Protecting Parkway Schools

COMMUNITY CONVERSATIONS

Dr. Melissa Schneider, Superintendent
Carrie Nunn, CFO

Welcome

Superintendent Dr. Melissa Schneider

Why we're here

- To better understand the long-term financial pressures facing Parkway
- To share why this matters for students and schools
- To listen to what matters most to you as we plan ahead

How tonight will work

- **Presentation:** We will share information for about 30 minutes
- **Table conversations:** You'll discuss **3 questions** at your table
- **Facilitated discussion:** Each table will have support to guide conversation, record takeaways, and then share with all of us
- **Questions:** Please use the notecards for any questions - and include your contact info so we can follow up

Your questions and feedback will help inform the work ahead.

Let’s start with what Parkway is about.

What we're here to protect

Generations of excellence

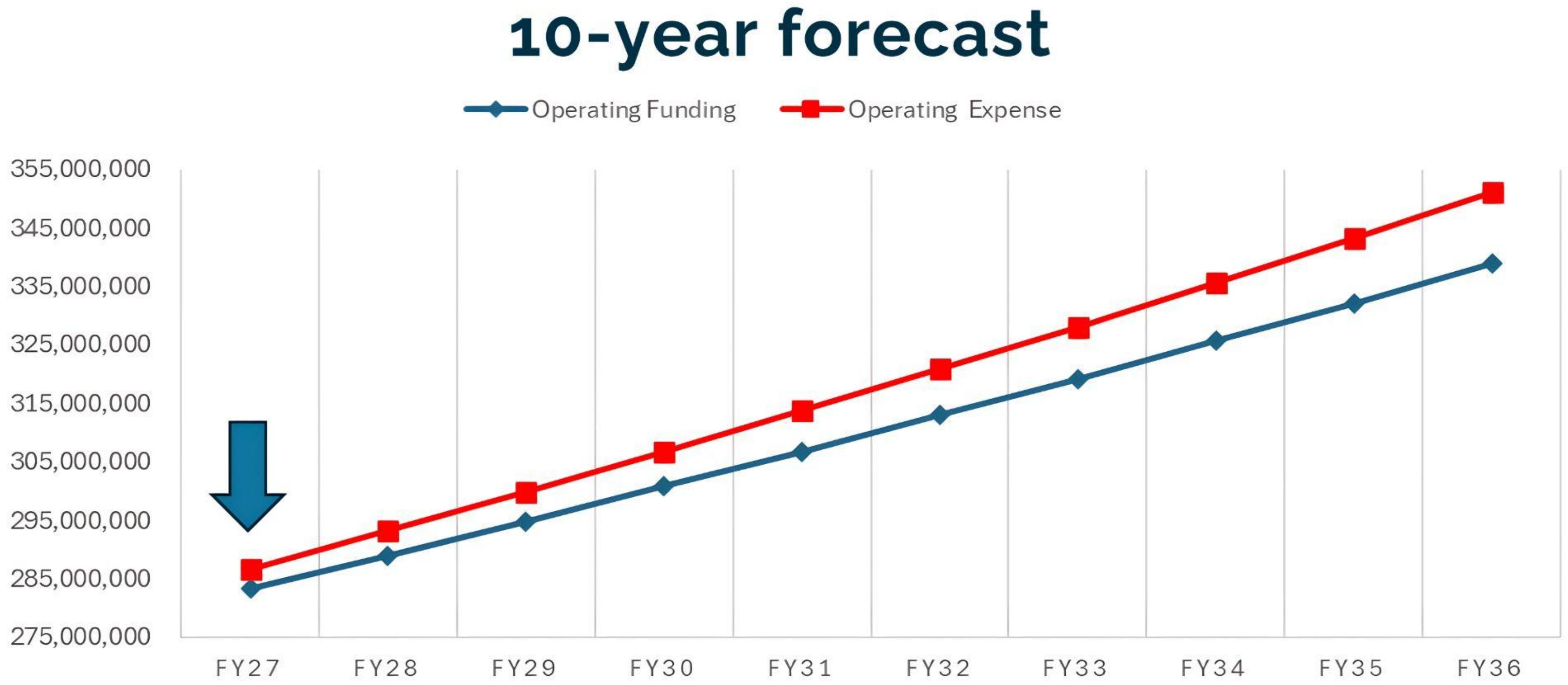
Parkway Proud for over 70 years

We are stable today, but the future requires action

As we begin, it's important that you know:

