

Strategic Budget Committee

Findings and Recommendations

State Level

Based upon recent history, Local Aid is expected to increase less than 1% per year over the next 5 years. Incremental changes to either revenues or expenses will not solve the \$5M structural budget deficit

Short term goal - continue working with our legislative delegation for an increase in funding and visibility at the state level (Chapter 70, UGGA, PILOT)

Long term goal - leverage loss/decline in Local Aid by requesting state assistance with infrastructure funding to aid economic development efforts

Local Level

**The loss of Local Aid has caused the need for reductions in both municipal and school services
The Capital plan, especially for maintenance of existing buildings, continues to be unfunded/underfunded**

Short term goal - invest in economic development services to maximize the future benefit of commercial/industrial zoned land

Short term goal – need to review/increase local fees to avoid significant reduction in services

Revenue Opportunities to be Explored

Development of commercial/industrial zoned land along Route 146 represents an unrealized potential for an increase in annual tax revenues

Increase tax levy limit (Prop. 2-1/2 Override) to preserve existing services and compensate for loss in Local Aid