



City of Gulf Breeze



PROPERTY TAX COMPONENTS COMPARATIVE MUNICIPAL RATES

DECEMBER 2006

www.cityofgulfbreeze.com

850-934-5100

MAYOR

Lane Gilchrist

COUNCIL MEMBERS

C V Ford, Jr (Mayor Pro Tem)
Carl Hoffman III
J B Schluter
Beverly Zimmern

CITY MANAGER

Edwin Eddy 934-5115

DEPARTMENT DIRECTORS

PARKS & RECREATION
Ron Pulley 934-5140

COMMUNITY SERVICES
Craig Carmichael 934-5109

FIRE CHIEF
Craig Carmichael 934-5133

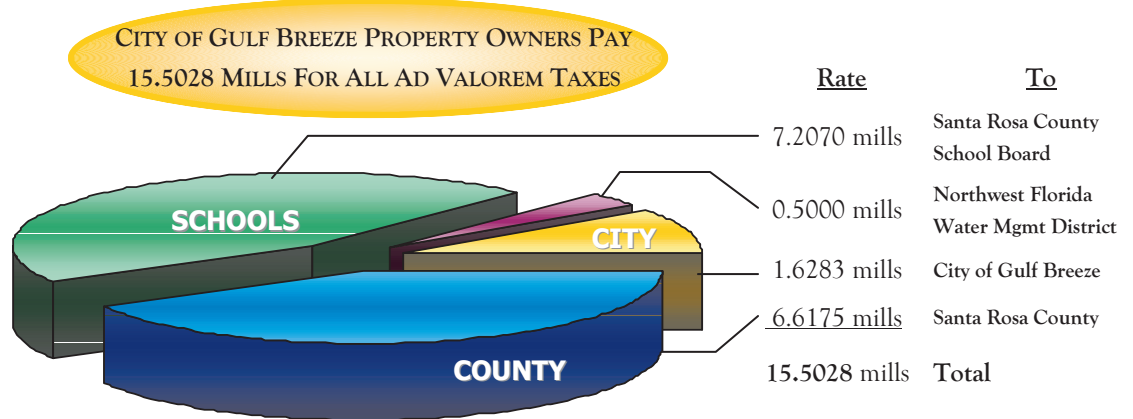
POLICE CHIEF
Peter Paulding 934-5121

**PUBLIC SERVICES,
WATER & GAS SERVICE**
Vernon Prather 934-5108

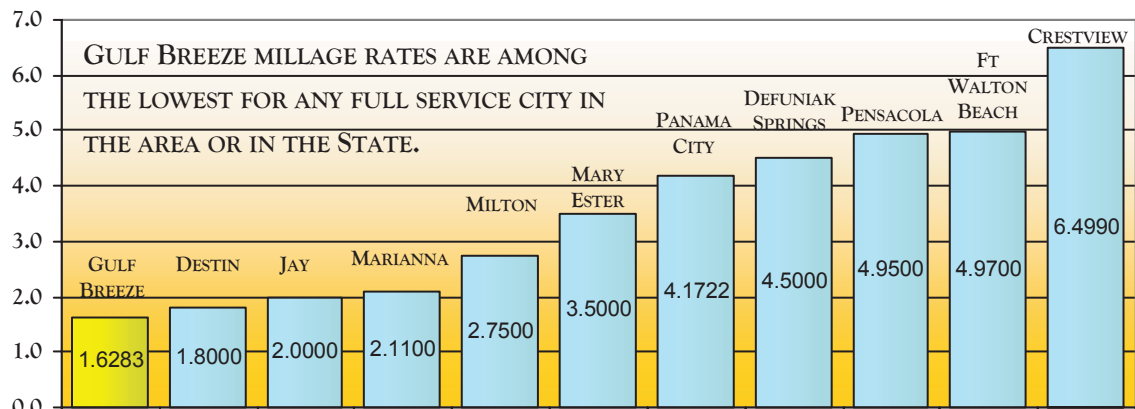
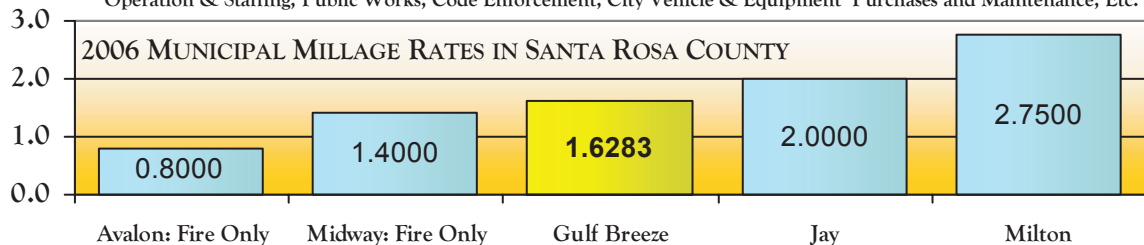
FINANCE & BILLING
Nancy Millay 934-5100

