco.org). I invite you to share any questions, concerns, feedback or recommendations you may have by contacting [jkiley@wilco.org](mailto:jkiley@wilco.org) or 512/943-1500.

Respectfully submitted,



David U. Flores

**David U. Flores** has a BBA from Texas A&I University-Kingsville, Texas. He was a teacher and a merchant before becoming the County Auditor for Dimmit County. He served as the County Auditor for Dimmit County for 9 years from 1980 - 1988 and has since served as the County Auditor for Williamson County, having been sworn in during January of 1989. He has been a trustee for the Texas County and District Retirement System and is a past president for the Texas Association of County Auditors. Mr. Flores served as the Chairman of the Investment Committee for the Texas Association of Counties from 2008 to 2012.



**Message from the County Auditor**

## STEWARDS OF PUBLIC FUNDS

The Williamson County Auditor's Office is the supervisory body of County funds. Maintaining the integrity of financial administration in County government is essential and is provided by the Auditor's Office through an independent system of checks and balances. As the County's chief financial officer, it is the Auditor's responsibility to:

- Properly account for millions of dollars received by the County each year.
- Manage and account for County debt.
- By statute, audit all books and records of County officials.
- Oversee all County Financial Records.
- Maintain independence, integrity and enforce all Texas laws and regulations governing County finances.
- Act as advisor to Commissioner's Court concerning financial conditions and County policies.
- Approve and issue payments with authorized funds in conjunction with Commissioner's Court.
- Administer, report, and forecast revenues in the County budget as set by the Commissioner's Court.
- Issue payments for all County obligations through Accounts Payable, including administering the County payroll.
- Prepare the County's Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) as required by law.
- Provide day to day financial information on the County web-site.
- Ensure financial transparency in government.

## VISION

**To be the Number One County in the State of Texas Instilling Public Trust in All Fiscal Matters.**

## AUDITOR FUNCTIONS

There are many reasons to have a County Auditor, but the main one is to maintain the integrity of financial administration in county government. Every two years, the state District judges in Williamson County appoint the County Auditor. Because the Auditor is neither appointed by nor under the hierarchical control of the Commissioner's Court, the integrity of county finances is protected by a dual system of "checks and balances."

## AUDITOR STAFF

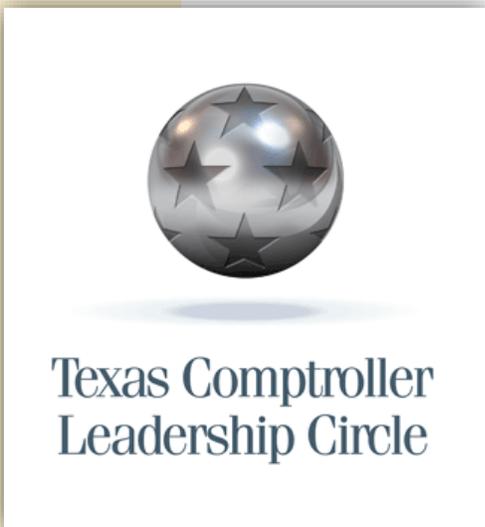
The Office of the County Auditor currently consists of 28 employees acting as the "Stewards of Public Funds" in the areas of Internal Audit, Financial Accounting and Reporting, Accounts Payable and Payroll.

## GOAL FOR THIS REPORT

The purpose of this report is to present an easy to read financial position of Williamson County government. We hope to instill taxpayer confidence in their government and to highlight some of the services provided to our citizens and taxpayers. We hope you find this report helpful and informative about what County government does for you.



## Texas Comptroller Leadership Circle



The Comptroller of Public Accounts launched the Texas Comptroller Leadership Circle program in December 2009 to recognize local governments across Texas that are striving to meet a high standard for financial transparency online. Spotlights are placed on those local governments that are:

- opening their books to the public
- providing clear, consistent pictures of spending
- sharing information in a user-friendly format that lets taxpayers easily drill down for more information.

*“Platinum” highlights those entities that go above and beyond providing financial transparency. 2014 was the sixth year that Williamson County achieved the highest possible score.*

Additional details concerning the program can be found at the state website [www.texas Transparency.org](http://www.texas Transparency.org)



### Award for Outstanding Achievement in Popular Annual Financial Reporting

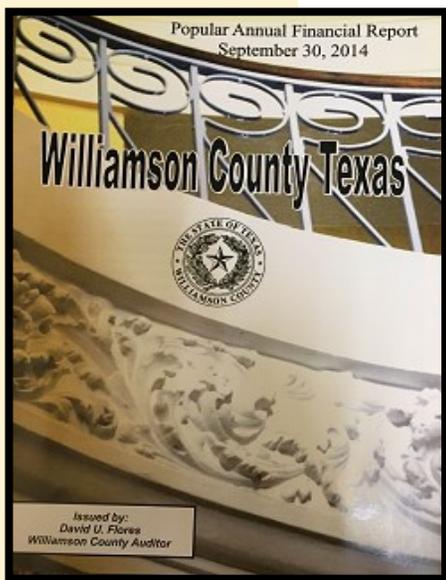
The Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA) has given an Award for Outstanding Achievement in Popular Annual Financial Reporting to Williamson County for its Popular Annual Financial Report for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2014. The Award for Outstanding 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.

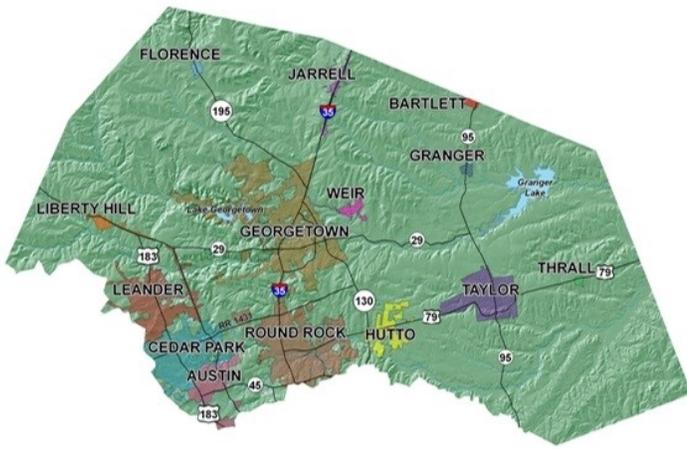
In order to receive an Award for Outstanding Achievement in Popular Annual Financial Reporting, a government unit must publish a Popular Annual Financial Report, whose contents conform to program standards of creativity, presentation, understandability and reader appeal.

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.

The 2015 report can also be found at:

[wilco.mygovcenter.com/financial-reports](http://wilco.mygovcenter.com/financial-reports)





## WILLIAMSON COUNTY, TEXAS

Williamson County is blessed with a mild climate offering more than 300 sunny days each year, affordable housing, a low cost of living, clean air, and beautiful scenic vistas. The County is well known for a very low crime rate and friendly, neighborly people. County taxes are among the lowest in the state for comparable counties, and, unlike most states, Texas has no state personal income tax. All these reasons make Williamson County one of the most desirable places to live and work in the United States.

