

# **BURLINGTON COUNTY 2015 BUDGET PRESENTATION**

**Board of Chosen Freeholders Meeting**

# BUDGET OVERVIEW

- ◆ **Budget Objectives & Challenges**
- ◆ **Cost Savings & Revenue Changes**
- ◆ **Property Values**
- ◆ **Budgeting Considerations**
- ◆ **Summary of 2015 Revenues & Appropriations**
- ◆ **Key Points from Presentation**

# OBJECTIVES

- ◆ **Maintain and enhance County services**
- ◆ **Continue to optimize operational efficiencies**
- ◆ **Identify additional cost-savings through County-wide shared services**
- ◆ **Maintain lowest per resident cost for County services in the State**

# CHALLENGES

- ◆ **Jail revenues down - \$745,000**
- ◆ **Increase essential services for our most vulnerable - \$875,000**
- ◆ **Increase in State bill for patients in psychiatric facilities - \$835,000**

# CHALLENGES

- ◆ **Overall BCIC savings, but Workers Compensation run-off from previous plan – \$400,000**
- ◆ **Increase in Debt Service to maintain core services – \$1.3 million**
  - **Overlay and road reconstruction projects, intersection improvements and bridge repairs**
  - **County Building Infrastructure Improvements**
  - **BCC Improvements**

# COST SAVINGS EFFORTS

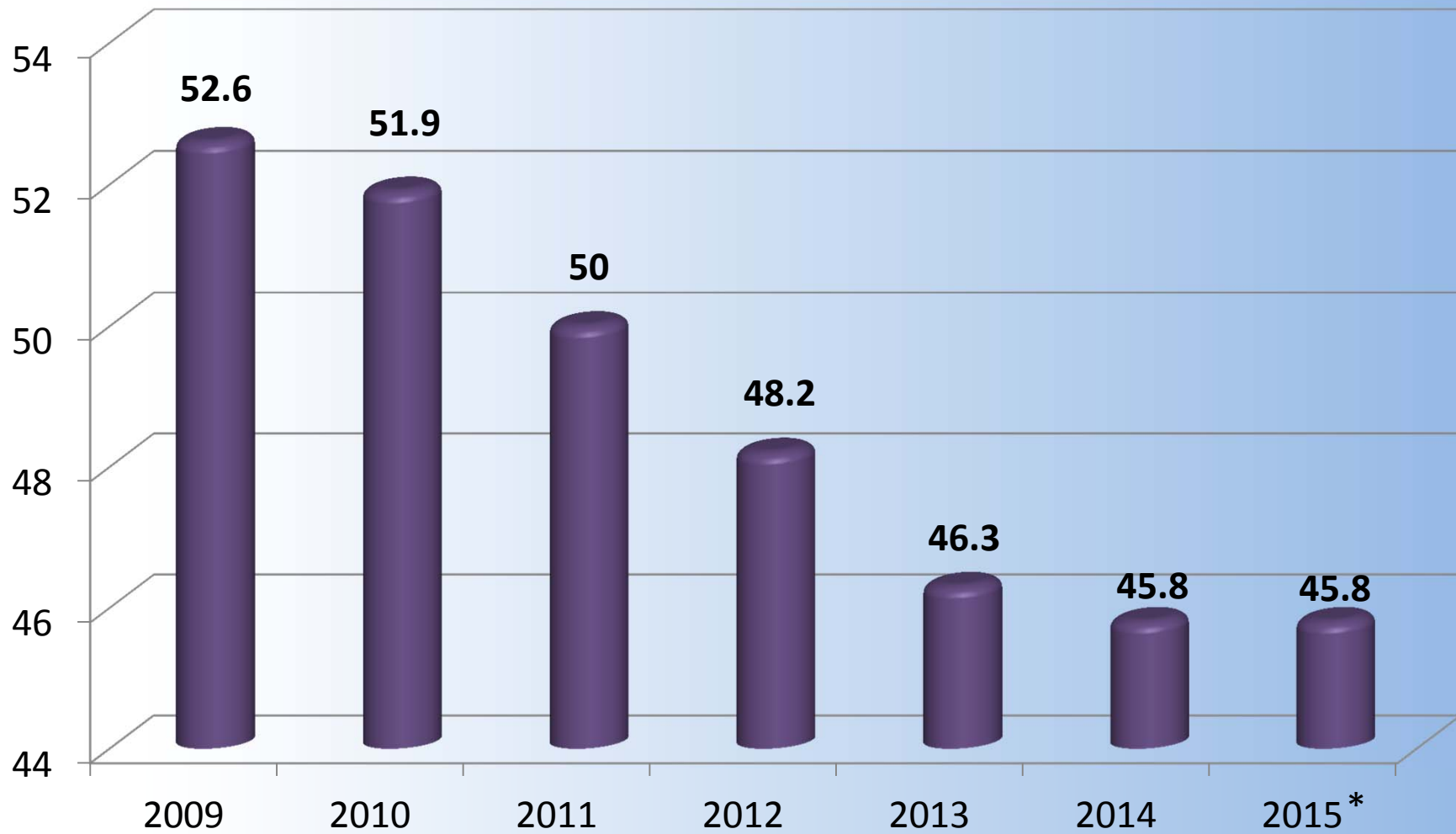
- ◆ **Continue to maximize operating efficiencies**
  - **Alternative detention arrangements for female inmates**
    - **\$2 million annually savings**
    - **Eliminating \$7-8 million in Capital Improvements to the jail**
  
