



Southern Hospitality ~ *Kansas Style*

# South Hutchinson Fire Service Community Meeting

MAY 22, 2017

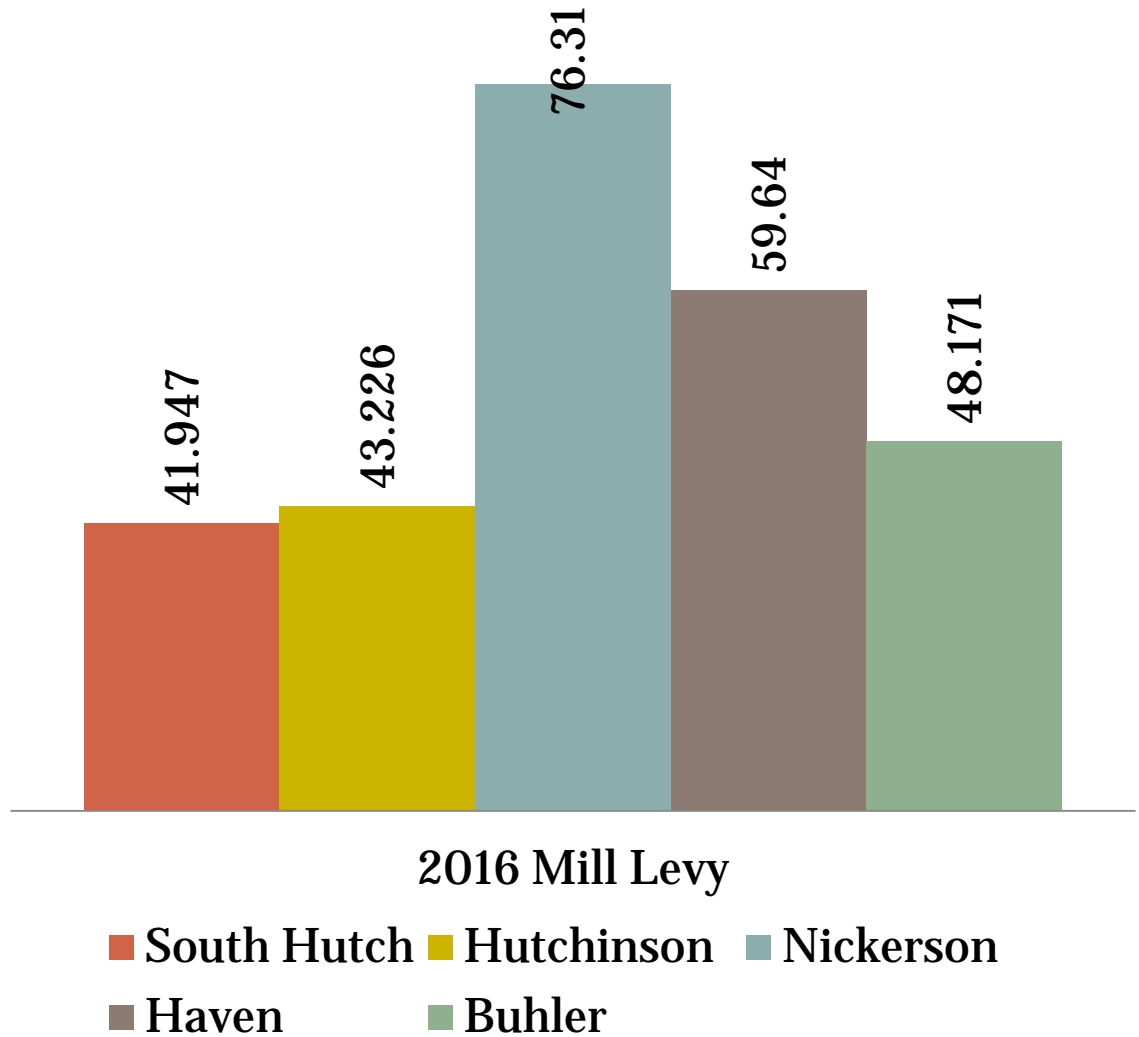
[www.southhutch.com](http://www.southhutch.com)



# FY 2017 Mill Levy Comparison

South Hutch is consistently below other taxing jurisdictions in Reno County.

