

Policy Issues

The following are presented for approval as part of the proposed FY 2018-19 budget.

1. Harris County will continue to focus on building a strong balance sheet to maintain both financial stability and current high bond ratings as well as allocating resources to be prepared for floods, hurricanes or similar unexpected events. It is likely that the county has sufficient resources to avoid issuing any Tax Anticipation Notes during FY 2018-19 for the second consecutive year.
2. The rollover budget adjustments for departments will be presented to court for approval in May. Departments will have the opportunity to request new positions or adjust existing positions after the rollover budgets are added.
3. The Capital Improvements Program (CIP) will be presented on June 26 and Mid-Year Review will be held on September 25.
4. Contract patrol rates will increase by 3% on March 1, 2018 but will not increase for the fiscal year that begins on March 1, 2019.
5. An Audit Review Committee is recommended to be formed to provide feedback and guidance to the County Auditor's office on both internal audit activities as well as reviewing the results of the external audits. The Committee, if approved, will include representatives of the five Court members, Budget Management and the County Treasurer.
6. Recommendation to move certain contracts and related expenditures from Facilities & Property Maintenance (Dept. 299) to the Utilities and Leases Cost Center (Dept. 298) to improve the budgeting and accounting for these expenses. This cost center does not have any positions or labor expense nor does it have rollover budgets or transfers out to other departments.