- This is a multi-year problem
- Costs are rising across the board
- Legislative actions have hurt our funding
- If nothing changes, what we can offer students will be affected

A multi-year challenge is taking shape



A commitment to fiscal responsibility

S&P Global

AAA BOND RATING

ASBO CERTIFICATE OF EXCELLENCE IN FINANCIAL REPORTING

ASBO MERITORIOUS BUDGET AWARD

As we share more, consider these questions:

1. What surprises and concerns you?
2. How might we solve for these challenges?
3. What should we consider as we determine the best path forward?

Budget Basics

Carrie Nunn, CFO

Where does Parkway's funding come from?

Local – **$14,923**

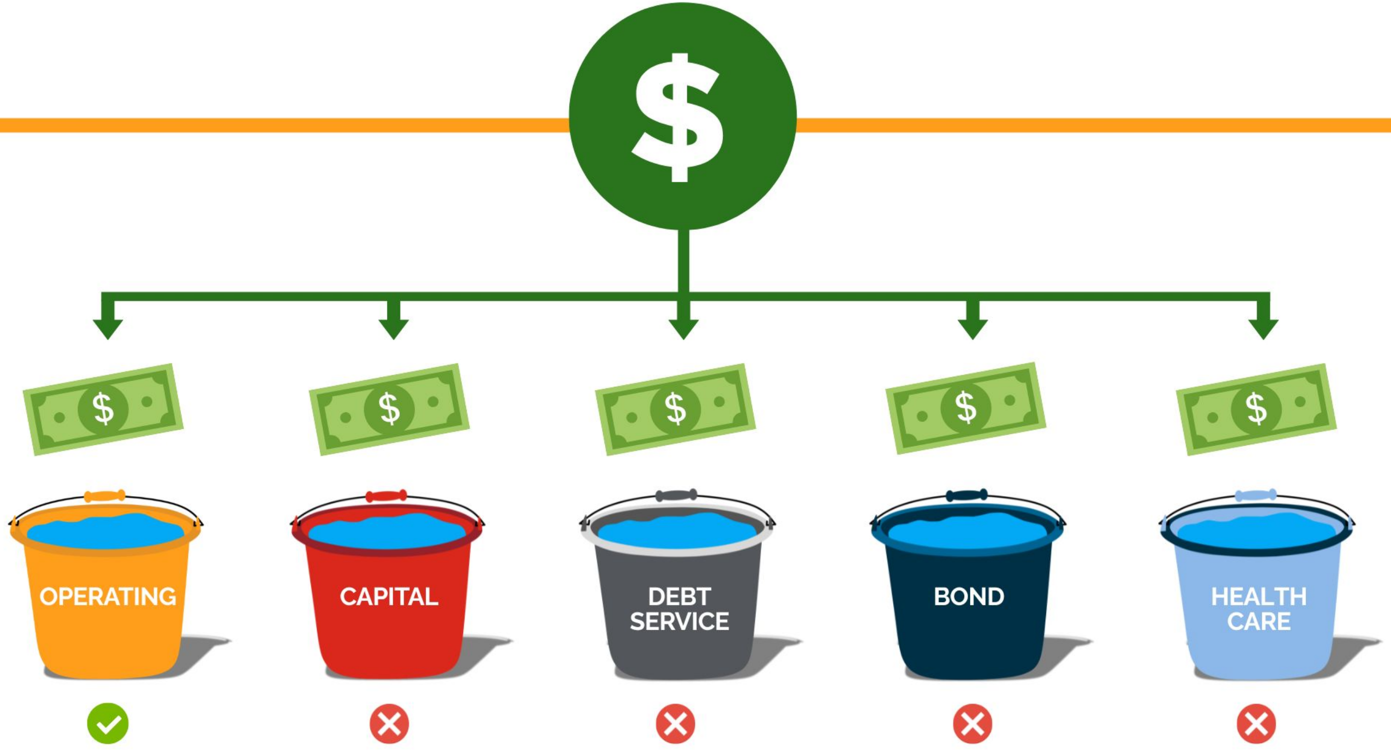
State – **$835**

Federal – **$285**

County – **$225**

Other – **$32**

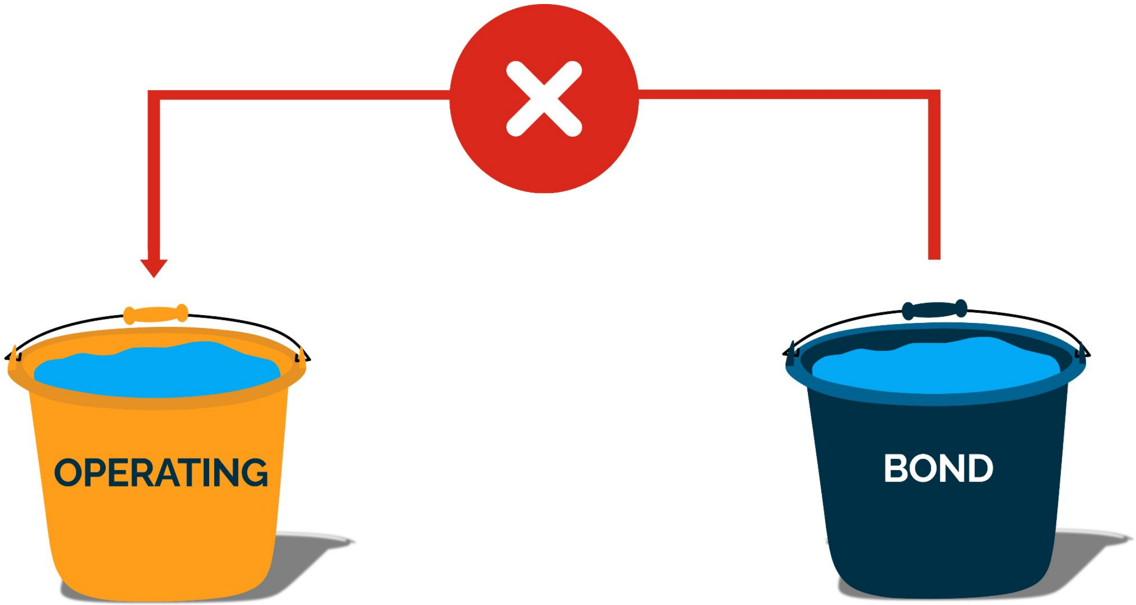
All funds: A total picture



- ✓ Operating funds can support other buckets
- ✗ By law, restricted funds cannot be used for any other buckets

