



Your Tax Dollars at Work

A Financial Report to the Citizens of Putnam
County, Georgia for Fiscal Year 2022

October 1, 2021 – September 30, 2022

ABOUT THIS REPORT

On behalf of Putnam County Board of Commissioners, we are pleased to present our seventh Popular Annual Financial Report (PAFR) for the year ended September 30, 2022. Like the U.S. Government and State of Georgia, Putnam County runs its budget on a “fiscal year,” from October 1 to September 30. The purpose of this report is to provide readers with an overview of the County, its different departments, and financial information. However, it does not provide information regarding Funds or Component Units.

As part of the county’s commitment to be transparent to its citizens, the report will also provide an overview of the county’s organizational structure, services offered to its citizens, and financial state. The information in this report is extracted from the County’s Annual Comprehensive Financial Report, which gives further detailed information.

Click the links provided to view Putnam County’s [2022 Annual Comprehensive Financial Report](#) and [2022 Popular Annual Financial Report](#).

Table of Contents

1. Cover
2. About This Report
3. Table of Contents
4. Our Commissioners
5. Our Mission and Purpose
6. Letter from Our County Manager
7. Well-Known Connections
8. Award for Outstanding Achievement in Popular Annual Financial Reporting
9. Organization
10. Putnam County EMS
11. Putnam County Fire-Rescue
12. Putnam County Animal Services
13. Oconee Springs Park
14. Uncle Remus Golf Course
15. Putnam County Recreation

Financial Information

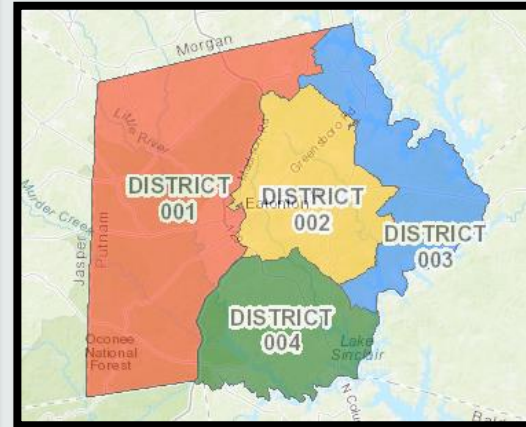
16. Net Position
17. Assets
18. Glossary of Terms

Our County, Commissioners, and Districts



(Left to Right): Billy Webster, Chairman; Jeffrey Wooten, District 4 Commissioner;
Daniel Brown, District 2 Commissioner; Bill Sharp, District 3 Commissioner;
Gary McElhenney, District 1 Commissioner

The Board of Commissioners is a policy making body that oversees the executive functions of the county and assigns the day-to-day duties of the executive role to the county manager.



Bordered by Morgan, Greene, Hancock, Baldwin, Jones, and Jasper Counties, Putnam County is located in Central Georgia.



Our Mission and Purpose

“The mission of Putnam County government is to provide courteous, responsive, innovative and cost-effective services.”

Putnam County government exists to:

- P** – Properly administer the affairs of Putnam County
- U** – Understand we must maintain a high level of professionalism
- T** – Transparency will be paramount without exception
- N** – Nonpartisanship with the understanding that all voices must be heard
- A** – Actively promote public confidence in county government
- M** – Maintain a positive image





Paul Van Haute
County Manager

To the Greatest Citizens of the Greatest County in Georgia:

On behalf of the Putnam County Staff, I am pleased to present our Popular Annual Financial Report (PAFR) for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2022. This report is designed to increase awareness throughout our county relative to the financial operations of Putnam County and provide you with information on how your tax dollars are managed.

The financial information within this report is derived, in large part, from Putnam County's independently audited set of financial statements that are prepared in accordance with the Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP). The information is part of the County's 2022 Annual Comprehensive Financial Report. We are proud to say that our efforts regarding the County's Annual Comprehensive Financial Report have earned Putnam County's Finance Department the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Reporting by the Government Finance Officers Association for the past nine years.

I am very proud of all that has been accomplished in the past year. The Board of Commissioners and staff strive to provide the highest and best possible services at the least possible cost. There is a lot of positive news in Putnam County and the following are some of the highlights.