### COUNTY STRUCTURE AND SERVICES

Williamson County, organized in 1848, is located in the central part of the state, which is considered to be the top growth area in the state, and one of the top growth areas in the country. Williamson County currently occupies a land area of 1,135 square miles and serves an estimated population of 489,250.

Williamson County is a political subdivision of the State of Texas. Williamson County is empowered to levy a property tax on both real and personal properties located within its boundaries. It has no legislative powers and restrictive judicial and administrative powers. The governing body of the County is the Commissioner's Court of five members. The County Judge is the chairperson of the court and the Commissioner from each of the precincts are also members. The Court has only such powers as are conferred upon it by the Constitution and the Statutes or by necessary implication therefrom. None has the authority to act on their own but must act only as a whole.

## ECONOMY

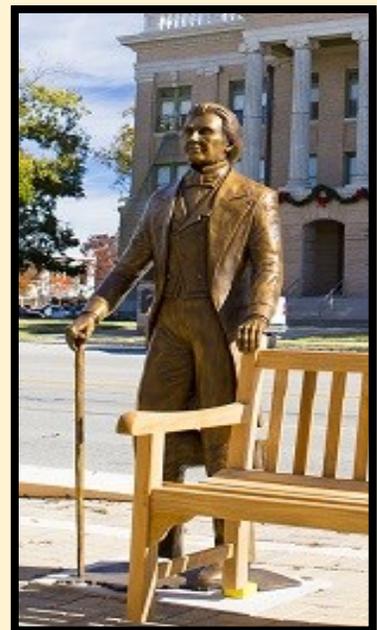
Williamson County's economy continues to experience tremendous growth. In August 2015, Texas State Data Center reported Williamson County population has reached over half a million people.

## POPULATION

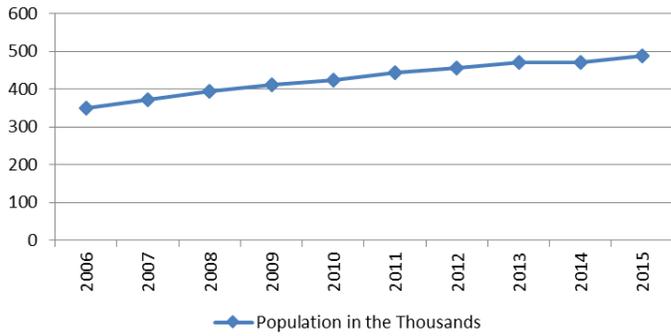
Williamson County's population ranks it 12th among 254 counties in Texas and remains to be one of the fastest growing counties in the United States.

## ROBERT M. WILLIAMSON

The County was organized in 1848 and named for Robert M. Williamson, pioneer leader and veteran of the Battle of San Jacinto. He was a newspaper publisher, lawyer, judge and state legislator. Because of a childhood illness, one of his legs was bent back and he also had a wooden leg extending from the knee, giving him the nickname "Three-Legged Willie."



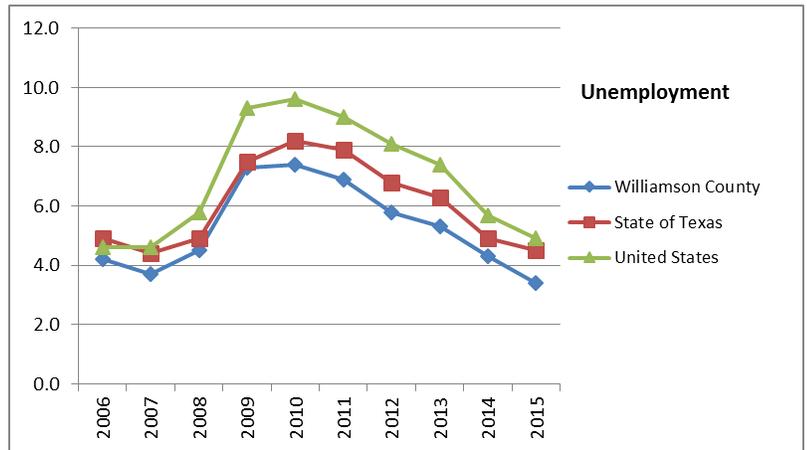
## 10 Year Population Growth



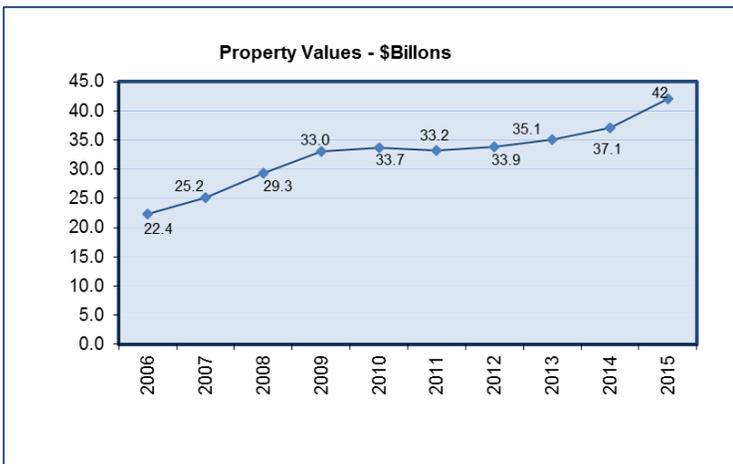
Williamson County continues to be one of the fastest growing counties in the state. Since 2000, the county's population has grown by 96 percent. It is the 12th most populous county in Texas. Williamson County's growth has been fueled by its location on the I-35 corridor and close access to Austin, Texas. The county's economic base has developed to be home to many major industries, including high tech, manufacturing, healthcare, and higher education. The regional economy continues to expand. The county has a diverse workforce. This attracts new businesses to locate to the area. Job creation has caused many of the cities in

the county to be some of the fastest growing cities in the country. New housing, building permits, and new roads also demonstrate the growth. The diversity in the economy makes the county less vulnerable to economic downturns. The unemployment rate has been lower than the national average. The county unemployment rate decreased from 4.3% in September 2014 to 3.4% in September of this year; the rate was significantly lower than the national rate for September which decreased from 4.8% in 2014 to 4.2% this year.

Williamson County has benefited from the population growth. The county has experienced major job growth and proliferation of business and residential development. Williamson County has been ranked one of the fastest growing counties in the nation. Business incentives, a low tax rate, and affordable housing are major factors that have contributed to the job growth. The latest population forecasts



project Williamson County population could grow to more than 1 million people by 2040.



With the job and population growth in the county, several areas of the county have become key commercial and residential developments. Houghton Mifflin Harcourt (HMH) will be locating to La Frontera Plaza. The project will bring over 270 jobs and a new 100,000 square foot facility. HMH is located in the SH45 N and I35 corridor in Round Rock. Another area of development is SH45 and Toll 183A. The location is a regional intersection for Cedar Park, Austin, and Round Rock. New business and residential developments have increased in this area. Sam's Club opened this year and a luxury apartment complex has completed construction.

Several undeveloped areas are expected to be purchased in the coming year. Cedar Park approved a new 100 acre mixed use development on Parmer Lane called Presidio. The development will include office buildings, restaurants, shops, an apartment complex, and a hotel. The first phase of the project has broken ground. University Boulevard is another corridor that continues to add new developments. The Nutty Brown Cafe plans to locate at University and I-35. This will be the first large outdoor music venue in Round Rock.