This publication is intended to provide the residents of the City of Gulf Breeze, Florida with information on property taxes and provide a summary snapshot of some of the City's resources, activities and expenditures. Florida law requires that each County Tax Collector send a single consolidated tax bill to property owners rather than have each government entity send separate tax bills of the ad valorem and special assessment obligations. City of Gulf Breeze residents pay property taxes to *four different* government agencies.

The term 'millage' refers to the tax rate per thousand (thousand in latin is 'mille') of property value. Under Florida law, assessed property value of *primary residences* is subject to limits in annual increases (to the lesser of 3% or inflation), and partial or full exemption (homestead and several other exemptions). Additionally, every taxing authority must complete an annual **TR**uth **I**n **M**illage (or **TRIM**) report showing changes in taxable assessed property values, comparable millage rates and expected revenues.



ONLY 10.5% OF YOUR TAXES GO TO THE CITY FOR:
Fire & Rescue, Police, Road Maintenance and Repaving, Parks Maintenance & Development, Recreation Center Maintenance Operation & Staffing, Public Works, Code Enforcement, City Vehicle & Equipment Purchases and Maintenance, Etc.



THE CITY OF GULF BREEZE

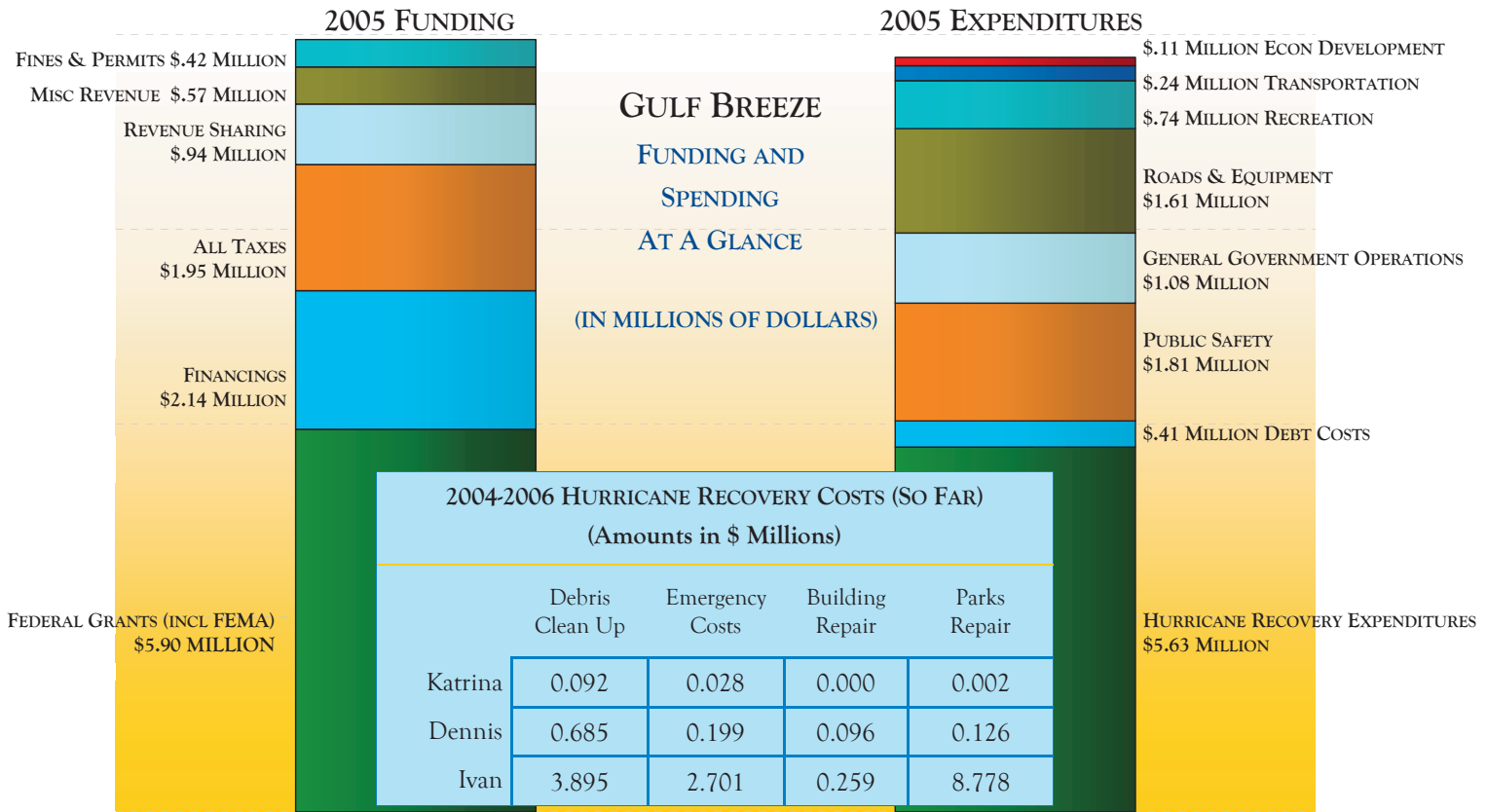
- 4.5 SQUARE MILES
- 44.7 MILES OF ROADS
- 5,765 RESIDENTS
- 3,101 HOUSEHOLDS
- 23 PARKS
- 23 VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS
- 18 FULLTIME POLICE OFFICERS
- 5 PART-TIME POLICE OFFICERS
- 82 FULL TIME CITY EMPLOYEES
- 30 PART TIME CITY EMPLOYEES
- 45 MILES OF WATER LINES