The county experienced exceptionally good financial news this year. Moody's reaffirmed their Aa3 rating of Putnam County in 2022. There has been a resurgence in residential and commercial activity. The County Building Permit activity and LOST collections increased again this year, both of which are very positive signs for our local economy. Thanks to your approval of TSPLOST#2, the county will embark on another five-year road paving and improvement program.

There is much more happening in Putnam County, and we are looking forward to sharing those successes with you in the months and years to come. Your commissioners, staff, and I thank you for your continued trust and faith in us. We are proud to report to you that, as the economy continues to improve, so will Putnam County.

Sincerely,
Paul Van Haute,
County Manager

Putnam County has a rich history with several well-known connections. Our county is named after General Israel Putnam, a hero of the Revolutionary War. William H. Seward, a Secretary of State under President Abraham Lincoln, served as rector for Eatonton's first school known as Eatonton Academy.

Some of our other well-known connections are also pictured here. Maybe you've heard of them?



Vincent Hancock, three-time Olympic gold medalist, grew up in Putnam County.



Pulitzer Prize Winning Author and Women's Rights Activist, Alice Walker, was born in Putnam County.



Joel Chandler Harris, fiction writer and folklorist, was born in Putnam County.



Truett Cathy, founder and chairman emeritus of Chick-fil-A, was born in Putnam County.

Award for Outstanding Achievement in Popular Annual Financial Reporting

Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA) has given an Award for Outstanding Achievement in Popular Annual Financial Reporting to Putnam County Government for its Popular Annual Financial Report for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2021. The Award for Outstanding Achievement in Popular Financial Reporting is a prestigious national award recognizing conformance with the highest standards for preparation of state and local government popular reports.

In order to receive an Award for Outstanding Achievement in Popular Financial Reporting, a government unit must publish a Popular Annual Financial Report, whose contents conform to program standards of creativity, presentation, understandability, and reader appeal.

An Award for Outstanding Achievement in Popular Annual Financial Reporting is valid for a period of one year only. Putnam County Government has received a Popular Award for the last seven consecutive years (fiscal years ended 2015 – 2021). We believe our current report continues to conform to the Popular Annual Financial Reporting requirements, and we are submitting it to GFOA to determine its eligibility for another Award.