<b>Principal Property Taxpayers - FY 2015</b>			
<b>Taxpayer</b>	<b>Assessed Value \$Millions</b>	<b>Rank</b>	<b>% of Total County Assessed</b>
Dell Computer Holdings, LP	297,994,584	1	0.80%
Parmer Lane Austin, LP	159,000,000	2	0.43%
Oncor Electric Delivery Company	156,686,900	3	0.42%
CPG Round Rock, LP & SPG Round Rock NS, LP	138,431,301	4	0.37%
Lakeline Developers	100,547,179	5	0.27%
Inland Western Cedar Park 1890 Ranch LP	92,900,096	6	0.25%
Dell Computer Corporation	91,256,835	7	0.25%
HEB Grocery Company LP	84,056,275	8	0.23%
Baltgem Development Corp ETAL	77,884,064	9	0.21%
Cedar Park Health System, LP	76,854,617	10	0.21%

Other county entertainment venues will be renovated. In Taylor, the Williamson County Expo Center is adding 48,000 square feet. The Expo center will host livestock shows, rodeos, banquets, festivals, and other events. The Palace Theater in Georgetown plans to expand operations to include a freestanding facility for its children's programs. A new museum

has opened in Cedar Park called the Texas Museum of Science and Technology. This museum is the first planetarium in Central Texas. These venues have an impact on the county and attract visitors to the county.

The demand for housing is strong throughout the county. Apartment units in the county have increased. In the Austin-area builders will add 10,670 new units to accommodate demand. Georgetown is breaking ground on a 755-acre master planned community. The project will include 1600 new homes and 900 multifamily units. Other housing developments such as Vizcaya is selling its first homes this year. Over the last seven years, several senior care facilities have opened or are under construction. It is expected that the county will have one of the fastest growing over 65 populations. One of the newest health care facilities opened in Hutto this year. Falcon Ridge Rehabilitation offers short term and long-term care.

Health care options continue to increase throughout the county. Cedar Park Regional Medical Center expanded this year. A 6,000 square foot expansion includes a Heart and Vascular Center. There are many more healthcare related projects on the horizon for Cedar Park. A pediatric urgent care opened in July in Cedar Park. A free standing ER is under construction in Leander. The Heart Hospital of Austin at St. David's Round Rock Medical Center opened a new 15,390 square foot facility.

Area school districts are growing twice the rate of the state. New campus and renovations are under construction throughout the county. Austin Community College has approved to open a 100-acre campus in Leander. This campus will fill a gap in the western side of the county for institutions of higher education. The Texas State Round Rock Campus plans to expand a new building for the College of Health Professionals.

<b>Principal Employers - FY 2015</b>			
<b>Employer</b>	<b>Number of Employees</b>	<b>Rank</b>	<b>% of Total County Employment</b>
Dell Computer	13,000	1	5.88%
Round Rock ISD	5,800	2	2.62%
Leander ISD	4,137	3	1.87%
Georgetown ISD	1,550	5	0.70%
Williamson County	1,582	4	0.72%
Sears (Teleserve)	1,500	6	0.68%
HEB Grocery	945	7	0.43%
Scott & White	930	8	0.42%
City of Round Rock	830	9	0.38%



## **Williamson County—AAA/Stable**

### **WILLIAMSON COUNTY RECEIVES AAA BOND RATING**

November 3, 2015 (Williamson County, TX) –Fitch Ratings and Standard & Poor’s Ratings Services once again have affirmed their AAA rating for Williamson County bonds.

Williamson County’s refunding of Limited Tax Refunding Bonds, Series 2015A resulted in a savings of \$3.35 million. Over the course of the bond program since 2000, refinancing debt has saved more than \$67 million.

“The refunding success is attributed to the County’s reaffirmed AAA rating and stellar financial performance,” said David Flores, Williamson County Auditor. “We are pleased that the bond buyers recognized the quality of our bonds.”

Standard and Poor’s ratings reflect on their assessment that Williamson County has “very strong management, with ‘strong’ financial policies and practices under our Financial Management Assessment (FMA) methodology” and “strong budgetary performance, with operating surpluses in the general fund and at the total governmental fund level” as well as “very strong budgetary flexibility, with an available fund balance in fiscal 2014 of 57% of operating expenditures.”

Key rating drivers for Fitch Ratings include a history of extensive planning and conservatism that “has allowed the county to provide infrastructure sufficient to meet increasing service levels while maintaining balanced operations and robust reserves.” They also note the county’s relatively low ad valorem tax rate provides flexibility to meet future obligations, and “projected growth in key spending areas is aligned with reasonable revenue projections.”

The ratings reports are available on the County’s website at [www.wilco.org](http://www.wilco.org) under the link for Transparency then click Financial Reports.

# Williamson County—2015 Debt / Bond Activity

## **Pass-Through Toll Revenue and Limited Tax Bonds:**

This program represents 20% of the counties outstanding bonds payable. Debt payments for this type of bond are backed by a revenue source other than tax revenues. Tax revenues will only be used should the primary revenue source default on payments. Currently, Williamson County has two such pass through agreements with the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT). In 2006, TxDOT and Williamson County signed an agreement for the County to build US 183A, US 79 (3 Sections), IH-35 Turnaround Bridges (Georgetown), RM 2338 and FM 1660. A maximum of \$151,942,000 will be reimbursed to Williamson County from TxDOT. The reimbursement is paid semi-annually based on \$0.10 per vehicle mile traveled to allow no more than \$15,194,200 annually compensated on the projects. The traffic counts are taken before each reimbursement in March and September. In 2011, Williamson County signed a second Pass Through Agreement with TxDOT for the construction of northbound frontage roads and Ramps on IH-35 in Georgetown. TxDOT will reimburse a maximum of \$12,096,700. The reimbursement from TxDOT to Williamson County is based on a calculation of \$0.07 per vehicle mile traveled to allow no more than \$1,099,700 compensated annually on the completed project. The projects that are part of the 2006 agreement are open and are being billed to TxDOT. The project for the 2011 agreement has been scheduled to open in Spring 2016.

## **Voter Approved Bonds:**

On Tuesday, November 5, 2013, Williamson County voters approved \$275 million in road bonds and \$40 million in park bonds. In May 2015, \$90,205,000 of authorized Road Bonds was issued. As of September 30, 2015, our total outstanding bonds payable debt is \$984,313,955 of which \$135,984,850 is reimbursable Pass Through revenue bond. As of September 30, 2015, \$36,235,981 has been reimbursed from TxDOT.

## **2015 Certificates of Obligations:**

In May 2015, Williamson County issued \$59,645,000 to construct buildings for a growing workforce to meet the demands of a growing population. These buildings include the expansion of the North Campus improvements for Sheriff's Office, EMS and HazMat located on SE Inner Loop and the Sheriff's Office Training Facility located North of Hutto.

