



Schools

State

County

**Special
Districts**

Hardin County focus

County Government receives 13 ½ cents of each Property Tax Dollar!

County Government responds to the Economic Struggles of Taxpayers

Hardin County is one of the lowest taxed counties in the Commonwealth. In addition to a low property rate, your county government does not impose an Occupational Tax, Public Library District Tax, Fire District Tax, Insurance Premium Tax, Hotel Tax, Local Sales Tax or Restaurant Tax.

As depicted in the dollar bill above, the tax invoice you will soon receive includes: school tax rates set by local school boards, state tax rates set by the state legislature, and special district tax rates set by local district boards. Incorporated cities send separate tax invoices.

Fiscal Court approved my recommendation to hold the property tax rate at **10.9%, the same as in 2009**, and equal to the compensating rate.

During this Administration we moved away from automatically levying the maximum tax rate allowed to a more detailed evaluation of matching the tax rate to the government's need for revenue while considering the impact on taxpayers.

This year is the 5th year of 8 years of not taking the maximum 4% growth rate, recommended by

state government, and the second time ever of setting a rate equal to or less than the compensating rate.

While county government has been very successful during the past eight years in eliminating waste and redundancy along with more efficient operations, we will continue to search for other savings to reduce the impact on county operations of maintaining tax rates at the low "compensating rate".

It is difficult for me to justify taking more money from household incomes when many citizens have lost their jobs, suffered reduced hours, had overtime opportunities eliminated, or been forced to take jobs paying much less than their previous ones. This is not the year to raise tax rates because it would place an additional hardship on so many struggling households at a time when they are most vulnerable.

When the day is done, we must ask ourselves, what are our expectations of government and how much are we willing to pay for it? **The most effective way of meeting your urgent needs is to keep as much money as we can in your hands.**



Compensating Rate:

KRS 132.010 defines the "Compensating Tax Rate" as that rate which applied to the current year's assessment of the property subject to taxation, excluding new property added to the tax role for the current year, produces an amount of revenue approximately equal to that produced in preceding year.

4% Growth Rate:

KRS 68.245 states the portion of a tax rate levied by Fiscal Court which will produce revenue, exclusive of revenue from new property, of more than 4% over the amount of revenue produced by the compensating tax rate shall be subject to recall vote.

REVENUE SOURCES

Our county's current fiscal year 2010/2011 budget requires \$28,142,015 in revenue. Of that total, **ONLY 18.5% is derived from property tax**, 1.9% from motor vehicle watercraft tax, 1.7% from tangible personal property tax, and 78.1% from other sources.