- 21 MILES OF SEWER LINES



City of Gulf Breeze

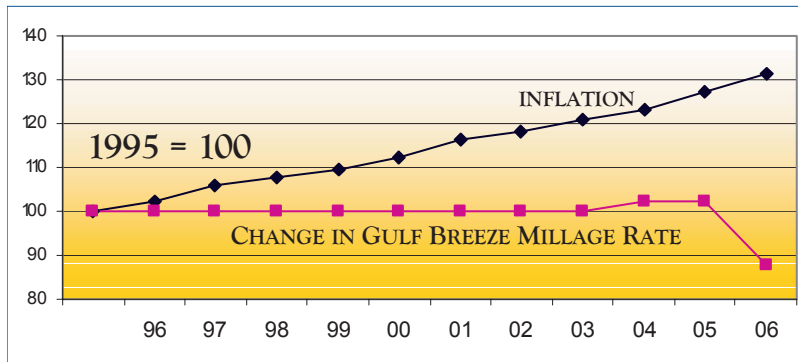


HURRICANE COSTS DOMINATE CITY'S BUDGET CITY ROLLS BACK AD VALOREM RATE



While consistently facing increasing demand for City services, increasing costs of maintaining the City's roads and infrastructure, the City has been able to develop a variety of revenue sources to keep its tax rates among the lowest in the state of Florida for a full service community. Especially at tax time it is easy to forget that the City and its employees feel exactly the same pressures on their budgets that you do. Every day the City struggles to find ways to offset or contain cost increases for fuel, power, insurance, health care and increasing costs of materials and labor for contractors. For these reasons the City endorsed the local option sales tax which was recently

defeated. *Despite these pressures the City decided to roll back its ad valorem rate for 2006 to 1.628 mills from 1.900 mills in 2005.*



During the past year, about half of the City's budget was consumed with hurricane recovery costs and obtaining FEMA funding

for the City's eligible expenditures. Hurricane damage to the City's waterfront parks, which are uninsurable, could not be restored as fast as they have been without funding assistance from FEMA. To put it in another perspective, hurricane recovery costs were almost three times the amount of all the tax revenues for the City in 2005 (and more was spent again in 2006). While the Stafford Act, under which FEMA operates, has provided the City with the means to make major expenditures to clean up and rebuild its buildings and parks, it is not a normal part of the operation of the City.