## **Refunding Bonds:**

Refunding bonds are issued to pay off outstanding debt to take advantage of lower interest rates. Refundings are only issued if the benefit is to save the Williamson County tax payers money. Three refundings were issued in fiscal year 2015. In October 2014, Williamson County issued refunding bond in the amount of \$77,345,000 with a significant cost savings of \$2,989,566 over the next 11 years. In April 2015, Williamson County issued refunding in the amount of \$74,295,000 with a cost savings of approximately \$5,525,497 net present value savings over a 20 year period. Also in April 2015, Williamson County issued a taxable refunding in the amount of \$29,290,000 with a net present value cost savings of approximately \$1,634,609 over an 8 year period.

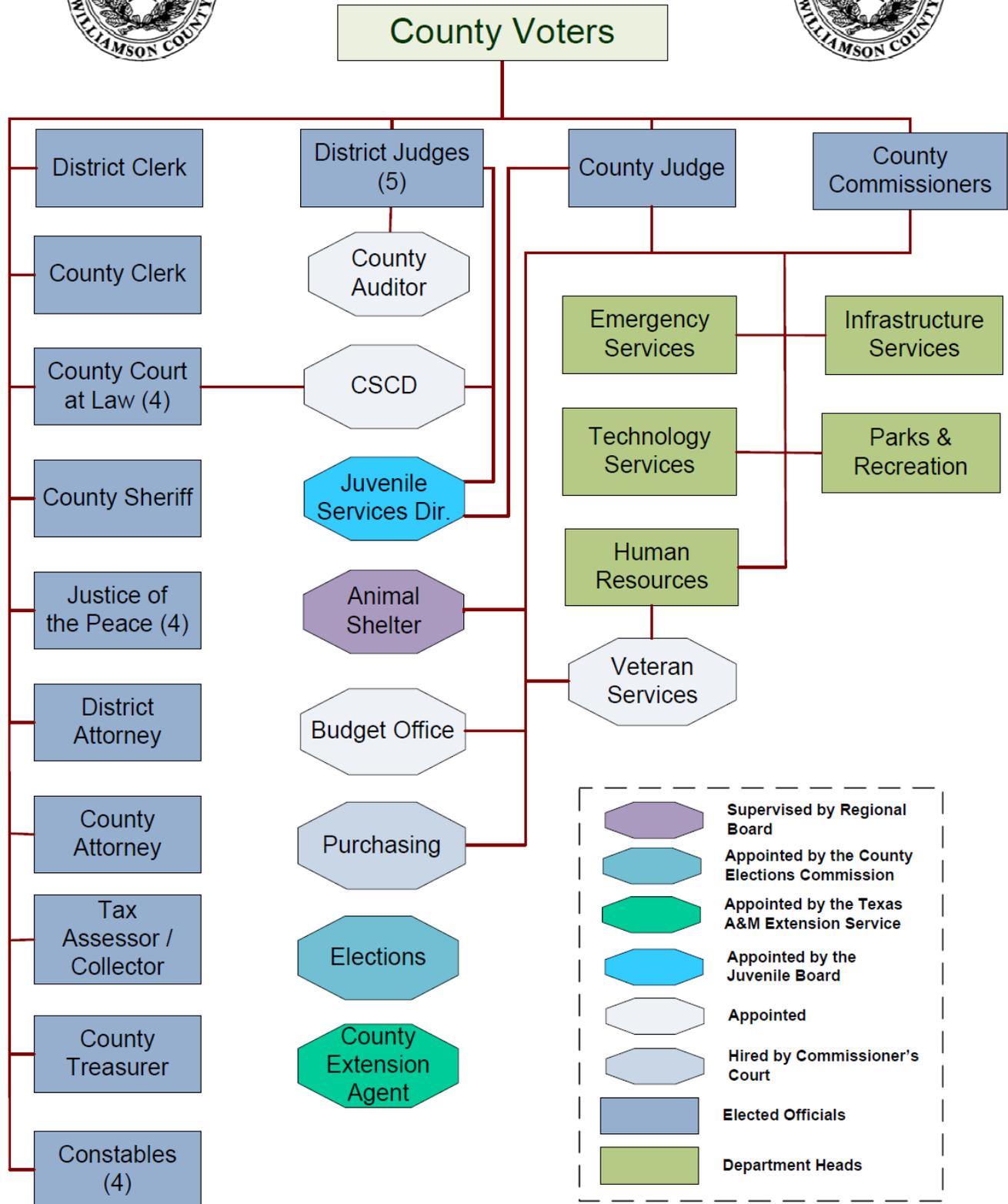
## Williamson County Elected Officials:

District Judges:	<p><i>Donna King</i>  <i>Stacey Mathews</i>  <i>Rick J. Kennon</i>  <i>Vacant</i>  <i>Betsy Lambeth</i></p>	<p>Judge, 26th Judicial District            Judge, 277th Judicial District            Judge, 368th Judicial District            Judge, 395th Judicial District            Judge, 425th Judicial District</p>
County Court at Law:	<p><i>Suzanne Brooks</i>  <i>Vacant</i>  <i>Doug Arnold</i>  <i>John B. McMaster</i></p>	<p>Judge, County Court at Law #1            Judge, County Court at Law #2            Judge, County Court at Law #3            Judge, County Court at Law #4</p>
Commissioner's Court:	<p><i>Dan A. Gattis</i>  <i>Lisa Birkman</i>  <i>Cynthia Long</i>  <i>Valerie Covey</i>  <i>Ron Morrison</i></p>	<p>County Judge            Commissioner, Precinct #1            Commissioner, Precinct #2            Commissioner, Precinct #3            Commissioner, Precinct #4</p>
Justice of the Peace:	<p><i>Dain Johnson</i>  <i>Edna Staudt</i>  <i>Bill Gravell, Jr.</i>  <i>Judy Hobbs</i></p>	<p>Justice of the Peace, Pct #1            Justice of the Peace, Pct #2            Justice of the Peace, Pct #3            Justice of the Peace, Pct #4</p>
Constables:	<p><i>Robert Chody</i>  <i>Richard Coffman</i>  <i>Kevin Stofle</i>  <i>Marty Ruble</i></p>	<p>Constable, Precinct #1            Constable, Precinct #2            Constable, Precinct #3            Constable, Precinct #4</p>
County Offices:	<p><i>Jana Duty</i>  <i>Doyle "Dee" Hobbs</i>  <i>Lisa David</i>  <i>Nancy Rister</i>  <i>James Wilson</i>  <i>Jerri L. Jones</i>  <i>Deborah Hunt</i></p>	<p>District Attorney            County Attorney            District Clerk            County Clerk            County Sheriff            County Treasurer            Tax Assessor/Collector</p>





# Organizational Chart



As of December 01, 2009



## GOVERNMENTAL REVENUES

The County receives its funding from a variety of sources, of which the largest single source is property taxes. **Property Taxes** represent a tax on all real estate and improvements within the County. Property taxes are considered to be a general revenue source, meaning it is available to fund all programs of the County. **Fees of Office** and **Charges for Services** represent fees paid by individuals, businesses, or other governments who purchase, use, or directly benefit from the goods or services provided. **Intergovernmental** revenues include payments or donations from other governmental entities through contractual agreements under which many of the funds are restricted for use in a particular program. **Investment Earnings** consists of interest income and other income from investment activities.