South Hutch has lowest individual tax rate for all jurisdictions in Reno County (pop > 500)





## FY 2017 Overlapping Tax Burden

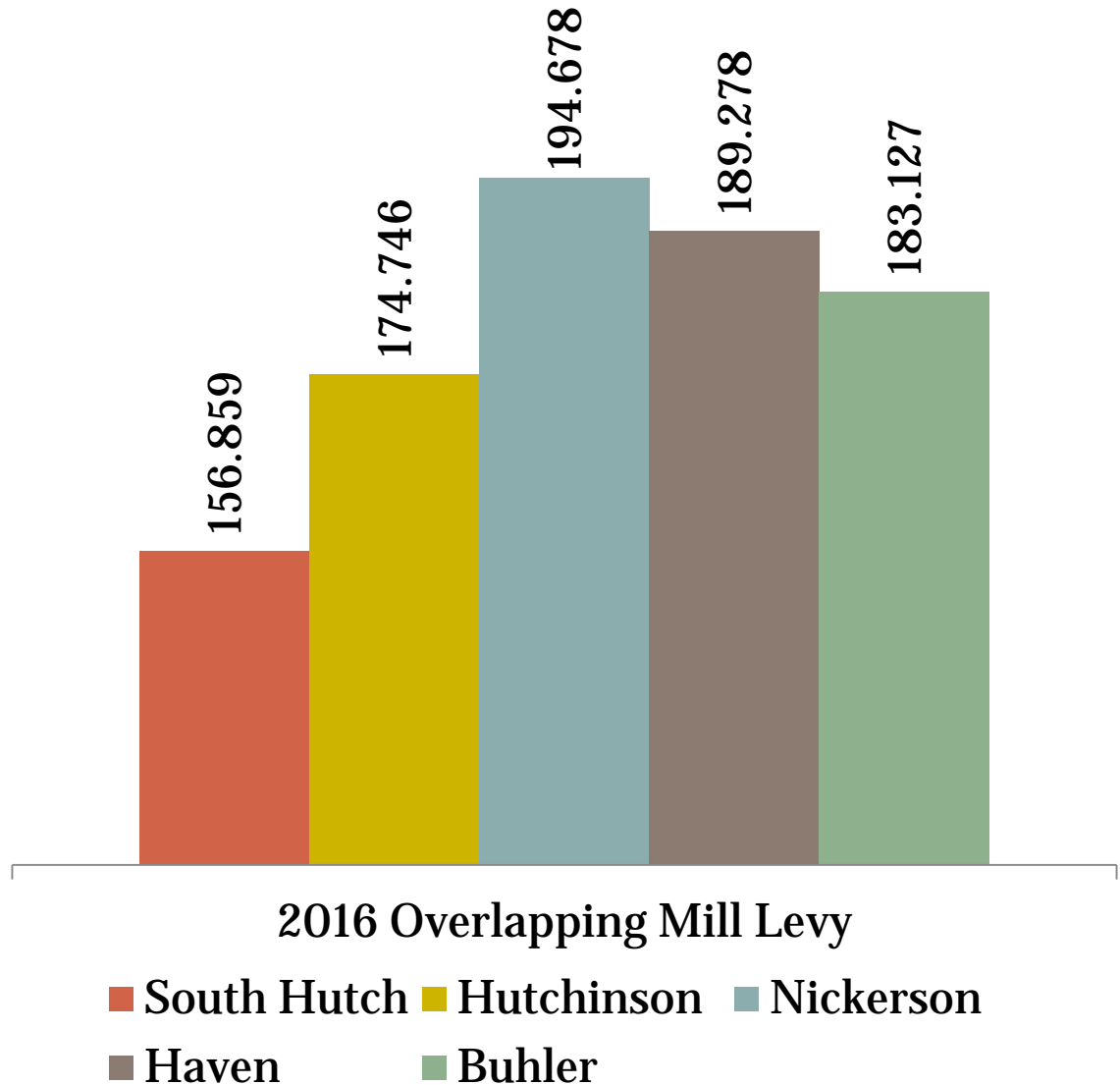
Includes levy for all  
taxing entities

South Hutch has lowest  
overall tax rate for all  
jurisdictions in Reno  
County (pop > 500)

