



2015 State of the County

Fiscal Responsibility

Ulster County Executive Mike Hein lowered County Property Taxes for 2015, committed to an additional 2016 County Property Tax reduction with the cooperation of the Legislature and highlighted the establishment of a Taxpayer Stabilization Reserve. Further, he unveiled a new initiative to help revitalize the Ellenville and Wawarsing area with the “Ellenville Million.” These initiatives, together with a proposal to develop a shovel ready site at the former County jail facility and various other economic development efforts build upon County Executive Mike Hein’s commitment to a fiscally responsible County Government.

- **2015 and 2016 County Property Tax Reduction:** The 2015 Enacted County Budget reduced the County Property levy by one percent from the 2014 Property Tax Levy. In addition, barring increased spending by the County Legislature, County Executive Mike Hein committed to another County Property Tax reduction in the 2016 Property Tax Levy resulting in a four year combined County Property Tax decrease!
- **Tax Stabilization Reserve:** Through the establishment of Ulster County’s first Tax Stabilization Reserve, County Executive Mike Hein created a multi-year tax stabilization plan to protect County taxpayers from unsustainable and unpredictable fluctuations in County taxes.
- **“Ellenville Million” Initiative:** Through the creation of a community led Ellenville Million special Taskforce, County Executive Mike Hein has proposed a revitalization plan for the Ellenville and Wawarsing area. The advisory group will be charged with developing recommendations to utilize a \$1 million County investment in these revitalization efforts.
- **Shovel Ready Proposal at the Former Ulster County Jail:** This proposal would demolish the old County jail facility and create a shovel ready development site in the City of Kingston with access to municipal water and sewer needs. Aimed at getting the property back on the tax rolls, this proposal will jump start efforts to develop this old and vacant facility.
- **\$28 Million in State Consolidated Funding Awards:** This State funding, secured over the past four years, has provided economic development assistance to local businesses, non-profits and municipalities.