

***BARTOW COUNTY, GEORGIA***

***Annual Financial Report***

***For the year ended December 31, 2024***

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**BARTOW COUNTY, GEORGIA**  
**ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT**  
*For the year ended December 31, 2024*

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## Independent Auditor's Report

Honorable Commissioner  
Bartow County, Georgia

### Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

#### ***Opinions***

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, the discretely presented component unit, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of Bartow County, Georgia, as of and for the year ended December 31, 2024, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise Bartow County, Georgia's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

In our opinion, based on our audit and the report of the other auditors, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, the discretely presented component unit, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of Bartow County, Georgia, as of December 31, 2024, and the respective changes in the financial position and the budgetary comparisons of the General Fund and American Rescue Plan Act Special Revenue Fund for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

We did not audit the financial statements of Bartow County Health Department, a discretely presented component unit of Bartow County, Georgia. Those statements were audited by other auditors whose report has been furnished to us, and our opinion, insofar as it relates to the amounts included for Bartow County Health Department, is based solely on the reports of the other auditors.

#### ***Basis for Opinions***

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of Bartow County, Georgia and to meet our ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

#### ***Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements***

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America; and for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about Bartow County, Georgia's ability to continue as a going concern for twelve months beyond the financial statement date, including any currently known information that may raise substantial doubt shortly thereafter.

## ***Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements***

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinions. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards and *Government Auditing Standards* will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

In performing an audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards and *Government Auditing Standards*, we:

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of Bartow County, Georgia's internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements.
- Conclude whether, in our judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about Bartow County, Georgia's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit, significant audit findings, and certain internal control-related matters that we identified during the audit.

### ***Required Supplementary Information***

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the management's discussion and analysis and the required supplementary information on pages 4 through 14 and 91 through 98, respectively, be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. We have applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, which consisted of inquiries of management about the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance.

### **Supplementary Information**

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise Bartow County, Georgia's basic financial statements. The combining and individual fund financial statements and schedules, the schedule of projects financed with special purpose local option sales tax, and the schedule of completed state awards expended are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the basic financial statements. The schedule of expenditures of federal awards is presented for purposes of additional analysis as required by Title 2 U.S. *Code of Federal Regulations Part 200, Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards*, and is also not a required part of the basic financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements. The information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements or to the basic financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, the combining and individual fund financial statements and schedules, the schedule of projects financed with special purpose local option sales tax, the schedule of completed state awards expended, and the schedule of expenditures of federal awards are fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the financial statements as a whole.

### **Other Reporting Required by *Government Auditing Standards***

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated June 27, 2025, on our consideration of Bartow County, Georgia's internal control over financial reporting and our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, grant agreements, and other matters. The purpose of that report is to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering Bartow County, Georgia's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

*Rushton, LLC*

Gainesville, Georgia  
June 27, 2025

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# BARTOW COUNTY

Steve Taylor, Sole Commissioner

## MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

Bartow County management is proud to present this narrative discussion and analysis of Bartow County's financial performance, making available an overview of the activities for the year ended December 31, 2024. This report is drafted annually to provide readers of financial statements with information that will help them make timely and meaningful financial decisions or draw conclusions about Bartow County. As required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 34, this discussion and analysis affords comparisons with the previous fiscal year.

### Financial Highlights

- Bartow County's assets and deferred outflows of resources exceeded its liabilities and deferred inflows of resources at December 31, 2024 by \$447,349,285 (*net position*). Of this amount, (\$46,131,541) is reported as unrestricted net position. This is an increase of \$12,535,772 from the previous year for unrestricted. Total net position increased by \$56,831,277 from the previous year as a result of operations.
- As of December 31, 2024, Bartow County's governmental funds reported combined ending fund balances of \$150,546,823. Approximately 65% of this total amount, or \$98,348,032, is reported as unassigned and available for spending at the County's discretion. Approximately 26%, or \$39,333,667, is restricted for capital outlay. Information about Bartow County's policy on fund balance can be found in Note 2R in the *Notes to the Financial Statements* beginning on page 45.

More detailed information regarding these activities and funds begins on page 8.

### Overview of the Financial Statements

This discussion and analysis narrative is intended to serve as an introduction to Bartow County's basic financial statements. Bartow County's basic financial statements are composed of three elements: 1) government-wide financial statements; 2) fund financial statements; and 3) notes to the financial statements. This report also contains required supplementary information in addition to our basic financial statements.

### Government-wide Financial Statements (Reporting the County as a Whole)

The focus of the government-wide financial statements is on the overall financial position and activities of Bartow County and is designed to provide a broad overview of the County's financial activities in a manner similar to a private business enterprise.

The County's government-wide financial statements include the Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities. These two statements report information about Bartow County using the accrual basis of accounting, which is similar to the accounting used by non-public businesses. All of the current year's revenues and expenses are taken into account regardless of when cash is received or paid.

The purpose of the **Statement of Net Position** (pages 15-16) is to report all of the assets held and liabilities owed by the County. The County reports all of its assets when it acquires ownership over the assets and reports all of its liabilities when they are incurred. The difference between the total assets and total liabilities is labeled *net position*. While the purpose of County Government is not to accumulate net position, as this amount increases it can indicate the strength of the County's financial position as a whole. When this amount decreases it can indicate a weakening of the County's financial position.

The **Statement of Activities** (page 17) presents the revenues and expenses of the County. Under the accrual basis of accounting, revenues are recognized when earned and expenses when incurred in this statement. Thus, revenues are reported even when they may not be collected for several weeks after the end of the accounting period and expenses are recorded even though they may not have used cash during the current period. The difference is described as *change in net position*. The Statement of Activities primary focus is on the *net cost* of various activities provided by the County and identifies the extent to which each function of the County draws from general revenues or is self-financing through user fees, special revenues, grants, or other sources.

In the Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities, we divide Bartow County into three types of activities:

- **Governmental activities** – Most of the County's basic services are reported under this category which includes: judicial, public safety, public works, and general administration. Taxes such as: real property, sales, insurance premium and intangible finance most of these services.
- **Business-type activities** – The County charges fees to customers to assist in recovering the cost for providing certain services. The County's water services and solid waste services are reported in this category.
- **Discretely Presented Component Unit** – A component unit is a legally separate organization for which the elected officials of the County are financially accountable. The Bartow County Health Department, although legally separate, functions for all practical purposes as a department of Bartow County, and therefore has been included as an integral part of the primary government.

The County's government-wide financial statements are presented on pages 15-17.

## **Fund Financial Statements (Reporting the County's Major Funds)**

The focus of fund financial statements is directed at specific activities of the County and its most significant funds, not the County as a whole. A fund is an entity with a self-balancing set of accounts that the County uses to track specific resources and expenditures, either for management purposes or because of legal mandates. In addition to the major funds, individual fund data for the County's non-major funds can be found beginning on page 99. The County's funds are divided into three broad categories: governmental, proprietary, and fiduciary. They use different prescribed accounting methodologies.

- **Governmental Funds** – These funds account for essentially the same functions reported as governmental activities in the government-wide financial statements. However, governmental fund financial statements focus on the short-term view of the County's general government operations and the basic services it provides. Governmental funds are reported using an accounting method called modified accrual, which measures cash and all other financial assets that can readily be converted to cash.

Because the focus of the governmental fund financial statements is narrower than that of the government-wide financial statements and because of the different accounting methods used to prepare them, there are often significant differences between the totals presented in these financial statements. It is useful to compare the information presented for governmental funds with similar information presented for governmental activities in the government-wide financial statements. By so doing, readers may better understand the long-term impact of the government's near-term financing decisions. An analysis of the balance sheet and the statement of revenues, expenditures, and changes in fund balances that reconciles the two statements are provided following each statement.

Bartow County maintains twenty-one individual governmental funds. Information is presented separately in the governmental fund balance sheet and the governmental fund statement of revenues, expenditures, and changes in fund balances for the General Fund, American Rescue Plan Act Special Revenue Fund, and 2020 SPLOST Capital Projects Fund, which are considered major governmental funds. Data from the other governmental funds are combined into a single, aggregated presentation. Individual fund data for each of these non-major governmental funds is provided in the form of combining statements on pages 99-102 of this report.

Bartow County adopts an annual appropriated budget for its General Fund and special revenue funds. Budgetary comparison statements have been included for the General Fund and American Rescue Plan Act Special Revenue Fund to show the final result of actual revenues and expenditures as compared to the initial projections.

The County's basic governmental fund financial statements are presented on pages 18-24 of this report.

- **Proprietary Funds** – When the County charges customers for services it provides, these services are generally reported in proprietary funds. These proprietary funds are prepared using the same accrual basis of accounting as the government-wide financial statements.

Enterprise fund statements report the same functions presented in the business-type activities columns of the government-wide financial statements. Bartow County uses enterprise funds to account for its Water and Sewer and Solid Waste functions.

The County's proprietary fund financial statements are presented on pages 25-29.

**Fiduciary Funds** – Fiduciary funds are used to account for resources held for the benefit of parties outside the government. Fiduciary funds are not reflected in the government-wide financial statement because the resources of those funds are not available to support the County's own programs and services. The accounting used for fiduciary funds is similar to that used for proprietary funds. Fiduciary funds are presented in the fund financial statements but are not reported in the government-wide financial statements. The fiduciary fund financial statements are presented on pages 30-31.

### **Notes to the Financial Statements**

The notes provide additional information that is essential to a full understanding of the data provided in the government-wide and fund financial statements. The notes to the financial statements can be found on pages 32-90 of this report.

### **Required Supplementary Information**

In addition to the basic financial statements and accompanying notes, this report presents certain required supplementary information concerning the County's defined benefit pension plan and other post-employment benefit plan. The required supplementary information can be found on pages 91-98 of this report.

### **Other Supplementary Information**

Other supplementary information includes combining financial statements for non-major governmental, proprietary, and fiduciary funds. These funds are added together by fund type and presented in single columns in the basic financial statements but are not reported individually, as with major funds, on the government-wide financial statements.

This report includes two schedules (pages 19 and 21) which reconcile the amounts reported on the governmental fund financial statements (modified accrual basis of accounting) with the governmental activities reported on the government-wide financial statements (accrual basis of accounting). The following summarizes the impact of transitioning from modified accrual to accrual accounting:

- Capital assets used in governmental activities on the government-wide statements are not reported on fund financial statements.
- Certain tax revenues that are earned, but not available, are reported as revenue on the government-wide statements but as deferred inflows of resources on the fund statements.
- Unless due and payable, long-term liabilities, such as lease obligations, compensated absences, bonds and notes payable, and others only appear as liabilities in the government-wide statements.
- Capital outlay spending results in capital assets on the government-wide statements but is reported as expenditures on the governmental fund financial statements.
- Certain other outflows represent either increases or decreases in liabilities on the government-wide statements but are reported as expenditures on the governmental fund financial statements.

## Overview of the County's Financial Position and Operations

The County's overall financial position and operations for this fiscal year is summarized as follows based on the information included in the government-wide financial statements (see pages 15-17):

### Bartow County Net Position As of December 31, 2024 and 2023

	Governmental Activities		Business-Type Activities		Total	
	2024	2023	2024	2023	2024	2023
Current assets	\$ 167,750,428	\$ 150,691,438	\$ 31,117,174	\$ 36,556,724	\$ 198,867,602	\$ 187,248,162
Capital assets	287,531,221	276,338,672	189,410,408	154,192,000	476,941,629	430,530,672
Other noncurrent assets	2,856,135	144,849	383,146	398,388	3,239,281	543,237
<b>Total assets</b>	<u>458,137,784</u>	<u>427,174,959</u>	<u>220,910,728</u>	<u>191,147,112</u>	<u>679,048,512</u>	<u>618,322,071</u>
Deferred outflows of resources	<u>27,257,316</u>	<u>36,079,897</u>	<u>5,001,592</u>	<u>5,844,820</u>	<u>32,258,908</u>	<u>41,924,717</u>
Current liabilities	20,951,518	20,912,422	10,586,630	6,171,418	31,538,148	27,083,840
Noncurrent liabilities	160,027,032	164,934,559	50,714,591	39,807,293	210,741,623	204,741,852
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<u>180,978,550</u>	<u>185,846,981</u>	<u>61,301,221</u>	<u>45,978,711</u>	<u>242,279,771</u>	<u>231,825,692</u>
Deferred inflows of resources	<u>19,366,717</u>	<u>31,995,460</u>	<u>2,311,647</u>	<u>3,965,581</u>	<u>21,678,364</u>	<u>35,961,041</u>
<b>Net position:</b>						
Net investment in capital assets	279,608,343	267,299,478	162,456,525	138,226,664	442,064,868	405,526,142
Restricted	49,269,733	40,984,442	2,825,274	5,295,833	52,095,007	46,280,275
Unrestricted	(43,828,243)	(62,871,505)	(2,982,347)	3,525,143	(46,810,590)	(59,346,362)
<b>Total net position</b>	<u>\$ 285,049,833</u>	<u>\$ 245,412,415</u>	<u>\$ 162,299,452</u>	<u>\$ 147,047,640</u>	<u>\$ 447,349,285</u>	<u>\$ 392,460,055</u>

Net position may serve over time as a useful indicator of a government's financial position. Net position of Bartow County totaled \$447,349,285 at the close of 2024. Approximately 99% of Bartow County's net position is reflected in its investment in capital assets (e.g., land, buildings, machinery and equipment, infrastructure), less any related debt outstanding that was needed to construct or acquire them. This is less than the 103% at December 31, 2023. The County uses capital assets to provide services to citizens. Consequently, these assets are not available for future spending. Although the County's investment in capital assets is reported net of related debt, it should be noted that the resources needed to repay this debt must be provided from other sources, since the capital assets themselves cannot be used to liquidate these liabilities. Restricted net position comprises approximately 12%. This amount represents resources that are subject to external restrictions or enabling legislation on how they may be used.

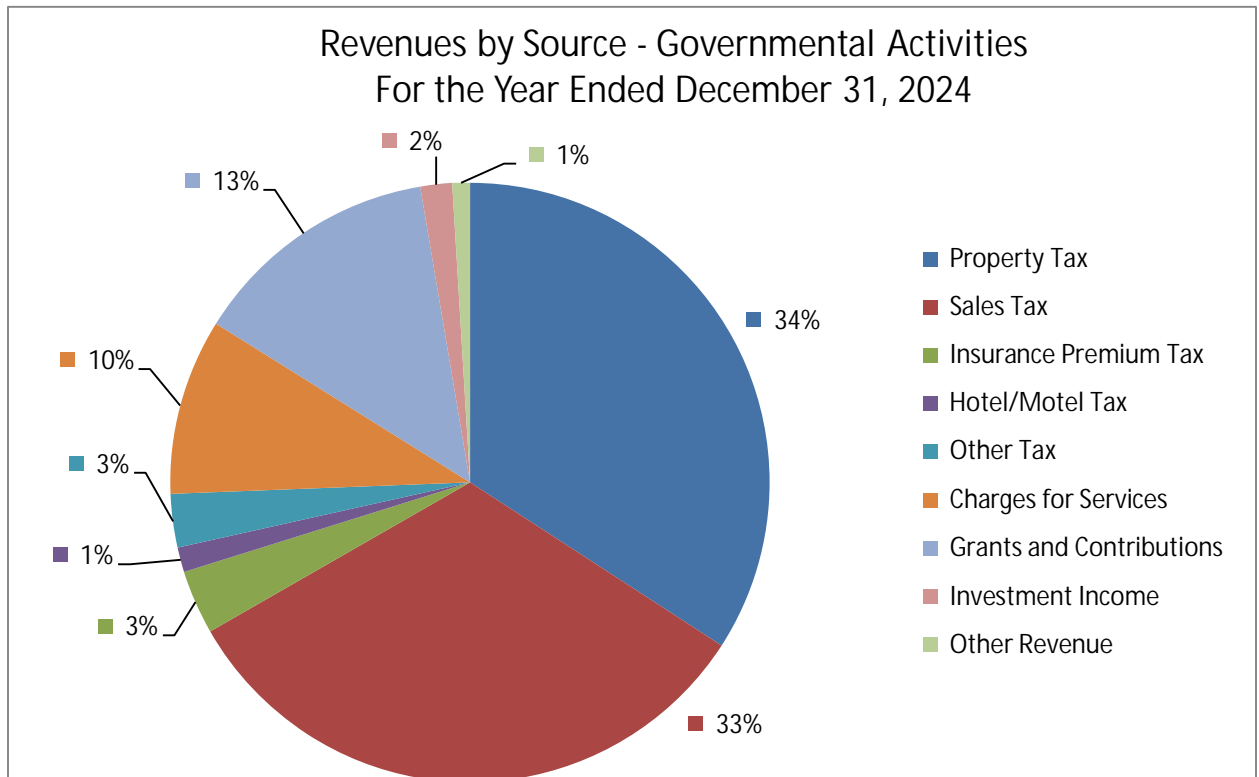
The following condensed financial information was derived from the government-wide Statement of Activities and reflects how Bartow County's net position changed during the year.

**Bartow County**  
**Changes in Net Position**  
**For the Years Ended December 31, 2024 and 2023**

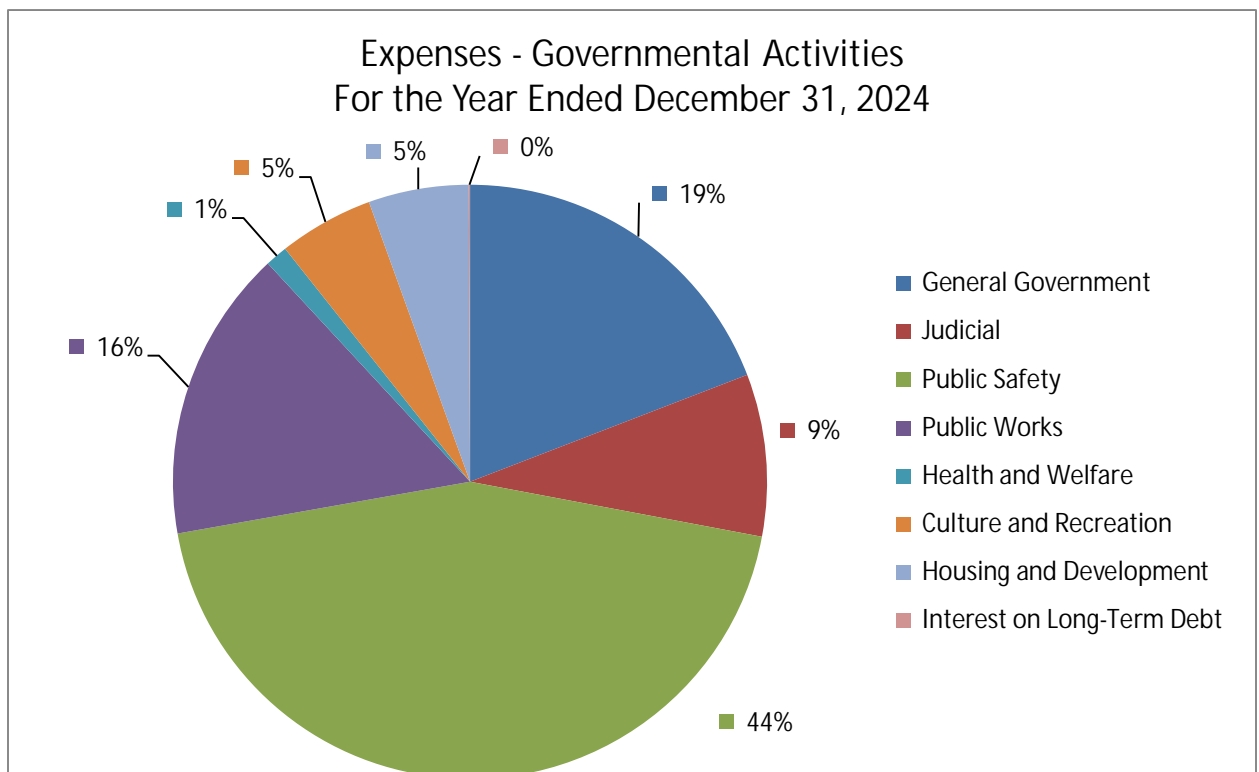
	Governmental Activities		Business-Type Activities		Totals	
	2024	2023	2024	2023	2024	2023
<b>Revenues</b>						
Program revenues:						
Charges for services	\$ 17,658,556	\$ 16,727,067	\$ 36,378,213	\$ 33,799,564	\$ 54,036,769	\$ 50,526,631
Operating grants and contributions	8,740,380	22,314,189	0	0	8,740,380	22,314,189
Capital grants and contributions	16,274,665	15,339,934	9,845,953	3,242,641	26,120,618	18,582,575
General revenues:						
Property tax	63,436,758	56,234,058	0	0	63,436,758	56,234,058
Sales tax	60,457,467	59,951,578	0	0	60,457,467	59,951,578
Insurance premium tax	6,428,305	6,037,940	0	0	6,428,305	6,037,940
Hotel/Motel tax	2,455,315	2,374,591	0	0	2,455,315	2,374,591
Other taxes	5,339,082	5,339,996	0	0	5,339,082	5,339,996
Interest & investment earnings	3,162,808	2,256,639	491,567	630,808	3,654,375	2,887,447
Other revenue	1,755,255	967,872	95,303	75,983	1,850,558	1,043,855
<b>Total revenues</b>	<b>185,708,591</b>	<b>187,543,864</b>	<b>46,811,036</b>	<b>37,748,996</b>	<b>232,519,627</b>	<b>225,292,860</b>
<b>Expenses</b>						
General government	26,529,019	24,860,010	0	0	26,529,019	24,860,010
Judicial	12,207,894	10,514,105	0	0	12,207,894	10,514,105
Public Safety	61,304,426	53,616,981	0	0	61,304,426	53,616,981
Public Works	22,005,312	26,679,593	0	0	22,005,312	26,679,593
Health and Welfare	1,699,659	3,078,913	0	0	1,699,659	3,078,913
Culture and Recreation	7,137,255	6,070,079	0	0	7,137,255	6,070,079
Housing and Development	7,522,182	7,947,412	0	0	7,522,182	7,947,412
Interest on long-term debt	114,977	70,418	0	0	114,977	70,418
Water and Sewer	0	0	29,430,931	25,116,306	29,430,931	25,116,306
Solid Waste	0	0	7,736,695	7,153,343	7,736,695	7,153,343
<b>Total expenses</b>	<b>138,520,724</b>	<b>132,837,511</b>	<b>37,167,626</b>	<b>32,269,649</b>	<b>175,688,350</b>	<b>165,107,160</b>
<b>Increase (decrease) in net position before transfers</b>	<b>47,187,867</b>	<b>54,706,353</b>	<b>9,643,410</b>	<b>5,479,347</b>	<b>56,831,277</b>	<b>60,185,700</b>
Transfers	(5,709,803)	(10,727,162)	5,709,803	10,727,162	0	0
<b>Increase (decrease) in net position</b>	<b>41,478,064</b>	<b>43,979,191</b>	<b>15,353,213</b>	<b>16,206,509</b>	<b>56,831,277</b>	<b>60,185,700</b>
<b>Net position - beginning (as previously presented)</b>	<b>245,412,415</b>	<b>201,131,442</b>	<b>147,047,640</b>	<b>131,061,779</b>	<b>392,460,055</b>	<b>332,193,221</b>
Error correction	(990,207)	301,782	0	(220,648)	(990,207)	81,134
Change in accounting principle	(850,439)	0	(101,401)	0	(951,840)	0
<b>Net position - beginning (as restated)</b>	<b>243,571,769</b>	<b>201,433,224</b>	<b>146,946,239</b>	<b>130,841,131</b>	<b>390,518,008</b>	<b>332,274,355</b>
<b>Net position - ending</b>	<b>\$ 285,049,833</b>	<b>\$ 245,412,415</b>	<b>\$ 162,299,452</b>	<b>\$ 147,047,640</b>	<b>\$ 447,349,285</b>	<b>\$ 392,460,055</b>

**Governmental Activities –**

The following chart illustrates revenues of the governmental activities for the year:



The following chart illustrates the expenses of the governmental activities for the year:



## **Business-Type Activities –**

Business-type activities increased Bartow County's net position by \$15,353,213, or 10%.

## **Financial Analysis of the County's Funds**

Bartow County uses fund accounting to ensure and demonstrate compliance with finance-related legal requirements.

**Governmental Funds.** The main focus of the County's governmental funds is to provide information on near-term inflows, outflows, and balances of unrestricted resources. Such information is useful in assessing the County's financing requirements. In particular, unassigned fund balance may serve as a useful measure of a government's net resources available for spending at the end of the fiscal year.

As the County completed this year, its governmental funds reported a combined ending fund balance of \$150,546,823. Of this amount, \$98,348,032 (65%) constitutes unassigned fund balance, which is available for appropriation for the general purposes of the funds in accordance with the Bartow County policy on fund balance.

The General Fund is the chief operating fund of the County. At the end of the current year, unassigned fund balance of the General Fund was \$98,348,032, while total fund balance reached \$104,376,236. Unassigned fund balance represents approximately 94% of total fund balance in the General Fund. As a measure of the General Fund's liquidity, it is useful to compare both unassigned fund balance and total fund balance to total fund expenditures. Unassigned fund balance represents 83% of total General Fund expenditures, while total fund balance represents approximately 88% of that same amount. The County ended the year realizing an increase in the overall fund balance in the General Fund by \$12,293,719, or approximately 13%. The County increased unassigned fund balance in the General Fund by \$7,037,634, or 8%. The overall increase in fund balance was \$10,849,933 less than the increase in the prior year. Revenues decreased by \$3,788,390. Tax revenues increased \$7,970,140 due to increased property values and increased retail sales. Intergovernmental revenues decreased \$14,643,400 due to less payments from the Development Authority of Bartow County. Interest revenues increased \$942,477 due to higher interest rates. Total expenditures increased by \$9,372,415 due predominantly to increased personal services expenditures (\$7,618,393), with the most significant increases in the Sheriff and Fire Departments. The American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Special Revenue Fund reflects receipts and disbursements for the ARPA Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Fund, mostly for water and sewer projects. Fund balance of the 2020 SPLOST Fund increased by \$7,927,537 for the current year and reflects revenues and expenditures of special purpose local option sales taxes in accordance with the referendum.

## **General Fund Budget Highlights**

The original budget for the General Fund was amended reflecting grant awards, reimbursements, insurance claims, as well as unanticipated revenues and expenditures. The Commissioner also approved interdepartmental transfers and transfers from the contingency/reserve for emergencies line item. Overall, General Fund revenues were above the final amended budget projections by \$1,227,115, or 0.9%. General Fund expenditures were below the final amended budget projections by \$5,620,357, or 4.5%. Current General Fund revenues are meeting estimates for fiscal year 2025 and the fund balance of the General Fund is expected to increase or remain similar to the current year.

## **Proprietary Funds**

Bartow County's proprietary funds provide the same type of information found in the government-wide financial statements, but in more detail.

Unrestricted net position of the County's two proprietary funds totaled as follows:

- Water and Sewer                   \$ 5,680,177
- Solid Waste                         \$ (8,662,524)

The Water and Sewer Fund increased net position by \$12,826,988 due largely to capital contributions and transfers from other funds. The Solid Waste Fund increased net position by \$2,526,225 due largely to operations. Post-closure care liability as of December 31, 2024 is \$11,141,709 versus \$10,408,040 at the end of 2023. This is an increase of \$733,669, or 7.0%.

### Capital Assets and Debt Administration

**Capital Assets.** Bartow County has invested \$476,941,629 in capital assets (net of accumulated depreciation) compared to \$430,530,672 at the end of the previous year. This represents an increase of 10.8%. Approximately 60% of this investment is related to governmental activities and includes infrastructure, land, buildings, and machinery and equipment. Capital assets held by the County at December 31 are summarized as follows:

	Governmental Activities		Business-Type Activities		Totals	
	2024	2023	2024	2023	2024	2023
Land	\$ 43,442,059	\$ 43,186,459	\$ 16,914,693	\$ 10,399,457	\$ 60,356,752	\$ 53,585,916
Construction in progress	33,610,724	27,953,426	32,906,360	33,656,863	66,517,084	61,610,289
Buildings and improvements	116,181,319	104,155,394	3,501,504	3,501,504	119,682,823	107,656,898
Improvements other than buildings	8,398,392	8,398,392	27,886,507	21,153,613	36,284,899	29,552,005
Vehicles and equipment	71,787,746	68,308,587	17,306,903	16,451,146	89,094,649	84,759,733
Infrastructure	403,558,366	399,315,133	181,493,921	154,737,369	585,052,287	554,052,502
Intangible right-to-use assets						
Equipment	793,003	0	0	0	793,003	0
Software	1,805,382	1,805,382	0	0	1,805,382	1,805,382
<b>Total</b>	<b>679,576,991</b>	<b>653,122,773</b>	<b>280,009,888</b>	<b>239,899,952</b>	<b>959,586,879</b>	<b>893,022,725</b>
Accumulated depreciation/amortization	(392,045,770)	(376,784,101)	(90,599,480)	(85,707,952)	(482,645,250)	(462,492,053)
<b>Net Capital Assets</b>	<b>\$ 287,531,221</b>	<b>\$ 276,338,672</b>	<b>\$ 189,410,408</b>	<b>\$ 154,192,000</b>	<b>\$ 476,941,629</b>	<b>\$ 430,530,672</b>

Major capital asset purchases during the current year for governmental activities included the following:

- Purchase property for various projects, including right of way purchases for road construction.
- Remodeled and constructed various County buildings.
- Purchased new vehicles and equipment for various departments.
- Continued construction and resurfacing of various County roads.

Major capital asset purchases during the current year for business-type activities included the following:

- Continued construction for the expansion of the water and sewer system.
- Purchased property for the water and sewer system.
- Purchased vehicles and equipment for water and sewer.
- Purchased vehicles and equipment for the Landfill.
- Landfill expansion project.

Additional information on Bartow County's capital assets can be found in Note 10 on pages 54-56 of this report.

**Debt.** On December 31, 2024, Bartow County had a total debt balance outstanding for governmental activities in the amount of \$32,622,627, as compared to \$34,008,386 the previous year. Bartow County's outstanding debt for governmental activities decreased by \$1,385,759 during the course of the year due mostly to payments in accordance with amortization schedules in excess of lease and note proceeds. On December 31, 2024, Bartow County had a total debt balance outstanding for the business-type activities in the amount of \$23,933,468, as compared to \$14,129,252 the previous year. Bartow County's outstanding debt for business-type activities increased by \$9,804,216 during the course of the year due to proceeds from notes from direct borrowings in excess of payments in accordance with amortization schedules.

Additional information on the County's long-term debt can be found in Notes 11 and 12 on pages 57-64 of this report.

