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Contact: Lori Latham
PH: (616) 401-1743 (mobile)
EM: lori.latham@kentcountymi.gov

Kent County Board of Commissioners Approves 2022 Budget
New Budget Exemplifies County Mission and Aligns with Strategic Priorities

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. (November 18, 2021) – Today, the Kent County Board of Commissioners unanimously passed a structurally balanced Fiscal Year 2022 budget. The total budget is \$527 million and includes \$454.8 million for operating expenditures, of which, \$16.7 million is for capital improvements. As a vote of confidence in the County’s budgeting and resources, all three major national bond rating agencies recently reaffirmed the county's AAA bond rating.

“This budget reflects the stability and perseverance of our community,” said Kent County Board of Commissioners Chair Mandy Bolter. “Due to our strong fiscal policies, we are able to fund critical services like public safety, parks, and social services while continuing to meet the challenges of this pandemic.”

The adoption of the annual budget follows an extensive and transparent process. The Finance & Physical Resources Committee established the budget parameters on May 18, 2021. The Fiscal Services Department then met with department directors and elected officials in the months following the adoption of the budget guidelines and the Board of Commissioners conducted in-depth review of the proposed budget during two work sessions. Last, a public hearing was held on November 4, 2021.

A breakdown of the County’s overall operating expenditures is:

- community and economic development (\$12.5 million)
- general government and debt (\$93 million)
- judicial (\$52.3 million)
- recreation and culture (\$24.9 million)
- social services (\$113.7 million)
- public safety (\$99.8 million)
- public works (\$58.6 million)

“I appreciate the hard work of our department directors and countywide elected officials to contain costs and develop a balanced budget,” concluded Bolter.

The Fiscal Year 2022 budget does not include funding from the federal American Rescue Plan. The Board of Commissioners will adopt a separate spending plan for this funding.

Kent County's budget is driven by its [strategic plan](#) adopted by the commission to ensure County investments support the community's greatest short and long term needs. To review the 2022 adopted budget, visit: https://www.accesskent.com/Departments/FiscalServices/pdfs/2022/Budget_Summary.pdf.

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