



## Budget Tenets

We strive to serve the residents of Sarpy County through a budget planning process that manages costs and ensures the financial health of the county.

Our key budget tenets are:

- Manage and conduct our operations as **efficiently and effectively** as possible to minimize cost to our taxpayers.
- **Utilize zero-based budgeting** for expenditures.
- **Fund on-going operating expenditures with on-going revenue** sources.
- **Maintain a sufficient General Fund reserve** to achieve the highest bond rating and to meet unanticipated financial needs.
- **Conservatively budget revenues** to avoid budget shortfalls.

These tenets reflect the County's commitment to prudent financial management and the maintenance of existing credit ratings. Currently, the County's bonds are rated "Aaa" by Moody's, their highest rating. When rating the County's debt, Moody's Investors Service commented that the "*the Aaa rating reflects the county's continued population growth derived from its economic ties to the expanding Omaha metropolitan area and favorable resident incomes. The rating also incorporates the county's healthy financial profile with ample revenue raising flexibility and low debt and pension burdens.*"