Government Finance Officers Association

Award for
Outstanding
Achievement in
Popular Annual
Financial Reporting

Presented to

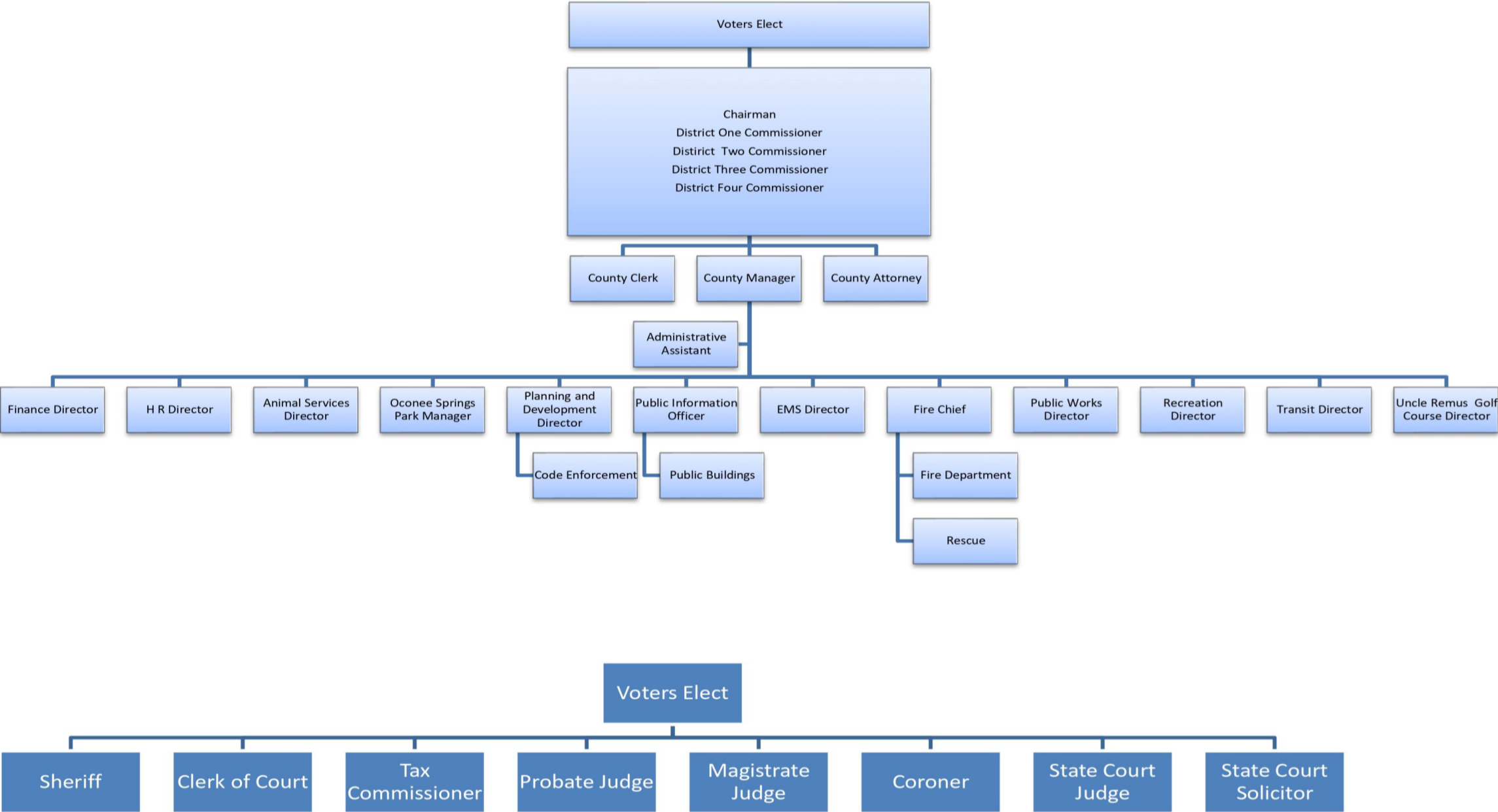
**Putnam County
Georgia**

For its Annual Financial Report
For the Fiscal Year Ended

September 30, 2021

Christopher P. Morrell
Executive Director/CEO

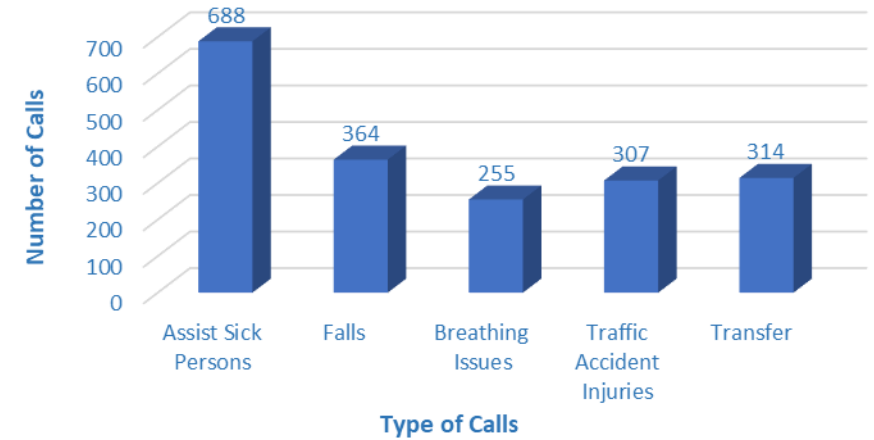
PUTNAM COUNTY GOVERNMENT ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



Putnam County EMS



Putnam EMS FY '22 Data



In FY '22, Putnam County EMS continued to provide the highest quality emergency care to Putnam County's citizens. The team responded to a total of 3,133 calls in FY '22, which is 213 more calls than last year. The majority of these, represented by the graph above were as follows: 688 calls to assist sick persons (fever, body aches, general malaise), 364 falls, 255 calls for breathing issues, and 307 calls to provide care for traffic accident injuries. Putnam EMS responded to 314 calls for patient transfers to medical facilities.