### **Economic Condition and Outlook**

2024 was a positive financial year for Bartow County. Residential, commercial, and industrial development were all very healthy. For 2024, the property tax digest grew around 14%. Sales taxes from 2023 to 2024 grew about 1%, just slightly below the national trend. High interest rates have weighed somewhat on economic activity. After rapid growth of 15% or more for the years from 2021 to 2023, average prices in the housing market increased by about 5% in 2024 and are flattening out in 2025. The County's financial position remains strong, and the County added significantly to its fund balance.

2025 is off to a reasonable start. The President's tariffs created a brief market panic that seemed to quickly resolve. Recession fears appear to have diminished but the Federal Reserve has waited longer than many predicted to begin cutting rates. To date (through May), sales taxes are up about 1 percent over the comparable period of 2024. The preliminary tax digest shows growth of about 10% for 2024. The County is still absorbing previously approved and constructed apartment, townhome and single-family developments. Single family permits jumped up about 25% over trend in 2024 but are tracking at a slower pace in 2025. There is still demand for new townhomes in the high \$200,000 range and single-family houses in the \$300,000 to \$400,000 range. Notably, Hines Corp. from Texas has spent \$110 million to purchase 2,400 acres in the central area of the County for a mixed-use project to include 2,800 residences, retail, commercial and industrial, with a lifetime build-out value of over \$2 billion. Four other development groups have had discussions with the county about large residential developments to contain over 1,000 homes. After growing from 100,000 to 109,000 population between 2010 and 2020, the County's population growth has accelerated and the latest estimate from July 1, 2024 from the US Census shows the County population at 117,500. Given the number of under construction and future residential units, the County expects continued population growth. The Governor's planning office estimates population reaching 134,000 by 2035.

The \$2.5 billion Hanwha Qcells solar project is nearing completion and has hired about 1,000 employees, on the way to hiring 2,500 by 2029. The \$5 billion HSAGP Energy joint venture of SK On and Hyundai to produce electric vehicle batteries, should be complete in April of 2026. It has hired a few hundred employees to date and is planning to hire 3,700 total employees by 2030. Additionally, the Switch Data Center in Cartersville is under construction. The initial phases and investment so far will be about \$5 billion, with the first three buildings planning to come online in June of 2026, and the fourth building being let for construction recently. The company purchased 1,900 acres and has enough room for up to 31 buildings, which the company describes as a potential investment of \$30 billion or more over 10 years. That project has no tax abatement or incentive. Multiple other data centers sites that are being explored, and two that have been granted rezoning approval by the County.

The County continues to take a conservative financial position and is focused on reducing debt and limiting the growth of expenditures. The County's credit rating was upgraded by S&P's in 2022 to AA and by Moody's in 2023 to Aa1, reflecting prudent management, strong financial

position, solid revenue growth and improving local economic numbers. The strong property tax digest growth has allowed the County to reduce the millage rate repeatedly, each year from 2020 to 2024, while still allowing adequate revenue to cover increasing costs caused by growth in wages, insurance, pension and other operational costs. Millage rates are at low levels not seen in over 20 years. The County increased its local homestead exemption from \$10,000 to \$15,000 net assessed value. The State of Georgia passed HB 581 which imposes a floating homestead exemption based on 2024 values with an inflation factor. Some jurisdictions opted out of the exemption but the County determined we would afford to allow it to come into effect, providing further tax relief to homeowners. The County has continued to grow the unrestricted fund balance. The pension plan has reached 90% funded, the best it has been in many years, and the County continues to contribute to it in excess of the recommended contribution to improve its financial position. The County also established an OPEB Trust to begin accruing funds for Other Post Employment Benefits. The right to OPEB benefits was eliminated for hires joining the County after March 2014, and that fact, over time, in conjunction with a growing OPEB Trust fund, will reduce the OPEB Liability negatively affecting the balance sheet. Insurance costs grew sharply in 2024 due to two particularly large claims and also the widespread prescriptions for GLP-1 diabetes and weight-loss drugs. The employment position with the County has improved, with public safety having all positions filled for the first time in many years, due to very competitive pay raises.

The voters of the County renewed the SPLOST, and so it will continue for the period from January 2026 to December 2031. The county-wide estimated proceeds over those six years are \$306 million. The County received voter approval and intends to borrow up to \$65 million in two tranches against the SPLOST revenue to accelerate the delivery of certain projects including an \$18 million Indoor Firing Range for the Sheriff's Office and a \$50 million Courthouse Expansion. The County is also working on potentially issuing bonds secured by the increment generated in Tax Allocation Districts to assist with the Hines development and another 1,000 unit high-end project by Taylor Morrison. Those would not be general obligation bonds.

Economically, the County continues to be conservative. Tariffs and conflict in the Middle East have created uncertainty in many economic sectors. With the number of well-paying jobs coming to the County, the local economy should remain strong. The water department, as an enterprise fund, has secured loans from the Georgia Environmental Finance Authority backed by the County to construct a wastewater treatment plant, and various main lines for water and sewer, both to serve the new large projects described above and also to open up the central area of the County for development.

### **Contacting the County**

This financial report is designed to provide County citizens, taxpayers, customers, and creditors with a general overview of Bartow County's finances and to demonstrate the County's high level of accountability for the revenue it receives and the services it provides. Questions concerning any of the information provided in this report or requests for additional financial information should be addressed to:

#### **Finance**

Bartow County  
ATTN: Chief Financial Officer  
135 West Cherokee Avenue, Suite 251  
Cartersville, Georgia 30120  
Email: [taylorlj@bartowcountyga.gov](mailto:taylorlj@bartowcountyga.gov)

#### **Administration**

Bartow County  
ATTN: County Administrator  
135 West Cherokee Avenue, Suite 251  
Cartersville, Georgia 30120  
Email: [olsonp@bartowcountyga.gov](mailto:olsonp@bartowcountyga.gov)

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***BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS***

**BARTOW COUNTY, GEORGIA**  
**STATEMENT OF NET POSITION**  
**December 31, 2024**

	Primary Government			Component Unit
	Governmental Activities	Business-type Activities	Total	Bartow County Health Department
<b>ASSETS</b>				
<b>Current assets</b>				
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 117,939,236	\$ 20,595,810	\$ 138,535,046	\$ 3,013,376
Certificates of deposit	4,036,677	0	4,036,677	0
Investments	17,726,239	0	17,726,239	0
Restricted cash and cash equivalents	0	3,602,737	3,602,737	0
Receivables (net)				
Accounts	3,213,120	7,153,393	10,366,513	6,545
Intergovernmental	6,402,034	2,764,521	9,166,555	132,081
Taxes	13,266,750	0	13,266,750	0
Leases	151,740	15,242	166,982	0
Internal balances	4,090,590	(4,090,590)	0	0
Inventories	0	984,616	984,616	53,561
Prepaid items	924,042	91,445	1,015,487	58
Total current assets	<u>167,750,428</u>	<u>31,117,174</u>	<u>198,867,602</u>	<u>3,205,621</u>
<b>Noncurrent assets</b>				
Leases receivable	2,856,135	383,146	3,239,281	0
Net OPEB asset	0	0	0	470
Non-depreciable capital assets	77,052,783	49,821,053	126,873,836	0
Depreciable/amortizable capital assets (net)	210,478,438	139,589,355	350,067,793	4,907
Total noncurrent assets	<u>290,387,356</u>	<u>189,793,554</u>	<u>480,180,910</u>	<u>5,377</u>
<b>Total assets</b>	<u>458,137,784</u>	<u>220,910,728</u>	<u>679,048,512</u>	<u>3,210,998</u>
<b>DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES</b>				
Deferred outflows of resources - pension	17,057,727	3,083,365	20,141,092	448,543
Deferred outflows of resources - OPEB	10,199,589	1,918,227	12,117,816	203,394
<b>Total deferred outflows of resources</b>	<u>27,257,316</u>	<u>5,001,592</u>	<u>32,258,908</u>	<u>651,937</u>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>				
<b>Current liabilities</b>				
Accounts payable	6,122,347	7,477,745	13,600,092	3,183
Intergovernmental payables	3,920,699	0	3,920,699	0
Retainages payable	321,983	0	321,983	0
Accrued salaries and payroll liabilities	1,406,383	143,437	1,549,820	0
Compensated absences	2,493,368	174,346	2,667,714	5,208
Unearned revenue	1,085,716	0	1,085,716	0
Claims and judgments payable	1,392,803	168,061	1,560,864	0
Guarantee obligation	2,937,348	0	2,937,348	0
Leases payable	172,483	0	172,483	1,480
Subscriptions payable	365,513	0	365,513	0
Notes payable	131,533	735,826	867,359	0
Bonds payable	0	155,324	155,324	0
Closure and post-closure care costs	0	36,397	36,397	0
Other current liabilities	601,342	0	601,342	0
Liabilities payable from restricted assets				
Retainages payable	0	739,026	739,026	0
Interest payable	0	31,314	31,314	0
Customer deposits	0	746,149	746,149	0
Bonds payable	0	179,005	179,005	0
Total current liabilities	<u>20,951,518</u>	<u>10,586,630</u>	<u>31,538,148</u>	<u>9,871</u>

**BARTOW COUNTY, GEORGIA**  
**STATEMENT OF NET POSITION**  
**December 31, 2024**

	Primary Government			Component Unit
	Governmental	Business-type	Total	Bartow County Health Department
	Activities	Activities		
<b>Noncurrent liabilities</b>				
Net pension liability	\$ 42,451,032	\$ 6,056,804	\$ 48,507,836	\$ 1,926,110
Net OPEB liability	88,560,250	10,689,162	99,249,412	0
Compensated absences	0	0	0	46,867
Guarantee obligation	25,490,749	0	25,490,749	0
Certificates of participation	1,855,000	0	1,855,000	0
Leases payable	542,687	0	542,687	3,353
Subscriptions payable	691,459	0	691,459	0
Notes payable	435,855	21,122,340	21,558,195	0
Bonds payable	0	1,740,973	1,740,973	0
Closure and post-closure care costs	0	11,105,312	11,105,312	0
Total noncurrent liabilities	<u>160,027,032</u>	<u>50,714,591</u>	<u>210,741,623</u>	<u>1,976,330</u>
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<u>180,978,550</u>	<u>61,301,221</u>	<u>242,279,771</u>	<u>1,986,201</u>
<b>DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES</b>				
Deferred inflows of resources - leases	2,851,871	368,512	3,220,383	0
Deferred inflows of resources - pension	859,040	136,428	995,468	7,931
Deferred inflows of resources - OPEB	15,655,806	1,806,707	17,462,513	115,732
<b>Total deferred inflows of resources</b>	<u>19,366,717</u>	<u>2,311,647</u>	<u>21,678,364</u>	<u>123,663</u>
<b>NET POSITION</b>				
Net investment in capital assets	279,608,343	162,456,525	442,064,868	4,907
Restricted for:				
Judicial	1,069,814	0	1,069,814	0
Public Safety	3,852,481	0	3,852,481	0
Grant Specifications	742,732	0	742,732	0
Capital Outlay	41,722,781	2,646,269	44,369,050	0
Debt Service	1,881,925	179,005	2,060,930	0
Unrestricted	(43,828,243)	(2,982,347)	(46,810,590)	1,748,164
<b>Total net position</b>	<u>\$ 285,049,833</u>	<u>\$ 162,299,452</u>	<u>\$ 447,349,285</u>	<u>\$ 1,753,071</u>

**BARTOW COUNTY, GEORGIA**  
**STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES**  
For the year ended December 31, 2024

FUNCTIONS/PROGRAMS	Expenses	Program Revenues		Net (Expense) Revenue	
		Charges for Services	Operating Grants and Contributions		Capital Grants and Contributions
<b>Primary government</b>					
Governmental activities					
General Government	\$ 26,529,019	\$ 3,724,545	\$ 15,057	\$ 8,505	\$ (22,780,912)
Judicial	12,207,894	220,267	2,613,844	52,200	(9,321,583)
Public Safety	61,304,426	9,128,481	609,043	19,524	(51,547,378)
Public Works	22,005,312	2,270,514	323,193	15,624,752	(3,786,853)
Health and Welfare	1,699,659	11,584	509,141	387,684	(791,250)
Culture and Recreation	7,137,255	2,106,577	76,913	141,000	(4,812,765)
Housing and Development	7,522,182	196,588	4,593,189	41,000	(2,691,405)
Interest on long-term debt	114,977	0	0	0	(114,977)
Total governmental activities	<u>138,520,724</u>	<u>17,658,556</u>	<u>8,740,380</u>	<u>16,274,665</u>	<u>(95,847,123)</u>
<b>Business-type activities</b>					
Water and Sewer	29,430,931	26,668,874	0	9,845,953	7,083,896
Solid Waste	7,736,695	9,709,339	0	0	1,972,644
Total business-type activities	<u>37,167,626</u>	<u>36,378,213</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>9,845,953</u>	<u>9,056,540</u>
Total primary government	<u>175,688,350</u>	<u>54,036,769</u>	<u>8,740,380</u>	<u>26,120,618</u>	<u>(86,790,583)</u>
<b>Component Unit</b>					
Bartow County Health Department					
Health and Welfare	2,321,145	1,003,713	1,151,028	0	(166,404)
<b>Primary Government</b>					
	<b>Governmental Activities</b>	<b>Business-Type Activities</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Component Unit</b>	
<b>Change in net position</b>					
Net (expense) revenue	\$ (95,847,123)	\$ 9,056,540	\$ (86,790,583)	\$ (166,404)	
General revenues					
Taxes					
Property	63,436,758	0	63,436,758	0	
Sales	60,457,467	0	60,457,467	0	
Insurance premium	6,428,305	0	6,428,305	0	
Occupational	430,792	0	430,792	0	
Franchise	483,901	0	483,901	0	
Intangible	1,140,431	0	1,140,431	0	
Alcohol Excise	568,468	0	568,468	0	
Hotel/Motel	2,455,315	0	2,455,315	0	
Energy Excise	2,120,804	0	2,120,804	0	
Other	594,686	0	594,686	0	
Interest and investment earnings	3,162,808	491,567	3,654,375	123,615	
Gain on sale of assets	166,027	33,050	199,077	0	
Other	1,589,228	62,253	1,651,481	800	
Transfers	(5,709,803)	5,709,803	0	0	
Total general revenues and transfers	<u>137,325,187</u>	<u>6,296,673</u>	<u>143,621,860</u>	<u>124,415</u>	
Change in net position	<u>41,478,064</u>	<u>15,353,213</u>	<u>56,831,277</u>	<u>(41,989)</u>	
Net position - beginning (as previously presented)	245,412,415	147,047,640	392,460,055	1,795,060	
Error correction	(990,207)	0	(990,207)	0	
Change in accounting principle	(850,439)	(101,401)	(951,840)	0	
Net position - beginning (as restated)	<u>243,571,769</u>	<u>146,946,239</u>	<u>390,518,008</u>	<u>1,795,060</u>	
Net position - ending	<u>\$ 285,049,833</u>	<u>\$ 162,299,452</u>	<u>\$ 447,349,285</u>	<u>\$ 1,753,071</u>	

**BARTOW COUNTY, GEORGIA**  
**BALANCE SHEET**  
**GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS**  
**December 31, 2024**

	General	American Rescue Plan Act	2020 SPLOST	Nonmajor Governmental Funds	Totals
<b>ASSETS</b>					
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 72,696,324	\$ 1,857,066	\$ 38,311,841	\$ 5,074,005	\$ 117,939,236
Certificates of deposit	4,036,677	0	0	0	4,036,677
Investments	15,831,356	0	0	1,894,883	17,726,239
Receivables (net)					
Accounts	794,222	0	0	2,418,898	3,213,120
Intergovernmental	5,026,419	0	1,135,829	239,786	6,402,034
Taxes	9,280,205	0	3,786,400	200,145	13,266,750
Leases	3,007,875	0	0	0	3,007,875
Due from other funds	875,633	0	0	80,907	956,540
Advances to other funds	3,213,607	0	0	0	3,213,607
Prepaid items	658,593	0	0	265,449	924,042
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>\$ 115,420,911</b>	<b>\$ 1,857,066</b>	<b>\$ 43,234,070</b>	<b>\$ 10,174,073</b>	<b>\$ 170,686,120</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>					
Accounts payable	\$ 2,406,455	\$ 608,286	\$ 2,811,047	\$ 296,559	\$ 6,122,347
Intergovernmental payables	2,891,994	0	1,028,705	0	3,920,699
Retainages payable	0	0	321,983	0	321,983
Accrued salaries and payroll liabilities	1,356,187	0	0	50,196	1,406,383
Due to other agencies	0	0	0	601,291	601,291
Due to other funds	18,667	0	0	60,890	79,557
Unearned revenue	0	1,085,716	0	0	1,085,716
Other liabilities	0	0	0	51	51
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>6,673,303</b>	<b>1,694,002</b>	<b>4,161,735</b>	<b>1,008,987</b>	<b>13,538,027</b>
<b>DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES</b>					
Unavailable property taxes	1,519,501	0	0	0	1,519,501
Unavailable fines and forfeitures	0	0	0	2,229,898	2,229,898
Leases	2,851,871	0	0	0	2,851,871
<b>Total deferred inflows of resources</b>	<b>4,371,372</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2,229,898</b>	<b>6,601,270</b>
<b>FUND BALANCES</b>					
Nonspendable:					
Leases receivable	156,004	0	0	0	156,004
Advances to other funds	3,213,607	0	0	0	3,213,607
Prepaid items	658,593	0	0	265,449	924,042
Restricted for:					
Judicial	0	0	0	1,069,814	1,069,814
Public Safety	0	0	0	1,523,202	1,523,202
Grant Specifications	0	163,064	0	0	163,064
Capital Outlay	0	0	39,072,335	261,332	39,333,667
Debt Service	0	0	0	1,881,925	1,881,925
Assigned for:					
Public Safety	0	0	0	1,568,655	1,568,655
Housing and Development	0	0	0	264,574	264,574
Debt Service	0	0	0	100,237	100,237
Subsequent Year's Budget	2,000,000	0	0	0	2,000,000
Unassigned	98,348,032	0	0	0	98,348,032
<b>Total fund balances</b>	<b>104,376,236</b>	<b>163,064</b>	<b>39,072,335</b>	<b>6,935,188</b>	<b>150,546,823</b>
<b>Total liabilities, deferred inflows of resources, and fund balances</b>	<b>\$ 115,420,911</b>	<b>\$ 1,857,066</b>	<b>\$ 43,234,070</b>	<b>\$ 10,174,073</b>	<b>\$ 170,686,120</b>

**BARTOW COUNTY, GEORGIA**  
**RECONCILIATION OF THE BALANCE SHEET OF**  
**GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS TO THE**  
**STATEMENT OF NET POSITION**  
**December 31, 2024**

**Total fund balances - total governmental funds** \$ 150,546,823

Amounts reported for governmental activities in the statement of net position are different because:

Some assets are not financial resources and therefore are not reported in the funds. These are:

Capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation 287,531,221

Revenues in the statement of activities that do not provide current financial resources are reported as deferred inflows of resources in the funds. These are:

Property taxes	\$ 1,519,501	
Fines and forfeitures	2,229,898	3,749,399

Deferred outflows and inflows of resources related to pensions are applicable to future periods and, therefore, are not reported in the funds. These are:

Deferred outflows of resources:		
Pension	17,057,727	
OPEB	10,199,589	
Deferred inflows of resources:		
Pension	(859,040)	
OPEB	(15,655,806)	10,742,470

Some liabilities are not due and payable in the current period and therefore are not reported in the funds. These are:

Net pension liability	(42,451,032)	
Net OPEB liability	(88,560,250)	
Compensated absences	(2,493,368)	
Claims and judgements payable	(1,392,803)	
Guarantee obligation	(28,428,097)	
Certificates of participation	(1,855,000)	
Leases payable	(715,170)	
Subscriptions payable	(1,056,972)	
Notes payable	(567,388)	(167,520,080)

Net position of governmental activities \$ 285,049,833

**BARTOW COUNTY, GEORGIA**  
**STATEMENT OF REVENUES,**  
**EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES**  
**GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS**  
**For the year ended December 31, 2024**

	General	American Rescue Plan Act	2020 SPLOST	Nonmajor Governmental Funds	Totals
<b>REVENUES</b>					
Taxes	\$ 98,868,787	\$ 0	\$ 36,503,142	\$ 2,456,707	\$ 137,828,636
Licenses and permits	2,353,666	0	0	0	2,353,666
Fines, fees and forfeitures	3,343,153	0	0	1,175,188	4,518,341
Charges for services	6,875,527	0	0	2,995,577	9,871,104
Intergovernmental	15,273,160	2,559,911	4,944,856	533,440	23,311,367
Interest	3,041,660	28,472	1,271,623	98,001	4,439,756
Contributions	72,430	0	250,000	76,913	399,343
Other	1,533,232	0	0	55,996	1,589,228
<b>Total revenues</b>	<b>131,361,615</b>	<b>2,588,383</b>	<b>42,969,621</b>	<b>7,391,822</b>	<b>184,311,441</b>
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>					
Current					
General Government	17,264,994	0	0	0	17,264,994
Judicial	12,728,546	0	0	209,051	12,937,597
Public Safety	58,208,241	0	0	4,316,978	62,525,219
Public Works	11,977,816	0	0	0	11,977,816
Health and Welfare	3,563,863	0	0	0	3,563,863
Culture and Recreation	6,910,244	0	0	0	6,910,244
Housing and Development	4,506,101	0	0	1,654,142	6,160,243
Capital outlay	0	0	25,047,460	142,740	25,190,200
Debt service	3,296,904	0	58,430	64,586	3,419,920
Intergovernmental	0	0	9,852,254	0	9,852,254
<b>Total expenditures</b>	<b>118,456,709</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>34,958,144</b>	<b>6,387,497</b>	<b>159,802,350</b>
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over (under) expenditures	12,904,906	2,588,383	8,011,477	1,004,325	24,509,091
Other financing sources (uses)					
Transfers in	1,401,913	0	0	1,192,082	2,593,995
Transfers out	(3,755,896)	(2,559,911)	(83,940)	(1,904,051)	(8,303,798)
Sale of capital assets	264,242	0	0	0	264,242
Issuance of leases payable	756,866	0	0	0	756,866
Issuance of notes payable	721,688	0	0	0	721,688
Total other financing sources (uses)	(611,187)	(2,559,911)	(83,940)	(711,969)	(3,967,007)
Net change in fund balance	12,293,719	28,472	7,927,537	292,356	20,542,084
Fund balances, January 1 (as previously presented)	93,072,724	134,592	31,144,798	6,642,832	130,994,946
Error correction	(990,207)	0	0	0	(990,207)
Fund balances, January 1 (as restated)	92,082,517	134,592	31,144,798	6,642,832	130,004,739
<b>Fund balances, December 31</b>	<b>\$ 104,376,236</b>	<b>\$ 163,064</b>	<b>\$ 39,072,335</b>	<b>\$ 6,935,188</b>	<b>\$ 150,546,823</b>

**BARTOW COUNTY, GEORGIA**  
**RECONCILIATION OF THE STATEMENT OF**  
**REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN**  
**FUND BALANCES OF GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS**  
**TO THE STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES**  
**For the year ended December 31, 2024**

**Net change in fund balances - total governmental funds** \$ 20,542,084

Amounts reported for governmental activities in the statement of activities are different because:

Governmental funds report capital outlays as expenditures. However, in the statement of activities, the cost of those assets is allocated over their estimated useful lives and reported as depreciation/amortization expense.

Capital outlays	\$ 28,005,639	
Depreciation and amortization	<u>(16,690,272)</u>	11,315,367

In the statement of activities, the gain/loss on the disposal of assets is reported, whereas in the governmental funds, the proceeds from the sale of capital assets increases financial resources.

Cost of assets disposed	(1,551,421)	
Related accumulated depreciation	<u>1,428,603</u>	(122,818)

Governmental funds report pension contributions as expenditures. However, in the statement of activities, the cost of pension benefits earned net of employee contributions is reported as pension expense.

Pension contributions	9,539,000	
Cost of benefits earned net of employee contributions	<u>(6,496,460)</u>	3,042,540

Governmental funds report OPEB contributions as expenditures. However, in the statement of activities, the cost of OPEB benefits earned net of employee contributions is reported as OPEB expense.

OPEB contributions	2,533,068	
Cost of benefits earned net of employee contributions	<u>1,299,161</u>	3,832,229

The proceeds of debt issuance, net of premiums, discounts and issuance costs provide current financial resources to governmental funds, but issuing debt increases long-term liabilities in the statement of net position. Repayment of debt principal is an expenditure in the governmental funds, but the repayment reduces long-term liabilities in the statement of net position. In addition, interest on long-term debt is not recognized in the governmental funds until due, but is recognized in the statement of activities as it accrues.

Increase in guarantee obligation	(440,630)	
Debt proceeds	(1,478,554)	
Debt principal payments	<u>3,304,943</u>	1,385,759

Revenues in the statement of activities that do not provide current financial resources are not reported as revenues in the funds.

Unavailable revenue - property taxes	288,291	
Unavailable revenue - fines and forfeitures	<u>862,606</u>	1,150,897

Some expenses reported in the statement of activities do not require the use of current financial resources and are not reported as expenditures in governmental funds.

Compensated absences	(61,772)	
Claims and judgements payable	<u>393,778</u>	332,006

Change in net position of governmental activities		<u>\$ 41,478,064</u>
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**BARTOW COUNTY, GEORGIA**  
**GENERAL FUND**  
**STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES**  
**BUDGET (GAAP) AND ACTUAL**  
**For the year ended December 31, 2024**

	Budget		Actual	Variance with Final Budget
	Original	Final		
<b>REVENUES</b>				
Taxes	\$ 95,866,000	\$ 98,067,000	\$ 98,868,787	\$ 801,787
Licenses and permits	2,235,000	2,385,500	2,353,666	(31,834)
Fines, fees and forfeitures	3,390,000	3,400,000	3,343,153	(56,847)
Charges for services	5,683,500	6,616,500	6,875,527	259,027
Intergovernmental	13,325,000	15,270,000	15,273,160	3,160
Interest	2,000,000	2,790,000	3,041,660	251,660
Contributions	50,000	100,000	72,430	(27,570)
Other	1,505,500	1,505,500	1,533,232	27,732
<b>Total revenues</b>	<b>124,055,000</b>	<b>130,134,500</b>	<b>131,361,615</b>	<b>1,227,115</b>
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>				
Current				
General Government				
Commissioner's Office	1,758,500	1,758,500	1,619,549	138,951
Legal	375,000	403,500	390,470	13,030
Data Processing	1,179,600	1,339,100	1,232,902	106,198
Purchasing	494,500	495,500	453,474	42,026
Elections and Registrar	1,597,500	1,597,500	1,187,328	410,172
Tax Assessor	1,630,500	1,640,500	1,597,765	42,735
Tax Commissioner	2,034,000	2,103,500	2,099,467	4,033
Facilities	3,353,000	3,643,200	3,608,491	34,709
Human Resources	707,000	712,000	702,692	9,308
County Administration	4,888,100	5,287,600	4,372,856	914,744
Judicial				
Superior Court	1,386,500	2,122,000	2,121,817	183
District Attorney	2,497,500	2,497,500	2,281,641	215,859
Public Defender	986,600	986,600	923,404	63,196
Clerk of Superior Court	2,135,000	2,177,000	2,108,318	68,682
Magistrate Court	1,235,000	1,376,500	1,335,763	40,737
Probate Court	1,415,800	1,453,300	1,417,557	35,743
Juvenile Court	2,243,500	2,243,500	2,085,580	157,920
Victim Assistance	498,600	498,600	454,466	44,134
Public Safety				
Sheriff and Jail	33,409,500	38,249,000	38,248,277	723
Coroner	265,000	282,600	272,004	10,596
Fire	19,113,600	18,152,466	17,947,251	205,215
Emergency Management	0	402,000	401,539	461
Animal Control	1,338,000	1,373,500	1,339,170	34,330
Public Works				
Highways and Streets	13,885,500	13,885,500	11,977,816	1,907,684
Health and Welfare				
Health Department	425,000	461,500	98,601	362,899
Mental Health	62,000	62,000	60,688	1,312
Senior Citizens Services	833,500	833,500	804,986	28,514
Indigent Care Services	823,600	787,100	670,077	117,023
Transit	1,372,800	1,930,000	1,929,511	489
Culture and Recreation				
Parks and Recreation	6,204,000	6,204,000	5,972,594	231,406
Libraries	900,000	940,000	937,650	2,350

**BARTOW COUNTY, GEORGIA**  
**GENERAL FUND**  
**STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES**  
**BUDGET (GAAP) AND ACTUAL**  
**For the year ended December 31, 2024**

	Budget		Actual	Variance with Final Budget
	Original	Final		
<b>EXPENDITURES (continued)</b>				
Current				
Housing and Development				
Community Development	\$ 2,218,500	\$ 2,356,000	\$ 2,327,194	\$ 28,806
Engineering	1,472,500	1,472,500	1,468,496	4,004
County Agent	582,500	582,500	443,776	138,724
Forestry	18,000	18,000	16,148	1,852
Economic Development	250,000	251,000	250,487	513
Airport	200,000	200,000	0	200,000
Debt service				
Principal	2,336,000	3,288,000	3,287,309	691
Interest	1,300,000	10,000	9,595	405
<b>Total expenditures</b>	<u>117,426,200</u>	<u>124,077,066</u>	<u>118,456,709</u>	<u>5,620,357</u>
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures	<u>6,628,800</u>	<u>6,057,434</u>	<u>12,904,906</u>	<u>6,847,472</u>
Other financing sources (uses)				
Transfers in	1,090,000	1,340,000	1,401,913	61,913
Transfers out	(6,383,800)	(6,923,300)	(3,755,896)	3,167,404
Sale of capital assets	75,000	135,000	264,242	129,242
Issuance of leases payable	0	756,866	756,866	0
Issuance of notes payable	0	721,688	721,688	0
Contingency	(1,410,000)	(2,087,688)	0	2,087,688
Total other financing sources (uses)	<u>(6,628,800)</u>	<u>(6,057,434)</u>	<u>(611,187)</u>	<u>5,446,247</u>
Excess (deficiency) of revenues and other financing sources over (under) expenditures and other financing uses	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>12,293,719</u>	<u>12,293,719</u>
Fund balances, January 1 (as previously presented)	0	0	93,072,724	93,072,724
Error correction	0	0	(990,207)	(990,207)
Fund balances, January 1 (as restated)	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>92,082,517</u>	<u>92,082,517</u>
<b>Fund balances, December 31</b>	<u><u>\$ 0</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 0</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 104,376,236</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 104,376,236</u></u>

**BARTOW COUNTY, GEORGIA**  
**AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT SPECIAL REVENUE FUND**  
**STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES**  
**BUDGET (GAAP) AND ACTUAL**  
**For the year ended December 31, 2024**