- ◆ **Cost savings to date from shared services agreements with schools/BCC/library**
  - **BCC - Staffing and Project savings - \$535,000**
  - **BCIT/Special Services - New Alternative School, Pond Remediation & various projects - \$3 million**
  - **Library - Staff and IT project savings - \$900,000**

# REVENUE CHANGES FOR 2015

- ◆ **Identify new revenue opportunities**
  - **Cumberland County Juvenile detainees - \$800,000 annually**
  - **Restructuring Jail Commissary - \$220,000**
  
- ◆ **Other Increased revenues**
  - **Sheriff's Department - \$229,000**
  - **Chapter 12 Funding Increase - \$368,000**
  - **Increase in Schools/BCC Debt Service Contribution - \$900,000**

# PROPERTY VALUES FINALLY STABILIZE 2009 - 2015

Net Property Valuations in Billions of Dollars



\* estimated



# BUDGETING CONSIDERATIONS

- ◆ **Taxes**
- ◆ **Revenue**
- ◆ **Spending**
- ◆ **Cost Per Resident**

## COMBINED TAX LEVY 2008 TO 2014 (COUNTY, OPEN SPACE AND LIBRARY)

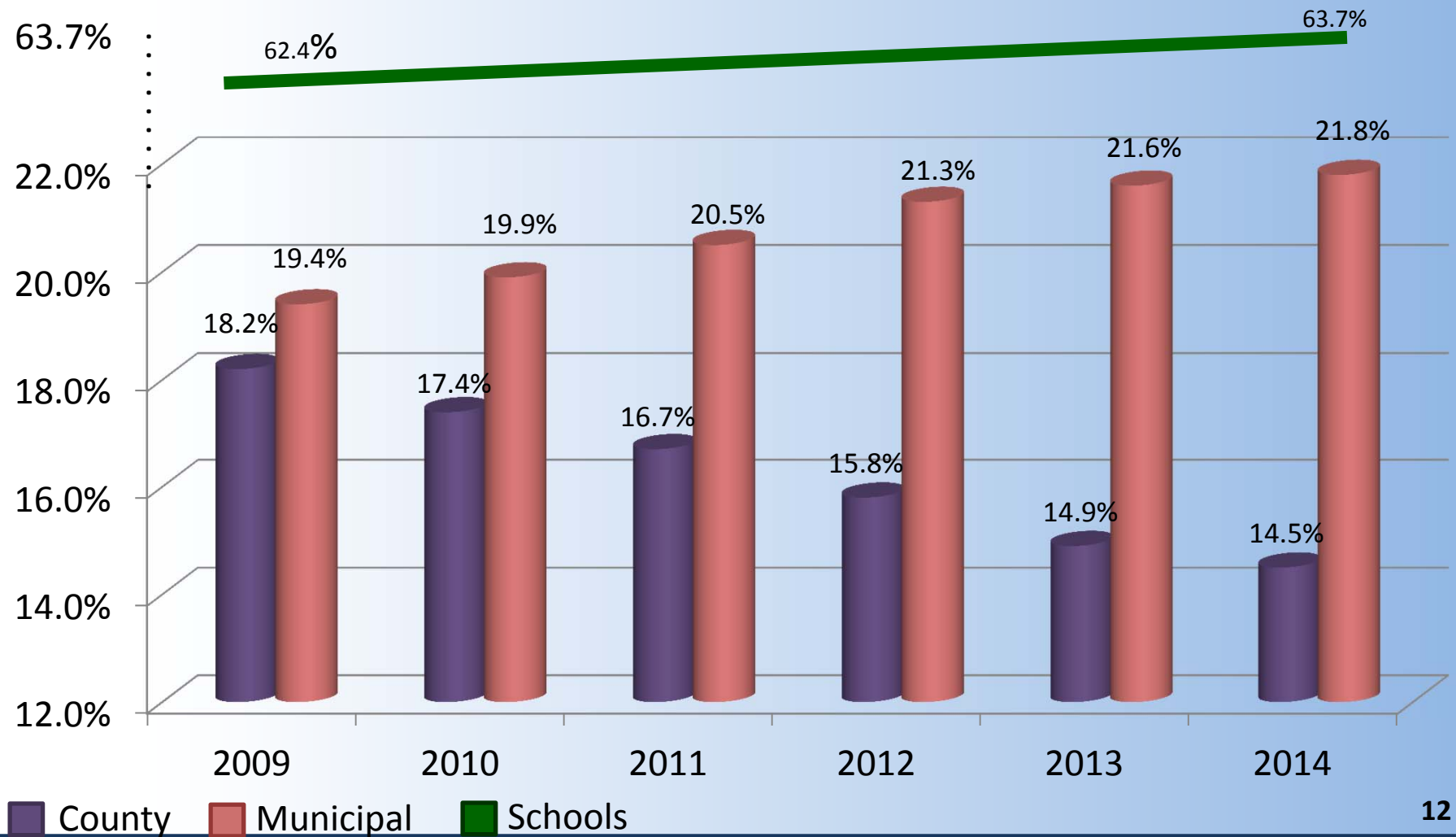
- ◆ Burlington County decreased the Total Levy by more than any other County in the State over the past 7 years:
  - Burlington County's combined tax levy decreased by \$24.7 million or 12.7%
  - Union County had the largest increase in Total Levy at \$73.5 million or 27.9% followed by Middlesex County at \$62.5 million or 19.9%
  - The average change in total levy for all counties in the State - increase of \$23.2 million or 9%