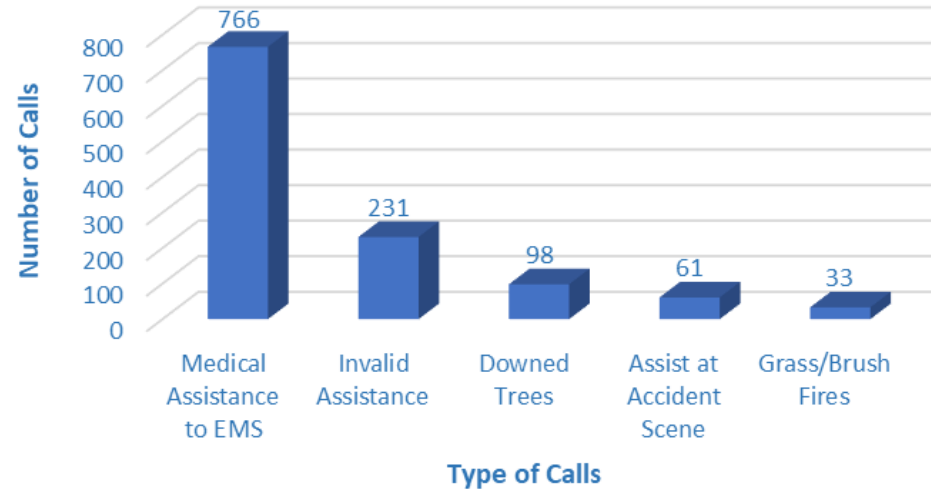
Putnam County Fire Rescue



In FY '22, Putnam Fire-Rescue responded to a total of 2,018 calls. The chart on the right provides data for some of those calls. 766 calls were to provide medical assistance to Putnam EMS. 231 calls were to provide invalid assistance and 98 calls were for downed trees. 61 calls were for assistance at motor vehicle accident scenes and 33 calls were for grass/brush fires.

All of Putnam County's fire staff receive regular training to maintain safe and effective skills to serve our community. Putnam Fire contracted with Vector Solutions to provide online fire and EMS training for career staff, as well as training record keeping for easy access and accountability. Each career staff member is assigned training monthly on this platform that requires a mixture of online and hands-on training with a goal of meeting ISO requirements of a minimum of 240 hours of fire training annually, as well as meeting recertification requirements for EMS certifications and other specialized certifications.

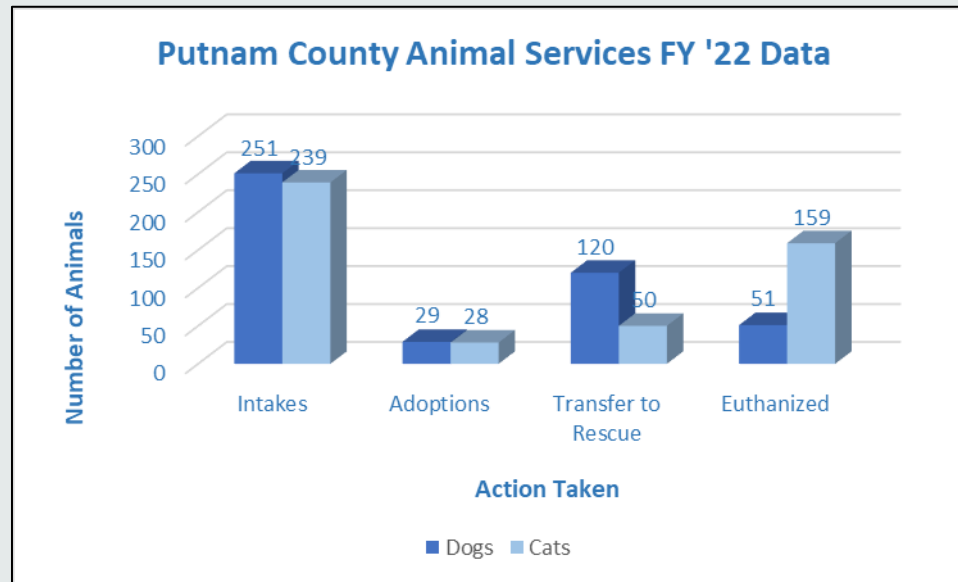
Putnam Fire-Rescue FY '22 Data



Animal Services



For FY '22, Putnam County Animal Services took in a total of 490 animals, consisting of 251 dogs and 239 cats. Of those intakes, 29 dogs and 28 cats found their forever homes. If animals are not adopted, Putnam County Animal Services works hard to transfer the animals to non-profit rescues. In FY '22, a total of 120 dogs and 50 cats were transferred to rescue.