	Budget		Actual	Variance with Final Budget
	Original	Final		
<b>REVENUES</b>				
Intergovernmental	\$ 4,970,000	\$ 4,970,000	\$ 2,559,911	\$ (2,410,089)
Interest	30,000	30,000	28,472	(1,528)
<b>Total revenues</b>	<u>5,000,000</u>	<u>5,000,000</u>	<u>2,588,383</u>	<u>(2,411,617)</u>
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures	5,000,000	5,000,000	2,588,383	(2,411,617)
Other financing sources (uses)				
Transfers out	<u>(5,000,000)</u>	<u>(5,000,000)</u>	<u>(2,559,911)</u>	<u>2,440,089</u>
Excess (deficiency) of revenues and other financing sources over (under) expenditures and other financing uses	0	0	28,472	28,472
Fund balances, January 1	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>134,592</u>	<u>134,592</u>
<b>Fund balances, December 31</b>	<u><u>\$ 0</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 0</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 163,064</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 163,064</u></u>

**BARTOW COUNTY, GEORGIA**  
**STATEMENT OF NET POSITION**  
**PROPRIETARY FUNDS**  
**December 31, 2024**

	Business-Type Activities		
	Water and Sewer	Solid Waste	Totals
<b>ASSETS</b>			
<b>Current assets</b>			
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 12,982,656	\$ 7,613,154	\$ 20,595,810
Restricted cash and cash equivalents	3,602,737	0	3,602,737
Receivables (net)			
Accounts	6,443,420	709,973	7,153,393
Intergovernmental	2,764,521	0	2,764,521
Leases	15,242	0	15,242
Inventories	984,616	0	984,616
Prepaid items	91,445	0	91,445
	<u>26,884,637</u>	<u>8,323,127</u>	<u>35,207,764</u>
<b>Total current assets</b>			
<b>Noncurrent assets</b>			
Leases receivable	383,146	0	383,146
Capital assets			
Non-depreciable	48,641,394	1,179,659	49,821,053
Depreciable (net)	121,531,731	18,057,624	139,589,355
	<u>170,556,271</u>	<u>19,237,283</u>	<u>189,793,554</u>
<b>Total noncurrent assets</b>			
	<u>197,440,908</u>	<u>27,560,410</u>	<u>225,001,318</u>
<b>Total assets</b>			
<b>DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES</b>			
Deferred outflows of resources - pension	2,162,438	920,927	3,083,365
Deferred outflows of resources - OPEB	1,777,079	141,148	1,918,227
	<u>3,939,517</u>	<u>1,062,075</u>	<u>5,001,592</u>
<b>Total deferred outflows of resources</b>			
<b>LIABILITIES</b>			
<b>Current liabilities</b>			
Accounts payable	7,203,806	273,939	7,477,745
Accrued salaries and payroll liabilities	75,544	67,893	143,437
Compensated absences	127,117	47,229	174,346
Claims and judgements payable	113,441	54,620	168,061
Due to other funds	876,983	0	876,983
Notes payable	735,826	0	735,826
Revenue bonds payable	155,324	0	155,324
Closure and post-closure care costs	0	36,397	36,397
Liabilities payable from restricted assets			
Retainages payable	739,026	0	739,026
Interest payable	31,314	0	31,314
Customer deposits	746,149	0	746,149
Revenue bonds payable	179,005	0	179,005
	<u>10,983,535</u>	<u>480,078</u>	<u>11,463,613</u>
<b>Total current liabilities</b>			

**BARTOW COUNTY, GEORGIA**  
**STATEMENT OF NET POSITION**  
**PROPRIETARY FUNDS**  
**December 31, 2024**

	<b>Business-Type Activities</b>		
	<b>Water and Sewer</b>	<b>Solid Waste</b>	<b>Totals</b>
<b>Noncurrent liabilities</b>			
Net pension liability	\$ 3,764,920	\$ 2,291,884	\$ 6,056,804
Net OPEB liability	7,215,432	3,473,730	10,689,162
Advances from other funds	3,213,607	0	3,213,607
Notes payable	21,122,340	0	21,122,340
Revenue bonds payable	1,740,973	0	1,740,973
Closure and post-closure care costs	0	11,105,312	11,105,312
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total noncurrent liabilities	37,057,272	16,870,926	53,928,198
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>Total liabilities</b>	48,040,807	17,351,004	65,391,811
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES</b>			
Deferred inflows of resources - leases	368,512	0	368,512
Deferred inflows of resources - pension	26,843	109,585	136,428
Deferred inflows of resources - OPEB	1,219,570	587,137	1,806,707
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total deferred inflows of resources	1,614,925	696,722	2,311,647
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>NET POSITION</b>			
Net investment in capital assets	143,219,242	19,237,283	162,456,525
Restricted for Capital Outlay	2,646,269	0	2,646,269
Restricted for Debt Service	179,005	0	179,005
Unrestricted	5,680,177	(8,662,524)	(2,982,347)
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total net position	\$ 151,724,693	\$ 10,574,759	\$ 162,299,452
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

**BARTOW COUNTY, GEORGIA**  
**STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENSES,**  
**AND CHANGES IN FUND NET POSITION**  
**PROPRIETARY FUNDS**  
**For the year ended December 31, 2024**

	Business-Type Activities		
	Water and Sewer	Solid Waste	Totals
<b>OPERATING REVENUES</b>			
Charges for sales and services	\$ 26,668,874	\$ 9,709,339	\$ 36,378,213
Other	36,889	25,364	62,253
<b>Total operating revenues</b>	<b>26,705,763</b>	<b>9,734,703</b>	<b>36,440,466</b>
<b>OPERATING EXPENSES</b>			
Costs of sales and services	19,535,819	3,260,872	22,796,691
Personal services	5,429,068	3,573,514	9,002,582
Depreciation	4,241,366	902,309	5,143,675
<b>Total operating expenses</b>	<b>29,206,253</b>	<b>7,736,695</b>	<b>36,942,948</b>
Operating income (loss)	(2,500,490)	1,998,008	(502,482)
Non-operating revenues (expenses)			
Interest revenue	491,567	0	491,567
Interest expense	(220,953)	0	(220,953)
Gain (loss) on sale of assets	1,000	33,050	34,050
Debt issue costs	(4,725)	0	(4,725)
<b>Total non-operating revenues (expenses)</b>	<b>266,889</b>	<b>33,050</b>	<b>299,939</b>
Net income (loss) before capital contributions and transfers	(2,233,601)	2,031,058	(202,543)
Capital contributions			
Intergovernmental	425,000	0	425,000
Connection fees	3,901,044	0	3,901,044
Capital contributions	5,519,909	0	5,519,909
<b>Total capital contributions</b>	<b>9,845,953</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>9,845,953</b>
Net income (loss) before transfers	7,612,352	2,031,058	9,643,410
Transfers in (out)			
Transfers in	5,214,636	495,167	5,709,803
Change in net position	12,826,988	2,526,225	15,353,213
Net position, January 1 (as previously presented)	138,962,829	8,084,811	147,047,640
Change in accounting principle	(65,124)	(36,277)	(101,401)
Net position, January 1 (as restated)	138,897,705	8,048,534	146,946,239
<b>Net position, December 31</b>	<b>\$ 151,724,693</b>	<b>\$ 10,574,759</b>	<b>\$ 162,299,452</b>

**BARTOW COUNTY, GEORGIA**  
**STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS**  
**PROPRIETARY FUNDS**  
For the year ended December 31, 2024

	<b>Business-Type Activities</b>		
	<b>Water and Sewer</b>	<b>Solid Waste</b>	<b>Totals</b>
<b>Cash flows from operating activities:</b>			
Receipts from customers	\$ 24,494,184	\$ 9,540,110	\$ 34,034,294
Payments to suppliers	(17,845,677)	(2,531,939)	(20,377,616)
Payments to employees	(5,488,736)	(3,941,108)	(9,429,844)
Other receipts	13,857	25,364	39,221
Net cash provided (used) by operating activities	<u>1,173,628</u>	<u>3,092,427</u>	<u>4,266,055</u>
<b>Cash flows from non-capital financing activities:</b>			
Receipts from other funds	<u>3,613,407</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>3,613,407</u>
<b>Cash flows from capital and related financing activities:</b>			
Receipts of capital contributions	4,061,210	0	4,061,210
Receipts from other funds	5,214,636	495,167	5,709,803
Receipts from other governments	743,137	0	743,137
Receipts of lease payments	14,125	0	14,125
Proceeds from sale of capital assets	1,790	135,628	137,418
Payments for acquisitions of capital assets	(29,750,575)	(1,468,462)	(31,219,037)
Payment of prior year capital related payables	(1,740,096)	(95,988)	(1,836,084)
Interest paid	(225,171)	0	(225,171)
Debt issue costs paid	(4,725)	0	(4,725)
Proceeds from promissory notes	8,090,161	0	8,090,161
Principal payments - promissory notes	(726,138)	0	(726,138)
Principal payments - bonds	(275,000)	0	(275,000)
Net cash provided (used) by capital and related financing activities	<u>(14,596,646)</u>	<u>(933,655)</u>	<u>(15,530,301)</u>
<b>Cash flows from investing activities</b>			
Interest received	<u>442,239</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>442,239</u>
Net increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	(9,367,372)	2,158,772	(7,208,600)
Cash and cash equivalents, January 1	<u>25,952,765</u>	<u>5,454,382</u>	<u>31,407,147</u>
<b>Cash and cash equivalents, December 31</b>	<u><u>\$ 16,585,393</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 7,613,154</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 24,198,547</u></u>

**BARTOW COUNTY, GEORGIA**  
**STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS**  
**PROPRIETARY FUNDS**  
**For the year ended December 31, 2024**

	<b>Business-Type Activities</b>		
	<b>Water and Sewer</b>	<b>Solid Waste</b>	<b>Totals</b>
<b>Reconciliation of operating income (loss) to net cash provided (used) by operating activities:</b>			
Operating income (loss)	\$ (2,500,490)	\$ 1,998,008	\$ (502,482)
<b>Adjustments to reconcile operating income (loss) to net cash provided (used) by operating activities:</b>			
Depreciation expense	4,241,366	902,309	5,143,675
Landfill closure/postclosure costs	0	733,669	733,669
(Increase) decrease in accounts receivable	(2,303,319)	(169,229)	(2,472,548)
(Increase) decrease in inventories	(370,963)	0	(370,963)
(Increase) decrease in prepaid items	(91,445)	0	(91,445)
(Increase) decrease in deferred outflows of resources - pension	(647,464)	293,597	(353,867)
(Increase) decrease in deferred outflows of resources - OPEB	496,216	700,879	1,197,095
Increase (decrease) in accounts payable	2,183,889	18,825	2,202,714
Increase (decrease) in claims and judgements payable	(31,339)	(23,561)	(54,900)
Increase (decrease) in customer deposits	128,629	0	128,629
Increase (decrease) in accrued payroll liabilities	(18,788)	(33,112)	(51,900)
Increase (decrease) in net pension liability	631,597	(490,144)	141,453
Increase (decrease) in net OPEB liability	451,520	(180,661)	270,859
Increase (decrease) in deferred inflows of resources - leases	(23,032)	0	(23,032)
Increase (decrease) in deferred inflows of resources - pension	(16,190)	(69,575)	(85,765)
Increase (decrease) in deferred inflows of resources - OPEB	(956,559)	(588,578)	(1,545,137)
Total adjustments	<u>3,674,118</u>	<u>1,094,419</u>	<u>4,768,537</u>
Net cash provided (used) by operating activities	<u>\$ 1,173,628</u>	<u>\$ 3,092,427</u>	<u>\$ 4,266,055</u>
<b>Cash and cash equivalents reconciliation</b>			
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 12,982,656	\$ 7,613,154	\$ 20,595,810
Restricted assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	<u>3,602,737</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>3,602,737</u>
	<u>\$ 16,585,393</u>	<u>\$ 7,613,154</u>	<u>\$ 24,198,547</u>

**Noncash investing, capital, and financing activities:**

Acquisition of capital assets through payables totaled \$3,886,671.  
Contributions of capital assets from individuals totaled \$5,359,743.  
Increase in notes payable through intergovernmental receivables totaled \$2,764,521.

**BARTOW COUNTY, GEORGIA**  
**FIDUCIARY FUNDS**  
**STATEMENT OF FIDUCIARY NET POSITION**  
**December 31, 2024**

	<b>OPEB Trust Fund</b>	<b>Custodial Funds</b>
<b>ASSETS</b>		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 0	\$ 6,163,806
Investments, at fair value:		
Mutual funds	2,297,336	0
Taxes receivable	0	16,416,959
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>2,297,336</b>	<b>22,580,765</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>		
Due to others	0	16,696,449
<b>NET POSITION</b>		
Restricted for OPEB benefits	2,297,336	0
Restricted for individuals, organizations, and other governments	0	5,884,316
<b>Total net position</b>	<b>\$ 2,297,336</b>	<b>\$ 5,884,316</b>

**BARTOW COUNTY, GEORGIA**  
**FIDUCIARY FUNDS**  
**STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN FIDUCIARY NET POSITION**  
**For the year ended December 31, 2024**

	<b>OPEB Trust Fund</b>	<b>Custodial Funds</b>
<b>ADDITIONS</b>		
Employer contributions	\$ 1,000,000	\$ 0
Net investment income	239,095	0
Taxes collected for other agencies	0	156,465,068
Court fees collected for other agencies	0	5,235,805
Court individual cases	0	4,584,894
Sheriff fees collected	0	885,453
Sheriff inmate account deposits	0	1,230,833
<b>Total additions</b>	<b>1,239,095</b>	<b>168,402,053</b>
<b>DEDUCTIONS</b>		
Taxes distributed to other agencies	0	156,592,166
Court fees distributed to other agencies	0	5,230,719
Payments to others	0	1,990,720
Sheriff fees distributed to other agencies	0	885,453
Payments from inmates to others	0	1,166,669
<b>Total deductions</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>165,865,727</b>
Change in net position	1,239,095	2,536,326
Net position - beginning	1,058,241	3,347,990
Net position - ending	\$ 2,297,336	\$ 5,884,316

**BARTOW COUNTY, GEORGIA**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**December 31, 2024**

**1. Description of Government Unit**

Bartow County, Georgia (the County) is a political subdivision of the State of Georgia created by legislative act in 1832. The County is governed by an elected Commissioner who is governed by State statutes and regulations.

The County provides a full range of governmental services, including public safety, health and welfare services, recreational programs, public works, and solid waste services.

**2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies**

**A. Description of Government-wide Financial Statements**

The government-wide financial statements (i.e., the statement of net position and the statement of activities) report information on all of the nonfiduciary activities of the primary government and its component units. All fiduciary activities are reported only in the fund financial statements. Governmental activities, which normally are supported by taxes, intergovernmental revenues, and other nonexchange transactions, are reported separately from business-type activities, which rely to a significant extent on fees and charges to external customers for support. Likewise, the primary government is reported separately from certain legally separate component units for which the primary government is financially accountable.

**B. Reporting Entity**

As required by generally accepted accounting principles, the financial statements of the reporting entity include those of Bartow County (the primary government) and material component units. The component units discussed below are included in the County's reporting entity because of the significance of its operational and financial relationship with the County.

In conformity with generally accepted accounting principles, as set forth in Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement No. 14, *The Financial Reporting Entity*, as amended by Statement No. 61, the financial statements of component units have been included either as blended or discretely presented component units.

**BARTOW COUNTY, GEORGIA**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**December 31, 2024**

**2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)**

***B. Reporting Entity, continued***

Blended Component Units – Blended component units, although legally separate entities, are, in substance, part of the Government's operations.

Bartow County Resource Recovery Development Authority – The Bartow County Resource Recovery Development Authority is governed by a five-member board appointed by the County Commissioner. Although it is separate from the County being a body corporate and politic and an instrumentality of the State of Georgia, the Authority is reported as if it were part of the primary government because its sole purpose is to finance, construct and to a limited degree operate the new Bartow County landfill. Because of its limited activity, separate financial statements are not prepared for the Authority.

Discretely Presented Component Units – Discretely presented component units are reported in a separate column in the combined financial statements to emphasize it is legally separate from the government.

Bartow County Health Department – The Bartow County Health Department is responsible for providing environmental and physical health services to the citizens of Bartow County. Bartow County Board of Health was created by a state legislative act. It is operated under a seven member board and a full-time executive director. The County by virtue of its appointments and the presence of the County Commissioner on the Board controls a majority of Board of Health governing positions. Although the County does not have the authority to approve or modify the Board of Health's operational and capital budget, it does have the ability to control the amount of funding it provides to the Board of Health. Such funding is significant to the overall operations of the Board of Health. The Health Department's fiscal year end is June 30. A copy of the Bartow County Health Department's financial statements can be obtained from 100 Zena Drive, Cartersville, Georgia 30121.

**BARTOW COUNTY, GEORGIA**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**December 31, 2024**

**2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)**

***B. Reporting Entity, continued***

Certain county officials collect and disburse taxes, fees, fines, and other trust and agency receipts. Separate records of accountability are maintained for such receipts. For purposes of this report, these records are included as a part of custodial funds with remittances to the General Fund from these officials recorded as revenue. Operating costs for these officials are included as a part of the County's General Fund. These units include:

Tax Commissioner	Probate Court	Clerk of Court
Sheriff	Superior Court	
Magistrate Court	Juvenile Court	

***Related Organizations***

The County's governing body is also responsible for appointing the members of the board of other organizations, but the County's accountability for these organizations does not extend beyond making the appointments. Principal bodies excluded due to the County's limited accountability are the following Bartow County authorities and boards:

Board of Family and Children Services  
Cartersville-Bartow County Joint Development Authority  
Cartersville-Bartow County Second Joint Development Authority  
Development Authority of Bartow County  
Community Service Board

***C. Basis of Presentation – Government-wide Financial Statements***

While separate government-wide and fund financial statements are presented, they are interrelated. The governmental activities column incorporates data from governmental funds, while business-type activities incorporate data from the government's enterprise funds. Separate financial statements are provided for governmental funds, proprietary funds, and fiduciary funds, even though the latter are excluded from the government-wide financial statements.

**BARTOW COUNTY, GEORGIA**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**December 31, 2024**

**2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)**

***C. Basis of Presentation – Government-wide Financial Statements, continued***

As discussed earlier, the government has one discretely presented component unit. While it is not considered to be a major component unit, it is shown in a separate column in the government-wide financial statements.

As a general rule, the effect of interfund activity has been eliminated from the government-wide financial statements.

***D. Basis of Presentation – Fund Financial Statements***

The fund financial statements provide information about the government's funds, including its fiduciary funds and blended component units. Separate statements for each fund category—governmental, proprietary, and fiduciary—are presented. The emphasis of fund financial statements is on major governmental and enterprise funds, each displayed in a separate column. All remaining governmental and enterprise funds are aggregated and reported as nonmajor funds. Major individual governmental and enterprise funds are reported as separate columns in the fund financial statements.

The County reports the following major governmental funds:

***General Fund*** – The General Fund is the government's primary operating fund. It accounts for all financial resources of the general government, except those required to be accounted for in another fund.

***American Rescue Plan Act Special Revenue Fund*** – accounts for the revenues and expenditures of the American Rescue Plan Act Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Fund.

***2020 SPLOST Capital Projects Fund*** – accounts for the proceeds of a 1 percent local option sales tax approved in 2019 for a period of time not to exceed six years for the purpose of financing long-term projects.

**BARTOW COUNTY, GEORGIA**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**December 31, 2024**

**2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)**

***D. Basis of Presentation – Fund Financial Statements, continued***

The County reports the following major proprietary funds:

***Water and Sewer Enterprise Fund*** – accounts for the activities of the County’s water and sewer systems. The system includes sewage treatment plants, sewage pumping stations and collection systems, and the water distribution system.

***Solid Waste Enterprise Fund*** – accounts for the activities of the County’s solid waste disposal services for the residences of Bartow County.

Additionally, the government reports the following fund types:

***Governmental Fund Types***

***Special Revenue Funds*** – accounts for the proceeds of specific revenue sources that are legally or donor restricted to be expended for specified purposes.

***Debt Service Funds*** – accounts for the accumulation of resources and payment of general government long-term debt principal and interest from governmental resources.

***Capital Projects Funds*** – accounts for financial resources to be used for the acquisition or construction of specifically planned projects (other than those financed by proprietary funds).

***Fiduciary Fund Types***

***Trust Funds*** – Trust funds are used to account for assets held by the County as a trustee or agent to be expended or invested in accordance with the conditions of a trust or in its agency capacity. The County has an OPEB trust fund to account for a single employer other post-employment benefits system administered by the County for the benefit of its eligible employees.

***Custodial Funds*** – Custodial Funds are fiduciary in nature and are used to account for assets that are held for others. They are reported using the economic resources measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting.

**BARTOW COUNTY, GEORGIA**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**December 31, 2024**

**2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)**

***D. Basis of Presentation – Fund Financial Statements, continued***

During the course of operations the government has activity between funds for various purposes. Any residual balances outstanding at year end are reported as due from/to other funds and advances to/from other funds. While these balances are reported in fund financial statements, certain eliminations are made in the preparation of the government-wide financial statements. Balances between the funds included in governmental activities (i.e., the governmental funds) are eliminated so that only the net amount is included as internal balances in the governmental activities column. Similarly, balances between the funds included in business-type activities (i.e., the enterprise funds) are eliminated so that only the net amount is included as internal balances in the business-type activities column.

Further, certain activity occurs during the year involving transfers of resources between funds. In fund financial statements these amounts are reported at gross amounts as transfers in/out. While reported in fund financial statements, certain eliminations are made in the preparation of the government-wide financial statements. Transfers between the funds included in governmental activities are eliminated so that only the net amount is included as transfers in the governmental activities column. Similarly, balances between the funds included in business-type activities are eliminated so that only the net amount is included as transfers in the business-type activities column.

***E. Measurement Focus and Basis of Accounting***

The accounting and financial reporting treatment is determined by the applicable measurement focus and basis of accounting. Measurement focus indicates the type of resources being measured such as current financial resources or economic resources. The basis of accounting indicates the timing of transactions or events for recognition in the financial statements.

The government-wide financial statements are reported using the economic resources measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting. Revenues are recorded when earned and expenses are recorded when a liability is incurred, regardless of the timing of related cash flows. Property taxes are recognized as revenues in the year for which they are levied. Grants and similar items are recognized as revenue as soon as all eligibility requirements imposed by the provider have been met.

**BARTOW COUNTY, GEORGIA**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**December 31, 2024**

**2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)**

***E. Measurement Focus and Basis of Accounting, continued***

The governmental fund financial statements are reported using the current financial resources measurement focus and the modified accrual basis of accounting. Revenues are recognized as soon as they are both measurable and available. Revenues are considered to be available when they are collectible within the current period or soon enough thereafter to pay liabilities of the current period. For this purpose, the government considers revenues to be available if they are collected within 60 days of the end of the current fiscal period.

Expenditures generally are recorded when a liability is incurred, as under accrual accounting. However, debt service expenditures, as well as expenditures related to compensated absences, and claims and judgments, are recorded only when payment is due. General capital asset acquisitions are reported as expenditures in governmental funds. Issuance of long-term debt and acquisitions under leases are reported as other financing sources.

Property taxes, sales taxes, franchise taxes, licenses, and interest associated with the current fiscal period are all considered to be susceptible to accrual and so have been recognized as revenues of the current fiscal period. Entitlements are recorded as revenues when all eligibility requirements are met, including any time requirements, and the amount is received during the period or within the availability period for this revenue source (within 60 days of year-end). Expenditure-driven grants are recognized as revenue when the qualifying expenditures have been incurred and all other eligibility requirements have been met, and the amount is received during the period or within the availability period for this revenue source (within 60 days of year-end). All other revenue items are considered to be measurable and available only when cash is received by the government.

The proprietary funds are reported using the economic resources measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting.

**BARTOW COUNTY, GEORGIA**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**December 31, 2024**

**2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)**

***F. Revenues and Expenditures/Expenses***

Program revenues include: 1) charges to customers or applicants who purchase, use, or directly benefit from goods, services, or privileges provided by a given function or segment, and 2) grants and contributions that are restricted to meeting the operational or capital requirements of a particular function or segment. All taxes, including those dedicated for specific purposes, and other internally dedicated resources are reported as general revenues rather than as program revenues.

Proprietary funds distinguish operating revenues and expenses from non-operating items. Operating revenues and expenses generally result from providing services and producing and delivering goods in connection with a proprietary fund's principal ongoing operations. The principal operating revenues of the Water and Sewer and Solid Waste Funds are charges to customers for sales and services. Operating expenses for enterprise funds include the cost of sales and services, administrative expenses, and depreciation on capital assets. All revenues and expenses not meeting this definition are reported as non-operating revenues and expenses.

***G. Budgetary Information***

An operating budget is legally adopted each year for the General Fund and the Special Revenue and Debt Service Funds on a basis consistent with generally accepted accounting principles. In accordance with the Georgia Code, the County has project length balanced budgets for all Capital Projects Funds.

All annual appropriations lapse at fiscal year-end. The level of control (the level on which expenditures may not exceed appropriations) for each legally adopted annual operating budget is the department level. During the year, supplemental appropriations are approved by the Commissioner to cover unforeseen expenditures and are funded out of contingency accounts, from favorable revenue and expenditure variances or unappropriated fund balances.

The annual budget cycle begins in the fall of the preceding year when budget requests are submitted to the administrative staff. The County Commissioner advertises and conducts public hearings on the proposed budget in compliance with state law and adopts a final budget as soon as practicable after January 1.

**BARTOW COUNTY, GEORGIA**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**December 31, 2024**

**2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)**

***H. Cash and Investments***

The county's cash and cash equivalents are considered to be cash on hand, demand deposits, certificates of deposit, and other short-term investments with original maturities of three months or less from the date of acquisition. For the purpose of the proprietary fund type statement of cash flows, the County considers all highly liquid investments (including restricted assets) with a maturity of three months or less when purchased to be cash equivalents.

The statutes of the State of Georgia authorize the County to invest in U.S. Government obligations; obligations fully insured or guaranteed by the U. S. Government or by a government agency of the United States; obligations of any Corporation of the U. S. Government; State of Georgia obligations and other States; obligations of other counties, municipal corporations and political subdivisions of the State of Georgia; repurchase agreements when collateralized by U.S. Government or agency obligations; prime banker's acceptances; certificates of deposit or time deposit of any national state bank or savings and loan which have deposits insured by the FDIC or FSLIC; and pooled investment programs sponsored by the State of Georgia for the investment of local government funds.

The County measures and records its investments using fair value measurement guidelines established by generally accepted accounting principles. These guidelines recognize a three-tiered fair value hierarchy, as follows:

- Level 1: Quoted prices for identical investments in active markets
- Level 2: Observable inputs other than quoted market prices
- Level 3: Unobservable inputs

The County reports investments using net asset value (NAV) when NAV is calculated in a manner consistent with fair value measurement guidelines, fair value is not readily determinable, and it is not probable for the investment to be sold at an amount other than NAV.

***I. Intergovernmental Receivables***

Receivables from state, federal, and local governments are recorded as revenue for the period of the allocation or as earned based on expenditures made for which reimbursement is due.

**BARTOW COUNTY, GEORGIA**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**December 31, 2024**

**2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)**

***J. Leases Receivable***

Leases receivable are measured at the present value of lease payments expected to be received during the lease terms. Under the lease agreements, the County may receive variable lease payments that are dependent upon the lessees' revenue. The variable payments are recorded as an inflow of resources in the period the payment is received.

A deferred inflow of resources is recorded for each of the leases. The deferred inflow of resources is recorded at the initiation of the lease in an amount equal to the initial recording of the lease receivable. The deferred inflow of resources is amortized on a straight-line basis over the term of the respective lease.

***K. Inventories***

Certain governmental fund-types had a de minimis amount of expendable supplies on hand at year end. Accordingly, none are shown on the balance sheets at year end. The County uses the purchase method of accounting for the purchase of materials and supplies or services. These items are charged directly to the expenditure account. Enterprise fund inventories are stated at cost on the basis of inventories first in, first out (FIFO) method of accounting. Enterprise fund inventories consist of expendable supplies (i.e. pipe, meters) held for consumption.

***L. Prepaid Items***

Payments made to vendors for services that will benefit periods beyond the current year are recorded as prepaid items. The costs of governmental fund-type prepaid items are recorded as expenditures when consumed rather than when purchased.

**BARTOW COUNTY, GEORGIA**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**December 31, 2024**

**2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)**

***M. Capital Assets***

Capital assets, which include property, plant, equipment and infrastructure assets (e.g. roads, bridges, sidewalks, culverts and similar items), are reported in the applicable governmental or business type activities columns in the government-wide financial statements. Capital assets are defined by the County as assets with an initial, individual cost of \$5,000 and an estimated useful life in excess of two years. Roads, bridges and culverts are defined by the County as projects with an individual cost of \$100,000. Such assets are recorded at historical cost or estimated historical cost if purchased or constructed. Donated capital assets are recorded at acquisition value. The County has included all of its infrastructure assets (roads, bridges and culverts) regardless of acquisition date using actual costs or estimated costs using the backtracking method.

The County has recorded intangible right-to-use assets as a result of implementing GASB Statement No. 87, *Leases* and GASB Statement No. 96, *Subscription-Based Information Technology Arrangements*. The assets are initially measured at an amount equal to the initial measurement of the related lease or subscription liability plus any payments made prior to the lease or subscription term, less lease or subscription incentives, and plus ancillary charges necessary to place the lease or subscription into service. The intangible right-to-use assets are amortized on a straight-line basis over the shorter of the estimated useful life of the underlying asset or life of the related lease or subscription.

Major outlays for capital assets and improvements are capitalized as projects are constructed. Interest incurred during the construction phase of capital assets of business-type activities is included as part of the assets constructed. The amount of interest capitalized is calculated by offsetting interest expense incurred (from the date of borrowing until completion of the project) with interest earned on investment proceeds over the same period.

**BARTOW COUNTY, GEORGIA**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**December 31, 2024**

**2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)**

***M. Capital Assets, continued***

Depreciation and amortization is computed using the straight-line method over the estimated useful lives of the respective assets ranging as follows:

	<b>Useful Life in Years</b>
Land	N/A
Intangibles	N/A
Buildings and structure	25-50
Land improvements	10-20
Vehicles	5
Machinery and equipment	5-20
Infrastructure	20-50
Distribution system	30-50
Intangible right-to-use assets	
Equipment	5-10
Software	5-10

The costs of normal maintenance and repairs that do not add value or materially extend the life of the asset are charged to operations as incurred. Costs of major additions and improvements are capitalized.