# TOTAL LEVY CHANGE 2008 TO 2014

Millions of Dollars



# TAX LEVY COMPARISON FOR BURLINGTON COUNTY: COUNTY, MUNICIPAL & SCHOOLS 2009 TO 2014



# TOTAL REVENUES 2009 - 2014

Revenue in Millions of Dollars

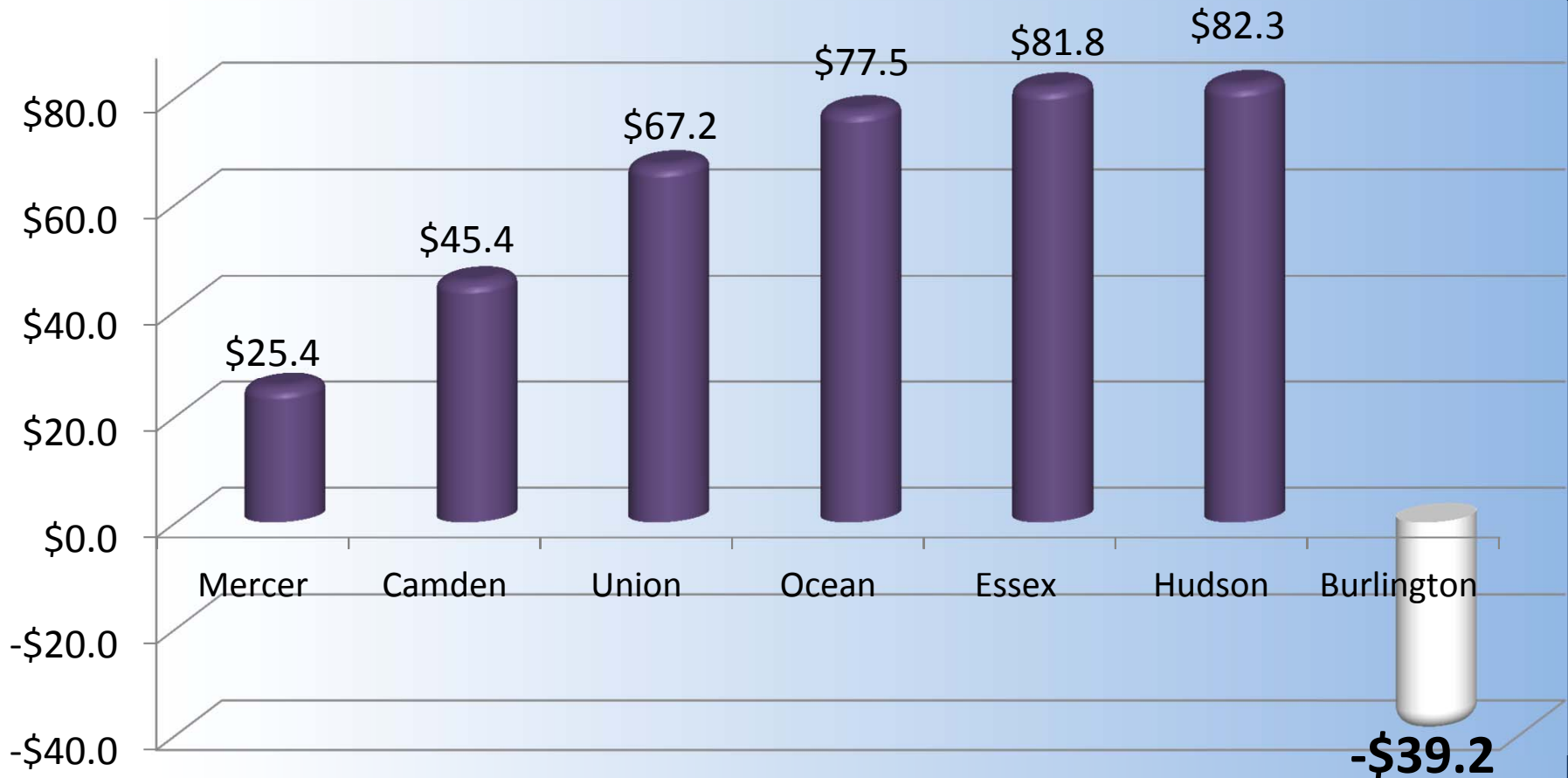


## COMPARISON OF COUNTY SPENDING 2008 TO 2014

- ◆ Burlington County decreased spending \$39.2 million or 17.2%
- ◆ All Counties in the State have an average increase of \$21.9 million
- ◆ The average of the top 5 Counties that increased spending is \$64.1 million

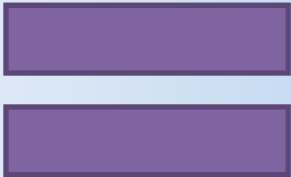
# CHANGE IN COUNTY SPENDING BETWEEN 2008 TO 2014

Millions of Dollars in Spending



# HOW IT WORKS

**County Spending**



**Taxes**



**Other Revenue**



**Savings**



# TAX LEVY

	2014	2015 **	Increase/Decrease
Library Net Levy	\$ 10,186,371	\$ 10,500,000	\$ 313,629
Open Space Net Levy (restoring \$.04 levy)	\$ 6,787,600	\$ 18,200,000	\$ 11,412,400
County Net Levy	\$ 152,523,014	\$ 155,523,014	\$ 3,000,000
Totals	\$ 169,496,985	\$ 184,223,014	\$ 14,726,029

\*\* projected

# WHY THE TAX LEVY INCREASE?

- ◆ **NJ increases Mandates & Charges (\$1.8 million)**
  - Board of Social Services increase - \$640,000
  - Increase in bill for patients in psychiatric facilities - \$835,000
  - State Grant Fringe Allocation Decrease - \$165,000
  - Increase in Fire and Police Pensions - \$170,000
- ◆ **Increased funding to BCC (\$650,000)**
  - \$150,000 - workforce development
  - \$500,000 – Operating
- ◆ **Other items (\$550,000)**
  - Human Services Programs - \$235,000
  - Facility and Equipment repairs - \$165,000
  - Utilities - \$125,000