Oconee Springs Park

FY '22 saw the completion and grand opening of The Edgewater at Oconee Springs Park. With a full-size kitchen, linens and decorations available for rent, and catering services available, this beautiful new event center is the perfect location for weddings, receptions, parties, and gatherings.



Visitors and guests had more fun splashing in the sun and playing in the water when Oconee Springs Park added another piece to the Aquaglide Inflatables course in FY '22.



Uncle Remus Golf Course



In FY '22, Uncle Remus Golf Course was on the ball with games, golfers, and generosity! A total of 5802 players played 9,311 rounds of golf. Recognizing the importance of giving back, the golf course hosted 5 fundraising tournaments which, all together, raised over \$16,000 for charity in FY '22.



Because golf is a sport for people of all ages, Uncle Remus Golf Course partnered with the Elks Lodge in FY '22 to host a free kids golf clinic, giving children the chance to learn how to golf!

Putnam County Recreation



The Recreation Department had some big changes in FY '22 to include a new roof on the gym, new insulation in the ceiling, laser-graded ball fields, and clearing of the woods and brush outside the fence. Making sure the facilities and fields are in tip-top shape help our athletes win championships! The pictures on this page are from basketball, soccer, football, baseball and softball teams who won championship titles in FY '22.



What was the county's net position compared to FY 2021?

Net position refers to the county's "bottom line" after all financial transactions have been reported. Therefore, a change in net position is the difference from one year to the next.

The table at the right provides a comparison for the changes in net position in governmental and business-type activities for the fiscal years ended September 30, 2022, and 2021.

At the end of FY '22, the County's net position in governmental activities increased by \$7.3 million, or 15.3%, primarily due to increased sales tax collections and grant revenues during FY '22. Net position in business-type activities decreased \$105,324. The County's overall net position increased \$7.2 million from the prior year.

| | <u>Governmental Activities</u> | | <u>Business-Type Activities</u> | | <u>Total</u> | |
|--|--------------------------------|----------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| | <u>2022</u> | <u>2021</u> | <u>2022</u> | <u>2021</u> | <u>2022</u> | <u>2021</u> |
| Revenues | | | | | | |
| Program Revenues | | | | | | |
| Charges for Services | \$ 4,796,443 | \$ 4,366,684 | \$ 577,284 | \$ 512,698 | \$ 5,373,727 | \$ 4,879,382 |
| Operating Grants and Contributions | 687,994 | 928,797 | - | - | 687,994 | 928,797 |
| Capital Grants and Contributions | 3,006,454 | 675,882 | 11,066 | 135,537 | 3,017,520 | 811,419 |
| General Revenues | | | | | | |
| Taxes | 29,982,323 | 27,776,778 | - | - | 29,982,323 | 27,776,778 |
| Other | 323,869 | 488,382 | 16,708 | 26,250 | 340,577 | 514,632 |
| Total Revenues | 38,797,083 | 34,236,523 | 605,058 | 674,485 | 39,402,141 | 34,911,008 |
| Expenses | | | | | | |
| General Government | 6,894,061 | 6,401,521 | - | - | 6,894,061 | 6,401,521 |
| Judicial | 1,904,854 | 1,942,549 | - | - | 1,904,854 | 1,942,549 |
| Public Safety | 10,970,995 | 10,658,393 | - | - | 10,970,995 | 10,658,393 |
| Public Works | 6,677,918 | 5,365,483 | - | - | 6,677,918 | 5,365,483 |
| Health and Welfare | 1,497,360 | 1,101,294 | - | - | 1,497,360 | 1,101,294 |
| Culture and Recreation | 1,653,391 | 1,558,310 | - | - | 1,653,391 | 1,558,310 |
| Housing and Development | 1,872,664 | 1,448,803 | - | - | 1,872,664 | 1,448,803 |
| Interest on Long-Term Debt | 19,002 | - | - | - | 19,002 | - |
| Oconee Springs Park | - | - | 571,390 | 532,166 | 571,390 | 532,166 |
| Solid Waste | - | - | 150,000 | - | 150,000 | - |
| Total Expenses | 31,490,245 | 28,476,353 | 721,390 | 532,166 | 32,211,635 | 29,008,519 |
| Change in Net Position Before Transfers | 7,306,838 | 5,760,170 | (116,332) | 142,319 | 7,190,506 | 5,902,489 |
| Transfers | (11,008) | (50,000) | 11,008 | 50,000 | - | - |
| Increase in Net Position | 7,295,830 | 5,710,170 | (105,324) | 192,319 | 7,190,506 | 5,902,489 |
| Net Position, Beginning | 47,815,765 | 42,105,595 | 893,726 | 701,407 | 48,709,491 | 42,807,002 |
| Net Position, Ending | \$ 55,111,595 | \$ 47,815,765 | \$ 788,402 | \$ 893,726 | \$ 55,899,997 | \$ 48,709,491 |

