

Press



Release

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For Immediate Release

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Legislators Alden H. Wolfe and Michael Grant Issue Statement On County Executive Ed Day's Proposed 2016 County Budget

New City, NY (Oct. 1, 2015) – Rockland County Legislature Chairman Alden H. Wolfe and Budget and Finance Committee Chairman Legislator Michael M. Grant said they are awaiting a copy of County Executive Ed Day's Proposed 2016 County Budget.

The plan is due to the Legislature today, Oct. 1. A budget presentation is to be made to Legislators by County Finance Commissioner Stephen F. DeGroat at 7 p.m. tonight.

"While we don't yet know the details, we do know, as in years past, that a careful review is needed to ensure a strong budget for 2016," Wolfe said. "The Legislature will continue its role in addressing the deficit, Summit Park Hospital and Nursing Care Center and possible layoffs and in engaging conservative budgeting practices. At the same time, we also recognize that County Government exists to provide vital services to our residents."

Wolfe and Grant said the Legislature has been preparing for its annual review of the County Executive's proposed spending plan.

"We have established a schedule to allow for the detailed review that is necessary to make sure the most accurate budget – one that is properly balanced with our best estimates for revenues and expenditures – is eventually adopted," Grant said.

This year marks a significant change from past years, when the County Executive had until Oct. 23 to submit his annual proposed budget. A change made to the County Charter in November set the earlier Oct. 1 submission date.

Legislators will have an additional three weeks to conduct their review and they plan to obtain necessary information from department heads, consulting financial experts, the county executive's staff and others.

The review, which will be conducted by the Budget and Finance Committee, will include discussions on revenues, the state tax cap, mandates, capital projects, and the report that the state Comptroller's Office will provide after reviewing the proposed spending plan.

Grant and Wolfe said the public is encouraged to attend the review sessions. The schedule is subject to change so check the Legislature's homepage on the county website for the updated meeting schedule at <http://rocklandgov.com/departments/county-legislature/committee-agendas/>. The public can also visit the Rockland County Legislature's Facebook page for the updated schedule.

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