Within the next year or two those expenditures should cease, and the commensurate funding will cease as well.

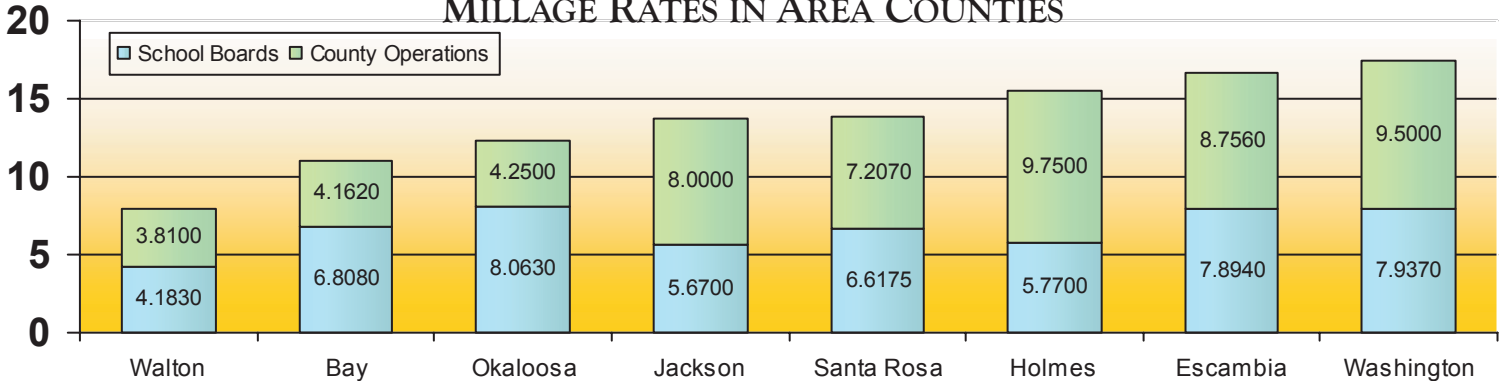


City of Gulf Breeze



COUNTY & SCHOOLS CONSUME MOST OF MILLAGE GB VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT PERFORMANCE

MILLAGE RATES IN AREA COUNTIES



The interwoven roles and responsibilities of the various municipalities and government agencies can often be confusing and frustrating to decipher. For example, tickets given out by Gulf Breeze police are paid or contested in County court. Also, the City has no direct responsibility for the schools located in Gulf Breeze, nor for the bus scheduling. And, since Gulf Breeze Parkway is a State highway, despite the fact that the City maintains the medians, it must rely on State Department of Transportation contractors to correct any deficiencies in the roadway. While the City has a code enforcement de-

partment, and new buildings must be approved by the City's Development Review Board, all building inspections are scheduled and performed by Santa Rosa County.

The Santa Rosa School Board controls all elements of the Gulf Breeze schools, class scheduling, bus routes and timing, and school facilities. The City is proud to support the schools' efforts and jointly provides members of the City police force as school resource officers. Obviously the City provides traffic and crowd control during sporting events.

The County provides ambulance services

to the City which operate in coordination with the City's Fire / EMT services. County Sheriff resources work in conjunction with City police when needed. The County, rather than the City, is the primary franchise grantor for cable services (Mediacom). The County is also primarily responsible for voter registration, municipal courts, vehicle tags, marriage licenses, and regional economic development.

CONTACTS

County Commissioner John Broxson : 983-1877	School Board Ed Gray : 934-7100
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Gulf Breeze Volunteer Fire Department Superior Performance to Improve Quality of Life

With a staff of 23 volunteer firefighters, and 10 Explorer Post members the Gulf Breeze Fire Department provides peace-of-mind to residents. Each volunteer must successfully complete over 160 hours of training on their own time and be certified by the State of Florida before they may respond for

the department. The department participates in mutual aid with Pensacola Beach, and Midway, and supports the Coast Guard in boating incidents in our surrounding waters. Half of the department personnel are certified EMTs; over half of all calls the department responds to are medical related.