***N. Deferred Outflows/Inflows of Resources***

In addition to assets, the statement of financial position will sometimes report a separate section for deferred outflows of resources. This separate financial statement element, deferred outflows of resources, represents a consumption of net assets that applies to a future period(s) and so will not be recognized as an outflow of resources (expense/ expenditure) until then. The County reports deferred outflows of resources for deferred charges on bond refunding and their defined benefit pension and other postemployment benefit plans. A deferred charge on refunding results from the difference in the carrying value of refunded debt and its reacquisition price. This amount is deferred and amortized over the shorter of the life of the refunded or refunding debt.

**BARTOW COUNTY, GEORGIA**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**December 31, 2024**

**2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)**

***N. Deferred Outflows/Inflows of Resources, continued***

In addition to liabilities, the statement of financial position will sometimes report a separate section for deferred inflows of resources. This separate financial statement element, deferred inflows of resources, represents an acquisition of net assets that applies to a future period(s) and so will not be recognized as an inflow of resources (revenue) until that time. The County has only one type of item, which arises only under a modified accrual basis of accounting that qualifies for reporting in this category. Accordingly, the item, unavailable revenue, is reported only in the governmental funds balance sheet. The governmental funds report unavailable revenues from three sources: property taxes, fines, fees, and forfeitures, and special assessments. These amounts are deferred and recognized as an inflow of resources in the period that the amounts become available. The County also reports deferred inflows of resources for their leases receivable, defined benefit pension plan, and other postemployment benefit plan.

***O. Net Position Flow Assumption***

Sometimes the County will fund outlays for a particular purpose from both restricted (e.g., restricted bond or grant proceeds) and unrestricted resources. In order to calculate the amounts to report as restricted – net position and unrestricted – net position in the government-wide and proprietary fund financial statements, a flow assumption must be made about the order in which the resources are considered to be applied. It is the County's policy to consider restricted – net position to have been depleted before unrestricted – net position is applied.

***P. Fund Balance Flow Assumption***

Sometimes the County will fund outlays for a particular purpose from both restricted and unrestricted resources (the total of committed, assigned, and unassigned fund balance). In order to calculate the amounts to report as restricted, committed, assigned, and unassigned fund balance in the governmental fund financial statements a flow assumption must be made about the order in which the resources are considered to be applied. It is the County's policy to consider restricted fund balance to have been depleted before using any of the components of unrestricted fund balance. Further, when the components of unrestricted fund balance can be used for the same purpose, committed fund balance is depleted first, followed by assigned fund balance. Unassigned fund balance is applied last.

**BARTOW COUNTY, GEORGIA**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**December 31, 2024**

**2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)**

**Q. *Restricted Assets and Restricted Net Position***

Restricted assets of the Water and Sewer Fund represent certain resources set aside for construction and the repayment of revenue bonds because they are maintained in a separate bank account and their use is limited.

Restricted net position is equal to the excess of the restricted assets funded from operations over the liabilities to be paid with restricted assets which are due in one year or less. Restricted assets exclude bond proceeds for calculation of restriction.

**R. *Fund Balances – Governmental Funds***

Bartow County implemented GASB No. 54, *Fund Balance Reporting and Governmental Fund Type Definitions*, in 2012. In the fund financial statements, governmental funds report the following classifications of fund balance:

**Nonspendable** – includes amounts that cannot be spent because they are either not spendable in form or are legally or contractually required to be maintained intact. All amounts reported as nonspendable by the County are nonspendable in form. The County has not reported any amounts that are legally or contractually required to be maintained intact.

**Restricted** – includes amounts restricted by external sources (creditors, laws of other governments, etc.) or by constitutional provision or enabling legislation.

**Committed** – includes amounts that can only be used for specific purposes. Committed fund balance is reported pursuant to resolutions passed by the Commissioner, the County's highest level of decision making authority, which include the language "committed for the purpose of". Commitments may be modified or rescinded only through adoption of a subsequent resolution, which shall refer to the original resolution by its number.

**BARTOW COUNTY, GEORGIA**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
*December 31, 2024*

**2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)**

**R. Fund Balances – Governmental Funds, continued**

**Assigned** - consists of amounts that are intended to be used by the County for a specific purpose, but do not meet the definition of restricted or committed fund balance. Intent can only be expressed by the Commissioner or his designee. Assigned Fund Balance differs from Committed Fund Balance in that assignments do not require a resolution. Through resolution, the Commissioner has authorized the County Administrator or Chief Financial Officer to assign fund balances.

**Unassigned** – includes amounts that do not fall into one of the above four categories. This classification represents fund balance that has not been assigned to other funds and that has not been restricted, committed, or assigned to specific purposes within the General Fund. The General Fund is the only fund that should report this category of fund balance. It is the County's target to maintain an unassigned fund balance of not less than three months operating expenses.

**S. Compensation for Future Absences**

Annual leave is earned at the rate of ten days during the first five years of service, fifteen days per year after five years of service, and twenty days per year after fourteen years of service for the remainder of employment. There is no requirement that annual leave be taken. Upon termination, all employees are paid for all accumulated annual leave up to a maximum of two hundred hours. Sick leave is earned at the rate of four hours per month and is allowed to accumulate up to ninety days. Unused sick leave is forfeited upon termination of employment.

Sick and vacation benefits are accrued as a liability as the benefits are earned if the employees' rights to receive compensation are attributable to services already rendered and it is probable that the employer will compensate the employees for the benefits through paid time off or some other means in accordance with GASB Statement No. 101, *Compensated Absences*.

The total compensated absences liability is reported on the government-wide and proprietary fund financial statements. Governmental funds report a compensated absences liability only if the benefit has matured (is, unused reimbursable leave still outstanding following an employee's resignation or retirement) and is expected to be liquidated with expendable available financial resources. All compensated absences liabilities include salary-related payments, where applicable.

**BARTOW COUNTY, GEORGIA**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**December 31, 2024**

**2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)**

***T. Long-Term Obligations***

In the government-wide financial statements, and proprietary fund types in the fund financial statements, long-term debt and other long-term obligations are reported as liabilities in the applicable governmental activities, business-type activities, or proprietary fund type statement of net position. Bond premiums and discounts, as well as prepaid bond insurance, are deferred and amortized over the life of the bonds using the straight-line method. Bonds payable are reported net of the applicable bond premium or discount. Prepaid bond insurance is reported as deferred charges and amortized over the term of the debt. Issuance costs are recognized during the current period.

In the fund financial statements, governmental fund types, bond premiums and discounts, as well as issuance costs, are recognized during the current period. The face amount of debt issued is reported as another financing source. Premiums received on debt issuances are reported as other financial sources while discounts on debt issuances are reported as other financing uses. Issuance costs, even if withheld from the actual net proceeds received, are reported as debt service expenditures.

***U. Pensions***

For purposes of measuring the net pension liability, deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions, and pension expense, information about the fiduciary net position of the Restated Pension Plan for Bartow County employees (the Plan) and additions to/deductions from the Plan's fiduciary net position have been determined on the same basis as they are reported by the Plan. For this purpose, benefit payments (including refunds of employee contributions) are recognized when due and payable in accordance with the benefit terms. Investments are reported at fair value.

***V. Capital Contributions***

Federal, state and local government assistance in the form of grants that are permanent in nature and restricted for the construction or acquisition of specific property and equipment is recorded as an asset and as non-operating revenue.

**BARTOW COUNTY, GEORGIA**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
*December 31, 2024*

**2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)**

***W. Use of Estimates in the Preparation of the Financial Statements***

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities, disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

**3. Deposit and Investment Risk**

**Custodial Credit Risk – Deposits**

Custodial credit risk is the risk that in the event of a financial institution failure, the County's deposits may not be returned. The County has no formal policy, but follows the State of Georgia requirement that all deposits be federally insured or fully collateralized.

**Interest Rate Risk**

Interest rate risk is the risk that changes in interest rates may adversely affect an investment's fair value. The County has no formal investment policy that limits investment maturities as a means of managing its exposure to fair value losses arising from increasing interest rates.

**Credit Risk**

State statutes authorize the government to invest in obligations of the United States Treasury (100%) and of its agencies and instrumentalities (80%); bonds or certificates of indebtedness of this state and of its agencies and instrumentalities (25%); certificates of deposits of banks insured by FDIC (75%); prime bankers' acceptances (10%); the State of Georgia Local Government Investment Pool (100%); repurchase agreements (25%); bonds, debentures, notes or other evidence of indebtedness of any solvent corporation subject to certain conditions (0%).

**Concentration of Credit Risk**

Bartow County places no limit on the amount it may invest in any one issuer.

**Foreign currency risk**

The County has no investments denominated in a foreign currency.

**BARTOW COUNTY, GEORGIA**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**December 31, 2024**

**3. Deposit and Investment Risk (continued)**

The County participates in the State of Georgia Local Government Investment Pool (Georgia Fund 1). Assets in this pool are invested in the Georgia Fund 1, created by OCGA 36-83-8, which is a stable net asset investment pool that follows Fitch's criteria for AAAf/S1 rated money market funds. However, Georgia Fund 1 operates in a manner consistent with Rule 2a-7 of the Investment Company Act of 1940 and is considered to be a 2a-7 like pool. The pool is not registered with the SEC as an investment company. The pool's primary objectives are safety of capital, investment income, liquidity and diversification while maintaining principal (\$1.00 per share value). Net asset value is calculated weekly to ensure stability. The pool distributes earnings (net of management fees) on a monthly basis and determines participant's shares sold and redeemed based on \$1.00 per share. Georgia Fund 1 is managed by the Georgia Office of the State Treasurer. The investment policies of Georgia Fund 1 are established by the Georgia State Depository Board.

The Georgia Fund 1 is rated AAAf/S1 by Fitch. The weighted average maturity at the end of the current year was 27 days. At the end of the current year, the County's balance in Georgia Fund 1 was \$104,838,187.

At the end of the current year, the County had investments with recurring fair value measurements using level one inputs with the following maturities and credit ratings:

<u>Investment Type</u>	<u>Fair Value</u>	<u>Average Maturity (in months)</u>	<u>Credit Rating (1)</u>
Repurchase agreements	\$ 1,894,884	41	A to A2

(1) - Standard and Poor's and Moodys

At the end of the current year, the County's OPEB Trust Fund had investments consisting of the following:

<u>Investment Type</u>	<u>Fair Value</u>	<u>Average Maturity (in months)</u>	<u>Credit Rating (1)</u>
Mutual funds	\$ 2,297,336	N/A	N/A

Mutual funds are classified as Level 1 of the hierarchy and are valued using prices quoted in active markets.

**BARTOW COUNTY, GEORGIA**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**December 31, 2024**

**4. Accounts Receivable**

Net accounts receivable at the end of the current year consist of the following:

**Primary Government:**

**Major Funds**

General Fund		\$ 794,222
Water and Sewer Fund	\$ 8,347,651	
Less: Allowance for Uncollectible Accounts	(1,904,231)	6,443,420
Solid Waste Fund	735,649	
Less: Allowance for Uncollectible Accounts	(25,676)	709,973

**Nonmajor Funds**

Emergency Telephone Special Revenue Fund		189,000
Opioid Settlement Special Revenue Fund		2,229,898
<b>Total primary government</b>		<b>\$ 10,366,513</b>

<b>Bartow County Health Department Component Unit</b>		<b>\$ 6,545</b>
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**5. Intergovernmental Receivables**

Intergovernmental receivables at the end of the current year consist of the following:

**Primary Government:**

**Major Funds**

General Fund		\$ 5,026,419
2020 SPLOST Fund		1,135,829
Water and Sewer Fund		2,764,521

**Nonmajor Funds**

Drug Abuse Education Special Revenue Fund		4,578
Crime Victim Assistance Special Revenue Fund		7,028
Emergency Telephone Special Revenue Fund		13,439
County Jail Special Revenue Fund		14,635
Radio System M&O Special Revenue Fund		72,016
2014 SPLOST Capital Projects Fund		128,090

<b>Total primary government</b>		<b>\$ 9,166,555</b>
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<b>Bartow County Health Department Component Unit</b>		<b>\$ 132,081</b>
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**BARTOW COUNTY, GEORGIA**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**December 31, 2024**

**6. Leases Receivable**

In 1986, the County entered into a lease agreement to provide the tenant the right to use a building. The lease was amended at various times over the years with the most recent amendment in 2019 to extend the lease term through September 2039. Under the amended lease, the tenant paid the County a monthly payment of \$15,260 per month for the first 12 months of the lease. On the annual anniversary date of the commencement date, the monthly rent amount is increased by \$350 of the rent paid in the previous year.

In 2015, the County entered into a five year lease agreement with a cell phone service provider to provide the tenant the right to a portion of real property, together with the right to use the tower located thereon. The lease provides for four additional, five-year terms. Under the lease, the tenant paid the County a monthly payment of \$1,800 per month for the first 12 months of the lease. On the annual anniversary date of the commencement date, the monthly rent amount is increased by two and one half percent of the rent paid in the previous year.

Leases receivable are measured as the present value of the future minimum rent payments expected to be received during the lease terms at imputed discount rates ranging between 1.82% and 3.08%. At the end of the current year, leases receivable totaled \$3,007,875 and \$398,388 for the governmental activities and business-type activities, respectively. The related deferred inflows of resources totaled \$2,851,871 and \$368,512 for the governmental activities and business-type activities, respectively. During the current year, the County recognized \$213,157 of lease revenue (reported as other revenue) and \$68,642 of interest revenue under the leases.

**BARTOW COUNTY, GEORGIA**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**December 31, 2024**

**7. Property Taxes**

Property tax rates are set by the County Commissioner each year and are limited by statutory or constitutional provision. Property values are assessed as of January 1<sup>st</sup> each year. Property taxes for digest year 2024, based upon the assessments as of January 1, 2024, were levied on August 7, 2024, billed on September 15, 2024, and due on November 15, 2024. Tax liens may be issued 60 days after the due date.

Taxes receivable at the end of the current year consist of property taxes for seven years as follows:

<u>Year of Levy</u>	
2024	\$ 6,365,502
2023	204,976
2022	20,821
2021	5,821
2020	7,145
2019	125
2018	21
	<hr style="width: 100%;"/>
	6,604,411
Less allowance for uncollectible	(117,746)
	<hr style="width: 100%;"/>
Total	<u>\$ 6,486,665</u>

\$6,271,084 of sales taxes, \$146,399 of excise taxes, \$109,786 of franchise taxes, \$52,671 in alcoholic beverage taxes, and \$200,145 of hotel/motel tax are also included in taxes receivable.

**8. Interfund Receivables and Payables**

A summary of interfund receivables and payables at the end of the current year is as follows:

<u>Receivable Fund</u>	<u>Payable Fund</u>	<u>Amount</u>
General	Water and Sewer	\$ 4,081,257
	Nonmajor Governmental	7,983
Nonmajor Governmental	General	18,667
	Water and Sewer	9,333
	Nonmajor Governmental	52,907
		<hr style="width: 100%;"/>
		<u>\$ 4,170,147</u>

**BARTOW COUNTY, GEORGIA**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**December 31, 2024**

**8. Interfund Receivables and Payables (continued)**

The balances reported as Due to/Due from represent loans between funds. These balances resulted from the time lag between the dates that transactions are recorded in the accounting system and payments between the funds are made. Any residual balances outstanding between the governmental activities and business-type activities are reported in the government-wide financial statements as "internal balances". \$3,213,607 of the amount due from the Water and Sewer Fund to the General Fund is reported as advances to/from other funds because it is not expected to be repaid within one year.

**9. Interfund Transfers**

A summary of interfund transfers for the current year is as follows:

<u>Transfer Out Fund</u>	<u>Transfer In Fund</u>	<u>Amount</u>
General	Water and Sewer	\$ 2,570,785
	Nonmajor Governmental	1,185,111
American Rescue Plan Act	Water and Sewer	2,559,911
2020 SPLOST	Water and Sewer	83,940
Nonmajor Governmental	General	1,401,913
	Solid Waste	495,167
	Nonmajor Governmental	6,971
		<u>\$ 8,303,798</u>

Interfund transfers are used to 1) move revenues from the fund that statute or budget requires collecting them to the fund that statute or budget requires to expend them, and 2) use unrestricted revenues collected to finance various programs accounted for in other funds in accordance with budgetary authorizations. Transfers are eliminated in the government-wide financial statements if the interfund transfer is within the governmental fund group or business-type fund group.

**BARTOW COUNTY, GEORGIA**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**December 31, 2024**

**10. Capital Assets**

Capital asset activity for the primary government for the current year was as follows:

	<u>Beginning Balance</u>	<u>Increases</u>	<u>Decreases</u>	<u>Ending Balance</u>
<b>Governmental activities</b>				
Nondepreciable assets				
Land	\$ 43,186,459	\$ 255,600	\$ 0	\$ 43,442,059
Construction in progress	27,953,426	21,094,348	(15,437,050)	33,610,724
Total nondepreciable assets	<u>71,139,885</u>	<u>21,349,948</u>	<u>(15,437,050)</u>	<u>77,052,783</u>
Depreciable/amortizable assets				
Buildings	104,155,394	12,025,925	0	116,181,319
Land improvements	8,398,392	0	0	8,398,392
Vehicles and equipment	68,308,587	5,030,580	(1,551,421)	71,787,746
Infrastructure	399,315,133	4,243,233	0	403,558,366
Intangible right-to-use assets				
Equipment	0	793,003	0	793,003
Software	1,805,382	0	0	1,805,382
Total depreciable/amortizable assets	<u>581,982,888</u>	<u>22,092,741</u>	<u>(1,551,421)</u>	<u>602,524,208</u>
Less accumulated depreciation/amortization				
Buildings	(33,084,048)	(1,998,752)	0	(35,082,800)
Land improvements	(1,461,455)	(369,433)	0	(1,830,888)
Vehicles and equipment	(41,306,483)	(5,167,938)	1,428,603	(45,045,818)
Infrastructure	(300,736,207)	(8,687,689)	0	(309,423,896)
Intangible right-to-use assets				
Equipment	0	(92,480)	0	(92,480)
Software	(195,908)	(373,980)	0	(569,888)
Total accumulated depreciation/amortization	<u>(376,784,101)</u>	<u>(16,690,272)</u>	<u>1,428,603</u>	<u>(392,045,770)</u>
Total depreciable/amortizable assets, net	<u>205,198,787</u>	<u>5,402,469</u>	<u>(122,818)</u>	<u>210,478,438</u>
Governmental activities capital assets, net	<u>\$ 276,338,672</u>	<u>\$ 26,752,417</u>	<u>\$ (15,559,868)</u>	<u>\$ 287,531,221</u>

Decreases in construction in progress for the governmental activities consist of projects placed in service in the amount of \$15,437,050.

**BARTOW COUNTY, GEORGIA**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**December 31, 2024**

**10. Capital Assets (continued)**

	<u>Beginning Balance</u>	<u>Increases</u>	<u>Decreases</u>	<u>Ending Balance</u>
<b>Business-type activities</b>				
Nondepreciable assets				
Land	\$ 10,399,457	\$ 6,515,236	\$ 0	\$ 16,914,693
Construction in progress	33,656,863	27,009,276	(27,759,779)	32,906,360
Total nondepreciable assets	<u>44,056,320</u>	<u>33,524,512</u>	<u>(27,759,779)</u>	<u>49,821,053</u>
Depreciable assets				
Buildings	3,501,504	0	0	3,501,504
Land improvements	21,153,613	6,732,894	0	27,886,507
Distribution system	154,737,369	26,756,552	0	181,493,921
Vehicles and equipment	16,451,146	1,210,482	(354,725)	17,306,903
Total depreciable assets	<u>195,843,632</u>	<u>34,699,928</u>	<u>(354,725)</u>	<u>230,188,835</u>
Less accumulated depreciation				
Buildings and improvements	(1,594,857)	(80,648)	0	(1,675,505)
Land improvements	(14,306,963)	(210,601)	0	(14,517,564)
Distribution system	(60,970,028)	(3,617,568)	0	(64,587,596)
Vehicles and equipment	(8,836,104)	(1,234,858)	252,147	(9,818,815)
Total accumulated depreciation	<u>(85,707,952)</u>	<u>(5,143,675)</u>	<u>252,147</u>	<u>(90,599,480)</u>
Total depreciable assets, net	<u>110,135,680</u>	<u>29,556,253</u>	<u>(102,578)</u>	<u>139,589,355</u>
Business-type activities capital assets, net	<u>\$ 154,192,000</u>	<u>\$ 63,080,765</u>	<u>\$ (27,862,357)</u>	<u>\$ 189,410,408</u>

Decreases in construction in progress for the business-type activities consist of projects placed in service in the amount of \$27,758,989 and projects abandoned in the amount of \$790.

**BARTOW COUNTY, GEORGIA**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**December 31, 2024**

**10. Capital Assets (continued)**

Activity for the discretely presented component unit is as follows:

	<u>Beginning Balance</u>	<u>Increases</u>	<u>Decreases</u>	<u>Ending Balance</u>
<b>Health Department</b>				
Depreciable/amortizable assets				
Machinery and equipment	\$ 43,533	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 43,533
Intangible right-to-use assets				
Machinery and equipment	2,979	3,757	0	6,736
Total depreciable/amortizable assets	<u>46,512</u>	<u>3,757</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>50,269</u>
Less accumulated depreciation/amortization				
Machinery and equipment	(43,533)	0	0	(43,533)
Intangible right-to-use assets				
Machinery and equipment	(716)	(1,113)	0	(1,829)
Total accumulated depreciation/amortization	<u>(44,249)</u>	<u>(1,113)</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>(45,362)</u>
Total Health Department capital assets, net	<u>\$ 2,263</u>	<u>\$ 2,644</u>	<u>\$ 0</u>	<u>\$ 4,907</u>

Depreciation/amortization expense was charged to functions/programs as follows:

**Primary Government**

**Governmental activities**

General Government	\$ 641,117
Judicial	32,951
Public Safety	5,644,267
Public Works	9,211,985
Health and Welfare	179,287
Culture and Recreation	969,893
Housing and Development	10,772
Total depreciation/amortization expense for governmental activities	<u>\$ 16,690,272</u>

**Business-type activities**

Water and Sewer	\$ 4,241,366
Solid Waste	902,309
Total depreciation/amortization expense for business-type activities	<u>\$ 5,143,675</u>

**Health Department Component Unit**

\$ 1,113

**BARTOW COUNTY, GEORGIA**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**December 31, 2024**

**11. Long-Term Debt**

***Governmental Activities***

***Leases Payable***

In March 2024, the County entered into an agreement to lease certain equipment. The lease agreement qualifies as other than short-term lease under GASB Statement No. 87, *Leases*, and therefore, has been recorded at the present value of the future minimum lease payments as of the date of inception. Leases payable are comprised of the following individual leases at the end of the current fiscal year:

- \$756,866 equipment lease due in annual installments of \$189,647 through June 2028, interest at 2.40%, \$715,170 outstanding

The annual requirements to amortize leases payable at the end of the current year are as follows:

<b>Year Ending December 31,</b>	<b>Principal</b>	<b>Interest</b>	<b>Total</b>
2025	\$ 172,483	\$ 17,164	\$ 189,647
2026	176,623	13,024	189,647
2027	180,862	8,785	189,647
2028	185,202	4,445	189,647
Totals	\$ 715,170	\$ 43,418	\$ 758,588

***Subscriptions Payable***

In May 2023, the County entered into a subscription-based information technology arrangement (SBITA) with a vendor for software. The subscription requires 5 annual payments of \$272,138 beginning in May 2023. The subscription liability was measured at a discount rate of 2.374%. The principal balance of the subscription at the end of the current year is \$778,739.

**BARTOW COUNTY, GEORGIA**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
*December 31, 2024*

**11. Long-Term Debt (continued)**

***Governmental Activities, continued***

***Subscriptions Payable, continued***

In August 2023, the County entered into a subscription-based information technology arrangement (SBITA) with a vendor for software. The subscription requires 6 annual payments of \$58,430 beginning in August 2023. The subscription liability was measured at a discount rate of 2.720%. The principal balance of the subscription at the end of the current year is \$218,650.

In December 2023, the County entered into a subscription-based information technology arrangement (SBITA) with a vendor for software. The subscription requires 3 annual payments of \$61,746 beginning in December 2023. The subscription liability was measured at a discount rate of 3.631%. The principal balance of the subscription at the end of the current year is \$59,583.

The annual requirements to amortize subscriptions payable at the end of the current year are as follows:

<b>Year Ending December 31,</b>	<b>Principal</b>	<b>Interest</b>	<b>Total</b>
2025	\$ 365,513	\$ 26,780	\$ 392,293
2026	313,441	17,127	330,568
2027	321,136	9,431	330,567
2028	56,882	1,547	58,429
Totals	<u>\$ 1,056,972</u>	<u>\$ 54,885</u>	<u>\$ 1,111,857</u>

**BARTOW COUNTY, GEORGIA**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
*December 31, 2024*

**11. Long-Term Debt (continued)**

***Governmental Activities, continued***

***Notes from Direct Borrowings***

The County has entered into an agreement with a financial institution to finance the acquisition of certain equipment. The note is secured by the equipment. Upon an event of default, all outstanding principal and accrued interest may be declared immediately due and payable. The note bears interest at 0.00% and requires annual payments of \$51,624 through 2024. The remaining principal balance of the note was paid in full during the current year.

The County has entered into an agreement with a financial institution to finance the acquisition of certain equipment. The note is secured by the equipment. Upon an event of default, all outstanding principal and accrued interest may be declared immediately due and payable. The note bears interest at 4.94% and requires annual payments of \$160,215 through 2028. The principal balance of the note at the end of the current year is \$567,388.

The annual requirements to amortize notes payable at the end of the current year are as follows:

<b>Year Ending December 31,</b>	<b>Principal</b>	<b>Interest</b>	<b>Total</b>
2025	\$ 131,533	\$ 28,682	\$ 160,215
2026	138,182	22,033	160,215
2027	145,167	15,048	160,215
2028	152,506	7,709	160,215
Totals	\$ 567,388	\$ 73,472	\$ 640,860

***Certificates of Participation***

The County has entered into an interest rate swap agreement for \$1,855,000 of its fixed rate 1998 A Grantor Trust Certificate of Participation for the outstanding period of the COPS. Based on the swap agreement, the County pays a synthetic variable rate to the counter party to the swap. In return, the counter party owes the County interest based on a fixed rate that matches the rate required by the COPS. Only the net difference in interest payments is actually exchanged with the counter party. The \$1,855,000 in COPS principal is not exchanged; it is the initial notional amount upon which the interest payments are calculated.

**BARTOW COUNTY, GEORGIA**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**December 31, 2024**

**11. Long-Term Debt (continued)**

***Governmental Activities, continued***

***Certificates of Participation, continued***

The interest rate swap agreement does not affect the obligation of the County under the indenture to pay the principal of, and fixed interest on, the 1998 COPS. However, during the term of the swap agreement, the County effectively pays a variable rate on the debt. The debt service requirements to maturity for these lease obligations (presented in this note) are based on the variable rate in effect at year-end. The county will be exposed to fixed rates if the counter party to the swap defaults or if the swap agreement is terminated. A termination or default of the swap agreement may also result in the County making or receiving a termination or default payment, generally equal to the fair value of the swap agreement at the time of termination. This agreement matures on June 1, 2028, at the same time as the certificates of participation. The fixed rate on the certificates is 4.75%. The variable (floating) rate of interest is based on the Securities Industry and Financial Markets Associations (SIFMA) Municipal Swap Index (plus a 31 basis points spread). The rate at the end of the current year is 4.75%.

***Swap Payments and Associated Debt***

Using interest rates as of the end of the current year, principal and interest requirements of the debt and net swap payments for the term of the swap and the debt are as follows. As rates vary, net swap payments will vary.

<b>Year Ending December 31,</b>	<b>Fixed Rate COPS</b>		<b>Interest Rate Swaps, Net</b>	<b>Total</b>
	<b>Principal</b>	<b>Interest</b>		
2025	\$0	\$ 88,113	\$ (31,906)	\$ 56,207
2026	0	88,113	(31,906)	56,207
2027	0	88,113	(31,906)	56,207
2028	1,855,000	36,714	(13,294)	1,878,420
Totals	<u>\$1,855,000</u>	<u>\$ 301,053</u>	<u>\$ (109,012)</u>	<u>\$ 2,047,041</u>

**BARTOW COUNTY, GEORGIA**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**December 31, 2024**

**11. Long-Term Debt (continued)**

***Business-Type Activities***

***Revenue Bonds***

Revenue bonds have been issued for business-type activities and are comprised of the following individual issues at the end of the current year:

***Water and Sewerage Revenue Refunding and Improvement Bonds, Series 2012:*** On June 7, 2012, the County issued Water and Sewerage Bonds in the amount of \$11,110,000, due in annual installments of \$135,000 to \$1,210,000 through 2031, with an interest rate of 2.00% to 5.00%. The total proceeds of the issue were \$12,073,076, \$11,110,000 plus a premium of \$963,076. Total debt issue costs in the amount of \$262,130 were incurred to issue the bonds. On June 7, 2012, a total of \$4,804,359 was used for advance payment of 3 GEFA notes payable, the remaining \$7,185,391 was deposited into the 2012 Project Fund Account to be used for future expansion of the water and sewerage system in accordance with the bond resolution and to pay debt issue costs. The bonds are secured by all income and revenue derived by the County from the ownership and operation of the water system. Upon the happening and continuance of any event of default, the owners of a majority in aggregate principal outstanding, may declare the principal balance and any accrued interest to be immediately due and payable. At the end of the current year, the bonds had an outstanding balance of \$1,730,000.

