


# COUNCIL COMMUNICATION

 CITY OF DES MOINES CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE	Number:	<b>26-111</b>	Meeting:	<b>March 23, 2026</b>
	Agenda Item:	<b>3</b>	Roll Call:	<b>26-0342</b>
	Submitted by:	<b>Nickolas Schaul, Finance Director</b>		

## AGENDA HEADING:

Hold Public Hearing on proposed Fiscal Year (FY) 2026-2027 Property Tax Levy.

## SYNOPSIS:

House File (HF) 718 of the 2023 Legislative Session requires cities to conduct a separate meeting on the budget. At the public hearing, any resident or taxpayer may present objections to, or arguments in favor of the proposed tax levy. After the hearing of the proposed tax levy, the City Council will publish notice and hold a hearing on the proposed City budget.

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

- The City is proposing no change in the overall tax rate. The rate remains at \$16.61 per \$1,000 of taxable property. This overall tax rate has remained materially unchanged since FY2021.
- On March 15, Polk County mailed a notice to property owners in Des Moines of the proposed rate and how to participate in this meeting.
- In addition to this meeting, residents can provide input at the April 6th Council meeting when the budget will be considered. The Finance Department conducted four (4) public meetings in December and January providing residents the opportunity to participate in budget prioritization activities. Opportunities to provide input were also available virtually at [dsm.city/budget](http://dsm.city/budget).
- Both the Preliminary Operating Budget and Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) budgets were posted on the website on February 11th. Finance staff presented budget details to Council on February 18th.

## PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION(S):

Date: February 23, 2026

Roll Call Number: [26-0239](#)

Action: [To](#) receive oral or written testimony from any resident or property owner of Des Moines on the proposed property tax amount for fiscal year 2027, (3-23-26 at 7:30 AM). Moved by Gatto to adopt. Second by Voss. Motion Carried 7-0.

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**BOARD/COMMISSION ACTION(S): NONE**

**ANTICIPATED ACTIONS AND FUTURE COMMITMENTS:**

- March 23, 2026 (evening): Set Public Hearing for Budget Consideration
- April 6, 2026: Hold Hearing for Budget Consideration

For more information on this and other agenda items, please call the City Clerk's Office at 515-283-4209 or visit the Clerk's Office on the second floor of T.M. Franklin Cownie City Administration Building, 1200 Locust Street. Council agendas are available to the public at the City Clerk's Office on Thursday afternoon preceding Monday's Council meeting. Citizens can also request to receive meeting notices and agendas by email by calling the Clerk's Office or sending their request via email to [cityclerk@dmgov.org](mailto:cityclerk@dmgov.org).