



August 2022

NEWS FROM THE BOARD

A monthly newsletter from the Ada County Board of Commissioners

Welcome to the monthly newsletter from the Ada County Board of Commissioners. We are happy to share with you information on significant news and events happening in Ada County.

Kendra Kenyon - Commissioner
Rod Beck - Board Chairman
Ryan Davidson - Commissioner



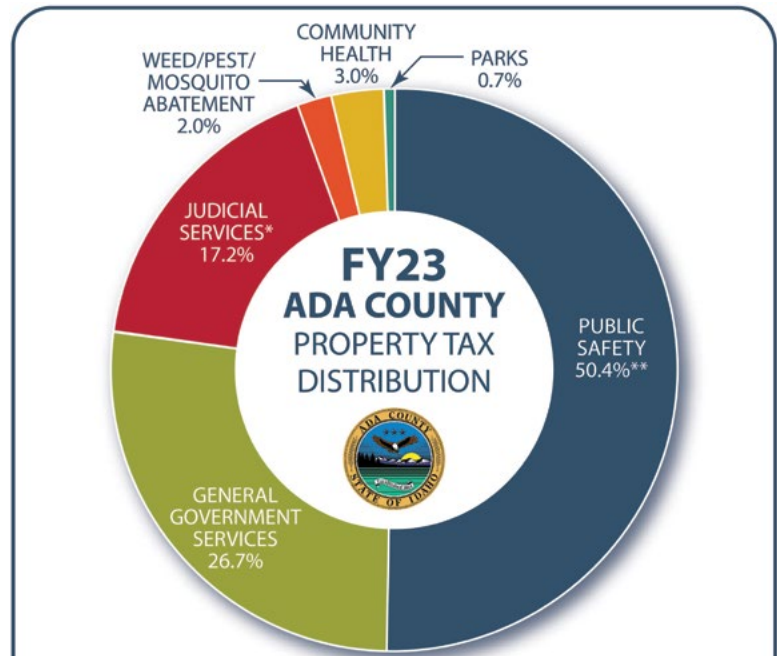
ADA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS APPROVE BUDGET WITH NO TAX INCREASE

Ada County Commissioner formally adopted the FY23 Ada County Budget on August 1, 2022. The \$342 million budget supports critically important offices and programs that benefit and serve the entire community. "Historic runaway inflation has created some tough challenges for the county this year," said Rod Beck, Ada County Commission Board Chair. "As every family knows, everything is more expensive including utilities, food, and fuel. We are proud that our budget is lean and fiscally responsible yet still provides for the essential services we all count on."

46% of the budget goes toward Public Safety and approximately 17% to Judicial Services.

Many of the services provided by the county are required by Idaho State Statute – most notably public safety. This includes the Ada County Sheriff's Office, operation of the Ada County Jail, Emergency Medical Services (EMS), the Ada County Coroner's Office, and Juvenile Detention Services.

Ada County does not provide road maintenance services. Those services are the responsibility of the Ada County Highway District (ACHD) which has been a separate government entity since 1972.



The FY23 Ada County Budget does not include the allowable 3% increase in property taxes.

*JUDICIAL SERVICES INCLUDES:
• Public Defender's Office
• Prosecuting Attorney's Office
• Court Administration Services

**PUBLIC SAFETY INCLUDES:
• Ada County Sheriff
• EMS
• Coroner
• Juvenile Service

Ada County Board of Commissioners



FY 23 Budget Priorities



Ada County's more than two thousand employees are our most important and valuable asset. They are the people who drive the ambulances, operate the landfill, and maintain our beautiful parks and greenbelt. They are also the people who put on the Western Idaho Fair and keep our community safe by operating the courts and the jail. They are your friends, neighbors and family who work every day to make sure Ada County Offices and departments run smoothly and serve you with the utmost professionalism.

For individuals and families trying to make ends meet in our current economic climate – times are tough. Everything is significantly more expensive, from food and fuel to building materials and services we all count on every day. That's why the Board of County Commissioners made it an absolute priority to establish a budget for FY23 that provided relief but did not add to that burden.

Ada County Board of Commissioners

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU ABOUT ARPA

You've heard of ARPA money? Those are federal dollars from the American Rescue Plan Act signed into law in March of 2021 to mitigate the impacts from the COVID pandemic. Ada County is receiving more than \$93 million. The county has already used ARPA money on multiple projects that benefit the entire community including repairing parts of the greenbelt and providing recruitment, retention and incentive pay for paramedics who were on the frontlines throughout the pandemic. While there are certain criteria the money can be used for – we want to know what your thoughts are. Learn more about ARPA money and take the survey.