Bond funds are legally restricted

For example, 2022 Prop S funds cannot be used for supplies or salaries

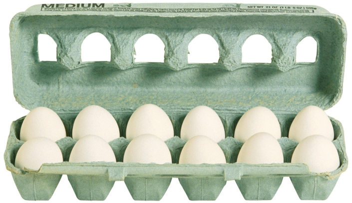


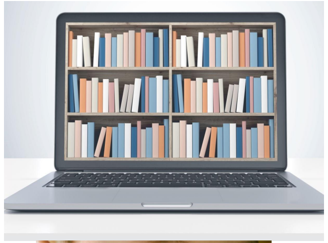
Where the investment goes

TEACHERS + STAFF **83%**

EVERYTHING ELSE **17%**

the Price is Right

	2016	2021	2026
	$1.68	$1.67	$4.24
	$80	$100	$207
	$15,000	$22,000	$35,000

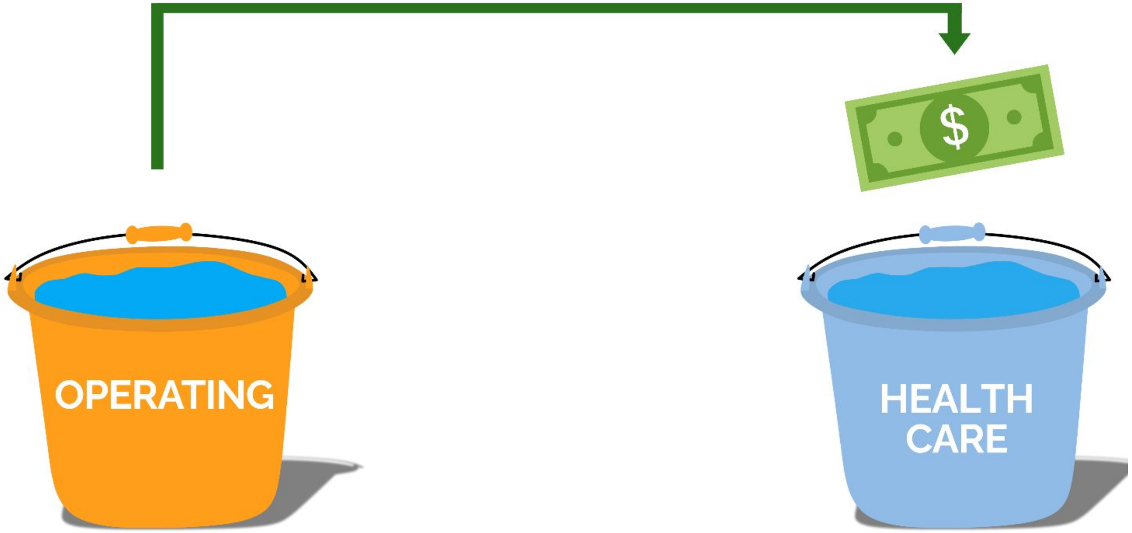
	2016	2021	2026
	$4,322,916	$6,478,232	$10,779,903
	$375,324	$415,442	$982,000
	$90,000	$109,896	$162,258
	$31,761,311	$38,798,715	$55,760,181

Current Fiscal Storm

- Rapid increase in costs for basics
- Rapid increase in healthcare
- Reduced ability to collect funding: Senior Tax Freeze