# SUMMARY OF 2015 REVENUES & EXPENSES

<b>Revenues</b>	
<b>Surplus</b>	<b>\$ 2,390,000</b>
<b>Misc. Revenues</b>	
<b>Local</b>	<b>\$ 11,415,541</b>
<b>State Aid</b>	<b>\$ 1,284,542</b>
<b>State Assumption of Cost for Welfare Services</b>	<b>\$ 48,678</b>
<b>Grants</b>	<b>\$ 4,752,417</b>
<b>Other</b>	<b>\$ 16,739,614</b>
<b>Amount raised by Taxes</b>	<b>\$155,523,014</b>
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>\$192,153,806</b>
<b>Appropriations</b>	
<b>Salary and Wages</b>	<b>\$ 58,857,000</b>
<b>Other expenses</b>	<b>\$100,944,521</b>
<b>Debt Service</b>	<b>\$ 32,352,285</b>
<b>Total Appropriations</b>	<b>\$192,153,806</b>

## **LOWEST PER RESIDENT COST IN STATE**

- ❖ **Burlington County remains the lowest per resident cost at only \$346 while providing first rate County Services**
- ❖ **The next lowest County is Bergen County at \$409 per resident (2014)**
- ❖ **Cape May County has the highest at \$1,038 per resident**
- ❖ **The State average is \$563 (2014)**

# SUMMARY OF KEY POINTS

## ◆ Taxes:

- 2015 proposed tax levy increase is less than 2% - mainly due to state imposed mandates & charges
- Open space tax rate being restored to 4 cents providing for new opportunities for farmland acquisition, parks and trails

## ◆ Spending:

- Overall spending decreased by over \$35.6 million or 15.6% from 2008 - 2015
- Despite a 1.88% increase over last year, Burlington County has managed spending better than any other County in the State

## ◆ Cost Per Resident:

- Will remain the lowest per resident cost in the State once again at: \$346

**THANK YOU!**