### Where the money to pay for County Services comes from

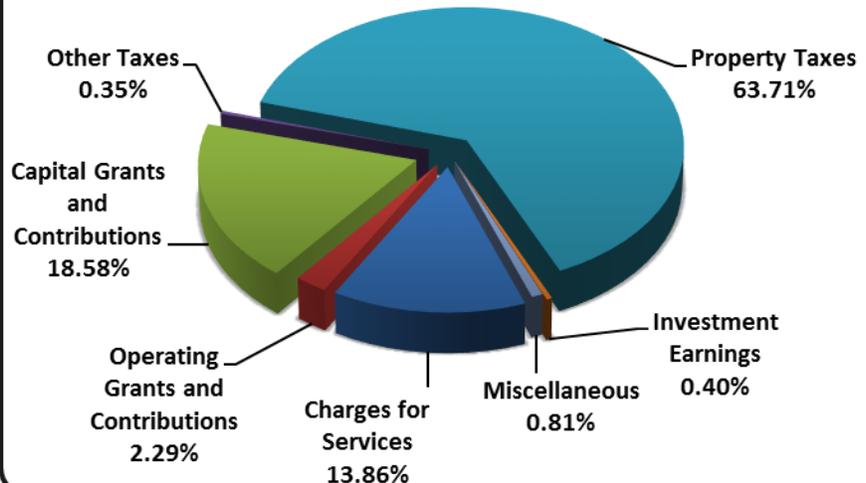
- PROPERTY TAXES
- FEES OF OFFICE / CHARGES FOR SERVICES
- FINES AND FORFEITURES
- PUBLIC AND PRIVATE GRANTING AGENCIES
- INTERGOVERNMENTAL REVENUES
- INVESTMENT EARNINGS

	<b>2015 \$M</b>
<b>Property Taxes</b>	\$ 204.28
<b>Charges for Services</b>	44.42
<b>Operating Grants and Contributions</b>	7.33
<b>Capital Grants and Contributions</b>	59.57
<b>Other Taxes</b>	1.12
<b>Investment Earnings</b>	1.29
<b>Miscellaneous</b>	2.60
	<b>\$ 320.60</b>

A more detailed explanation of these revenues can be found in the Financial Section of this report and in the Government-Wide Statements in the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report.



### Revenues by Source - Governmental



## Where the Money Goes

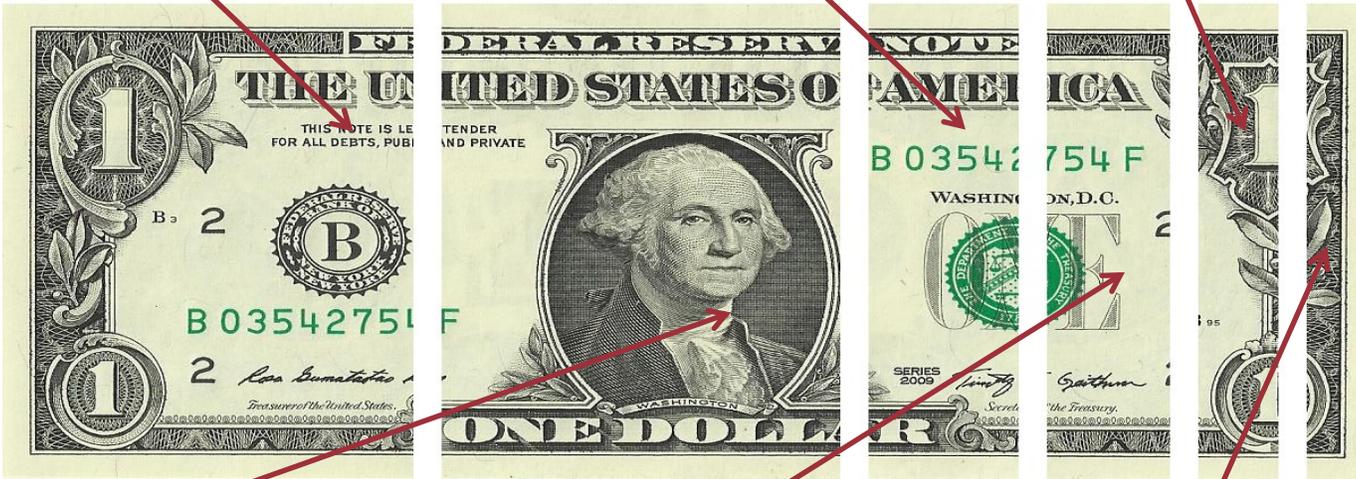
General Government includes all administrative aspects of County business. Community Services consist of Veteran Services, Public Health, Parks, the Recycling Center, Agriculture Extension Service and the Regional Animal Shelter. Debt Service pays off the bonds issued for the construction of major projects.



**Transportation Support 28%**

**Int. on L/T Debt 14%**

**Judicial Services 8%**



**Public Safety 31%**

**General Government 12%**

**Community Services 7%**

## GOVERNMENTAL EXPENSES

	2015 \$M
General Government	\$ 33.11
Public Safety	87.93
Transportation Support	78.98
Judicial Services	23.58
Community Services	18.73
Conservation	.41
Interest on L/T Debt	40.31
	\$ 283.05



## Law Enforcement

- COUNTY SHERIFF
- COUNTY JAIL
- COUNTY CONSTABLES (4 Pre-cincts)
- JUVENILE SERVICES

## Emergency Services

- EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES
- HAZ-MAT
- OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT
- 911 COMMUNICATIONS
- RADIO COMMUNICATIONS