<https://adacounty.id.gov/>

How Do You Think
ARPA Money Should
Be Spent In Ada County?
Take the Survey



LEARNING TO SAVE LIVES Ada County Department Heads “Stop the Bleed”

Imagine someone in your office having an accident, or you being outside of work and encountering a situation where someone started bleeding profusely? Would you know what to do?

Ada County department heads receive hands-on training from Ada County paramedics earlier this month as part of the **Stop the Bleed** and **Hands Only CPR** program.



Having the training to stop bleeding following an accident or significant event where casualties occur can save lives. And some of the old tales you've hear about tourniquets may not be the best science. Learning how and where to properly

place a tourniquet to stop bleeding was one of the practical skills taught in the class along with how to pack a wound. The life-like body parts helped to make the training more realistic. We appreciate the experts at Ada County Paramedics offering this kind of critically important training.



Ada County Paramedics offer the class to the public once a month.

For more information or to sign up:
<https://adaparamedics.enrollware.com/schedule>

MANAGING EFFECTIVE PUBLIC INFORMATION FOLLOWING A WILDLIFE HUMAN ATTACK

Ada County Communications Manager Teaches Best Practices to Idaho Fish & Game personnel

Many people love Idaho because of the vast wilderness areas and the wildlife that are part of these untamed places. But as experienced outdoors people know, when humans and wildlife interact there is the potential for dangerous encounters. That's why Idaho Fish & Game has a

team called the Wildlife Human Attack Response Team (WHART). This group of experts are deployed following an animal attack to collect evidence from a scene and answer media questions.

Understanding how to manage public information effectively was the subject of a presentation given by Ada County Communications Manager Elizabeth Duncan. Duncan teaches Public Information classes around Idaho and in the Pacific Northwest and was honored to be invited to a gathering of state WHART officials to conduct hands on training.



DEPARTMENT HEADS LEARN MORE ABOUT NEW PROJECTS AT THE ADA COUNTY LANDFILL

Hi there! I am Nick Kochergin, and I am Ada County's communications intern. The following piece is the start of a personal series of articles on interesting programs and initiatives in Ada County. I am a triple major at Boise State University studying political science, sociology, and criminal justice. I graduate at the end of the year. I wanted to know how our county government works on the inside. For the rest of the summer and fall, I will be on weekly fact-finding missions working to understand how county government performs its duties. I wanted readers of this newsletter to learn about county operations through my eyes and see the interesting programs and services Ada County provides. I hope my experiences can help shed some light on the ways county government helps you and your neighbors! My first dispatch is from the Ada County Landfill:



Combatting the increased amount of waste is a priority for the landfill as Ada County department heads learned during an official tour of the property on August 1st, 2022. Tours like this help department heads better understand how the county operates. This type of tour also builds unity between Ada County departments.

Several significant projects stand out to me including plans to build a new administrative building, designing a landfill education center, the continuous expansion of the diversion/recycling area, and the Renewable Natural Gas (RNG) program.

The RNG program will replace the current Landfill Gas to Electricity program. The naturally occurring landfill gas will be processed through a thermal oxidizer then sent to existing pipelines to be sold. Development of this new program is currently in progress and will significantly increase the amount of vacuum captured gas that can be used for energy. These projects ensure a continual investment into environmental protection and will extend the life of the landfill. Right now, the landfill's projected closing date in 2068, a date that keeps shrinking due to increasing waste.



How can you and I make a difference?



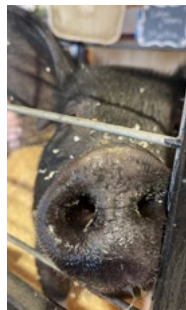
Reuse, reduce and recycle as many products as we can.



WESTERN IDAHO FAIR CELEBRATES 125 YEARS



We hope you had the opportunity to visit the Western Idaho Fair this year! As always, it's a great way to support youth agriculture programs like 4-H and to enjoy the rides, interesting food, and concerts that make the annual event a rich tradition in Southwest Idaho. Thank you to all the Ada County staff who work tirelessly year-round to plan and provide a vibrant family experience for the entire community.



ATTENTION SENIORS – YOU GET A TRASH BILLING PRICE BREAK

**Are your trash services provided by Hardin Sanitation?
Are you over 65?**

If so, you are eligible for a reduced trash pickup rate!

Remember, you must live outside the city limits and you'll need to show proof of your age. Take advantage of this benefit for Ada County residents!

Proof of age can be submitted by email to: acbs@adacounty.id.gov or by mail to:

**Ada County Trash Billing
PO Box 2780
Boise, ID 83701**



Please reference your six-digit trash account number or your property address to ensure proper processing of your discounted service.

COMING UP!

You can watch the Ada County Board of Commissioner's weekly Open Business Meeting on YouTube.

WATCH NOW

Want to see what's on the Agenda?

LEARN MORE

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NEWSLETTER SIGN UP