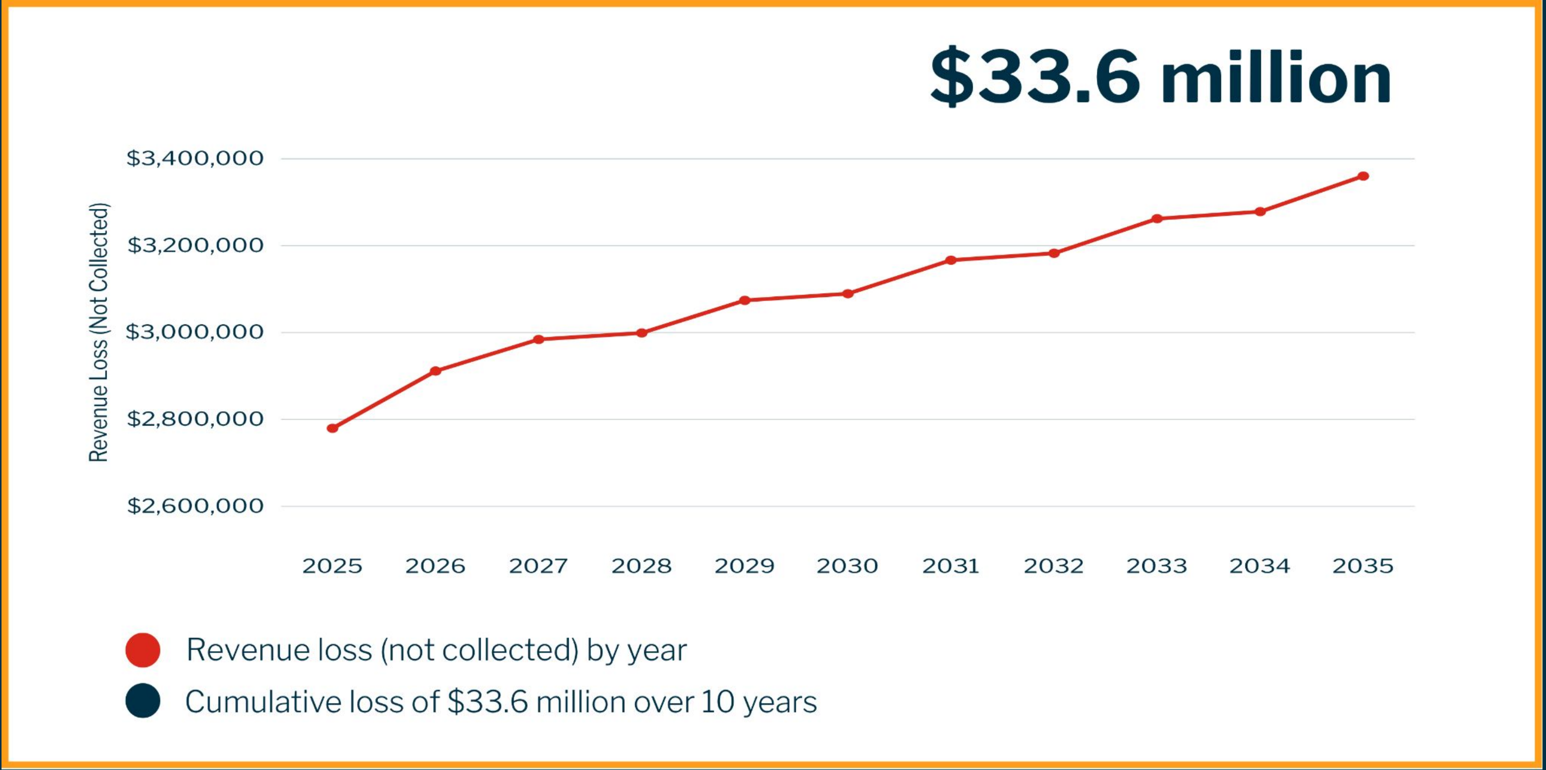
Solving for rising healthcare

$7.5 MILLION TO HEALTH CARE