## Judicial Branch

- 5 DISTRICT COURTS
- 4 COUNTY COURTS
- 4 JUSTICE COURTS
- DISTRICT ATTORNEY
- COUNTY ATTORNEY
- DISTRICT CLERK



## Community Services

- VETERAN SERVICES
- PUBLIC HEALTH AND WELFARE
- PARKS
- WILLIAMSON MUSEUM
- RECYCLING CENTER



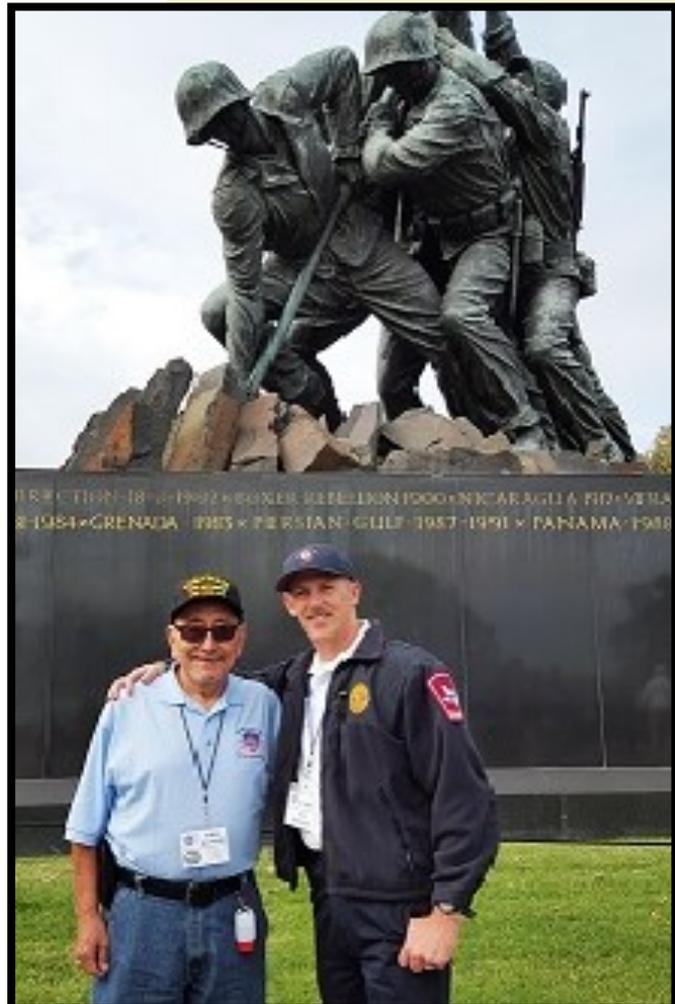
## General Government

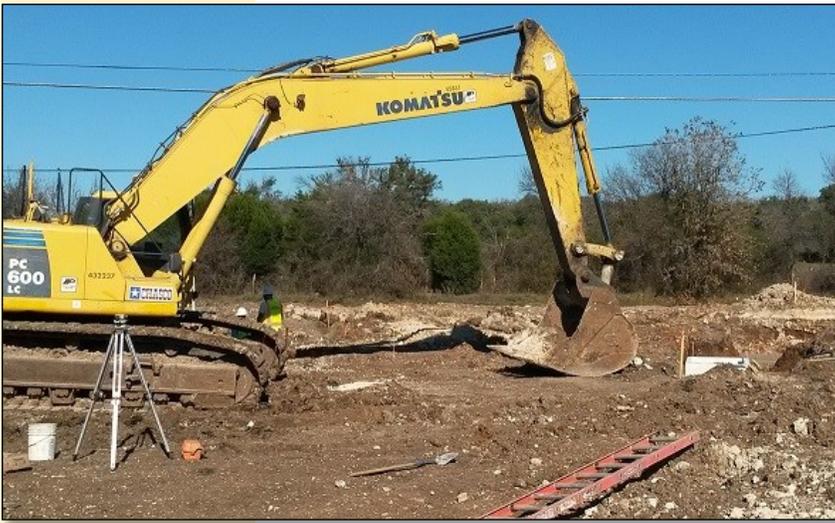
- COUNTY JUDGE
- COUNTY COMMISSIONERS (4 Precincts)
- COUNTY TAX ASSESSOR/COLLECTOR
- COUNTY TREASURER
- COUNTY AUDITOR
- FACILITY MAINTENANCE
- ELECTIONS
- HUMAN RESOURCES
- INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
- PURCHASING

### WILCO By the Numbers:

**1582**

**Number of County  
Employees**





## Major Capital Projects Annual Expenditures FY 2015

<u>Project Name</u>	<u>\$M</u>	<u>Type</u>
IH-35 NB Frontage Road and Ramps	\$6.9	Road
Pearson Ranch Road Interchange	\$2.7	Road
SH 29 Safety Improvements	\$2.4	Road
RM 620 Interim Improvements	\$2.3	Road
Hero Way West	\$2.9	Road
Round Rock Building	\$1.8	Building
Lakeline Blvd Extension	\$1.7	Road
US 183/RM1869	\$1.7	Road



## Camp Wildfire

A day camp setting utilizes a unique combination of PowerPoint presentations, horse trainer presentations, video clips, hands-on work with horses, experiential activities, service learning and/or therapeutic art projects. These day camps educate the participants regarding the plight of the American Mustang and the roles played by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and the Mustang Heritage Foundation (MHF) to address the current issues facing these horses. As participants learn about the Mustangs, they are encouraged to make comparisons in their own lives that would help them see qualities they

might have or might develop in order to handle the unique life situations each of them face. They also learn the importance of having advocates who care about them and are invested in their success. Hands-on activities with horses are the highlight of each camp and made a great impact on the participants. Participants are required to work together to accomplish tasks in the arena with their particular horse. In this particular activity, participants learn that healthy relationships are based on mutual trust, open communication and a healthy balance of give-and-take.



## GO! Program

Experiential programs provided under the umbrella of **The GO! Program** provide opportunities for participants to experience the success of mastering a new skill, develop confidence and view themselves in a positive light, identify obstacles that hinder their personal growth and development, and take greater responsibility for their actions. Being successful in a previously unexplored arena can be very empowering. Participants can begin to see themselves as being capable of making positive choices and begin taking charge of the direction of their own lives rather than simply being affected by some external influence. Activities such as rock-climbing, fishing, biking, kayaking, and horse work provide these kinds of personal growth opportunities throughout the year. Texas Park and Wildlife Department provided a grant to Williamson County in the amount of \$20,000.

The *Statement of Activities* provides readers with an overview of money received and spent during the year in the County *as a whole*, in an approach similar to a private-sector business. Explanations of these accounts are provided as a tool to understanding these activities.

**Money Received**

Property taxes come from three different sources: taxes for general purposes (\$.279029) taxes for road & bridge purposes (\$.04) and taxes for debt service (\$.1675) to repay debt of the County. The total tax rate for 2015 us \$.486529 per \$100 value and was composed by the total of these three sources. Charges for Services are monies received from the public when the County performs a service to the citizens, such as, Emergency Medical Services. Operating Grants & Contributions is money the County receives from other governmental agencies, corporations, and private contributors. Investment Earnings is interest earned on County investments. Miscellaneous is money received that does not fit in the above-mentioned accounts but are still classified as revenue.

**Services Rendered**

This is money spent to provide services to citizens. See pages 12-15 of this report for a detailed explanation of what services are included in each of the categories: General Government, Public Safety, Transportation Support, Judicial Services and Community Services.

**Variance Analysis and Trends**

Property taxes are collected to support government activities for the primary government. Property tax revenues increased \$21.4 million from the last fiscal year. The total property taxes collected was \$204.3 million for the year. For 2015, tax rates slightly decreased; however, property values increased by 10% and along with new improvements this resulted in an increase in revenues. The continued growth in the county has added several subdivisions throughout the county. Many of these subdivisions roads will be maintained by the county. The increase in capital grants and contributions is due to the county's acceptance of these new subdivisions.