The annual requirements to amortize revenue bonds payable at the end of the current year are as follows:

<b>Year Ending December 31,</b>	<b>Principal</b>	<b>Interest</b>	<b>Total</b>
2025	\$ 285,000	\$ 58,695	\$ 343,695
2026	295,000	50,145	345,145
2027	305,000	38,345	343,345
2028	315,000	26,145	341,145
2029	225,000	16,695	241,695
2030-2031	305,000	12,285	317,285
Totals	<u>\$ 1,730,000</u>	<u>\$ 202,310</u>	<u>\$ 1,932,310</u>

**BARTOW COUNTY, GEORGIA**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**December 31, 2024**

**11. Long-Term Debt (continued)**

***Business-Type Activities, continued***

***Notes from Direct Borrowings***

The County entered into borrowings with the Georgia Environmental Finance Authority for expansion of the County's water and sewer system. The notes are secured by all income and revenue derived by the County from the ownership and operation of the water system. Upon an event of default, all outstanding principal and accrued interest may be declared immediately due and payable. These notes, including original balances, are as follows at the end of the current year:

<u>Interest Rate</u>	<u>Term</u>	<u>Due Date</u>	<u>Original Balance</u>	<u>Current Balance</u>
0.52%	10 Years	2028	\$ 2,834,535	\$ 961,265
1.31%	10 Years	2028	347,031	132,550
1.89%	20 Years	2039	4,600,000	3,555,283
1.89%	20 Years	2040	4,460,024	3,547,950
0.63%	20 Years		1,263,000	777,701
0.13%	20 Years		2,637,000	2,142,771
0.13%	20 Years		25,000,000	10,740,646
			<u>\$ 41,141,590</u>	<u>\$ 21,858,166</u>

The three notes without due dates are in drawdown and are excluded from the amortization requirements below. The annual requirements to amortize notes from direct borrowings at the end of the current year are as follows:

<u>Year Ending December 31,</u>	<u>Principal</u>	<u>Interest</u>	<u>Total</u>
2025	\$ 735,826	\$ 136,519	\$ 872,345
2026	745,674	126,671	872,345
2027	755,687	116,658	872,345
2028	559,239	106,792	666,031
2029	446,132	98,220	544,352
2030-2034	2,361,527	541,976	2,903,503
2035-2039	2,526,181	126,485	2,652,666
2040	66,782	210	66,992
Totals	<u>\$ 8,197,048</u>	<u>\$ 1,253,531</u>	<u>\$ 9,450,579</u>

**BARTOW COUNTY, GEORGIA**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**December 31, 2024**

**12. Long-Term Liabilities**

***Changes in Long - Term Liabilities***

The following is a summary of changes in long-term liabilities of the County for the current year:

	<b>Beginning Balance</b>	<b>Additions</b>	<b>Deductions</b>	<b>Ending Balance</b>	<b>Due Within One Year</b>
<b>Governmental activities</b>					
Certificate of participation	\$ 1,855,000	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 1,855,000	\$ 0
Leases payable	0	756,866	41,696	715,170	172,483
Subscriptions payable	1,413,068	0	356,096	1,056,972	365,513
Notes from direct borrowings	51,624	721,688	205,924	567,388	131,533
Guarantee obligation	30,688,694	440,630	2,701,227	28,428,097	2,937,348
Compensated absences	2,431,596	61,772	0	2,493,368	2,493,368
<b>Total governmental activities</b>	<b>\$ 36,439,982</b>	<b>\$ 1,980,956</b>	<b>\$ 3,304,943</b>	<b>\$ 35,115,995</b>	<b>\$ 6,100,245</b>
<b>Business-type activities</b>					
Bonds payable	\$ 2,005,000	\$ 0	\$ 275,000	\$ 1,730,000	\$ 285,000
Original issue premium	394,630	0	49,328	345,302	49,329
Total bonds payable	2,399,630	0	324,328	2,075,302	334,329
Notes from direct borrowings	11,729,622	10,854,682	726,138	21,858,166	735,826
Landfill closure and post-closure care costs	10,408,040	770,066	36,397	11,141,709	36,397
Compensated absences	268,258	0	93,912	174,346	174,346
<b>Total business-type activities</b>	<b>\$ 24,805,550</b>	<b>\$ 11,624,748</b>	<b>\$ 1,180,775</b>	<b>\$ 35,249,523</b>	<b>\$ 1,280,898</b>

Beginning balances of long-term liabilities have been restated for the implementation of GASB Statement No. 101, *Compensated Absences*. See Changes in Beginning Balances note for additional details.

Bond discounts/premiums are amortized over the life of the related debt using the straight-line method. In prior years, long-term liabilities of the governmental activities, such as guarantee obligation, were liquidated in the General Fund.

The total interest incurred and charged to expense for the current year was \$114,977 and \$220,953 for governmental activities and business-type activities, respectively.

See Nonexchange Financial Guarantee note for additional details on the guarantee obligation.

**BARTOW COUNTY, GEORGIA**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**December 31, 2024**

**12. Long-Term Liabilities (continued)**

***Changes in Long - Term Liabilities, continued***

Long-term liability activity for the discretely presented component unit for the respective fiscal year was as follows:

	<u>Beginning Balance</u>	<u>Additions</u>	<u>Deductions</u>	<u>Ending Balance</u>	<u>Due Within One Year</u>
<b>Bartow County Health Department</b>					
Leases payable	\$ 2,322	\$ 3,757	\$ 1,246	\$ 4,833	\$ 1,480
Compensated absences	68,271	17,916	34,112	52,075	5,208
Total Bartow County Health Department	<u>\$ 70,593</u>	<u>\$ 21,673</u>	<u>\$ 35,358</u>	<u>\$ 56,908</u>	<u>\$ 6,688</u>

**13. Landfill Closure and Post-Closure Care Costs**

State and federal laws and regulations require that the County place a final cover on its landfill when closed and perform certain maintenance and monitoring functions at the landfill site for a period from five to thirty years after closure. In addition to operating expenses related to current activities of the landfill, an expense provision and related liability are being recognized based on the future closure and post-closure care costs that will be incurred near or after the date the landfill no longer accepts waste. The recognition of these landfill closure and post-closure care costs is based on the amount of the landfill capacity used during the year. The recorded liability for landfill closure and post-closure care costs at the end of the current year totaled \$11,141,709. This amount is based on the total estimated cost and management's estimate of the percentage of landfill capacity used at the end of the current year, which is 28.3% of the Subtitle "D" landfill, 100% for the old landfill and 100% of the C & D landfill. It is estimated that an additional \$14,763,572 will be recognized as closure and post-closure care expenses through the date the landfills are expected to be filled to capacity (2067) for the Subtitle "D" landfill. The estimated total current cost of the landfill closure and post-closure care (approximately \$25,905,281) is based on the amount that would be paid if all equipment, facilities, and services required to close, monitor, and maintain the landfill were acquired as of the date of closure. However, the actual cost of closure and post-closure care may be higher due to inflation, changes in technology, or changes in landfill laws and regulations.

**BARTOW COUNTY, GEORGIA**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**December 31, 2024**

**14. Restricted and Assigned Fund Balances**

The following is a summary of restricted and assigned fund balances of the governmental funds at the end of the current year:

	<u>General</u>	<u>American Rescue Plan Act</u>	<u>2020 SPLOST</u>	<u>Nonmajor Governmental Funds</u>	<u>Total Governmental Funds</u>
<b>Restricted for:</b>					
Judicial					
Drug abuse treatment and education programs	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 411,686	\$ 411,686
Crime victims assistance	0	0	0	12,438	12,438
Treatment programs for juvenile offenders	0	0	0	89,305	89,305
Law library operations	0	0	0	104,473	104,473
District Attorney operations	0	0	0	60,282	60,282
Clerk of Court technology	0	0	0	391,630	391,630
Public Safety					
Opioid remediation efforts	0	0	0	679,718	679,718
Construction, operation, and staffing of detention facilities	0	0	0	30,958	30,958
Law enforcement facilities, equipment, and operations	0	0	0	602,143	602,143
Sheriff facilities and equipment	0	0	0	210,383	210,383
Grant specifications	0	163,064	0	0	163,064
Capital projects	0	0	39,072,335	261,332	39,333,667
Debt service	0	0	0	1,881,925	1,881,925
	<u>\$ 0</u>	<u>\$ 163,064</u>	<u>\$ 39,072,335</u>	<u>\$ 4,736,273</u>	<u>\$ 43,971,672</u>
<b>Assigned for:</b>					
Public Safety					
Emergency 911 system operations	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 1,437,445	\$ 1,437,445
Radio system maintenance and operations	0	0	0	131,210	131,210
Housing and Development					
Tourism	0	0	0	264,574	264,574
Debt service	0	0	0	100,237	100,237
Subsequent Year's Budget	2,000,000	0	0	0	2,000,000
	<u>\$ 2,000,000</u>	<u>\$ 0</u>	<u>\$ 0</u>	<u>\$ 1,933,466</u>	<u>\$ 3,933,466</u>

**BARTOW COUNTY, GEORGIA**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**December 31, 2024**

**15. Net Investment in Capital Assets**

The net investment in capital assets reported on the government-wide statement of net position is calculated as follows at the end of the current year:

	Governmental Activities	Business-Type Activities
Cost of capital assets	\$ 679,576,991	\$ 280,009,888
Accumulated depreciation/amortization	(392,045,770)	(90,599,480)
Book value	287,531,221	189,410,408
Capital-related accounts payable	(3,406,365)	(3,147,645)
Retainages payable	(321,983)	(739,026)
Leases payable	(715,170)	0
Subscriptions payable	(1,056,972)	0
Notes payable	(567,388)	(21,858,166)
Bonds payable	0	(2,075,302)
Certificates of participation	(1,855,000)	0
Unspent debt proceeds	0	866,256
Net investment in capital assets	<u>\$ 279,608,343</u>	<u>\$ 162,456,525</u>

**16. Retirement Plans**

***Defined Benefit Pension Plan***

*Plan Description.* The County contributes to the Association of the County Commissioners of Georgia Restated Pension Plan for Bartow County Employees (The Plan), a defined benefit pension plan, an agent multiple-employer public employee retirement system. The Plan issues a publicly available financial report that includes financial statements and required supplementary information for the Plan. That report may be obtained by writing to Government Employees Benefits Corporation of Georgia, 400 Galleria Parkway, Suite 1250, Atlanta, Georgia 30339. The Plan provides retirement, disability and death benefits to plan participants and beneficiaries. The Plan, through execution of an adoption agreement, is affiliated with the Association County Commissioners of Georgia Third Restated Defined Benefit Plan (The ACCG Plan), an agent multiple-employer pension plan administered by the Government Employee's Benefit Corporation (GEBCorp). The ACCG, in its role as Plan Sponsor, has the sole authority to amend the provisions of the ACCG Plan, as provided in Section 17.01 of the ACCG Plan document. The County has the authority by resolution to amend the adoption agreement, which defines the specific benefit provisions of the Plan, as provided in section 17.02 of the ACCG Plan document.

**BARTOW COUNTY, GEORGIA**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
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**16. Retirement Plans (continued)**

***Defined Benefit Pension Plan, continued***

All full-time County employees meeting the provisions as set out in the adoption agreement are eligible to participate in the Plan after completing three years of service. Benefits vested at 100% after five years of service. Participants become eligible to retire at the earlier of: a) age 65 or b) the anniversary date of the required years of service under which the Plan specifies.

Current membership is as follows:

Retirees, beneficiaries, and disablees currently receiving benefits	471
Terminated plan participants entitled to but not yet receiving benefits	298
Active employees participating in the plan	<u>476</u>
Total number of participants	<u><u>1,245</u></u>

*Benefits Provided.* Upon eligibility to retire, participants hired before March 6, 2014 are entitled to an annual benefit in the amount of 2.0% of average annual compensation multiplied by years of service and participants hired on or after March 6, 2014 are entitled to an annual benefit in the amount of 1.0% of average annual compensation multiplied by years of service. Compensation is averaged over a five year period prior to retirement or termination. The Plan also provides benefits in the event of death before retirement and early retirement subject to certain early retirement reduction factors.

*Contributions.* County employees are not required to contribute to the Plan. The County contributes the entire cost of the Plan, using the actuarial basis described in the annual valuation report. The County's actual contributions for the current year totaled \$10,900,000, or 36.09% of covered payroll. The County Commissioner provides for the benefits and funding policy through County ordinance and maintains the authority to change the policy. The administrative expenses set by contract between the ACCG and GEBCorp are in addition to the state-required annual funding requirement.

**BARTOW COUNTY, GEORGIA**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**December 31, 2024**

**16. Retirement Plans (continued)**

***Defined Benefit Pension Plan, continued***

The Georgia Constitution enables the governing authority of the County, the County Commissioner, to establish, and amend from time-to-time contribution rates for the County and its Plan participants.

*Pension Liabilities, Pension Expense, Deferred Outflows of Resources, and Deferred Inflows of Resources Related to Pensions.* At the end of the current year, the County reported a net pension liability of \$48,507,836. The net pension liability was measured as of December 31, 2023, and the total pension liability used to calculate the net pension liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of January 1, 2023. For governmental activities, the net pension liability is liquidated by the General Fund. For the current year, the County recognized pension expense of \$7,559,281.

The components of the net pension liability are as follows:

	<b>Total Pension Liability (a)</b>	<b>Plan Fiduciary Net Position (b)</b>	<b>Net Pension Liability (a)-(b)</b>
<b>Balances at December 31, 2022</b>	<u>\$ 156,666,347</u>	<u>\$ 100,005,896</u>	<u>\$ 56,660,451</u>
Changes for the year:			
Service cost	1,604,066	0	1,604,066
Interest	10,685,122	0	10,685,122
Liability experience (gain) / loss	2,007,723	0	2,007,723
Assumption change	3,458,601	0	3,458,601
Employer contributions	0	10,686,508	(10,686,508)
Net investment income	0	15,952,668	(15,952,668)
Benefit payments	(8,043,492)	(8,043,492)	0
Administrative expense	0	(132,620)	132,620
Other changes	0	(598,429)	598,429
Net changes	<u>9,712,020</u>	<u>17,864,635</u>	<u>(8,152,615)</u>
<b>Balances at December 31, 2023</b>	<u>\$ 166,378,367</u>	<u>\$ 117,870,531</u>	<u>\$ 48,507,836</u>
Plan fiduciary net position as a percentage of the total pension liability		70.84%	
Covered payroll		\$ 27,159,411	
Net pension liability as a percentage of covered payroll		178.60%	

**BARTOW COUNTY, GEORGIA**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
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**16. Retirement Plans (continued)**

***Defined Benefit Pension Plan, continued***

At the end of the current year, the County reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to the plan from the following sources:

	<b>Deferred Outflows of Resources</b>	<b>Deferred Inflows of Resources</b>
County contributions subsequent to the measurement date	\$ 10,900,000	\$ 0
Changes in participant fund allocation	649,613	(649,613)
Net difference between projected and actual earnings on pension plan investments	3,531,304	0
Differences between expected and actual experience	2,441,439	(345,855)
Changes of assumptions	2,618,736	0
Totals	\$ 20,141,092	\$ (995,468)

The \$10,900,000 of deferred outflows of resources resulting from the County's contributions subsequent to measurement date will be recognized as a reduction of the net pension liability in the subsequent year. Other amounts reported as deferred outflows and deferred inflows of resources will be recognized in pension expense as follows:

<b>Year Ending December 31</b>		
2025	\$	2,467,507
2026		3,561,625
2027		3,902,185
2028		(1,685,693)
Totals	\$	8,245,624

**BARTOW COUNTY, GEORGIA**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
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**16. Retirement Plans (continued)**

***Defined Benefit Pension Plan, continued***

*Actuarial Assumptions.* The total pension liability in the January 1, 2023 actuarial valuation was determined using the following actuarial assumptions, applied to all periods included in the measurement:

Future salary increases	5.50% per year with an age based scale
Cost of living adjustments	N/A
Net investment rate of return	7.00%

Healthy mortality rates were based on the Pub-2010 Amount Weighted Mortality Table with a blend of 50% of the General Employees Table and 50% of the Public Safety Employees Table with Scale AA to 2023. Disabled rates were derived from the 1985 CIDA Table Class I.

The pension plan's target asset allocation as of December 31, 2023 is summarized in the following table:

	<b>Target Allocation</b>	<b>Range</b>
Fixed Income	30%	25%-35%
Large Cap	30%	25%-35%
Mid Cap	5%	2.5%-10%
Small Cap	5%	2.5%-10%
REIT	5%	2.5%-10%
International	15%	10%-20%
Multi Cap	5%	2.5%-10%
Global Allocation	5%	2.5%-10%

**BARTOW COUNTY, GEORGIA**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**December 31, 2024**

**16. Retirement Plans (continued)**

***Defined Benefit Pension Plan, continued***

*Discount Rate.* The discount rate used to measure the total pension liability was 7.00 percent. The discount rate is determined using the estimated 50<sup>th</sup> percentile return based on UBS Capital Market Assumptions (6.71%) and fifteen year performance in excess of benchmarks (1.00%). To address the anticipated difficult economic environment over the next ten years, the investment return assumption was limited to 7.00 percent. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumed that contributions from employer will be made at contractually required rates, actuarially determined. Based on those assumptions, the Plan's fiduciary net position was projected to be available to make all projected future benefit payments of current active and inactive employees. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on Plan investments was applied to all periods of projected benefit payments to determine the total pension liability.

*Sensitivity of the Net Pension Liability to Changes in the Discount Rate.* The following presents what the net pension liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is one percentage-point lower (6.00 percent) or one percentage-point higher (8.00 percent) than the current rate:

	<b>Discount Rate</b>	<b>Net Pension Liability</b>
1% decrease	6.00%	\$ 69,524,188
Current discount rate	7.00%	48,507,836
1% increase	8.00%	30,989,364

*Plan Fiduciary Net Position.* Detailed information about the Plan's fiduciary net position is available in the separately issued Association County Commissioners of Georgia GEBCorp financial report.

**BARTOW COUNTY, GEORGIA**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
*December 31, 2024*

**16. Retirement Plans (continued)**

***Defined Contribution Plan***

The County approved the adoption of the *ACCG 401(a) Defined Contribution Plan for Bartow County Employees*, effective October 1, 2014. Only full-time employees are eligible for participation in the plan. Eligible employees may enter the plan on the first day of the first pay period beginning on or after the date the participant first meets the eligibility requirements. The plan can be amended by the County Commissioner. The County will match 100% of the first four percent of compensation on amounts participants contributed to the 457(b) Deferred Compensation Plan. The maximum matching contribution shall be no more than four percent of compensation. Employee contributions vest when made and employer contributions made vest as follows:

Years of Service	% Vested
< 5	0%
5 or more	100%

Normal retirement age is 65. The plan does not provide for early retirement. During the current year, plan members made contributions of \$1,230,186 and the County made contributions of \$947,493.

The County has no fiduciary relationship with the plan, and plan assets are not available to the County or its general creditors. The Plan assets are held in trust by the administrator for the exclusive benefit of the participants of the Plan. The County Commissioner provides for the funding policy through a County ordinance and maintains the authority to change the policy. Separate financial statements are not issued for the Plan.

**BARTOW COUNTY, GEORGIA**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**December 31, 2024**

**16. Retirement Plans (continued)**

***Deferred Compensation Plan***

The County offers its employees an optional deferred compensation plan created in accordance with Internal Revenue Code Section 457. The plan is available to all County employees and permits them to defer a portion of their salary until future years. The deferred compensation is not available to employees until termination, retirement, death, or unforeseeable emergency. All amounts of compensation deferred under the plan, all property and rights purchased with those amounts, and all income attributable to those amounts, property, or rights are (until paid or made available to the participant or other beneficiary) solely the property and rights of a Trust created by the County for the benefit of the participants. The County has adopted the provisions of GASB Statement No. 32 which required the removal of plan assets and liabilities from the financial statements of the County.

***Other County Plans***

In addition to the plan above, various County employees are covered under the following plans: Georgia Firefighters' Pension Fund, Georgia State Employees' Retirement System (ERS), Magistrates' Retirement Fund of Georgia, Peace Officers' Annuity and Benefit Fund of Georgia, Probate Judges' Retirement Fund of Georgia, Sheriffs' Retirement Fund of Georgia, and Superior Court Clerks' Retirement Fund of Georgia. Further information regarding these plans can be obtained from the plans' annual reports. These plans are immaterial to the financial statements.

***Bartow County Health Department Retirement Plan***

Eligible employees of the Bartow County Health Department participate in the Georgia State Employees' Retirement System (ERS), a statewide multiple-employer public employee retirement system. During the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024, the Department contributed \$266,707. As of June 30, 2024, the Department reported a liability in the amount of \$1,926,110 for its proportionate share (0.032287%) of the net pension liability. The Department recognized pension expense of \$456,147 for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024. Further information regarding the plan can be obtained from Department's annual audit report by contacting Bartow County Health Department, 100 Zena Drive, Cartersville, Georgia 30121.

**BARTOW COUNTY, GEORGIA**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
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**17. Post-Employment Benefits Other Than Pensions**

***County Plan***

*Plan Description.* Bartow County administers a single-employer defined benefit health care plan, “*The Bartow County Other Postemployment Benefits Plan.*” The OPEB financial statements are included in this report. No stand-alone financial report is issued.

At January 1, 2024, the date of the most recent actuarial valuation, membership consisted of the following:

Inactive members or beneficiaries currently receiving benefits	322
Inactive members entitled to but not yet receiving benefits	0
Active employees	275
Total membership	597

*Benefits Provided.* Coverage under the plan includes medical, prescription drug and dental benefits for retirees and dependents. Employees hired prior to March 1, 2003 are eligible to retire and continue medical coverage after 20 years of service regardless of age. Employees hired after March 1, 2003 may retire and continue their medical coverage upon completing the earlier of age 55 with 20 years of service, or age 50 with 25 years of service. Employees hired on or after June 1, 2009 may retire and continue their medical coverage upon reaching age 55 with 30 years of service. Employees hired or rehired after March 5, 2014 are not eligible for participation in the plan. Retiree and spousal coverage is provided for the lifetime of the participant. Upon the death of an eligible retiree with a covered dependent, the surviving dependent may extend coverage. Retiree life insurance is provided with a face amount of \$10,000, with that amount reducing to \$6,500 after the retiree turns age 65.

*Contributions.* During the measurement period ended December 31, 2023, the County established and began funding an irrevocable trust to accumulate restricted funds. The County’s contributions totaled \$2,838,717 for the current year. The County Commissioner authorizes participation in the OPEB and sets the contribution rates and benefits, and maintains the authority to change the policy.

The cost of coverage is paid in part by the employer and in part by the retiree. For the measurement period ended December 31, 2023, plan members receiving benefits contributed \$897,361 through their required contributions.

**BARTOW COUNTY, GEORGIA**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**December 31, 2024**

**17. Post-Employment Benefits Other Than Pensions (continued)**

***County Plan, continued***

*OPEB Liabilities, OPEB Expense, Deferred Outflows of Resources, and Deferred Inflows of Resources Related to OPEB.* At the end of the current year, the County reported a net OPEB liability of \$99,249,412. The net OPEB liability was measured as of December 31, 2023, and the total OPEB liability used to calculate the net OPEB liability was determined and measured from actuarial valuations using data as of January 1, 2024. During the current year, the County recognized OPEB benefit of \$1,043,163.

The components of the net OPEB liability are as follows:

	<b>Total OPEB Liability (a)</b>	<b>Plan Fiduciary Net Position (b)</b>	<b>Net OPEB Liability (a)-(b)</b>
<b>Balances at December 31, 2022</b>	<u>\$ 93,943,217</u>	<u>\$ 0</u>	<u>\$ 93,943,217</u>
Changes for the year:			
Service cost	729,540	0	729,540
Interest	3,397,227	0	3,397,227
Differences between expected and actual experience	3,171,674	0	3,171,674
Contributions-employer	0	7,788,156	(7,788,156)
Changes of assumptions or other inputs	5,826,622	0	5,826,622
Net investment income	0	30712	(30,712)
Benefit payments	<u>(6,760,627)</u>	<u>(6,760,627)</u>	<u>0</u>
Net changes	<u>6,364,436</u>	<u>1,058,241</u>	<u>5,306,195</u>
<b>Balances at December 31, 2023</b>	<u><u>\$ 100,307,653</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 1,058,241</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 99,249,412</u></u>

Plan fiduciary net position as a percentage of the total OPEB liability	1.05%
Covered-employee payroll	\$ 10,498,100
Plan net OPEB liability as a percentage of covered employee payroll	945.40%

**BARTOW COUNTY, GEORGIA**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**December 31, 2024**

**17. Post-Employment Benefits Other Than Pensions (continued)**

***County Plan, continued***

At the end of the current year, the County reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to the OPEB Plan from the following sources:

	<b>Deferred Outflows of Resources</b>	<b>Deferred Inflows of Resources</b>
Differences between expected and actual experience	\$ 2,378,757	\$ (3,512,442)
Changes of assumptions	6,213,198	(13,238,359)
Net difference between projected and actual earnings on OPEB plan investments	0	(24,568)
Contributions subsequent to the measurement date	2,838,717	0
Changes in participant fund allocation	687,144	(687,144)
Totals	<b>\$ 12,117,816</b>	<b>\$ (17,462,513)</b>

The \$2,838,717 of deferred outflows of resources resulting from the County's contributions subsequent to the measurement date will be recognized as a reduction of the net OPEB liability in the subsequent year. Other amounts reported as deferred outflows and deferred inflows of resources will be recognized in OPEB expense as follows:

<b>Year Ending December 31</b>	
2025	\$ (6,447,802)
2026	(3,972,903)
2027	2,243,433
2028	(6,142)
Totals	<b>\$ (8,183,414)</b>

**BARTOW COUNTY, GEORGIA**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**December 31, 2024**

**17. Post-Employment Benefits Other Than Pensions (continued)**

***County Plan, continued***

*Actuarial Assumptions.* The total OPEB liability in the January 1, 2024 actuarial valuation was determined using the following actuarial assumptions, applied to all periods included in the measurement:

Inflation	4.50%
Projected salary increases	5.50% per year, with adjustments by age
Actuarial cost method	Entry age normal
Discount rate	3.26%, 3.72% at prior measurement date
Healthcare cost trend rates	Pre-Medicare: 7.00% trended down to 4.50% over 10 years Medicare: 5.00% (ultimate) Prescription Drug: 12.00% trended down to 4.50% over 15 years Dental: 4.00% (ultimate) Administrative Expense: 3.00% (ultimate)
Mortality rates	Mortality rates were based on the Pub-2010 GE (50%) & PS (50%) Amount-Weighted gender distinct and projected generationally with Scale AA from 2024.
Amortization method	Payments increase 4.50% per year
Remaining amortization period	30 years as of January 1, 2024

The demographic actuarial assumptions for retirement, disability incidence, withdrawal, and salary increases used in the January 1, 2024 actuarial valuation were based on the pension valuation prepared by GEBCorp as of January 1, 2024.

The remaining actuarial assumptions (e.g., initial per capita costs, health care cost trends, etc.) used in the January 1, 2024 actuarial valuation were based on a review of recent plan experience performed concurrently with the January 1, 2024 valuation.

**BARTOW COUNTY, GEORGIA**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**December 31, 2024**

**17. Post-Employment Benefits Other Than Pensions (continued)**

***County Plan, continued***

*Development of Long-Term Rate.* The long-term expected rate of return on OPEB plan investments was determined using a building block method in which best estimate ranges of expected future rates of return (expected returns, net of investment expense and inflation) are developed for each major asset class. These returns are combined to produce the long-term expected rate of return by weighting the expected future real rates of return by the target asset allocation percentage and by adding expected inflation and subtracting expected investment expenses. The target allocation and projected arithmetic real rates of return for each major asset class, after deducting inflation, but before investment expenses, used in the derivation of the long-term expected investment rate of return assumption are summarized in the following table:

	<b>Target Allocation</b>	<b>Range</b>
Domestic equity	70.00%	6.10%
Core fixed income	28.80%	1.90%
Short-term governmental money market	1.20%	1.10%

*Discount Rate.* The discount rate is a blend of the long-term expected rate of return on OPEB Trust assets and a yield or index rate for 20-year, tax-exempt general obligation municipal bonds with an average rating of AA/As or higher (3.26% as of December 31, 2023 and 3.72% as of December 31, 2022). The blending is based on the sufficiency of projected assets to make benefit payments. Since assets are not sufficient to cover projected benefit payments, the discount rate used to measure the total OPEB liability was 3.26% as of December 31, 2023. As of December 31, 2022, the County funded the plan on a pay-as-you-go basis and the discount rate as of December 31, 2022 was therefore 3.72%.

**BARTOW COUNTY, GEORGIA**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
*December 31, 2024*

**17. Post-Employment Benefits Other Than Pensions (continued)**

***County Plan, continued***

*Sensitivity of the Net OPEB Liability to Changes in the Discount Rate.* The following presents what the net OPEB liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is one percentage-point lower (2.26%) or one percentage-point higher (4.26%) than the current rate. Also, shown is the net OPEB liability as if it were calculated using healthcare cost trend rates that were one percentage point lower or one percentage point higher than the current healthcare trend rates:

<u>Discount Rate</u>		<u>Net OPEB Liability</u>
1% decrease	2.26%	\$ 113,785,713
Current discount rate	3.26%	99,249,412
1% increase	4.26%	87,369,116
		<b>Net OPEB Liability</b>
<u>Healthcare Cost Trend Rates</u>		<u>Net OPEB Liability</u>
1% decrease		\$ 87,086,167
Current trend rate		99,249,412
1% increase		114,328,370

*OPEB Plan Fiduciary Net Position.* Detailed information about the Plan's fiduciary net position is available in the separately issued GASB Statement No. 75 Report for The Bartow County Other Postemployment Benefits Plan.

***Bartow County Health Department OPEB Plans***

Eligible employees of the Bartow County Health Department are provided OPEB through the State of Georgia OPEB Fund, a cost-sharing multiple-employer defined benefit post-employment healthcare plan and life insurance through the SEAD-OPEB Fund, a cost-sharing multiple-employer defined benefit post-employment benefit plan. During the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024, the Health Department contributed \$138,680. As of June 30, 2024, the Health Department reported a net OPEB asset in the amount of \$470 for its proportionate share (0.029802% for the State of Georgia OPEB Fund and 0.019261% for the SEAD-OPEB Fund) of the net OPEB liability. The Health Department recognized OPEB expense of (\$49,049) for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024. Further information regarding the plans can be obtained from Department's annual audit report by contacting Bartow County Health Department, 100 Zena Drive, Cartersville, Georgia 30121.

**BARTOW COUNTY, GEORGIA**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**December 31, 2024**

**18. Tax Abatements**

Bartow County is subject to tax incentives granted by various authorities in the County. These incentives are negotiated on an individual basis as a reduction of property taxes based on the percentage negotiated and have the stated purpose of increasing business activity and employment in the County by allowing localities to abate property taxes for a variety of economic development purposes, including business relocation, retention, and expansion. The incentives may be granted to any business located within or promising to relocate to a local government's geographic area and require the business to invest \$5,000,000 or more. Each of the incentive agreements contains a recapture provision that requires repayment of a portion of the abatement for that year if the business fails to meet its jobs and/or investment goals. Other than one agreement that included an agreement to perform some grading and dirt removal, the County has not made any commitments as part of the agreements other than to reduce taxes.

For the current year, Bartow County property taxes were abated totaling \$1,505,953 under this program through authorities as follows: \$808,251 through the Bartow-Cartersville Joint Development Authority, \$90,159 through the Bartow-Cartersville Second Joint Development Authority, \$605,205 through the Development Authority of Bartow County, and \$2,338 through the Development Authority of Cartersville. Individual tax abatement agreements that each exceeded ten percent of the total amount abated are as follows:

- 100% property tax abatement for a local manufacturer expanding its manufacturing facility located in Bartow County. The abatement amounted to \$168,108.