How is the county using its assets?

The County's government-wide investment in capital assets, as of September 30, 2022, is \$39.4 million. The schedule below summarizes capital assets used in both governmental and business-type activities at fiscal year-ends 2022 and 2021.

| | Governmental Activities | | Business-Type Activities | | Total | |
|----------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------|-------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| | 2022 | 2021 | 2022 | 2021 | 2022 | 2021 |
| Land | \$ 1,301,357 | \$ 1,302,357 | \$ 116,395 | \$ 116,395 | \$ 1,417,752 | \$ 1,418,752 |
| Buildings and Improvements | 8,795,085 | 8,817,963 | 202,007 | 221,590 | 8,997,092 | 9,039,553 |
| Machinery and Equipment | 4,532,704 | 2,830,304 | 27,504 | 25,025 | 4,560,208 | 2,855,329 |
| Infrastructure | 22,088,528 | 21,556,208 | - | - | 22,088,528 | 21,556,208 |
| Construction in Progress | 2,303,869 | - | - | 189,025 | 2,303,869 | 189,025 |
| | <u>\$ 39,021,543</u> | <u>\$ 34,506,832</u> | <u>\$ 345,906</u> | <u>\$ 552,035</u> | <u>\$ 39,367,449</u> | <u>\$ 35,058,867</u> |

Major capital asset activities in the current fiscal year included the following:

- \$2.7 million of infrastructure improvements primarily related to road resurfacing
- Purchase of a new fire truck in the amount of \$1.5 million in addition to other public safety and public works machinery and equipment
- Construction in progress includes costs related to a new fire and emergency medical services building of \$2,022,310

Glossary of Terms

- **Assets:** Items of ownership. Assets can include cash, stock, land, buildings, machinery, furniture, and other equipment. There are several categories of Assets:
- **Capital Assets:** Assets of a long-term character (beyond the current year) that are intended to continue to be held or used, such as land, buildings, vehicles, machinery, furniture, and other equipment.
- **Net Position:** The difference between (a) assets and deferred outflows of resources and (b) liabilities and deferred inflows of resources.
- **Restricted Assets:** Assets that may not be used for normal operating purposes because of the requirements of regulatory authorities, provisions in bond contracts, or other legal agreements, but do not have to be accounted for in a separate fund.
- **Unrestricted Assets:** Funds established to account for assets or resources that may be utilized at the discretion of the Board of Commissioners.
- **Expenditures:** Government purchases which can be financed by revenue and/or government borrowing, i.e. bonds, tax anticipation, notes, etc.
- **Fund Balance:** The portion of fund revenue over expenditures available for use.
- **General Fund:** A fund used to account for the ordinary operations of the County government that are financed from taxes and other general revenue.
- **Liabilities:** Future spending of revenue as a result of past transactions and other past events. Liabilities are reported on a balance sheet and are divided into two categories:
- **Current Liabilities:** These liabilities are reasonably expected to be liquidated within a year. They usually include payables such as wages, accounts, taxes, accounts payable, unearned revenue when adjusting entries, portions of long-term bonds to be paid this year, short-term obligations, and others.
- **Long-term Liabilities:** These liabilities are reasonably expected not to be liquidated within a year. They usually include long-term bonds, notes payable, long-term leases, pension obligations, and long-term product warranties. In these liabilities, the County has to pay after a fixed period of time, usually longer than a year.
- **Revenue:** Financial resources other than from interfund transfers and debt issue proceeds. Putnam County receives Revenue through property taxes, sales and other taxes, licenses and permits, grants, fines and forfeitures, charges for service, administration fees, investment income, and miscellaneous sources.