<b>Williamson County Financial Activity Statement</b>			
<b>Money Received</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2013</b>
<b>Property Taxes:</b>			
Levied for general purposes	\$116,814,321	\$104,957,462	\$99,126,344
Levied for road & bridge	\$16,521,025	\$14,681,846	\$13,815,558
Levied for debt service	\$70,940,367	\$63,279,169	\$59,780,481
Other taxes	\$1,118,611	\$987,258	\$712,987
Charges for Services	\$44,423,946	\$43,061,826	\$42,873,943
Operating grants & contributions	\$7,327,581	\$11,059,515	\$16,559,081
Capital grants & contributions	\$59,565,089	\$49,107,663	\$40,505,315
Investment earnings	\$1,291,116	\$564,343	\$739,574
Miscellaneous	\$2,602,864	\$3,464,348	\$1,185,745
<b>Total Money Received</b>	<b>\$320,604,920</b>	<b>\$291,163,430</b>	<b>\$275,299,028</b>
<b>Services Rendered</b>			
General Government	\$33,113,079	\$32,522,582	\$30,908,617
Public Safety	\$87,932,683	\$88,098,767	\$80,001,178
Transportation Support	\$78,977,229	\$87,436,401	\$185,691,679
Judicial	\$23,581,105	\$22,685,570	\$20,693,148
Community Services	\$18,727,680	\$16,796,646	\$16,431,859
Conservation	\$407,345	\$347,751	\$773,438
Interest on long-term debt	\$40,308,534	\$35,634,706	\$33,244,626
<b>Total Services Rendered</b>	<b>\$283,047,655</b>	<b>\$283,522,423</b>	<b>\$367,744,545</b>
<b>Monies Received over Services Rendered</b>	<b>\$37,557,265</b>	<b>\$7,641,007</b>	<b>-\$92,445,517</b>

## Williamson County Condensed Statement of Net Position

Assets	2015	2014
Current Assets	\$614,470,838	\$501,488,458
Capital Assets	\$628,185,486	\$571,479,907
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$1,242,656,324</b>	<b>\$1,072,968,365</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>		
Current Liabilities	\$85,008,483	\$29,718,348
Noncurrent Liabilities	\$1,072,150,173	\$960,294,669
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>\$1,157,158,656</b>	<b>\$990,013,017</b>
<b>Net Position</b>		
Invested in Capital Assets, net of Related Debt	\$445,160,755	\$253,798,426
Restricted	\$42,611,846	\$35,850,736
Unrestricted	(\$348,784,532)	(\$174,517,303)
<b>Total Net Position</b>	<b>\$138,988,069</b>	<b>\$115,131,859</b>

Total net position increased by \$23.9 million compared to 2014. This change is due to several factors. Current assets increased \$113 million this year. One of the primary increases is the proceeds received from the issuance of bonds for road and building improvements. The debt associated with the sale of bonds caused an increase in liabilities. Deferred Outflows increased by \$21.3 million. GASB 68 was implemented this fiscal year. Subsequent contributions after the pension measurement date of December 31, 2014 are deferred and recognized in the following year. Also the deferred outflows increased due to the county refunding bonds for interest savings. When bonds are refunded, the difference in the carrying value of refunded debt and its reacquisition price is amortized over the shorter of the life of the refunded or refunding debt. The county added several major capital assets. Improvements to AW Grimes Boulevard, a purchase of a county building in Round Rock, the expansion to the landfill, and construction of the Cedar Park Radio Tower are added as capital assets.

### Benefits

*Current Assets* include:

- Cash on-hand to pay obligations
- Accounts Receivable
- Prepaid items / Inventory

*Capital Assets* include:

- Land / Buildings
- Infrastructure
- Equipment
- Construction in Progress

### Obligations

*Current Liabilities* include:

- Accounts Payable
- Accrued Liabilities
- Unearned Revenue
- Accrued Interest Payable

*Non-current Liabilities* are items that are due in more than one year.

This statement includes all funds to provide an overall picture of County-wide finances. Net Assets refers to the purchase costs of County assets less the accumulated depreciation of those assets.



### Net Assets

#### *Net Investment in Capital*

*Assets* represents the value of assets less depreciation and the associated outstanding debt incurred to purchase that asset.

*Restricted Assets* include:

- Debt Service
- Road & Bridge
- Conservation Foundation
- Tobacco Fund
- Other purposes that limit the use of certain assets

*Unrestricted Net Assets* are items that do not have to be held for specific reasons.

Financial Position Statement shown does not conform to generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP). The purpose of this presentation is to provide the citizen with a summarized version of the information contained in the County's Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR).

**Statement of Revenues, Expenditures  
and Changes in Fund Balance  
Fiscal Year Ended September 30, 2015**

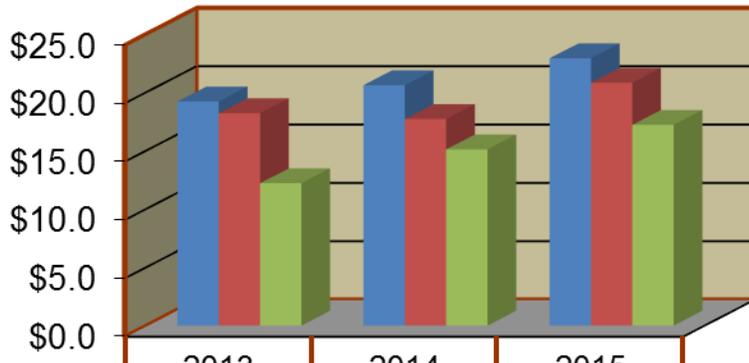
<b>Revenue</b>	
Taxes	\$117,875,752
Fees of Office	12,845,615
Fines & Forfeitures	3,393,875
Charges for Services	13,218,199
Intergovernmental	2,213,795
Investment Income & Other	602,856
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$150,150,092</b>
<b>Expenditures</b>	
Current:	
General Government	\$26,512,916
Public Safety	76,799,400
Judicial	21,209,145
Community Services	5,547,454
Capital Outlay	4,556,929
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>\$134,625,844</b>
Excess of Revenues over Expenditures	\$15,524,248
Other Financing Sources (Uses)	
Transfers In	\$0
Transfers Out	(11,155,189)
Capital Lease Issued	0
Proceeds from Sale of Capital Assets	122,987
<b>Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)</b>	<b>-\$11,032,202</b>
<b>Net Change in Fund Balances</b>	<b>\$4,492,046</b>
<b>Fund Balance, Beginning</b>	<b>75,652,071</b>
<b>Fund Balance, Ending</b>	<b>\$80,144,117</b>

The General Fund is the chief operating fund of the County. At the end of the current fiscal year, total fund balance of the General Fund was \$83.5 million with an \$885 thousand non-spendable fund balance for investment in capital leases and prepaid expenses. In 2013, the county established a plan to reduce excess reserves to fund various county capital projects. \$5.4 million of the General Fund balance is committed to fund the remaining 2013, 2014 and 2015 capital projects not completed at year end. As a measure of the General Fund's liquidity, it is useful to compare both unassigned fund balance and total fund balance to total fund expenditures. Unassigned fund balance for 2015 represents 57% of total General Fund expenditures. This significant fund balance to total expenditure ratio indicates a healthy financial position. The County has adopted a policy to maintain an appropriate level of unreserved General Fund balance to protect against a reduction of services due to temporary revenue shortfalls or unexpected one-time expenditures. A Fund Balance Policy adopted by the Commissioner's Court in 2009 states that the level shall not be less than 35% of total General Fund budgeted expenditures.