**19. Hotel/Motel Lodging Tax**

The County has levied an 8% lodging tax in accordance with OCGA 48-13-51. A summary of the transactions for the current year follows:

Lodging tax receipts	\$ 2,455,315
Disbursements for trade and tourism	\$ 1,114,385 45% of tax receipts
Disbursements for tourism product development	\$ 462,844 19% of tax receipts
Transfers to the General Fund	\$ 886,913 36% of tax receipts

**BARTOW COUNTY, GEORGIA**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**December 31, 2024**

**20. Joint Ventures**

Pursuant to an interlocal agreement authorized by state statutes, Bartow County joined with the City of Cartersville to establish and operate an airport operation for the mutual advantage of the governments. One member of the authority for the joint venture is appointed by each government. These two members then select the third member. The operating and capital budgets are funded by equal contributions from each government for those required amounts in excess of operating revenues and grants. The government's share of assets, liabilities and fund equity is 50%. Summary financial information as of, and for the current year, is not presently available.

Bartow County assists with the operations of the Bartow County Library System through annual funding requests. In evaluating how to define the government unit for financial reporting purposes, Library System management has considered the criteria set forth in GASB Codification of Governmental Accounting and Financial Reporting Standards, Section 2100, "Defining the Financial Reporting Entity". Based upon the application of the above criteria, the Bartow County Library System is determined to be a joint venture. The Library Board consists of seven members, three members appointed by the Bartow County Commissioner, two members appointed by the Cartersville City Council, and one member each appointed by Adairsville and Euharlee City Councils. The Board is without authority to determine the amount of its funding, except by submission of budget requests to local governmental units from which that library receives support and to the State of Georgia for state and federal funding. Membership in the library and participation in library services is at the discretion of each participating governmental agency. The Board has the power to designate management, the power to retain unassigned fund balances of local funds for continued operations and is the lowest level of oversight responsibility for the Library's operations. The Library is not included in any other governmental "reporting entity" as defined by GASB Codification of Governmental Accounting and Financial Reporting Standards. A copy of the Bartow County Library System financial statements can be obtained from Bartow County Library System, 429 West Main Street, Cartersville, Georgia 30120.

**BARTOW COUNTY, GEORGIA**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
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**20. Joint Ventures (continued)**

Under Georgia law, the County, in conjunction with other cities and counties in the Northwest Georgia area, is a member of the Northwest Georgia Regional Commission (NWGRC) and is required to pay annual dues thereto. During the current year, the County paid \$90,104 in such dues. Membership in an RC is required by the Official Code of Georgia Annotated (OCGA) Section 50-8-34, which provides for the organizational structure of the RC in Georgia. The RC Board membership includes the chief elected official in each county and municipality of the area. OCGA 50-8-39.1 provides that the member governments are liable for any debts or obligations of an RC. A copy of the NWGRC financial statements can be obtained from Northwest Georgia Regional Commission, 1 Jackson Hill Drive, P.O. Box 1798, Rome, Georgia 30162.

The Bartow-Cartersville Joint Development Authority (JDA) is a public corporation created and existing under the laws of the State of Georgia, particularly the Development Authorities Law, and was activated by a resolution adopted by the Commissioner of the County on June 16, 2004 and a resolution adopted by the City Council of the City on June 17, 2004. The Authority has no taxing power and has no legal right to receive appropriations or other payments from the County, the City, or any other governmental body, except for the payments the County and the City have contracted to make under the contracts. The affairs of the Authority are conducted by a Board of Directors consisting of six members. The Commissioner of the County appoints three members and the City Council of the City appoints the other three members, each for staggered terms of office of four years. The Development Authorities Law requires all members of the Board of Directors of the Authority to be taxpayers residing in Bartow County. The Authority issues taxable bonds to help businesses and community institutions expand, renovate, and relocate in the County. The goal is to bring more businesses to Bartow County, and to create more jobs, thus providing a larger tax base for the County. On March 16, 2004, an intergovernmental agreement was entered into between the City of Cartersville, Bartow County, the JDA, and their respective school systems. One of the purposes of said agreement was to provide for the reimbursement of the City and County of any outlays of funds relating to JDA projects. The reimbursement from the JDA to the City and County is to be paid out of proceeds from land sales, PILOT payments, and other revenues. A copy of the Bartow-Cartersville Joint Development Authority financial statements can be obtained from Bartow-Cartersville Joint Development Authority, P.O. Box 307, Cartersville, Georgia 30120.

**BARTOW COUNTY, GEORGIA**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
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**20. Joint Ventures (continued)**

The Bartow-Cartersville Second Joint Development Authority (Second JDA) is a public corporation created and existing under the laws of the State of Georgia, particularly the Development Authorities Law, and was activated by a resolution adopted by the Commissioner of the County on July 13, 2011 and a resolution adopted by the City Council of the City on July 7, 2011. The Second JDA has no taxing power and has no legal right to receive appropriations or other payments from the County, the City, or any other governmental body, except for the payments the County and the City have contracted to make under the contracts. The affairs of the Second Authority are conducted by a Board of Directors consisting of eight members. The Commissioner of the County appoints four members and the City Council of the City appoints the other four members, each for staggered terms of office of four years. The Development Authorities Law requires all members of the Board of Directors of the Second JDA to be taxpayers residing in Bartow County. The Second JDA was created for the purpose of developing and promoting for the public good and general welfare trade, commerce, industry, and employment opportunities in the County and the City, thereby promoting the general welfare of the citizenry of the County and the City. A copy of the Bartow-Cartersville Second Joint Development Authority financial statements can be obtained from Bartow-Cartersville Second Joint Development Authority, P.O. Box 307, Cartersville, Georgia 30120.

**21. Risk Management**

The County is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts; theft of, damage to, and destruction of assets; errors and omissions; injuries to employees; and natural disasters. The State Constitution provides that the County (a political subdivision) may be immune from liability for most forms of bodily injury and property damage arising out of its operations, if such losses are not insured. It is the policy of the County to utilize immunity as a legal defense against liability claims whenever the risk of loss is not insured and immunity may be asserted.

**BARTOW COUNTY, GEORGIA**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
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**21. Risk Management (continued)**

***Group Health Insurance***

The County offers to all eligible employees' medical insurance coverage through a partially self-insured medical plan called an MPA or Minimum Premium Agreement. The partially self-insured plan is administered by an insurance company, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Georgia, which passes the claims costs to the County. The County has reinsurance coverage for excess claims. The maximum claims liability represents the level of paid claims during the policy year that the County would have to pay in a "worst case scenario". Bartow County pays for all claims up to the maximum claims liability of \$14,898,000, and the insurer pays for all claims in excess of the maximum claims liability. A pro rata share of the plan's annual maximum claims liability is calculated monthly, based on the number of insured covered by the plan. This amount represents the monthly maximum claims liability, subject to a claw-back provision that enables the insurance company to recover past excess costs. The County also has an individual excess loss protection on each member for claimants that exceed \$300,000 during the plan year. The insurer absorbs any amounts in excess of this claims level. The insurer agreement also has a maximum contractual obligation in the event of termination for the incurred but not reported claims. Reserves are established for the medical insurance liabilities based on information provided by the plan administrator (Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Georgia).

***Workers' Compensation***

Pursuant to Title 34, Chapter 9, Article 5 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, Bartow County has elected to participate with several other Georgia counties in the risk management program known as Association County Commissioner of Georgia Group Self-Insurance Workers' Compensation Fund ("ACCG-GSIWCF"). ACCG-GSIWCF is a public entity risk pool operating as a common risk management and insurance program. The effective date of membership was January 1, 1994. The liability of the fund to the employees of Bartow County is specifically limited to such obligations as are imposed by applicable state laws against the employer for workers' compensation and/or employer's liability.

**BARTOW COUNTY, GEORGIA**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**December 31, 2024**

**21. Risk Management (continued)**

***Workers' Compensation, continued***

The fund is to defend, in the name of and on behalf of the County, any suits or other proceedings which may at any time be instituted against the County on account of injuries or death within the parameters of the Workers' Compensation Law of the State of Georgia, or on the basis of employer's liability, including suits or other proceedings alleging such injuries and demanding damages or compensation therefore, although such suits, other proceedings, allegations or demands are wholly groundless, false or fraudulent. The Fund is to pay all costs taxed against the County in any legal proceeding defended by the County, all interest accruing after entry of judgment, and all expenses incurred for investigation, negotiation or defense, above the elected deductible of \$250,000 of claims and expenses for each occurrence of workers' compensation injuries. Reserves are established for workers' compensation based on actuarial projections provided by the ACCG-GSIWCF and their actuaries, Casualty Actuarial Consultants, Inc.

***Other***

The County has elected to participate with several other Georgia counties in the risk management program known as ACCG-Interlocal Risk Management Agency ("ACCG-IRMA"). ACCG-IRMA is a public entity risk pool operating as a common risk management and insurance program, whereby the members join together to provide a source of coverage for their property, automobile, general liability, law enforcement liability, public officials' liability, crime, statutory bond and boiler and machinery exposures. The fund is owned by its members and managed by a seven member Board of Trustees elected by the ACCG Board of Managers from member counties.

**BARTOW COUNTY, GEORGIA**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
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**21. Risk Management (continued)**

***Other, continued***

The Fund is operated under the authority of O.C.G.A. 36-85-20 et seq. ACCG-IRMA estimates the anticipated losses for its members and self-funds a portion of that exposure. The funds which are allocated for anticipated losses are invested until such time that they are needed to pay claims. ACCG-IRMA purchases appropriate re-insurance to provide for catastrophic losses and for an unanticipated frequency of smaller claims. Nothing contained in the ACCG-IRMA intergovernmental contract shall be deemed to create any relationship of surety, indemnification, or responsibility between an individual Member for the debts or claims against any other individual Member. In accordance with Sections 36-85-9 and 36-85-15 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, each Member shall be jointly and severally liable for all legal obligations of any fund and assessments may be required to meet any financial deficiencies of ACCG-IRMA or of any Fund. The effective date of membership was January 1, 2003.

As part of these risk pools, the County is obligated to pay all contributions and assessments as prescribed by the pools, to cooperate with the pool's agents and attorneys, to follow loss reduction procedures established by the funds, and to report as promptly as possible, and in accordance with any coverage descriptions issued, all incidents that could require the fund to pay any type of loss. The County is also to allow all the pool's agents and attorneys to represent the County in investigations, settlement discussions, and all levels of litigation arising out of any claims made against the County within the scope of loss protection furnished by the funds.

As required by GASB Statement No. 10 Accounting and Financial Reporting for Risk Financing and Related Insurance Issues, liabilities for claims are reported when it is probable that a loss has occurred and the amount of the loss can be reasonably estimated. Liabilities include an amount for claims that have been incurred but not reported (IBNRs). Claim liabilities are calculated considering the effects of inflation, recent claim settlement trends including frequency and amount of pay-outs and other economic and social factors. The liability for claims and judgments, is reported in the General Fund as expenditures and liabilities to the extent that the amounts are payable with expendable available financial resources.

**BARTOW COUNTY, GEORGIA**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
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**21. Risk Management (continued)**

	<u>Workers'</u> <u>Compensation</u>	<u>Health and</u> <u>Dental</u>	<u>Total</u>
<b>Beginning Balance</b>	\$ 580,000	\$ 1,429,542	\$ 2,009,542
Incurred claims, net of any changes	792,488	17,392,793	18,185,281
Payments	<u>(562,488)</u>	<u>(18,071,471)</u>	<u>(18,633,959)</u>
<b>Ending Balance</b>	<u>\$ 810,000</u>	<u>\$ 750,864</u>	<u>\$ 1,560,864</u>

There were no significant reductions in insurance coverage from the prior year, and there have been no settlements that exceed the County's insurance coverage during the past three years.

**22. Commitments and Contingencies**

***Commitments***

As of the end of the current year, contractual commitments on uncompleted contracts totaled \$53,451,818.

***Contingencies***

The County is involved in several lawsuits filed in the normal course of its activities. The majority of these claims are considered minimal with a favorable outcome expected. The County's position is to vigorously defend its position or seek an out of court settlement. These particular cases are covered by the County's liability insurance less the applicable deductible amount of \$10,000 for each case.

The County has received federal and state grants for specific purposes that are subject to review and audit by the grantor agencies. Such audits could lead to disallowance of certain expenditures previously reimbursed by those agencies. Based upon prior experience, County management believes such disallowances, if any, will not be significant.

The County has entered into various contractual agreements with Cartersville, Emerson and Adairsville to purchase water at various wholesale rates.

The County has a contractual agreement with Cartersville for sewage disposal.

The County has a contract with Kingston to sell water to the City at a specific rate.

**BARTOW COUNTY, GEORGIA**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**December 31, 2024**

**23. Nonexchange Financial Guarantee**

The County entered into an intergovernmental recreation contract with the Development Authority of Bartow County dated July 1, 2015. The contract stated if the Authority is unable to pay the principal, interest, and premium on the Development Authority of Bartow County Recreational Facilities Taxable Revenue Bonds Series 2015, the County will pay to the Authority the amount of such insufficiency. The contract will remain in effect until such time as the bonds have been paid in full, but in no event shall the term exceed fifty years. The bonds require annual payments of principal through January 1, 2035, with semi-annual interest payments at rates ranging from 2.298% to 4.85%. At the end of the current year, the outstanding principal balance of the Series 2015 Bonds is \$24,955,000.

The Authority issued these bonds for the purpose of financing the costs of acquiring, constructing, and installing an indoor sports pavilion to be located in Bartow County to be managed and operated for and on behalf of the issuer by LP Indoor Pavilion, LLC (manager) pursuant to a management services agreement. Due to the economic conditions, the manager (and Authority) is unable to make the required principal and interest payments on the bonds. As a result, during 2017, the County began making a majority of the required bond payments. A third party consultant evaluated the forecasted future cash flows of the manager to determine the estimated assistance required by the County. However, the County has continued to make the majority of the required payments and believes it is more likely than not that the County will be required to pay the remaining portion of the Authority's debt service payments based on the guarantee. At the end of the current year, the County recognized a liability in the amount of \$28,428,097 for an amount that is the County's best estimate of the discounted present value of the future outflows the County expects to incur as a result of the guarantee.

During the current year, the County paid \$2,701,227 in principal and interest on the guarantee obligation. The following is a summary of changes in the liability recognized for the nonexchange financial guarantee for the current year:

<b>Beginning Balance</b>	<b>Additions</b>	<b>Deductions</b>	<b>Ending Balance</b>
\$ 30,688,694	\$ 440,630	\$ 2,701,227	\$ 28,428,097

The probability of recovery of any payments the County makes on the Authority's guaranteed debt is unknown.

**BARTOW COUNTY, GEORGIA**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**December 31, 2024**

**24. New Accounting Pronouncements**

The County implemented GASB Statement No. 100, *Accounting Changes and Error Corrections*, effective for the County's current year. The requirements of this statement are effective for periods beginning after June 15, 2023. The implementation of this statement had no impact on net position.

The County implemented GASB Statement No. 101, *Compensated Absences*, effective for the County's current year. The requirements of this statement are effective for periods beginning after December 15, 2023. See Changes in Beginning Balances note for impact on net position.

**25. Changes in Beginning Balances**

***Change in Accounting Principle***

***Governmental Activities***

An adjustment was made to implement GASB Statement No. 101, *Compensated Absences*, at December 31, 2024. The net effect of this adjustment decreased beginning net position in the Governmental Activities in the amount of \$850,439.

***Business-Type Activities***

**Water and Sewer Enterprise Fund**

An adjustment was made to implement GASB Statement No. 101, *Compensated Absences*, at December 31, 2024. The net effect of this adjustment decreased beginning net position in the Water and Sewer Enterprise Fund in the amount of \$65,124.

**Solid Waste Enterprise Fund**

An adjustment was made to implement GASB Statement No. 101, *Compensated Absences*, at December 31, 2024. The net effect of this adjustment decreased beginning net position in the Solid Waste Enterprise Fund in the amount of \$36,277.

The net effect of these adjustments for the change in accounting principle decreased beginning net position of the business-type activities by \$101,401.

**BARTOW COUNTY, GEORGIA**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**December 31, 2024**

**25. Changes in Beginning Balances (continued)**

***Correction of an Error***

***Governmental Activities***

**General Fund**

The County corrected the previously reported balances of intergovernmental payables. Beginning fund balance in the General Fund decreased by \$990,207 as a result of this correction.

A summary of the changes in beginning balances is presented below:

	<b>Beginning As Previously Presented</b>	<b>Error Correction</b>	<b>Change in Accounting Principle</b>	<b>Beginning As Restated</b>
<b>Government-Wide</b>				
Governmental Activities	\$ 245,412,415	\$ (990,207)	\$ (850,439)	\$ 243,571,769
Business-Type Activities	147,047,640	0	(101,401)	146,946,239
	<u>\$ 392,460,055</u>	<u>\$ (990,207)</u>	<u>\$ (951,840)</u>	<u>\$ 390,518,008</u>
<b>Governmental Funds</b>				
Major Funds				
General	<u>\$ 93,072,724</u>	<u>\$ (990,207)</u>	<u>\$ 0</u>	<u>\$ 92,082,517</u>
<b>Proprietary Funds</b>				
Major Funds				
Water and Sewer	\$ 138,962,829	\$ 0	\$ (65,124)	\$ 138,897,705
Solid Waste	8,084,811	0	(36,277)	8,048,534
	<u>\$ 147,047,640</u>	<u>\$ 0</u>	<u>\$ (101,401)</u>	<u>\$ 146,946,239</u>

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***REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION***

**BARTOW COUNTY, GEORGIA**  
**SCHEDULE OF CHANGES IN THE NET PENSION LIABILITY AND RELATED RATIOS**  
**LAST TEN YEARS**  
**December 31, 2024**  
**(Unaudited)**

	Year End									
	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015
<b>Total pension liability</b>										
Service cost	\$ 1,604,066	\$ 1,611,845	\$ 1,561,401	\$ 1,632,390	\$ 1,678,488	\$ 1,443,848	\$ 1,384,151	\$ 1,243,632	\$ 1,130,200	\$ 1,101,659
Interest	10,685,122	10,224,155	10,031,260	9,463,311	8,480,402	7,491,731	6,861,529	6,347,162	5,584,567	5,567,097
Liability experience (gain) / loss	2,007,723	2,192,469	(1,642,815)	3,738,264	4,801,046	8,815,961	5,725,001	4,536,227	4,912,652	0
Assumption change	3,458,601	224,171	215,218	276,155	5,564,383	5,951,499	203,238	3,021,950	3,197,359	0
Plan change	0	167,008	0	10,851	0	0	0	0	0	0
Service credit transfer	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	20,227	0
Benefit payments, including refunds of employee contributions	(8,043,492)	(7,625,334)	(7,193,502)	(6,821,319)	(6,144,183)	(5,633,176)	(5,329,747)	(4,942,290)	(4,391,626)	(4,250,133)
Net change in total pension liability	9,712,020	6,794,314	2,971,562	8,299,652	14,380,136	18,069,863	8,844,172	10,206,681	10,453,379	2,418,623
Total pension liability - beginning	156,666,347	149,872,033	146,900,471	138,600,819	124,220,683	106,150,820	97,306,648	87,099,967	76,646,588	74,227,965
<b>Total pension liability - ending (a)</b>	<b>\$ 166,378,367</b>	<b>\$ 156,666,347</b>	<b>\$ 149,872,033</b>	<b>\$ 146,900,471</b>	<b>\$ 138,600,819</b>	<b>\$ 124,220,683</b>	<b>\$ 106,150,820</b>	<b>\$ 97,306,648</b>	<b>\$ 87,099,967</b>	<b>\$ 76,646,588</b>
<b>Plan fiduciary net position</b>										
Contributions - employer	\$ 10,686,508	\$ 10,187,177	\$ 9,098,257	\$ 9,273,300	\$ 8,882,220	\$ 7,257,887	\$ 6,661,783	\$ 5,645,508	\$ 5,476,825	\$ 5,500,000
Service credit transfer	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	20,227	0
Net investment income	15,952,668	(15,634,867)	15,039,677	11,058,801	14,064,243	(3,043,463)	9,341,313	4,178,787	477,729	3,541,054
Benefit payments, including refunds of employee contributions	(8,043,492)	(7,625,334)	(7,193,502)	(6,821,319)	(6,144,183)	(5,633,176)	(5,329,747)	(4,942,290)	(4,391,626)	(4,096,514)
Administrative expense	(132,620)	(129,482)	(120,343)	(123,450)	(123,550)	(112,510)	(105,407)	(105,963)	(104,398)	(96,193)
Other	(598,429)	(613,669)	(813,008)	(482,796)	(451,346)	(405,647)	(540,445)	(557,425)	(617,561)	(550,630)
Net change in plan fiduciary net position	17,864,635	(13,816,175)	16,011,081	12,904,536	16,227,384	(1,936,909)	10,027,497	4,218,617	861,196	4,297,717
Plan fiduciary net position - beginning	100,005,896	113,822,071	97,810,990	84,906,454	68,679,070	70,615,979	60,588,482	56,369,865	55,508,669	51,210,952
<b>Plan fiduciary net position - ending (b)</b>	<b>\$ 117,870,531</b>	<b>\$ 100,005,896</b>	<b>\$ 113,822,071</b>	<b>\$ 97,810,990</b>	<b>\$ 84,906,454</b>	<b>\$ 68,679,070</b>	<b>\$ 70,615,979</b>	<b>\$ 60,588,482</b>	<b>\$ 56,369,865</b>	<b>\$ 55,508,669</b>
<b>Net pension liability - ending : (a) - (b)</b>	<b>\$ 48,507,836</b>	<b>\$ 56,660,451</b>	<b>\$ 36,049,962</b>	<b>\$ 49,089,481</b>	<b>\$ 53,694,365</b>	<b>\$ 55,541,613</b>	<b>\$ 35,534,841</b>	<b>\$ 36,718,166</b>	<b>\$ 30,730,102</b>	<b>\$ 21,137,919</b>
Plan's fiduciary net position as a percentage of the total pension liability	70.84%	63.83%	75.95%	66.58%	61.26%	55.29%	66.52%	62.27%	64.72%	72.42%
Covered payroll	\$ 27,159,411	\$ 26,713,816	\$ 24,723,021	\$ 25,791,278	\$ 25,848,162	\$ 26,423,315	\$ 25,396,627	\$ 24,206,684	\$ 23,574,738	\$ 23,397,640
Net pension liability as a percentage of covered payroll	178.60%	212.10%	145.82%	190.33%	207.73%	210.20%	139.92%	151.69%	130.35%	90.34%

**BARTOW COUNTY, GEORGIA**  
**SCHEDULE OF PENSION CONTRIBUTIONS**  
**LAST TEN YEARS**  
**December 31, 2024**  
**(Unaudited)**

	Year End									
	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015
Actuarially determined contribution	\$ 9,903,350	\$ 9,686,508	\$ 9,187,177	\$ 9,098,257	\$ 9,273,300	\$ 8,882,220	\$ 7,257,887	\$ 6,661,783	\$ 5,645,508	\$ 5,476,825
Contributions in relation to the actuarially determined contribution	<u>(10,900,000)</u>	<u>(10,686,508)</u>	<u>(10,187,177)</u>	<u>(9,098,257)</u>	<u>(9,273,300)</u>	<u>(8,882,220)</u>	<u>(7,257,887)</u>	<u>(6,661,783)</u>	<u>(5,645,508)</u>	<u>(5,476,825)</u>
Contribution deficiency (excess)	<u>\$ (996,650)</u>	<u>\$ (1,000,000)</u>	<u>\$ (1,000,000)</u>	<u>\$ 0</u>	<u>\$ 0</u>	<u>\$ 0</u>	<u>\$ 0</u>	<u>\$ 0</u>	<u>\$ 0</u>	<u>\$ 0</u>
Covered payroll	\$ 30,202,875	\$ 27,159,411	\$ 26,713,816	\$ 24,723,021	\$ 25,791,278	\$ 25,848,162	\$ 26,423,315	\$ 25,396,627	\$ 24,206,684	\$ 23,574,738
Contributions as a percentage of covered payroll	36.09%	39.35%	38.13%	36.80%	35.96%	34.36%	27.47%	26.23%	23.32%	23.23%

**BARTOW COUNTY, GEORGIA**  
**SCHEDULE OF CHANGES IN THE NET OPEB LIABILITY AND RELATED RATIOS**  
**LAST TEN YEARS**  
**December 31, 2024**  
**(Unaudited)**

	Year End						
	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018
<b>Total OPEB liability</b>							
Service cost	\$ 729,540	\$ 1,170,490	\$ 1,499,085	\$ 1,517,792	\$ 1,665,135	\$ 1,947,625	\$ 1,713,047
Interest	3,397,227	2,339,954	2,498,072	3,678,924	4,547,894	4,134,669	4,200,059
Changes of benefit terms	0	0	(1,073,399)	0	0	0	0
Differences between expected and actual experience	3,171,674	(517,574)	(5,949,983)	(2,778,567)	(9,450,381)	(1,161,839)	(633,506)
Changes of assumptions or other inputs	5,826,622	(19,779,602)	2,674,329	(15,097,873)	28,398,463	(11,606,563)	6,175,208
Benefit payments	(6,760,627)	(3,362,002)	(3,761,576)	(3,703,657)	(2,963,342)	(2,214,708)	(2,527,785)
Net change in total OPEB liability	6,364,436	(20,148,734)	(4,113,472)	(16,383,381)	22,197,769	(8,900,816)	8,927,023
Total OPEB liability - beginning	93,943,217	114,091,951	118,205,423	134,588,804	112,391,035	121,291,851	112,364,828
<b>Total OPEB liability - ending (a)</b>	<b>\$ 100,307,653</b>	<b>\$ 93,943,217</b>	<b>\$ 114,091,951</b>	<b>\$ 118,205,423</b>	<b>\$ 134,588,804</b>	<b>\$ 112,391,035</b>	<b>\$ 121,291,851</b>
<b>Plan fiduciary net position</b>							
Contributions - employer	\$ 7,788,156	\$ 3,362,002	\$ 3,761,576	\$ 3,703,657	\$ 2,963,342	\$ 2,214,708	\$ 2,527,785
Net investment income	30,712						
Benefit payments	(6,760,627)	(3,362,002)	(3,761,576)	(3,703,657)	(2,963,342)	(2,214,708)	(2,527,785)
Net change in plan fiduciary net position	1,058,241	0	0	0	0	0	0
Plan fiduciary net position - beginning	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Plan fiduciary net position - ending (b)</b>	<b>\$ 1,058,241</b>	<b>\$ 0</b>	<b>\$ 0</b>	<b>\$ 0</b>	<b>\$ 0</b>	<b>\$ 0</b>	<b>\$ 0</b>
<b>Net OPEB liability - ending : (a) - (b)</b>	<b>\$ 99,249,412</b>	<b>\$ 93,943,217</b>	<b>\$ 114,091,951</b>	<b>\$ 118,205,423</b>	<b>\$ 134,588,804</b>	<b>\$ 112,391,035</b>	<b>\$ 121,291,851</b>
Plan's fiduciary net position as a percentage of the total OPEB liability	1.05%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Covered-employee payroll	\$ 10,498,100	\$ 11,240,031	\$ 10,859,933	\$ 13,939,155	\$ 13,467,783	\$ 15,817,056	\$ 15,817,056
Net OPEB liability as a percentage of covered-employee payroll	945.40%	835.79%	1050.58%	848.01%	999.34%	710.57%	766.84%

Note: 2018 was the first year of implementation. Therefore, years prior to 2018 are not reported.

**BARTOW COUNTY, GEORGIA**  
**SCHEDULE OF OPEB CONTRIBUTIONS**  
**LAST TEN YEARS**  
**December 31, 2024**  
**(Unaudited)**

	Year End	
	2024	2023
Actuarially determined contribution	\$ N/A	\$ 3,675,484
Contributions in relation to the actuarially determined contribution	2,838,717	(7,788,156)
Contribution deficiency (excess)	<u>\$ N/A</u>	<u>\$ (4,112,672)</u>
Covered-employee payroll	\$ N/A	\$ 10,498,100
Contributions as a percentage of covered-employee payroll	N/A	74.19%

Note: Prior to 2023, only statutorily required contributions were made. Therefore, years prior to 2023 are not reported.

**BARTOW COUNTY, GEORGIA**  
**NOTES TO THE REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**  
**December 31, 2024**

## **Pension Plan**

### **1. Valuation Date**

The actuarially determined contribution rate was determined as of January 1, 2023, with an interest adjustment to the fiscal year. Contributions in relation to this actuarially determined contribution rate will be reported for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2024.

### **2. Methods and Assumptions Used to Determine Contribution Rates**

Actuarial cost method = Entry Age Normal

Amortization method = Closed level dollar for remaining unfunded liability

Remaining amortization period = Remaining amortization period varies for the bases, with a net effective amortization period of 14 years

Asset valuation method = Smoothed market value with a 5-year smoothing period.

Net investment rate of return = 7.00%

Future salary increases = 5.50% per year with an age based scale

Cost of living adjustments = N/A

Normal retirement age = 65

Mortality = Healthy mortality rates were based on the Pub-2010 Amount Weighted Mortality Table with a blend of 50% of the General Employees Table and 50% of the Public Safety Employees Table with Scale AA to 2023. Disabled rates were derived from the 1985 CIDA Table Class I.

Deferred vested participants who terminated on or after July 10, 2019 are offered a lump sum death benefit in the amount of 50 times the monthly accrued benefit.

**BARTOW COUNTY, GEORGIA**  
**NOTES TO THE REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**  
**December 31, 2024**

## **Pension Plan (continued)**

### **3. Changes in Benefits**

The Plan was amended effective January 1, 2023 to add a Class 6 and to provide an unreduced early retirement for Class 6 employees upon satisfaction of a "Rule of 80" with a minimum age of fifty-five (55).

### **4. Changes of Assumptions**

The mortality improvements for the Pub-2010 Amount Weighted Mortality Table with a blend of 50% of the General Employees Table and 50% of the Public Safety Employees Table is projected to 2023 with Scale AA instead of 2022 with Scale AA.

Based on the February 2024 experience study:

- The adjustment to the base rate was increased from 1.0% to 1.5% for participants under age 30.
- The base salary scale was changed from 4.50% to 5.50%.
- The turnover table was extended to age 60.
- The disability table was changed to reflect actual disabilities.
- The retirement rates were updated to reflect actual retirement rates over the past 5 years.
- 1.0% load was added to the active retirement liability to account for unused sick leave and annual leave credited at retirement.

## **OPEB Plan**

### **1. Valuation Date**

The net OPEB liability was measured as of December 31, 2023, and the total OPEB liability used to calculate the net OPEB liability was determined and measured from actuarial valuations using data as of January 1, 2024.