Assessed Valuation:  
\$23,465,547

Valuation has increased  
**16%** in last 10 years

Inflation has increase  
**17.6%** in last 10 years



# 2007-2016 Mill Levies by Taxing Entity

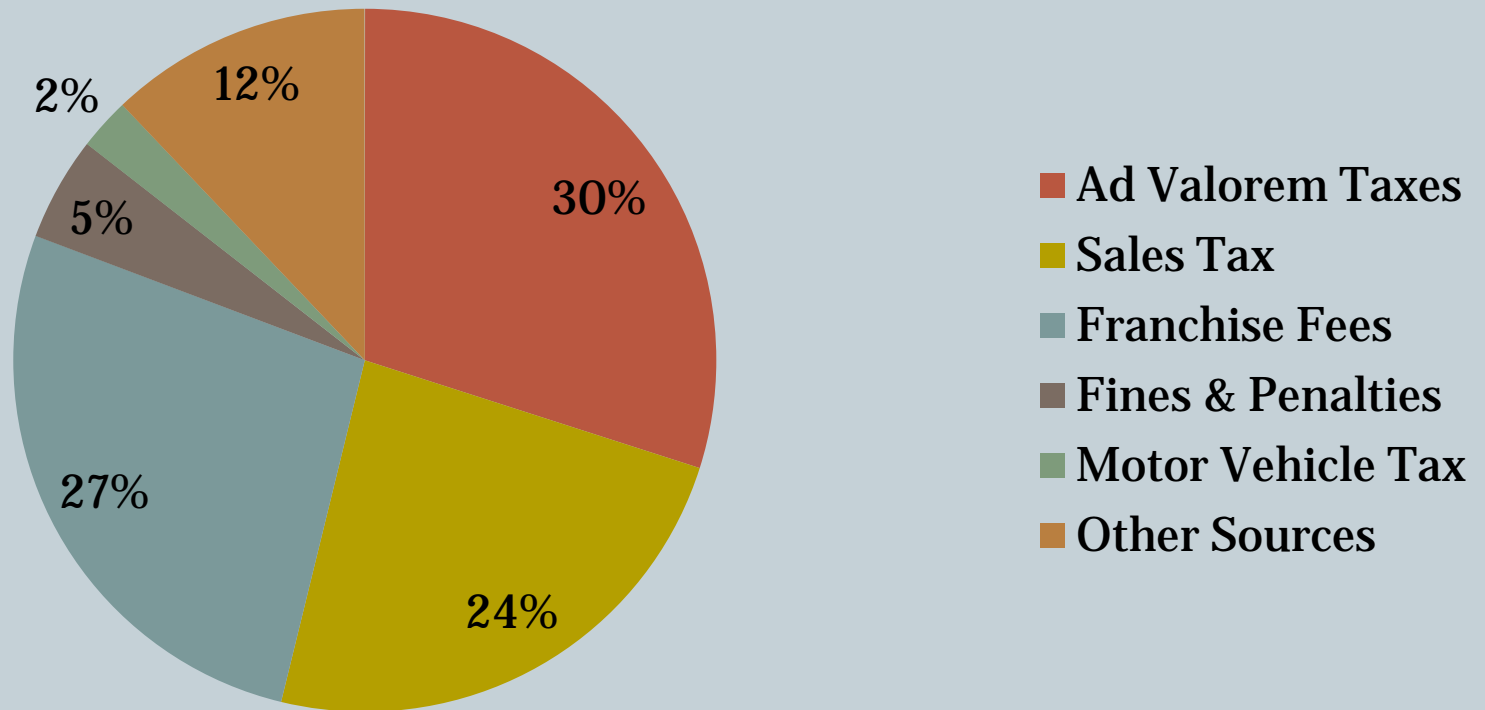


Year	South Hutch	USD 309	HCC	Reno County	Other Levies	TOTAL
2007	42.374	45.552	24.497	34.894	2.403	<b>149.720</b>
2008	42.333	48.483	24.495	37.193	2.402	<b>154.906</b>
2009	42.220	48.415	24.499	37.859	2.527	<b>155.520</b>
2010	42.002	48.926	23.798	39.629	2.526	<b>156.881</b>
2011	41.772	49.515	22.597	38.594	2.527	<b>155.005</b>
2012	41.947	49.276	22.612	38.582	2.527	<b>154.944</b>
2013	41.945	50.220	22.511	38.603	2.515	<b>155.794</b>
2014	41.955	45.813	22.456	39.527	2.522	<b>152.273</b>
2015	41.921	48.490	22.510	40.897	2.521	<b>156.339</b>
2016	41.915	48.085	22.442	41.775	2.642	<b>156.859</b>