The fund balance of Williamson County's General Fund has increased by 1% during the current fiscal year. Although the tax revenue increased by \$11 million and the county received \$2.8 million from the lawsuit settlement for the county garage damages; the growth of the county has created an increase in the demand for services. The county had an increase in capital expenditures as compared to last year. The purchase of new vehicles and computer equipment was a factor in the in-

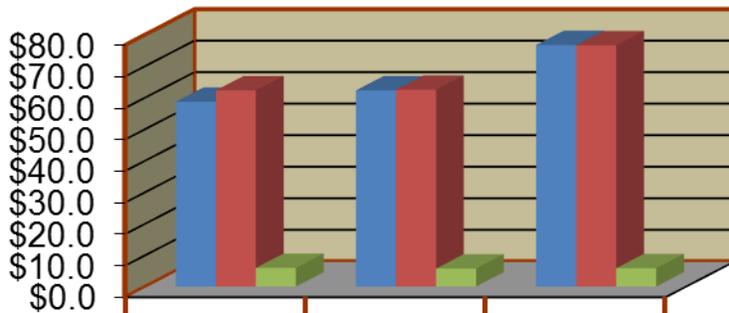
crease. The County has certain equipment that it replaces annually, and these replacement costs have increased. The major increase in public safety and judicial was attributable to personnel. Twenty-six new positions were approved in these areas. Many of these positions were due to the passage of the Michael Morton Act. Other new positions were approved to respond to demand in services. 911 Communications had four new positions to address call volume. While being fiscally conservative, the county growth has caused increases to the overall expenditures. Conservative spending resulted in lower than budgeted operational costs. The total decrease of expenditures from budgeted amounts allowed for an almost \$7.4 million increase to the fund balance in the general fund beyond the budgeted amount.

The continuation of the County's cost containing policies helped to facilitate budget surpluses in many other departments, as well. For example, the budget order does not allow transfers of dollars designated for salaries and fringe benefits to other expenditure accounts.



	2013	2014	2015
Revenue	\$19.2	\$20.6	\$22.9
Expenditures	\$18.2	\$17.7	\$20.8
Ending Fund Balance	\$12.2	\$15.1	\$17.2

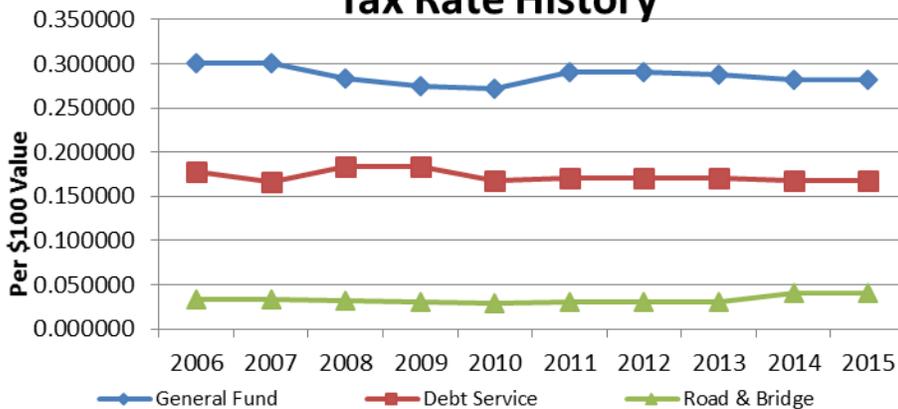
**Road and Bridge Fund**  
 The Road & Bridge Fund is a special revenue fund used to account for money received from taxes, vehicle registration and rebates from the State of Texas. Expenditures in this fund are for maintenance and construction of County roads and bridges. The chart provided on the left illustrates the fund's revenue, expenditures, and ending fund



	2013	2014	2015
Revenue	\$58.6	\$62.2	\$76.6
Expenditures	\$62.2	\$62.4	\$76.5
Ending Fund Balance	\$5.9	\$5.7	\$5.8

**Debt Service Fund**  
 The Debt Service Fund is used to account for the accumulation of resources for, and payment of, general long-term debt, principal, interests and costs. In order to fulfill the demands of a growing economy, the County is in need of new infrastructure that required new issuance of debt this year. Existing debt was also refinanced saving taxpayers in future interest costs. The chart shown on the right compares revenues, expenditures and fund balance over the last three years.

### Tax Rate History



**Tax Rate Stability**  
 Williamson County determines tax rates in three areas: the General Fund, Debt Service, and Road & Bridge. Therefore, existing debt is a factor in the County's tax rate. The 2015 tax rate is \$0.486259 per \$100 value and separated as follows: \$0.279029 for General Fund, \$0.1675 for Debt Service, and \$0.04 for Road and Bridge. The graph shown here reflects the changes in tax rates by each source since 2006. A total of \$684 million of voter-authorized debt for road improvements and parks is reflected in the Debt Service rates. The 2014 Tax Rate was adopted for Fiscal Year 2015.

## ***Looking Forward— AAA/Stable***

According to the Austin Business Journal, “Williamson County was the 43rd –fastest growing county in United States over the past five years, and the 19th-fastest growing county with a population of more than 10,000 in 2009.” As the county and surrounding areas grow, infrastructure needs will be continually addressed to keep up with population growth. This commitment is shown with the Road Bond Program that has been in place since 2000 and addressing facilities needs to serve the citizens of Williamson County.

### **Williamson County Key Financial Goals**

- Maintain Adequate Cash Reserves
- Maintain AAA Rating
- Stabilize Tax Rates
- Invest in Technology Infrastructure
- Retain & Train a Productive Work Force
- Invest In Road Infrastructure to Keep up with Rapid Population Growth
- Adopt Best Practices and Highest Standards in Approaching Our County Business

Visit us on the web at:  
www.wilco.org  
and click:



The screenshot shows the Williamson County website. At the top, there is a navigation menu with links for Home, Online, Explore, Government, Justice, Environment, Transparency, and Ask. Below the menu, the page is divided into sections. On the left, there is a sidebar with links for County Business, Financial Reports, Payment Registers, Utility Bills, and County Budget Office. The main content area features the heading "Financial Transparency is Job One!" and a photo of David U. Flores, the County Auditor. The text on the page describes the role of the County Auditor and lists the staff members: Pam Navarrette, Jaime Aleman, Cortney Meier, Lisa Moore, Kelsey Rollins, and Jody Taber.

## **County Auditor's Office:**

**David U. Flores**, County Auditor

**Julie Kiley**, First Assistant County Auditor

**Melanie Denny**, Financial Director

Financial Accounting-

**Pam Navarrette** (Assistant Financial Director), **Jaime Aleman**,  
**Cortney Meier**, **Lisa Moore**, **Kelsey Rollins** and **Jody Taber**

Accounts Payable / Payroll-

**Nathan Zinsmeyer** (Manager), **Karen Knightstep** (Lead), **Heather Alberts**, **Nicole Alderete**, **Debbie Frazier**, **Leticia Gomez**, **Aracelia Kent**, **Diane Ostolaza**, **Este Riley**, **Loretta Ryden** and **Miranda Stubbs**

**Kathy Wierzowiecki**, Internal Audit Director

**Jalyn Morris** (Assistant Internal Audit Director), **Donald Carlson**,  
**Jolene Crist**, **Sara Greer**, **Michael Hansen**, and **Kira Sidatt**

**Phone: 512/943-1500**

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## **WILLIAMSON COUNTY, TEXAS**

### **OFFICE OF THE COUNTY AUDITOR**

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**Popular Annual Financial Report — September 30, 2015**