**BARTOW COUNTY, GEORGIA**  
**NOTES TO THE REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**  
**December 31, 2024**

**OPEB Plan (continued)**

**2. Methods and Assumptions Used to Determine Contribution Rates**

Actuarial cost method = Entry age normal

Amortization method = Payments increase 4.50% per year

Remaining amortization period = 30 years as of January 1, 2024

Asset valuation method = Fair value

Projected salary increases = 5.50% per year, with adjustments by age

Inflation = 4.50%

Discount rate = 3.26%, 3.72% at prior measurement date

Healthcare cost trend rates = Pre-Medicare: 7.00% trended down to 4.50% over 10 years;

Medicare: 5.00% (ultimate); Prescription Drug: 12.00% trended down to 4.50% over 15 years;

Dental: 4.00% (ultimate); Administrative Expense: 3.00% (ultimate)

Mortality = Mortality rates were based on the Pub-2010 GE (50%) & PS (50%) Amount-Weighted gender distinct and projected generationally with Scale AA from 2024.

**3. Changes in Benefits**

Individual deductible increased from \$1,600 to \$1,650.

Family deductible increased from \$3,200 to \$3,300.

**BARTOW COUNTY, GEORGIA**  
**NOTES TO THE REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**  
**December 31, 2024**

**OPEB Plan (continued)**

**4. Changes of Assumptions**

The discount rate changed from 3.72% to 3.26%.

The per capita claims cost, contributions, and trend rate assumptions were updated to reflect the most recent experience.

The demographic assumptions for retirement, disability incidence, withdrawal, and salary increases were updated based on the pension valuation prepared by ACCG Retirement Services as of January 1, 2024.

The expected rate of return on assets is 6.50%.

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**COMBINING STATEMENTS**

***Nonmajor Governmental Funds***

**BARTOW COUNTY, GEORGIA  
COMBINING BALANCE SHEET  
NONMAJOR GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS  
December 31, 2024**

	Special Revenue							
	Drug Abuse Education	Crime Victim Assistance	Emergency Telephone	Juvenile Supervision	County Jail	Hotel/ Motel Tax	Law Enforcement Confiscated Assets	
<b>ASSETS</b>								
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 407,108	\$ 5,410	\$ 1,284,244	\$ 89,305	\$ 16,323	\$ 352,016	\$ 1,184,767	\$ 217,559
Investments	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Receivables								
Accounts	0	0	189,000	0	0	0	0	0
Intergovernmental	4,578	7,028	13,439	0	14,635	0	0	0
Taxes	0	0	0	0	0	200,145	0	0
Due from other funds	0	0	9,333	0	0	0	18,667	0
Prepaid items	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>\$ 411,686</b>	<b>\$ 12,438</b>	<b>\$ 1,496,016</b>	<b>\$ 89,305</b>	<b>\$ 30,958</b>	<b>\$ 552,161</b>	<b>\$ 1,203,434</b>	<b>\$ 217,559</b>
<b>LIABILITIES, DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES, AND FUND BALANCES</b>								
<b>Liabilities</b>								
Accounts payable	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 8,375	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 287,587	\$ 0	\$ 0
Accrued salaries and payroll liabilities	0	0	50,196	0	0	0	0	0
Due to other agencies	0	0	0	0	0	0	601,291	0
Due to other funds	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7,176
Other liabilities	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>58,571</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>287,587</b>	<b>601,291</b>	<b>7,176</b>
<b>Deferred inflows of resources</b>								
Unavailable fines and forfeitures	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Fund balances</b>								
Nonspendable prepaid items	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Restricted for:								
Judicial	411,686	12,438	0	89,305	0	0	0	0
Public Safety	0	0	0	0	30,958	0	602,143	210,383
Capital outlay	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Debt service	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Assigned for:								
Public Safety	0	0	1,437,445	0	0	0	0	0
Housing and Development	0	0	0	0	0	264,574	0	0
Debt service	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Total fund balances</b>	<b>411,686</b>	<b>12,438</b>	<b>1,437,445</b>	<b>89,305</b>	<b>30,958</b>	<b>264,574</b>	<b>602,143</b>	<b>210,383</b>
<b>Total liabilities, deferred inflows of resources and fund balances</b>	<b>\$ 411,686</b>	<b>\$ 12,438</b>	<b>\$ 1,496,016</b>	<b>\$ 89,305</b>	<b>\$ 30,958</b>	<b>\$ 552,161</b>	<b>\$ 1,203,434</b>	<b>\$ 217,559</b>

Special Revenue						Debt Service		Capital Projects		Total Nonmajor Governmental Funds
Law Library	District Attorney	Multiple Grants	Clerk of Court Technology	Radio System M&O	Opioid Settlement	Debt Service	GMA COPS Debt Service	2003 SPLOST	2014 SPLOST	
\$ 105,280	\$ 60,282	\$ 0	\$ 391,630	\$ 59,194	\$ 679,718	\$ 47,330	\$ 40,000	\$ 19,950	\$ 113,889	\$ 5,074,005
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,894,883	0	0	1,894,883
0	0	0	0	0	2,229,898	0	0	0	0	2,418,898
0	0	0	0	72,016	0	0	0	0	128,090	239,786
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	200,145
0	0	0	0	0	0	52,907	0	0	0	80,907
0	0	0	0	265,449	0	0	0	0	0	265,449
<u>\$ 105,280</u>	<u>\$ 60,282</u>	<u>\$ 0</u>	<u>\$ 391,630</u>	<u>\$ 396,659</u>	<u>\$ 2,909,616</u>	<u>\$ 100,237</u>	<u>\$ 1,934,883</u>	<u>\$ 19,950</u>	<u>\$ 241,979</u>	<u>\$ 10,174,073</u>
\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 597	\$ 0	\$ 296,559
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	50,196
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	601,291
807	0	0	0	0	0	0	52,907	0	0	60,890
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	51	0	0	51
807	0	0	0	0	0	0	52,958	597	0	1,008,987
0	0	0	0	0	2,229,898	0	0	0	0	2,229,898
0	0	0	0	265,449	0	0	0	0	0	265,449
104,473	60,282	0	391,630	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,069,814
0	0	0	0	0	679,718	0	0	0	0	1,523,202
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	19,353	241,979	261,332
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,881,925	0	0	1,881,925
0	0	0	0	131,210	0	0	0	0	0	1,568,655
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	264,574
0	0	0	0	0	0	100,237	0	0	0	100,237
<u>104,473</u>	<u>60,282</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>391,630</u>	<u>396,659</u>	<u>679,718</u>	<u>100,237</u>	<u>1,881,925</u>	<u>19,353</u>	<u>241,979</u>	<u>6,935,188</u>
<u>\$ 105,280</u>	<u>\$ 60,282</u>	<u>\$ 0</u>	<u>\$ 391,630</u>	<u>\$ 396,659</u>	<u>\$ 2,909,616</u>	<u>\$ 100,237</u>	<u>\$ 1,934,883</u>	<u>\$ 19,950</u>	<u>\$ 241,979</u>	<u>\$ 10,174,073</u>

**BARTOW COUNTY, GEORGIA**  
**COMBINING STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES,**  
**AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES**  
**NONMAJOR GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS**  
**For the year ended December 31, 2024**

	Special Revenue						Law Enforcement	
	Drug Abuse Education	Crime Victims Assistance	Emergency Telephone	Juvenile Supervision	County Jail	Hotel/ Motel Tax	Confiscated Assets	Inmate Welfare
<b>REVENUES</b>								
Taxes	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 1,392	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 2,455,315	\$ 0	\$ 0
Fines, fees, and forfeitures	108,824	171,224	0	7,953	0	0	225,277	0
Charges for services	0	0	2,304,424	0	347,831	0	0	343,322
Intergovernmental	0	0	149,144	0	0	0	0	0
Interest	0	0	0	0	0	0	11,340	0
Contributions	0	0	0	0	0	76,913	0	0
Other	0	0	55,996	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Total revenues</b>	<b>108,824</b>	<b>171,224</b>	<b>2,510,956</b>	<b>7,953</b>	<b>347,831</b>	<b>2,532,228</b>	<b>236,617</b>	<b>343,322</b>
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>								
Current								
Judicial	72,788	0	0	12,997	0	0	0	0
Public Safety	0	0	3,103,295	0	0	0	346,747	344,823
Housing and Development	0	0	0	0	0	1,654,142	0	0
Capital outlay	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Debt service	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Total expenditures</b>	<b>72,788</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3,103,295</b>	<b>12,997</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1,654,142</b>	<b>346,747</b>	<b>344,823</b>
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over (under) expenditures	36,036	171,224	(592,339)	(5,044)	347,831	878,086	(110,130)	(1,501)
Other financing sources (uses)								
Transfers in	0	0	865,000	0	0	0	0	0
Transfers out	0	(170,000)	(6,971)	0	(345,000)	(886,913)	0	0
Total other financing sources (uses)	0	(170,000)	858,029	0	(345,000)	(886,913)	0	0
Excess (deficiency) of revenues and other financing sources over (under) expenditures and other financing uses	36,036	1,224	265,690	(5,044)	2,831	(8,827)	(110,130)	(1,501)
Fund balances, January 1	375,650	11,214	1,171,755	94,349	28,127	273,401	712,273	211,884
<b>Fund balances, December 31</b>	<b>\$ 411,686</b>	<b>\$ 12,438</b>	<b>\$ 1,437,445</b>	<b>\$ 89,305</b>	<b>\$ 30,958</b>	<b>\$ 264,574</b>	<b>\$ 602,143</b>	<b>\$ 210,383</b>

Special Revenue						Debt Service		Capital Projects		Total Nonmajor Governmental Funds
Law Library	District Attorney	Multiple Grants	Clerk of Court Technology	Radio System M&O	Opioid Settlement	Debt Service	GMA COPS Debt Service	2003 SPLOST	2014 SPLOST	
\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 2,456,707
70,154	31,633	0	82,298	0	477,825	0	0	0	0	1,175,188
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2,995,577
0	0	0	0	256,206	0	0	0	0	128,090	533,440
0	3	0	0	0	0	0	81,333	5,325	0	98,001
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	76,913
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	55,996
<u>70,154</u>	<u>31,636</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>82,298</u>	<u>256,206</u>	<u>477,825</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>81,333</u>	<u>5,325</u>	<u>128,090</u>	<u>7,391,822</u>
60,492	780	0	61,994	0	0	0	0	0	0	209,051
0	0	0	0	422,113	100,000	0	0	0	0	4,316,978
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,654,142
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	142,056	684	142,740
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	64,586	0	0	64,586
<u>60,492</u>	<u>780</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>61,994</u>	<u>422,113</u>	<u>100,000</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>64,586</u>	<u>142,056</u>	<u>684</u>	<u>6,387,497</u>
<u>9,662</u>	<u>30,856</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>20,304</u>	<u>(165,907)</u>	<u>377,825</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>16,747</u>	<u>(136,731)</u>	<u>127,406</u>	<u>1,004,325</u>
0	0	0	0	327,082	0	0	0	0	0	1,192,082
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	(495,167)	(1,904,051)
0	0	0	0	327,082	0	0	0	0	(495,167)	(711,969)
9,662	30,856	0	20,304	161,175	377,825	0	16,747	(136,731)	(367,761)	292,356
<u>94,811</u>	<u>29,426</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>371,326</u>	<u>235,484</u>	<u>301,893</u>	<u>100,237</u>	<u>1,865,178</u>	<u>156,084</u>	<u>609,740</u>	<u>6,642,832</u>
<u>\$ 104,473</u>	<u>\$ 60,282</u>	<u>\$ 0</u>	<u>\$ 391,630</u>	<u>\$ 396,659</u>	<u>\$ 679,718</u>	<u>\$ 100,237</u>	<u>\$ 1,881,925</u>	<u>\$ 19,353</u>	<u>\$ 241,979</u>	<u>\$ 6,935,188</u>

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## **NONMAJOR GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS**

### **SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS**

Special revenue funds are used to account for the proceeds of specific revenue sources that are legally or donor restricted to expenditure for specified purposes.

Drug Abuse Education Fund – This fund is used to account for monies collected under Georgia law related to additional penalties on controlled substance offenses. Such monies are restricted for drug abuse treatment and education programs relating to controlled substances and marijuana.

Crime Victims Assistance Fund – This fund is used to account for grant monies received for the purpose of providing counseling services to victims of crime and add-on fine surcharges as required by the O.C.G.A.

Emergency Telephone Fund – This fund is used to account for monies collected under Georgia law by the telephone company on behalf of Bartow County. These monies are remitted to the County and are restricted to providing emergency 911 services to the residents of the County.

Juvenile Supervision Fund – This fund is used to account for monies collected under Georgia law for probational services to juvenile offenders. Such monies are restricted to providing treatment to juvenile offenders.

County Jail Fund – This fund is used to account for monies collected as a result of a 10% penalty on certain court cases. These funds are legally restricted for the construction, operation, and staffing of the County detention facilities.

Hotel/Motel Tax Fund – This fund is used to account for monies collected on all short-term room rentals by hotels and motels located in the unincorporated area of Bartow County.

Law Enforcement Confiscated Assets Fund – This fund is used to account for monies confiscated under Federal and Georgia law by the Bartow County Sheriff's Office related to controlled substances offenses. Such monies are restricted to defray the cost of complex investigations and to purchase equipment relating to said investigations.

Inmate Welfare Fund – This fund is used to account for monies collected from inmates for purchase of supplies. The profit from these sales is used for the benefit of the general inmate population.

Law Library Fund – This fund is used to account for fees received from Superior and Probate Courts and used to finance the Law Library's operation and purchase of reference materials.

District Attorney Fund – This fund is used to account for monies forfeited under O.C.G.A. 16-13-49 held by the Cherokee Judicial Circuit. These funds are held to provide payment for any and all necessary expenses for the operation of the District Attorney's Office.

Multiple Grants Fund – This fund is used to account for grants received restricted for special purposes.

Clerk of Court Technology Fund – This fund is used to account for fees received restricted for technology needs of the Clerk of Court.

Radio System M&O Fund – This fund is used to account for monies collected from other local governments. These monies are remitted to the County to offset the cost of maintenance and operations of the County radio system.

Opioid Settlement Fund – This fund is used to account for the County's share of opioid settlement payment funds that are restricted for opioid remediation efforts.

## ***DEBT SERVICE FUNDS***

Debt service funds are used to account for the accumulation of resources and payment of general government long-term debt principal and interest from governmental resources.

Debt Service Fund – This fund is used to account for the accumulation and disbursement of money needed to comply with the interest and principal redemption requirements of the governmental fund type general obligation bonds and other long-term debt obligations.

GMA COPS Debt Service Fund – This fund is used to account for the accumulation of resources and payments made for principal and interest on the GMA certificates of participation.

## ***CAPITAL PROJECTS FUNDS***

Capital Project Funds are used to account for financial resources to be used for the acquisition or construction of specifically planned projects (other than those financed by proprietary funds).

2003 Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax Fund – This fund is used to account for the proceeds of a 1 percent local option sales tax approved in 2003 for a period of time not to exceed six years for the purpose of financing long-term projects.

2014 Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax Fund – This fund is used to account for the proceeds of a 1 percent local option sales tax approved in 2011 for a period of time not to exceed six years for the purpose of financing long-term projects.

**BARTOW COUNTY, GEORGIA  
DRUG ABUSE EDUCATION  
SPECIAL REVENUE FUND  
SCHEDULE OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES  
AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES  
BUDGET (GAAP BASIS) AND ACTUAL  
For the year ended December 31, 2024**

	<u>Final Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Variance</u>
<b>REVENUES</b>			
Fines and forfeitures	\$ 105,000	\$ 108,824	\$ 3,824
<b>Total revenues</b>	<u>105,000</u>	<u>108,824</u>	<u>3,824</u>
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>			
Current			
Judicial			
Contract services	<u>90,000</u>	<u>72,788</u>	<u>17,212</u>
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over (under) expenditures	15,000	36,036	21,036
Other financing sources (uses)			
Transfers in (out)			
General Fund	<u>(15,000)</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>15,000</u>
Excess (deficiency) of revenues and other financing sources over (under) expenditures and other financing uses	0	36,036	36,036
Fund balance, January 1	<u>0</u>	<u>375,650</u>	<u>375,650</u>
<b>Fund balances, December 31</b>	<u><u>\$ 0</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 411,686</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 411,686</u></u>

**BARTOW COUNTY, GEORGIA  
 CRIME VICTIMS ASSISTANCE  
 SPECIAL REVENUE FUND  
 SCHEDULE OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES  
 AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES  
 BUDGET (GAAP BASIS) AND ACTUAL  
 For the year ended December 31, 2024**

	<u>Final Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Variance</u>
<b>REVENUES</b>			
Fines and forfeitures	\$ 175,000	\$ 171,224	\$ (3,776)
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over (under) expenditures	175,000	171,224	(3,776)
Other financing sources (uses)			
Transfers in (out)			
General Fund	<u>(175,000)</u>	<u>(170,000)</u>	<u>5,000</u>
Excess (deficiency) of revenues and other financing sources over (under) expenditures and other financing uses	0	1,224	1,224
Fund balance, January 1	<u>0</u>	<u>11,214</u>	<u>11,214</u>
<b>Fund balances, December 31</b>	<u><u>\$ 0</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 12,438</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 12,438</u></u>

**BARTOW COUNTY, GEORGIA  
EMERGENCY TELEPHONE  
SPECIAL REVENUE FUND  
SCHEDULE OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES  
AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES  
BUDGET (GAAP BASIS) AND ACTUAL  
For the year ended December 31, 2024**

	<u>Final Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Variance</u>
<b>REVENUES</b>			
Taxes	\$ 1,700	\$ 1,392	\$ (308)
Charges for services	2,338,000	2,304,424	(33,576)
Intergovernmental	136,000	149,144	13,144
Other	53,000	55,996	2,996
<b>Total revenues</b>	<u>2,528,700</u>	<u>2,510,956</u>	<u>(17,744)</u>
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>			
Current			
Public Safety			
Personal services	2,629,500	2,597,063	32,437
Contract services	753,000	492,181	260,819
Materials and supplies	15,000	14,051	949
<b>Total expenditures</b>	<u>3,397,500</u>	<u>3,103,295</u>	<u>294,205</u>
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over (under) expenditures	<u>(868,800)</u>	<u>(592,339)</u>	<u>276,461</u>
Other financing sources (uses)			
Transfers in (out)			
General Fund	868,800	865,000	(3,800)
Radio System M&O Fund	0	(6,971)	(6,971)
<b>Total other financing sources (uses)</b>	<u>868,800</u>	<u>858,029</u>	<u>(10,771)</u>
Excess (deficiency) of revenues and other financing sources over (under) expenditures and other financing uses	0	265,690	265,690
Fund balance, January 1	<u>0</u>	<u>1,171,755</u>	<u>1,171,755</u>
<b>Fund balances, December 31</b>	<u><u>\$ 0</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 1,437,445</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 1,437,445</u></u>

**BARTOW COUNTY, GEORGIA  
 JUVENILE SUPERVISION  
 SPECIAL REVENUE FUND  
 SCHEDULE OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES  
 AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES  
 BUDGET (GAAP BASIS) AND ACTUAL  
 For the year ended December 31, 2024**

	<u>Final Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Variance</u>
<b>REVENUES</b>			
Fines and forfeitures	\$ 12,000	\$ 7,953	\$ (4,047)
<b>Total revenues</b>	<u>12,000</u>	<u>7,953</u>	<u>(4,047)</u>
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>			
Current			
Judicial			
Contract services	<u>15,000</u>	<u>12,997</u>	<u>2,003</u>
<b>Total expenditures</b>	<u>15,000</u>	<u>12,997</u>	<u>2,003</u>
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over (under) expenditures	(3,000)	(5,044)	(2,044)
Fund balance, January 1	<u>3,000</u>	<u>94,349</u>	<u>91,349</u>
<b>Fund balances, December 31</b>	<u><u>\$ 0</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 89,305</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 89,305</u></u>

**BARTOW COUNTY, GEORGIA  
COUNTY JAIL  
SPECIAL REVENUE FUND  
SCHEDULE OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES  
AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES  
BUDGET (GAAP BASIS) AND ACTUAL  
For the year ended December 31, 2024**

	<u>Final Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Variance</u>
<b>REVENUES</b>			
Charges for services	\$ 350,000	\$ 347,831	\$ (2,169)
<b>Total revenues</b>	<u>350,000</u>	<u>347,831</u>	<u>(2,169)</u>
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over (under) expenditures	350,000	347,831	(2,169)
Other financing sources (uses)			
Transfers in (out)			
General Fund	<u>(350,000)</u>	<u>(345,000)</u>	<u>5,000</u>
Excess (deficiency) of revenues and other financing sources over (under) expenditures and other financing uses	0	2,831	2,831
Fund balance, January 1	<u>0</u>	<u>28,127</u>	<u>28,127</u>
<b>Fund balances, December 31</b>	<u><u>\$ 0</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 30,958</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 30,958</u></u>

**BARTOW COUNTY, GEORGIA  
HOTEL/MOTEL TAX  
SPECIAL REVENUE FUND  
SCHEDULE OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES  
AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES  
BUDGET (GAAP BASIS) AND ACTUAL  
For the year ended December 31, 2024**

	<u>Final Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Variance</u>
<b>REVENUES</b>			
Hotel/motel taxes	\$ 2,465,000	\$ 2,455,315	\$ (9,685)
Contributions	0	76,913	76,913
<b>Total revenues</b>	<u>2,465,000</u>	<u>2,532,228</u>	<u>67,228</u>
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>			
Current			
Housing and Development	<u>1,655,000</u>	<u>1,654,142</u>	<u>858</u>
<b>Total expenditures</b>	<u>1,655,000</u>	<u>1,654,142</u>	<u>858</u>
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over (under) expenditures	810,000	878,086	68,086
Other financing sources (uses)			
Transfers in (out)			
General Fund	<u>(810,000)</u>	<u>(886,913)</u>	<u>(76,913)</u>
Excess (deficiency) of revenues and other financing sources over (under) expenditures and other financing uses	0	(8,827)	(8,827)
Fund balance, January 1	<u>0</u>	<u>273,401</u>	<u>273,401</u>
<b>Fund balances, December 31</b>	<u><u>\$ 0</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 264,574</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 264,574</u></u>

**BARTOW COUNTY, GEORGIA**  
**LAW ENFORCEMENT CONFISCATED ASSETS**  
**SPECIAL REVENUE FUND**  
**SCHEDULE OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES**  
**AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES**  
**BUDGET (GAAP BASIS) AND ACTUAL**  
**For the year ended December 31, 2024**

	<u>Final Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Variance</u>
<b>REVENUES</b>			
Fines and forfeitures	\$ 0	\$ 225,277	\$ 225,277
Interest	5,000	11,340	6,340
<b>Total revenues</b>	<u>5,000</u>	<u>236,617</u>	<u>231,617</u>
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>			
Current			
Public Safety			
Contract services	10,000	49,965	(39,965)
Materials and supplies	0	52,868	(52,868)
Capital outlay	390,000	242,911	147,089
Payments to others	0	1,003	(1,003)
<b>Total expenditures</b>	<u>400,000</u>	<u>346,747</u>	<u>53,253</u>
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over (under) expenditures	(395,000)	(110,130)	284,870
Fund balance, January 1	<u>395,000</u>	<u>712,273</u>	<u>317,273</u>
<b>Fund balances, December 31</b>	<u><u>\$ 0</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 602,143</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 602,143</u></u>

**BARTOW COUNTY, GEORGIA  
INMATE WELFARE  
SPECIAL REVENUE FUND  
SCHEDULE OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES  
AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES  
BUDGET (GAAP BASIS) AND ACTUAL  
For the year ended December 31, 2024**

	<u>Final Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Variance</u>
<b>REVENUES</b>			
Charges for services	\$ 397,800	\$ 343,322	\$ (54,478)
<b>Total revenues</b>	<u>397,800</u>	<u>343,322</u>	<u>(54,478)</u>
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>			
Current			
Public Safety			
Personal services	0	89,862	(89,862)
Contract services	0	7,507	(7,507)
Materials and supplies	397,800	87,526	310,274
Capital outlay	0	159,928	(159,928)
<b>Total expenditures</b>	<u>397,800</u>	<u>344,823</u>	<u>52,977</u>
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over (under) expenditures	0	(1,501)	(1,501)
Fund balance, January 1	<u>0</u>	<u>211,884</u>	<u>211,884</u>
<b>Fund balances, December 31</b>	<u><u>\$ 0</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 210,383</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 210,383</u></u>

**BARTOW COUNTY, GEORGIA  
LAW LIBRARY  
SPECIAL REVENUE FUND  
SCHEDULE OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES  
AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES  
BUDGET (GAAP BASIS) AND ACTUAL  
For the year ended December 31, 2024**

	<u>Final Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Variance</u>
<b>REVENUES</b>			
Fines and forfeitures	\$ 96,000	\$ 70,154	\$ (25,846)
<b>Total revenues</b>	<u>96,000</u>	<u>70,154</u>	<u>(25,846)</u>
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>			
Current			
Judicial			
Personal services	0	5,559	(5,559)
Materials and supplies	96,000	54,933	41,067
<b>Total expenditures</b>	<u>96,000</u>	<u>60,492</u>	<u>35,508</u>
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over (under) expenditures	0	9,662	9,662
Fund balance, January 1	<u>0</u>	<u>94,811</u>	<u>94,811</u>
<b>Fund balances, December 31</b>	<u><u>\$ 0</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 104,473</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 104,473</u></u>

**BARTOW COUNTY, GEORGIA  
DISTRICT ATTORNEY  
SPECIAL REVENUE FUND  
SCHEDULE OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES  
AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES  
BUDGET (GAAP BASIS) AND ACTUAL  
For the year ended December 31, 2024**

	<u>Final Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Variance</u>
<b>REVENUES</b>			
Fines and forfeitures	\$ 1,000	\$ 31,633	\$ 30,633
Interest	0	3	3
<b>Total revenues</b>	<u>1,000</u>	<u>31,636</u>	<u>30,636</u>
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>			
Current			
Judicial			
Contract services	1,000	780	220
<b>Total expenditures</b>	<u>1,000</u>	<u>780</u>	<u>220</u>
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over (under) expenditures	0	30,856	30,856
Fund balance, January 1	0	29,426	29,426
<b>Fund balances, December 31</b>	<u>\$ 0</u>	<u>\$ 60,282</u>	<u>\$ 60,282</u>

**BARTOW COUNTY, GEORGIA  
 MULTIPLE GRANTS  
 SPECIAL REVENUE FUND  
 SCHEDULE OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES  
 AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES  
 BUDGET (GAAP BASIS) AND ACTUAL  
 For the year ended December 31, 2024**

	<u>Final Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Variance</u>
<b>REVENUES</b>			
Intergovernmental	\$ 335,000	\$ 0	\$ (335,000)
<b>Total revenues</b>	<u>335,000</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>(335,000)</u>
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>			
Current			
Health and Welfare			
Capital outlay	<u>335,000</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>335,000</u>
<b>Total expenditures</b>	<u>335,000</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>335,000</u>
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over (under) expenditures	0	0	0
Fund balance, January 1	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
<b>Fund balances, December 31</b>	<u><u>\$ 0</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 0</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 0</u></u>

**BARTOW COUNTY, GEORGIA  
 CLERK OF COURT TECHNOLOGY  
 SPECIAL REVENUE FUND  
 SCHEDULE OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES  
 AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES  
 BUDGET (GAAP BASIS) AND ACTUAL  
 For the year ended December 31, 2024**

	<u>Final Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Variance</u>
<b>REVENUES</b>			
Fines and forfeitures	\$ 80,000	\$ 82,298	\$ 2,298
<b>Total revenues</b>	<u>80,000</u>	<u>82,298</u>	<u>2,298</u>
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>			
Current			
Judicial			
Contract services	80,000	45,084	34,916
Materials and supplies	<u>0</u>	<u>16,910</u>	<u>(16,910)</u>
<b>Total expenditures</b>	<u>80,000</u>	<u>61,994</u>	<u>18,006</u>
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over (under) expenditures	0	20,304	20,304
Fund balance, January 1	<u>0</u>	<u>371,326</u>	<u>371,326</u>
<b>Fund balances, December 31</b>	<u><u>\$ 0</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 391,630</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 391,630</u></u>

**BARTOW COUNTY, GEORGIA  
RADIO SYSTEM M&O  
SPECIAL REVENUE FUND  
SCHEDULE OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES  
AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES  
BUDGET (GAAP BASIS) AND ACTUAL  
For the year ended December 31, 2024**

	<u>Final Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Variance</u>
<b>REVENUES</b>			
Intergovernmental	\$ 250,000	\$ 256,206	\$ 6,206
<b>Total revenues</b>	<u>250,000</u>	<u>256,206</u>	<u>6,206</u>
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>			
Current			
Public Safety			
Contract services	517,500	359,916	157,584
Materials and supplies	62,500	62,197	303
<b>Total expenditures</b>	<u>580,000</u>	<u>422,113</u>	<u>157,887</u>
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over (under) expenditures	<u>(330,000)</u>	<u>(165,907)</u>	<u>164,093</u>
Other financing sources (uses)			
Transfers in (out)			
General Fund	330,000	320,111	(9,889)
Emergency Telephone Fund	0	6,971	6,971
<b>Total other financing sources (uses)</b>	<u>330,000</u>	<u>327,082</u>	<u>(2,918)</u>
Excess (deficiency) of revenues and other financing sources over (under) expenditures and other financing uses	0	161,175	161,175
Fund balance, January 1	<u>0</u>	<u>235,484</u>	<u>235,484</u>
<b>Fund balances, December 31</b>	<u><u>\$ 0</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 396,659</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 396,659</u></u>

**BARTOW COUNTY, GEORGIA  
OPIOID SETTLEMENT  
SPECIAL REVENUE FUND  
SCHEDULE OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES  
AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES  
BUDGET (GAAP BASIS) AND ACTUAL  
For the year ended December 31, 2024**

	<u>Final Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Variance</u>
<b>REVENUES</b>			
Fines and forfeitures	\$ 100,000	\$ 477,825	\$ 377,825
<b>Total revenues</b>	<u>100,000</u>	<u>477,825</u>	<u>377,825</u>
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>			
Current			
Public Safety			
Payments to others	<u>100,000</u>	<u>100,000</u>	<u>0</u>
<b>Total expenditures</b>	<u>100,000</u>	<u>100,000</u>	<u>0</u>
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over (under) expenditures	0	377,825	377,825
Fund balance, January 1	<u>0</u>	<u>301,893</u>	<u>301,893</u>
<b>Fund balances, December 31</b>	<u><u>\$ 0</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 679,718</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 679,718</u></u>

**BARTOW COUNTY, GEORGIA  
DEBT SERVICE FUND  
SCHEDULE OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES  
AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES  
BUDGET (GAAP BASIS) AND ACTUAL  
For the year ended December 31, 2024**

	<u>Final Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Variance</u>
<b>REVENUES</b>	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>			
Debt Service			
Interest	57,000	0	57,000
<b>Total expenditures</b>	<u>57,000</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>57,000</u>
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over (under) expenditures	(57,000)	0	57,000
Fund balances, January 1	<u>57,000</u>	<u>100,237</u>	<u>43,237</u>
<b>Fund balances, December 31</b>	<u><u>\$ 0</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 100,237</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 100,237</u></u>

**BARTOW COUNTY, GEORGIA  
GMA COPS  
DEBT SERVICE FUND  
SCHEDULE OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES  
AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES  
BUDGET (GAAP BASIS) AND ACTUAL  
For the year ended December 31, 2024**

	<u>Final Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Variance</u>
<b>REVENUES</b>			
Interest	\$ 45,000	\$ 81,333	\$ 36,333
<b>Total revenues</b>	<u>45,000</u>	<u>81,333</u>	<u>36,333</u>
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>			
Debt Service			
Interest	<u>65,000</u>	<u>64,586</u>	<u>414</u>
<b>Total expenditures</b>	<u>65,000</u>	<u>64,586</u>	<u>414</u>
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over (under) expenditures	(20,000)	16,747	36,747
Fund balances, January 1	<u>20,000</u>	<u>1,865,178</u>	<u>1,845,178</u>
<b>Fund balances, December 31</b>	<u>\$ 0</u>	<u>\$ 1,881,925</u>	<u>\$ 1,881,925</u>

## ***CUSTODIAL FUNDS***

These funds are used to account for assets held by the County as a custodian to be expended in accordance with the conditions of its custodial capacity.