# General Fund Revenue by Source



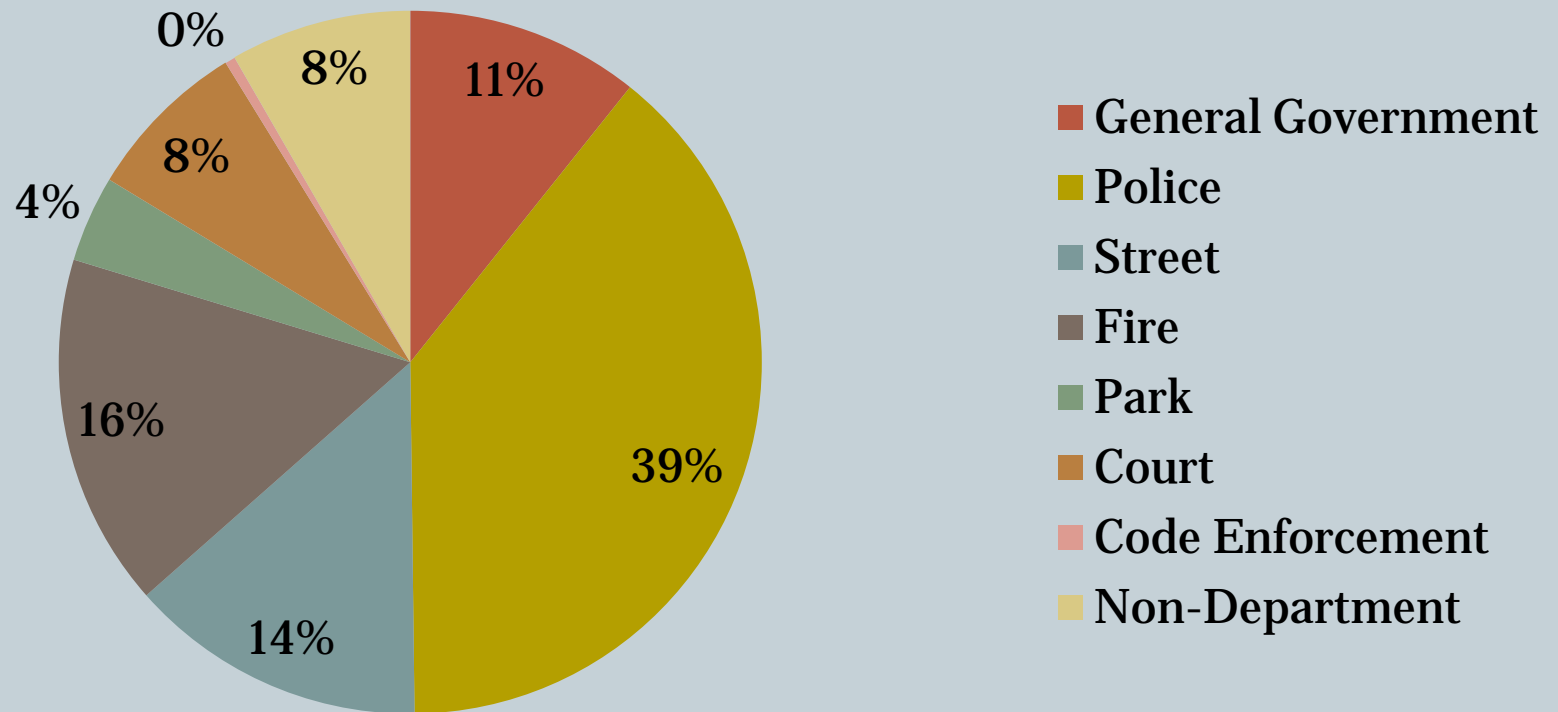
## FY 2017 Budgeted Revenue



# General Fund Expenditures by Department



## FY17 Budget Department Expenditures



# SHFD History



- Community founded in 1886, records unclear as to fire protection
- Fire protection provided via contract with the city of Hutchinson from 1936 until 1953
- Volunteer service started in 1953
- Since the 1970s the SHFD has responded to some emergency medical and public assist calls, in addition to fire and rescue calls
- May 2013, the Council hired a part-time Fire Chief to help build the department's capacity
- July 2013, Council approved 3 part-time firefighters on duty 8:30 AM- 4:30 PM, Monday – Friday as part of the 2014 budget due to low staffing on weekdays
- July 7, 2014, Council voted 5-0 to enter an agreement with Hutchinson Fire for limited service to respond to structure fires at a cost of \$23,000 per year.

# SHFD History



- August 8, 2014, Council voted 5-0 to purchase the 2007 Rosenbauer ladder truck
- May 2015, SHFD asked for an audit of the **ISO rating**; published rating in October 2015 moving from **7 to 3**
- January 4, 2016, Council voted 5-0 to add 3 part-time firefighters on weekends to be paid from the non-departmental budget
- September 6, 2016, Council voted 5-0 to approve the City Administrator and Fire Chief to proceed with a facility study for a full time combination department
- October 3, 2016, Council voted 5-0 to go forward with Landmark Architect to do a preliminary building option with and without Reno County EMS facilities included



# SHFD History



- **January 3, 2017, Council voted 3-1 to contact the City of Hutchinson on what the cost would be to combine with Fire District 2**
- **Chief Patterson resigned on April 18, 2017**
- **From there options were developed for discussion on the future of the department**
  - Building a new station was removed as an option
  - Contracting with Hutch Fire for total services was removed
  - Preference to go back to all volunteer if possible

# SHPD Current Staffing



- Fire Chief Position currently vacant but will need to be filled according to City Code.
- Currently **23** on the roster
- All part-time fire fighters are included in that number