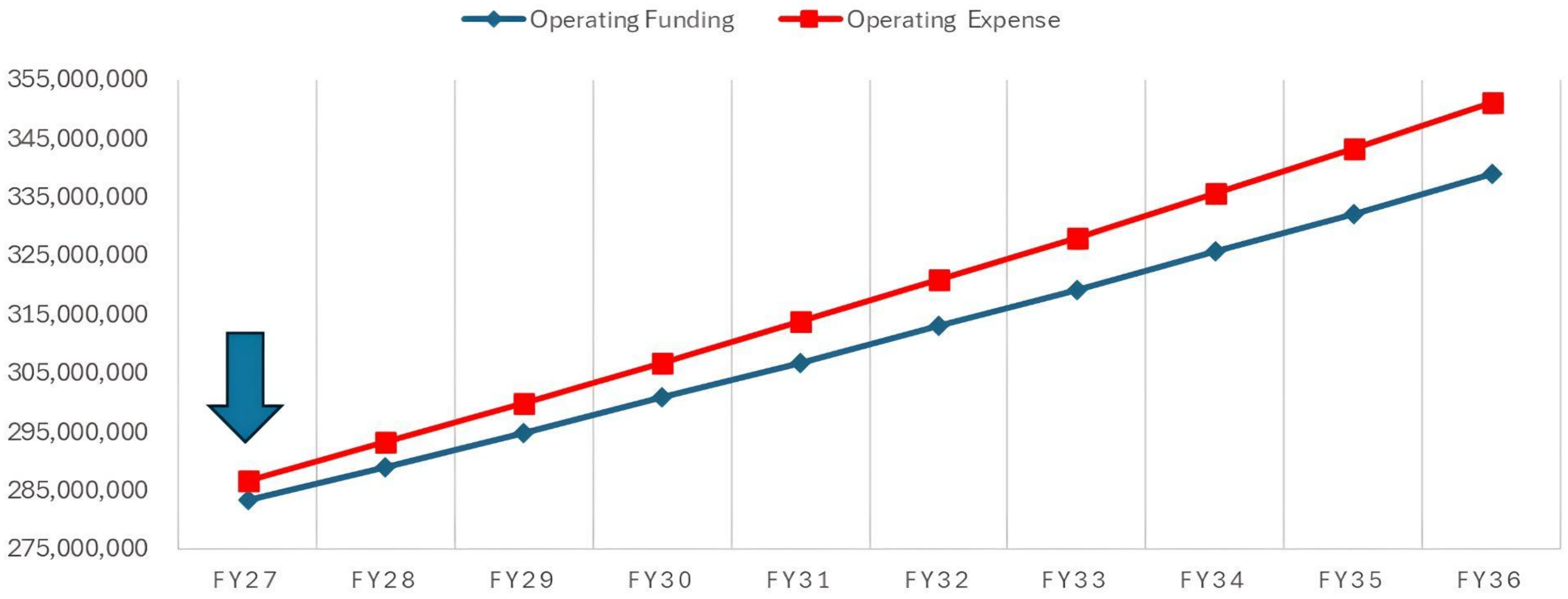
+ 15% Increase in Employee Premiums and Plan Changes

