



# Ontario County Office of County Administrator

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## NEWS RELEASE

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### Ontario County Proposes Tax Cut That Rolls Property Tax Back to 2013 Rates

**Canandaigua, NY – November 1, 2019** Ontario County residents can look forward to a property tax rate not seen since 2013 if the Board of Supervisors approves the County's current proposed annual budget. The projected \$240 million operating budget reflects a tax rate reduction of \$.07 from \$6.35 to \$6.28 per thousand dollars of assessed value.

"We are pleased to present this budget package to Board Chairman Jack Marren and our entire Board of Supervisors for consideration," said County Administrator Mary Krause. "It reflects proactive work and creativity on the part of our entire team to plan for increased service demands without jeopardizing quality services the community has come to expect, particularly at a time when Ontario is one of the few Upstate counties to experience an increase in the number of households."

Director of Finance, Mary Gates points to cost and efficiency savings generated by shared services programs, the introduction of several alternatives to incarceration programs, as well as the County's ability to secure new grant funds as key factors that have contributed to the County's strong financial position.

According to Ontario County Budget Officer David Baker, the proposed budget complies with New York State's tax cap mandate which limits the growth in property taxes to 2 percent a year or the rate of inflation, whichever is lower.

Ontario County Board of Supervisors Chair Jack Marren (Supervisor, Town of Victor) emphasizes collaboration as essential to the budget process.

"The Board of Supervisors and County administration continue to work with our dedicated employees and our community partners to maintain a culture focused on delivering exceptional and affordable services," Marren said. "This partnership has fostered an environment in which we are able to fulfill our mission to provide strategic and responsive public services that are fiscally responsible and sensitive to the diverse and changing needs of our community."

The draft budget can be seen in its entirety on the homepage of the County's website at <https://www.co.ontario.ny.us>.

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