On average 5 volunteers respond on site within 3 minutes and 42 seconds when a call goes out; 83.4% of all calls, including in-water deployments, are responded to within 5 minutes.

These volunteers also drive Santa Claus around the City every December as well.

	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Fire Calls	31	28	49	45	77	127
Medical Call	366	436	479	442	500	486
Citizen Assist	29	28	34	28	51	47
Leak/Spills	27	21	27	22	41	24
False Alarms/ Cancelled Calls	109	98	106	127	140	229
All other	49	20	21	16	32	28
TOTAL	611	631	716	680	841	941



City of Gulf Breeze



INNOVATIVE & AWARD WINNING POLICE FORCE

CITY NOTES AND TIPS

COMPARATIVE WATER & SEWER RATES

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GULF BREEZE POLICE DEPARTMENT

Gulf Breeze Police Officers and their community partners have generated over 100 proactive and creative solutions to large and small issues in our City since 2001. Some examples listed below:

- Developed and installed stop sign informational signs to improve stop sign compliance at our through streets.
- Reduced vandalism by over 60% as a result of a comprehensive Homecoming anti-vandalism initiative.
- Reduced traffic crashes in the City by over 7% in three years from our Traffic Safety Task Force strategies. This reduction was generated in spite of a 15% increase in traffic and a 26% increase in crashes in the rest of the county in the same time period.

- Educated parents and teachers to detect and reduce drug use among our youngsters.
- Created Volunteers in Police Service program that uses civilians to drive marked police cars for traffic calming and motorist assistance.
- Trained 26 Citizen Emergency Response Team members to render aid safely in the event of any type of disaster

Just call our police department or contact any Gulf Breeze Police officer to talk about any concerns that you may have. Feel free to email Chief Paulding at paulding@ci.gulf-breeze.fl.us or Deputy Chief Randle at randle@ci.gulf-breeze.fl.us

Our department has been nationally recognized by the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies since 2003.

POLICE AWARD WINNING EXCELLENCE

2006 Governor's Medal of Heroism: presented by Governor Bush to four (4) Gulf Breeze Officers for putting their lives at risk saving another.

Winner: 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005 Pomerance Law Enforcement Excellence Award

2006 Winner: Florida Law Enforcement Challenge and Traffic Safety Award

2003 Winner, 2006 Finalist: International Community Policing Award

2006 Semifinalist: Webber Seavey Quality in Law Enforcement Award

The first fully accredited police department in the panhandle. **Accredited by the Commission for Florida Law Enforcement Accreditation** since 1999.

Did you know . . . ?

GULF BREEZE NOW HAS A DOG PARK, the "Bark Park". It's off to the right as you enter Shoreline Park South. (Be sure to clean up after your dog so everyone can enjoy the park for years to come). The Bark Park was the result of the combined efforts of an Eagle Scout, a community group and the City Parks and Recreation department.

YARD WASTE: The City's contract requires Allied Waste to pick up no more than five (5) bundles, or bags, or bins of yard waste at each stop. Many times the drivers will pick up

more, but they are only required to pick up five. Loose debris pickup stopped with the end of hurricane pickup.

THE SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICERS OF THE GULF BREEZE POLICE DEPARTMENT have developed an outstanding informative and pragmatic narcotics awareness and education presentation. Even if you think you know it all, you will learn something new. For the next presentation or to have a presentation given to your group or business call 934-5121.

GULF BREEZE NATURAL GAS HELPS PAY FOR YOUR FURNACE AND WATER HEATER. That's right, \$200 toward a gas furnace or

water heater that is in a new house or replaces an electric furnace or water heater, and \$100 toward replacement of existing gas furnace or heater. You must apply within 8 weeks of installation and have proof of purchase. Call 934-5108 for all the details.

TRASH TRANSFER STATION IS FOR RESIDENTIAL USE. Containers often fill up quickly so get there early. Hours: **Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday—7:30am to 4:00pm or earlier if containers are full.**

There's always new information available at www.cityofgulfbreeze.com. Check it out!