- **10** members that live within a 10 minute drive of the station and are the primary volunteers
- Average tenure for current members is 5.5 years
  - Longest serving member is 25.25 years
- Since 2005 the average tenure is 2.5 years
  - Members tend to stay with the department if they serve 16+ months

# Average Cost to Add a New Firefighter



- **Outfitting: \$2,705**
  - Bunker Gear: \$2,000
  - Helmet: \$275
  - Gloves: \$65
  - Boots: \$300
  - Hood: \$50
- **HCC Fire Science Training : \$952**
  - Basic Extraction
  - Firefighter I & II
  - Hazmat
  - Fireguard Operations
- **TOTAL FOR NEW FIREFIGHTER: \$3,657**

# Options: Status Quo



- **Part-time Chief, 3 person crew 7 days per week, volunteers on from 4:30 PM to 8:30 AM**
- **Possible within current budget to maintain service without a tax increase**
- **Would continue to respond to the same codes in same was currently done; no reduction in service**
- **ISO Rating would remain at 3**

# Option A: Reduced Staffing



- Chief's position responsibility, pay and hours is set by the Council; could potentially be reduced from \$30,000 to \$12,000 with reduced responsibilities
- Potentially could reduced staffing to 2 part-time staff on Monday – Friday
- Potentially could use a pager pay system that guarantees responders on the weekends
- Option A could lead to a reduction in service, response time and change to the ISO rating
- Potentially savings of \$84,900 vs Status Quo
  - If savings used to reduce mill levy, then it would be a 3.613 mill reduction, saving a \$100,000 home **\$41.55 per year**

# Option B: All Volunteer



- Chief's position responsibility, pay and hours is set by the Council; could potentially be reduced from \$30,000 to \$12,000 with reduced responsibilities
- No part-time staffing, all volunteer response
- Potentially could use a pager pay system that guarantees responders on the weekends
- Would be a reduction in service level, response time and probable reduction in ISO rating
- Option B would likely require a reduction in medical calls responses
- Question of feasibility with current volunteer staff especially on daytime responses
- Potentially savings of \$153,400 vs Status Quo
  - If savings used to reduce mill levy, then it would be a 6.528 mill reduction, saving a \$100,000 home **\$75.07 per year**