Tax Commissioner - This fund accounts for assets and related liabilities for the collection of taxes and tag and title fees.

Clerk of Superior Court, Probate Court, Juvenile Court and Magistrate Court - These funds account for assets and related liabilities for the collection of court related fees.

Sheriff Department - This fund accounts for deposits held for incarcerated inmates.

**BARTOW COUNTY, GEORGIA  
CUSTODIAL FUNDS  
STATEMENT OF FIDUCIARY NET POSITION  
December 31, 2024**

	<u>Tax Commissioner</u>	<u>Clerk of Superior Court</u>	<u>Sheriff</u>	<u>Probate Court</u>	<u>Juvenile Court</u>	<u>Magistrate Court</u>	<u>Total Custodial Funds</u>
<b>ASSETS</b>							
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 649,691	\$ 4,895,479	\$ 237,122	\$ 265,125	\$ 41,890	\$ 74,499	\$ 6,163,806
Taxes receivable	<u>16,416,959</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>16,416,959</u>
Total assets	<u>17,066,650</u>	<u>4,895,479</u>	<u>237,122</u>	<u>265,125</u>	<u>41,890</u>	<u>74,499</u>	<u>22,580,765</u>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>							
Due to others	<u>16,470,036</u>	<u>61,133</u>	<u>69,511</u>	<u>53,445</u>	<u>8,126</u>	<u>34,198</u>	<u>16,696,449</u>
<b>NET POSITION</b>							
Restricted for individuals, organizations, and other governments	<u>\$ 596,614</u>	<u>\$ 4,834,346</u>	<u>\$ 167,611</u>	<u>\$ 211,680</u>	<u>\$ 33,764</u>	<u>\$ 40,301</u>	<u>\$ 5,884,316</u>

**BARTOW COUNTY, GEORGIA**  
**CUSTODIAL FUNDS**  
**STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN FIDUCIARY NET POSITION**  
**For the year ended December 31, 2024**

	<u>Tax Commissioner</u>	<u>Clerk of Superior Court</u>	<u>Sheriff</u>	<u>Probate Court</u>	<u>Juvenile Court</u>	<u>Magistrate Court</u>	<u>Total Custodial Funds</u>
<b>ADDITIONS</b>							
Taxes collected for other agencies	\$ 156,465,068	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 156,465,068
Court fees collected for other agencies	0	4,105,170	0	651,748	21,609	457,278	5,235,805
Court individual cases	0	4,047,082	0	537,812	0	0	4,584,894
Sheriff fees collected	0	0	885,453	0	0	0	885,453
Sheriff inmate account deposits	0	0	1,230,833	0	0	0	1,230,833
<b>Total additions</b>	<u>156,465,068</u>	<u>8,152,252</u>	<u>2,116,286</u>	<u>1,189,560</u>	<u>21,609</u>	<u>457,278</u>	<u>168,402,053</u>
<b>DEDUCTIONS</b>							
Taxes distributed to other agencies	156,592,166	0	0	0	0	0	156,592,166
Court fees distributed to other agencies	0	4,105,170	0	651,748	19,247	454,554	5,230,719
Payments to others	0	1,521,253	0	469,467	0	0	1,990,720
Sheriff fees distributed to other agencies	0	0	885,453	0	0	0	885,453
Payments from inmates to others	0	0	1,166,669	0	0	0	1,166,669
<b>Total deductions</b>	<u>156,592,166</u>	<u>5,626,423</u>	<u>2,052,122</u>	<u>1,121,215</u>	<u>19,247</u>	<u>454,554</u>	<u>165,865,727</u>
Change in net position	(127,098)	2,525,829	64,164	68,345	2,362	2,724	2,536,326
Net position, January 1	<u>723,712</u>	<u>2,308,517</u>	<u>103,447</u>	<u>143,335</u>	<u>31,402</u>	<u>37,577</u>	<u>3,347,990</u>
<b>Net position, December 31</b>	<u>\$ 596,614</u>	<u>\$ 4,834,346</u>	<u>\$ 167,611</u>	<u>\$ 211,680</u>	<u>\$ 33,764</u>	<u>\$ 40,301</u>	<u>\$ 5,884,316</u>

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***SINGLE AUDIT SECTION***

This section contains reports required by the Uniform Guidance and grantor agencies.

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**Independent Auditor’s Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters Based on an Audit of Financial Statements Performed In Accordance with *Government Auditing Standards***

Honorable Commissioner  
Bartow County, Georgia

We have audited, in accordance with the auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the financial statements of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, the discretely presented component unit, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of Bartow County, Georgia, as of and for the year ended December 31, 2024, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise Bartow County, Georgia’s basic financial statements and have issued our report thereon dated June 27, 2025. Our report includes a reference to other auditors who audited the financial statements of Bartow County Health Department, as described in our report on Bartow County, Georgia’s financial statements. This report does not include the results of the other auditors’ testing of internal control over financial reporting or compliance and other matters that were reported on separately by those auditors.

**Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting**

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered Bartow County, Georgia’s internal control over financial reporting (internal control) as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinions on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of Bartow County, Georgia’s internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of Bartow County, Georgia’s internal control.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the preceding paragraph and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies and therefore, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that have not been identified. However, as described in the accompanying schedule of findings and questioned costs, we identified certain deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses and significant deficiencies.

A *deficiency in internal control* exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct, misstatements on a timely basis. A *material weakness* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the entity’s financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected on a timely basis. We consider the deficiency described in the accompanying schedule of findings and questioned costs as item 2024-001 to be a material weakness.

A *significant deficiency* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control that is less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance. We consider the deficiencies described in the accompanying schedule of findings and questioned costs as items 2024-002 through 2024-004 to be significant deficiencies.

## **Report on Compliance and Other Matters**

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether Bartow County, Georgia's financial statements are free of material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grants agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the determination of financial statement amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit, and accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

## **Bartow County, Georgia's Response to Findings**

*Government Auditing Standards* requires the auditor to perform limited procedures on Bartow County, Georgia's response to the findings identified in our audit and described in the accompanying schedule of findings and questioned costs. Bartow County, Georgia's response was not subjected to the other auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and, accordingly, we express no opinion the response.

## **Purpose of This Report**

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of Bartow County, Georgia's internal control or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the entity's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

*Rushton, LLC*

Gainesville, Georgia  
June 27, 2025

**Independent Auditor’s Report on Compliance for Each Major Program and on Internal Control over Compliance Required by the Uniform Guidance**

Honorable Commissioner  
Bartow County, Georgia

**Report on Compliance for Each Major Federal Program**

***Opinion on Each Major Federal Program***

We have audited Bartow County, Georgia’s compliance with the types of compliance requirements identified as subject to audit in the *OMB Compliance Supplement* that could have a direct and material effect on each of Bartow County, Georgia’s major federal programs for the year ended December 31, 2024. Bartow County, Georgia’s major federal programs are identified in the summary of auditor’s results section of the accompanying schedule of findings and questioned costs.

In our opinion, Bartow County, Georgia complied, in all material respects, with the types of compliance requirements referred to above that could have a direct and material effect on each of its major federal programs for the year ended December 31, 2024.

***Basis for Opinion on Each Major Federal Program***

We conducted our audit of compliance in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America; the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States; and the audit requirements of Title 2 U.S. *Code of Federal Regulations* Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards* (Uniform Guidance). Our responsibilities under those standards and the Uniform Guidance are further described in the Auditor’s Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance section of our report.

We are required to be independent of Bartow County, Georgia and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion on compliance for each major federal program. Our audit does not provide a legal determination of Bartow County, Georgia’s compliance with the compliance requirements referred to above.

***Responsibilities of Management for Compliance***

Management is responsible for compliance with the requirements referred to above and for the design, implementation, and maintenance of effective internal control over compliance with the requirements of laws, statutes, regulations, rules, and provisions of contracts or grant agreements applicable to Bartow County, Georgia’s federal programs.

## **Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance**

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether material noncompliance with the compliance requirements referred to above occurred, whether due to fraud or error, and express an opinion on Bartow County, Georgia's compliance based on our audit. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards, *Government Auditing Standards*, and the Uniform Guidance will always detect material noncompliance when it exists. The risk of not detecting material noncompliance resulting from fraud is higher than for that resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Noncompliance with the compliance requirements referred to above is considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, it would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user of the report on compliance about Bartow County, Georgia's compliance with the requirements of each major federal program as a whole.

In performing an audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards, *Government Auditing Standards*, and the Uniform Guidance, we:

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material noncompliance, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding Bartow County, Georgia's compliance with the compliance requirements referred to above and performing such other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances.
- Obtain an understanding of Bartow County, Georgia's internal control over compliance relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances and to test and report on internal control over compliance in accordance with the Uniform Guidance, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of Bartow County, Georgia's internal control over compliance. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and any significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in internal control over compliance that we identified during the audit.

## **Report on Internal Control over Compliance**

*A deficiency in internal control over compliance* exists when the design or operation of a control over compliance does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct, noncompliance with a type of compliance requirement of a federal program on a timely basis. *A material weakness in internal control over compliance* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control over compliance, such that there is a reasonable possibility that material noncompliance with a type of compliance requirement of a federal program will not be prevented, or detected and corrected, on a timely basis. *A significant deficiency in internal control over compliance* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control over compliance with a type of compliance requirement of a federal program that is less severe than a material weakness in internal control over compliance, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

Our consideration of internal control over compliance was for the limited purpose described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance section above and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control over compliance that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies in internal control over compliance. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control over compliance that we consider to be material weaknesses, as defined above. However, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies in internal control over compliance may exist that were not identified.

Our audit was not designed for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of internal control over compliance. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.

The purpose of this report on internal control over compliance is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over compliance and the results of that testing based on the requirements of the Uniform Guidance. Accordingly, this report is not suitable for any other purpose.

*Rushton, LLC*

Gainesville, Georgia  
June 27, 2025

**BARTOW COUNTY, GEORGIA**  
**SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS**  
**For the year ended December 31, 2024**

<u>Federal Grant/Pass-Through Grantor/Program Title</u>	<u>Federal Assistance Listing Number</u>	<u>Pass- Through Number</u>	<u>Expenditures</u>
<b>Department of Defense</b>			
Passed through the Georgia Office of the State Treasurer: Payments to States in Lieu of Real Estate Taxes	12.112	FY2023	\$ 278,398
<b>Department of the Interior</b>			
Payments in Lieu of Taxes	15.226	N/A	52,840
Passed through the Georgia Department of Natural Resources: Outdoor Recreation Acquisition, Development, and Planning	15.916	13-01044	141,000
<b>Total Department of the Interior</b>			<u>193,840</u>
<b>Department of Justice</b>			
Passed through the Georgia Criminal Justice Coordinating Council: Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention	16.540	Y24-8-001 Y25-8-001	77,405 32,910 <u>110,315</u>
Crime Victim Assistance	16.575	C23-8-101 C23-8-249	41,395 49,411 <u>90,806</u>
Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program	16.738	15PBJA-23-GG-03322	17,911
Equitable Sharing Program	16.922	N/A	<u>38,495</u>
<b>Total Department of Justice</b>			<u>257,527</u>
<b>Department of Transportation</b>			
Passed through the Georgia Department of Transportation: Highway Planning and Construction	20.205	0019731-PLN 0019747-PLN PI#0016627 PI#0019997	141,621 5,408 844,000 176,164 <u>1,167,193</u>
Formula Grants for Rural Areas and Tribal Transit Program	20.509	T007053 T007287 T008388	46,399 394,024 205,367 <u>645,790</u>
<b>Total Department of Transportation</b>			<u>1,812,983</u>

**BARTOW COUNTY, GEORGIA**  
**SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS**  
**For the year ended December 31, 2024**

<u>Federal Grant/Pass-Through Grantor/Program Title</u>	<u>Federal Assistance Listing Number</u>	<u>Pass- Through Number</u>	<u>Expenditures</u>
<b><u>Department of the Treasury</u></b>			
Equitable Sharing	21.016	N/A	\$ 213,776
COVID-19 Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds	21.027	N/A	2,559,911
Passed through the Georgia Governor's Office of Planning and Budget: COVID-19 Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds	21.027	GA-0005334	2,570,785
Passed through the Judicial Council of Georgia: COVID-19 Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds	21.027	2024-2025_ARPA_3Y030	814,880
Total COVID-19 Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds			<u>5,945,576</u>
<b>Total Department of the Treasury</b>			<u>6,159,352</u>
<b><u>Environmental Protection Agency</u></b>			
Passed through the Georgia Environmental Finance Authority: Clean Water State Revolving Fund	66.458	CW2020004 CW2021028	10,285,425 565,828 <u>10,851,253</u>
Drinking Water State Revolving Fund	66.468	DWLSL2022113	<u>175,000</u>
<b>Total Environmental Protection Agency</b>			<u>11,026,253</u>
<b><u>Department of Health and Human Services</u></b>			
<b><u>Aging Cluster</u></b>			
Passed through Transit Alliance Group: Special Programs for the Aging_ Title III, Part B_Grants for Supportive Services and Senior Centers	93.044	BARTOW TRANSIT	153,684
Drug-Free Communities Support Program Grants	93.276	N/A	<u>120,745</u>
<b>Total Department of Health and Human Services</b>			<u>274,429</u>
<b><u>Department of Homeland Security</u></b>			
Passed through the Georgia Emergency Management Agency: Emergency Management Performance Grants	97.042	OEM23-008	<u>30,047</u>
<b>Total Federal Awards</b>			<u>\$ 20,032,829</u>

See accompanying notes to the schedule of expenditures of federal awards and the schedule of findings and questioned costs.

**BARTOW COUNTY, GEORGIA**  
**NOTES TO THE SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS**  
**For the year ended December 31, 2024**

**1. Basis of Presentation**

The accompanying schedule of expenditures of federal awards (the Schedule) includes the federal award activity of Bartow County, Georgia, under programs for the federal government for the year ended December 31, 2024. The information in this schedule is presented in accordance with the requirements of Title 2 U.S. Code of Federal Regulations Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards* (Uniform Guidance). Because this schedule presents only a selected portion of the operations of the County, it is not intended to and does not present the financial position, changes in net position or cash flows of the County.

**2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies**

Expenditures reported on the Schedule are reported on the accrual basis of accounting. Such expenditures are recognized following the cost principles contained in Title 2 U.S. Code of Federal Regulations Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards*, wherein certain types of expenditures are not allowable or are limited as to reimbursement.

**3. De Minimis Indirect Cost Rate**

Bartow County, Georgia has elected not to use the 10-percent *de minimis* indirect cost rate allowed under the Uniform Guidance.

**4. Payments to Subrecipients**

For the current year, Bartow County, Georgia did not pass federal funds through to subrecipients.

**BARTOW COUNTY, GEORGIA**  
**SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS**  
*For the year ended December 31, 2024*

**1. Summary of the Auditor's Results**

**A. Financial Statements**

Type of auditor's report issued:	Unmodified
Internal control over financial reporting:	
Material weakness(es) identified?	Yes
Significant deficiencies identified not considered material weaknesses?	Yes
Noncompliance material to financial statements noted?	None reported

**B. Federal Awards**

Internal control over major programs:	
Material weakness(es) identified?	None reported
Significant deficiencies identified not considered material weaknesses?	None reported

Type of auditor's report issued on compliance for major programs:	Unmodified
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Any audit findings disclosed that are required to be reported in accordance with the Uniform Guidance?	None reported
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Identification of major programs:

- 20.205 Highway Planning and Construction
- 21.027 COVID-19 Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds
- 66.458 Clean Water State Revolving Fund

Dollar threshold used to distinguish Between Type A and Type B programs:	\$750,000
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Auditee qualified as low-risk auditee?	No
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**BARTOW COUNTY, GEORGIA**  
**SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS**  
**For the year ended December 31, 2024**

**2. Financial Statement Findings and Responses**

**2024-001**

*Condition:* The prior year financial statements were restated for errors and incorrectly reported amounts in the General Fund.

*Criteria:* Generally accepted accounting principles require that accruals be properly calculated and recorded.

*Effect:* Failure to properly apply generally accepted accounting principles led to financial statements that were materially misstated.

*Cause:* The Finance Department was not made aware that funds received from an Authority would be due back to the Authority and should have been recorded as an intergovernmental payable.

*Recommendation:* Management should review their year-end procedures for recording liabilities.

*Management Response:* Management concurs with this finding. County personnel will review all year-end accruals to ensure they are properly calculated and recorded. This action was taken immediately upon receipt of the comment from our auditors.

**2024-002**

*Condition:* Appropriate segregation of duties does not exist among recording, distribution, and reconciliation of cash accounts and other operational functions in the various funds maintained by the County. This is especially prominent in the offices of the Clerk of Superior Court and Sheriff's Department.

*Criteria:* Segregation of employees' duties is a common practice in an effective internal control structure. Segregation of duties is when specific employee functions related to important accounting areas (such as cash receipting and cash disbursements) are separated among different individuals to significantly reduce the risk that any one individual could intentionally or unintentionally misappropriate assets.

*Effect:* Failure to maintain adequate segregation of duties exposes the assets of the County to greater risk of misappropriation.

*Cause:* There are several departments and constitutional offices of the County in which the segregation of duties could be improved.

*Recommendation:* We recommend that each County office review its policies and procedures to determine where it can adequately segregate duties to alleviate the segregation of duties issues.

*Management Response:* Management has provided a copy of this finding to the appropriate Elected Officials and Department Heads and they concur with this finding. Action was taken immediately upon receipt of this comment from our auditors.

**2024-003**

*Condition:* During audit procedures, we noted supporting documentation for journal entries did not have evidence of approval in 13 of 25 (52%) entries tested at the Finance Department and 11 of 15 (73%) entries tested at the Water and Sewer Department. We also noted that 5 of the 15 (33%) journal entries tested at the Water and Sewer Department did not have adequate supporting documentation. All journal entries reviewed during audit procedures appeared appropriate.

**Exhibit E-3, continued**

**BARTOW COUNTY, GEORGIA**  
**SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS**  
**For the year ended December 31, 2024**

**2. Financial Statement Findings and Responses, continued**

**2024-003, continued**

*Criteria:* Effective internal controls require that all transactions be properly supported by appropriate supporting documentation with evidence of approval.

*Effect:* Failure to maintain proper supporting documentation with evidence of approval for transactions subjects the assets of the County to greater risk of misappropriation.

*Cause:* Adequate supporting documentation with evidence of approval is not maintained by staff in the Finance Department and Water and Sewer Department.

*Recommendation:* In order to document proper segregation of duties, appropriate supporting documentation for journal entries should have evidence of approval.

*Management Response:* Management concurs with this finding. The Finance Department and Water and Sewer Department will maintain appropriate supporting documentation with evidence of approval for all journal entries. This action was taken immediately upon receipt of the comment from our auditors.

**2024-004**

*Condition:* While performing audit procedures at the Water and Sewer Department, we noted customer account adjustments did not have evidence of approval in 25 of 25 (100%) adjustments tested.

*Criteria:* Effective internal controls require that all transactions be properly supported by appropriate supporting documentation with evidence of approval.

*Effect:* Failure to maintain proper supporting documentation with evidence of approval for transactions subjects the assets of the County to greater risk of misappropriation.

*Cause:* Adequate supporting documentation with evidence of approval is not maintained by staff in the Water and Sewer Department.

*Recommendation:* In order to document proper segregation of duties, appropriate supporting documentation for customer account adjustments should have evidence of approval.

*Management Response:* Management concurs with this finding. The Water and Sewer Department will maintain appropriate supporting documentation with evidence of approval for all customer account adjustments. This action was taken immediately upon receipt of the comment from our auditors.

**3. Prior Year Audit Findings Follow-Ups**

**2023-001**

*Condition:* The prior year financial statements were restated for errors and incorrectly reported amounts in the Governmental Activities, Water and Sewer Fund, Solid Waste Fund, and the Nonmajor Governmental Funds.

Not Corrected

**BARTOW COUNTY, GEORGIA**  
**SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS**  
*For the year ended December 31, 2024*

**3. Prior Year Audit Findings Follow-Ups, continued**

**2023-002**

*Condition:* Appropriate segregation of duties does not exist among recording, distribution, and reconciliation of cash accounts and other operational functions in the various funds maintained by the County. This is especially prominent in the offices of the Clerk of Superior Court and Magistrate Court.

Not Corrected

**2023-003**

*Condition:* During audit procedures on debit card activity at the Sheriff's Department, we noted that adequate supporting documentation is not maintained for debit card transactions. We noted 3 of 24 transactions tested lacked adequate supporting documentation and 4 of 24 transactions lacked jail or inmate business purpose description.

Corrected

**2023-004**

*Condition:* While performing audit procedures at the Sheriff's Department, we noted multiple payouts to the Commissioner's Office were not made in a timely manner. The checks were either back-dated or held for several months before sending.

Corrected

**4. Federal Award Findings and Questioned Costs**

The audit of our basic financial statements and schedule of expenditures of federal awards disclosed no audit findings or questioned costs which are required to be reported under Title 2 U.S. Code of Federal Regulations Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards*.

***STATE REPORTING SECTION***

This section contains additional reports required by the State of Georgia.

**BARTOW COUNTY, GEORGIA**  
**SCHEDULE OF PROJECTS FINANCED WITH SPECIAL**  
**PURPOSE LOCAL OPTION SALES TAX**  
**For the year ended December 31, 2024**

Project	Estimated Cost *		Expenditures		Total
	Original	Current	Prior Years	Current Year	
<b>2003 SPLOST</b>					
Water and Sewer	\$ 18,000,000	\$ 18,000,000	\$ 18,052,365	\$ 0	\$ 18,052,365
Library System	5,000,000	5,000,000	548,954	0	548,954
Public Safety Equipment	2,410,000	2,410,000	2,291,386	0	2,291,386
Public Safety Facilities - Fire	3,470,000	3,470,000	5,184,005	0	5,184,005
Recreation	3,000,000	3,000,000	3,272,771	0	3,272,771
Economic Development	2,000,000	2,000,000	921,675	0	921,675
GIS Program	400,000	400,000	409,699	0	409,699
Greenspace	2,000,000	2,000,000	1,927,317	0	1,927,317
Historic Courthouse					
Renovation	700,000	700,000	828,220	0	828,220
Other County Buildings	500,000	500,000	4,626,293	142,056	4,768,349
Roads and Bridges	15,011,350	15,011,350	18,818,841	0	18,818,841
Debt Service	6,031,650	6,031,650	10,622,574	0	10,622,574
City of Cartersville	17,827,800	17,827,800	18,776,815	0	18,776,815
City of Adairsville	2,872,400	2,872,400	3,025,370	0	3,025,370
City of Emerson	1,694,200	1,694,200	1,784,438	0	1,784,438
City of Kingston	821,300	821,300	865,045	0	865,045
City of White	821,300	821,300	865,045	0	865,045
City of Euharlee	3,440,000	3,440,000	3,623,229	0	3,623,229
Total	<u>\$ 86,000,000</u>	<u>\$ 86,000,000</u>	<u>\$ 96,444,042</u>	<u>\$ 142,056</u>	<u>\$ 96,586,098</u>

**BARTOW COUNTY, GEORGIA**  
**SCHEDULE OF PROJECTS FINANCED WITH SPECIAL**  
**PURPOSE LOCAL OPTION SALES TAX**  
**For the year ended December 31, 2024**

Project	Estimated Cost *		Expenditures		Total
	Original	Current	Prior Years	Current Year	
<b>2014 SPLOST</b>					
Water and Sewer	\$ 37,244,350	\$ 37,244,350	\$ 2,329,396	\$ 0	\$ 2,329,396
Animal Control	269,500	269,500	267,743	0	267,743
Building Maintenance	600,500	600,500	350,287	0	350,287
Information Technology	590,350	590,350	884,544	0	884,544
Geographic Information System	799,500	799,500	0	0	0
E-911	744,500	744,500	298,412	0	298,412
EMA Warning Sirens	319,500	319,500	95,662	0	95,662
EMS Ambulances	2,469,500	2,469,500	1,050,925	0	1,050,925
Engineering	4,204,500	4,204,500	716,241	0	716,241
Facilities Improvement	869,500	869,500	1,651,450	0	1,651,450
Fire Department Proj. and Equip.	7,219,500	7,219,500	5,322,433	0	5,322,433
Purchasing	238,700	238,700	0	0	0
Public Works	2,969,500	2,969,500	0	0	0
Roads	51,995,700	51,995,700	30,254,071	0	30,254,071
Health Dept. Fac. and Equip.	1,069,500	1,069,500	246,270	0	246,270
Greenspace	2,000,000	2,000,000	0	0	0
Recreation	6,034,750	6,034,750	5,849,597	0	5,849,597
Community Center	1,034,750	1,034,750	0	0	0
Senior Center Vehicle	339,500	339,500	79,269	0	79,269
Sheriff's Department Vehicles	2,000,000	2,000,000	1,849,747	0	1,849,747
Solid Waste	2,969,500	2,969,500	2,919,667	0	2,919,667
Library System Books and Equip.	1,269,500	1,269,500	288,004	0	288,004
Landfill Expansion	12,500,000	12,500,000	9,603,788	495,851	10,099,639
Radio System / Communication	15,000,000	15,000,000	18,873,566	0	18,873,566
Industrial Park	13,073,354	13,073,354	21,032,373	0	21,032,373
City of Adairsville	8,932,000	8,932,000	4,430,489	0	4,430,489
City of Cartersville	27,822,796	27,822,796	15,624,118	0	15,624,118
City of Emerson	3,792,250	3,792,250	1,881,048	0	1,881,048
City of Euharlee	7,950,250	7,950,250	3,943,518	0	3,943,518
City of Kingston	1,838,375	1,838,375	911,880	0	911,880
City of White	1,838,375	1,838,375	911,880	0	911,880
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 220,000,000</b>	<b>\$ 220,000,000</b>	<b>\$ 131,666,378</b>	<b>\$ 495,851</b>	<b>\$ 132,162,229</b>

NOTE: Prior years expenditures for Roads has been reduced by \$128,090 to reflect receipt of intergovernmental revenues received in the current year for expenditures in prior years.

**BARTOW COUNTY, GEORGIA**  
**SCHEDULE OF PROJECTS FINANCED WITH SPECIAL**  
**PURPOSE LOCAL OPTION SALES TAX**  
**For the year ended December 31, 2024**

Project	Estimated Cost *		Expenditures		Total
	Original	Current	Prior Years	Current Year	
<b>2020 SPLOST</b>					
Renovation and Expansion of Two Courthouses and Administrative Space and Associated Parking Decks	\$ 34,000,000	\$ 34,000,000	\$ 6,651,053	\$ 3,156,175	\$ 9,807,228
Public Works Projects including roads streets, and bridges and water and sewer facilities and equipment	40,200,000	40,200,000	18,532,996	578,028	19,111,024
Public Safety Projects including fire, sheriff, and EMS facilities and equipment	18,800,000	18,800,000	16,875,524	7,373,485	24,249,009
Recreation and Culture Projects	14,530,000	14,530,000	15,756,958	7,673,113	23,430,071
Economic Development Projects	6,200,000	6,200,000	1,202,558	0	1,202,558
Engineering Projects	2,663,000	2,663,000	0	7,500	7,500
Health and Welfare Projects	2,350,000	2,350,000	26,539	1,129,866	1,156,405
Information Technology Projects	1,000,000	1,000,000	417,394	76,807	494,201
City of Adairsville	5,846,400	5,846,400	4,487,807	1,430,812	5,918,619
City of Cartersville	24,318,000	24,318,000	18,666,955	5,951,440	24,618,395
City of Emerson	2,482,200	2,482,200	1,905,394	607,479	2,512,873
City of Euharlee	5,203,800	5,203,800	3,994,535	1,273,547	5,268,082
City of Kingston	1,203,300	1,203,300	923,676	294,488	1,218,164
City of White	1,203,300	1,203,300	923,676	294,488	1,218,164
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 160,000,000</b>	<b>\$ 160,000,000</b>	<b>\$ 90,365,065</b>	<b>\$ 29,847,228</b>	<b>\$ 120,212,293</b>
Roads Expenditures Financed by Intergovernmental and Contributions Revenues				5,191,356	
Information Technology Projects Expenditures Financed by Intergovernmental Revenues				3,500	
<b>Total Expenditures and Transfers Out of the 2020 SPLOST Capital Projects Fund</b>				<b>\$ 35,042,084</b>	

\* Estimated cost represents the portion of these projects to be financed with Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax. Actual costs that are in excess of these amounts have been financed through alternative funds.

**BARTOW COUNTY, GEORGIA**  
**SCHEDULE OF COMPLETED STATE AWARDS EXPENDED**  
**GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES**  
**For the year ended December 31, 2024**

<u>Grant Name</u>	<u>Grant Period</u>	<u>Contract Number</u>	<u>Amount Awarded</u>	<u>State Revenues</u>	<u>State Expenditures</u>	<u>Amount Due from State</u>
DHS Operating Grant - Family Connection	07/01/23 to 06/30/24	42700-93-202400107	\$ 52,500	\$ 27,400	\$ 27,400	\$ 0
DHS Operating Grant - Family Connection	07/01/24 to 06/30/25	42700-93-25-116812	56,250	26,875	26,875	13,438
DHS / Transit Alliance Group	07/01/23 to 06/30/24	FY2024	143,838	79,722	79,722	0
DHS / Transit Alliance Group	07/01/24 to 06/30/25	FY2025	<u>118,836</u>	<u>73,962</u>	<u>73,962</u>	<u>16,200</u>
Total			<u>\$ 371,424</u>	<u>\$ 207,959</u>	<u>\$ 207,959</u>	<u>\$ 29,638</u>

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