



COMMISSIONERS OF CUMBERLAND COUNTY

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Commissioners to Place 2017 Preliminary Budget on View General Fund Tax Rate Unchanged; Library Tax Rate Set for Small Increase

Cumberland County, PA- During their public meeting yesterday, the Cumberland County Board of Commissioners reviewed and voted to put the 2017 Preliminary Budget totaling \$240,280,046 on display as required by statute. Cumberland County remains in a stable fiscal position for the third consecutive year. The proposed budget contains no increase in the County's General Fund real estate rate; millage will remain at 2.195 mills. The proposed Budget does contain a small increase to the Library millage rate from .143 to .166 mills for the separate Cumberland County Library System tax. The Library millage rate was last increased in 2004. The new Library millage rate will cost households on average an additional \$4.09 per year based on the median home value in Cumberland County of \$177,700. The small increase in the Library millage rate, combined with no increase for the General Fund real estate millage rate, represents an overall real estate tax increase of less than 1 percent.

Since 2008, Cumberland County has maintained its AAA bond rating due to strong financial management policies and practices and its strategic approach to balancing costs and revenues. This consists of slowing the growth in short-term and long-term costs, including salaries and benefits, prudent borrowing and savvy debt management, and improved cost efficiencies. Cumberland is the fastest growing county in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and has benefited from the population growth and economic recovery.

Cumberland County continues to pursue opportunities to lower operational costs where applicable and modernize the delivery of services. In 2017, the County will persist with efforts to monitor costs pressures and demonstrate fiscal accountability to the taxpayers while providing efficient and cost effective services to the public. Cumberland County maintains its standing as the lowest in comparative tax rates among counties in the South Central Pennsylvania region.

The Preliminary Budget will remain on public view until Monday, December 5, 2016 at 2:00 p.m. at which time the Commissioners are scheduled to adopt the 2017 Budget. For more information about Cumberland County Government and its financial management policies and practices visit online at www.ccpa.net.

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