What is the reduction in funding from the senior tax freeze?

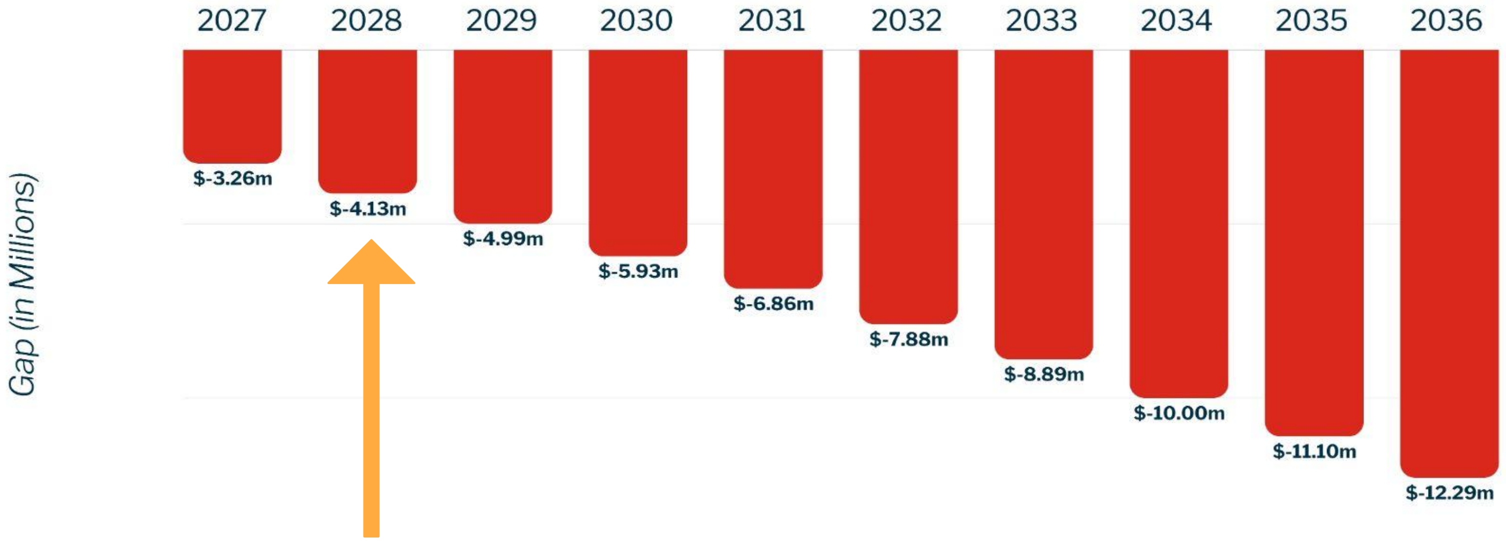


The Challenge

10-year forecast



The Funding Shortfall



What does a $4.1 million funding shortfall equate to?

- **Half of Fine Arts Programs**

  OR

- **All Transportation and all Athletics**

  OR

- **30 Administrators**

  OR

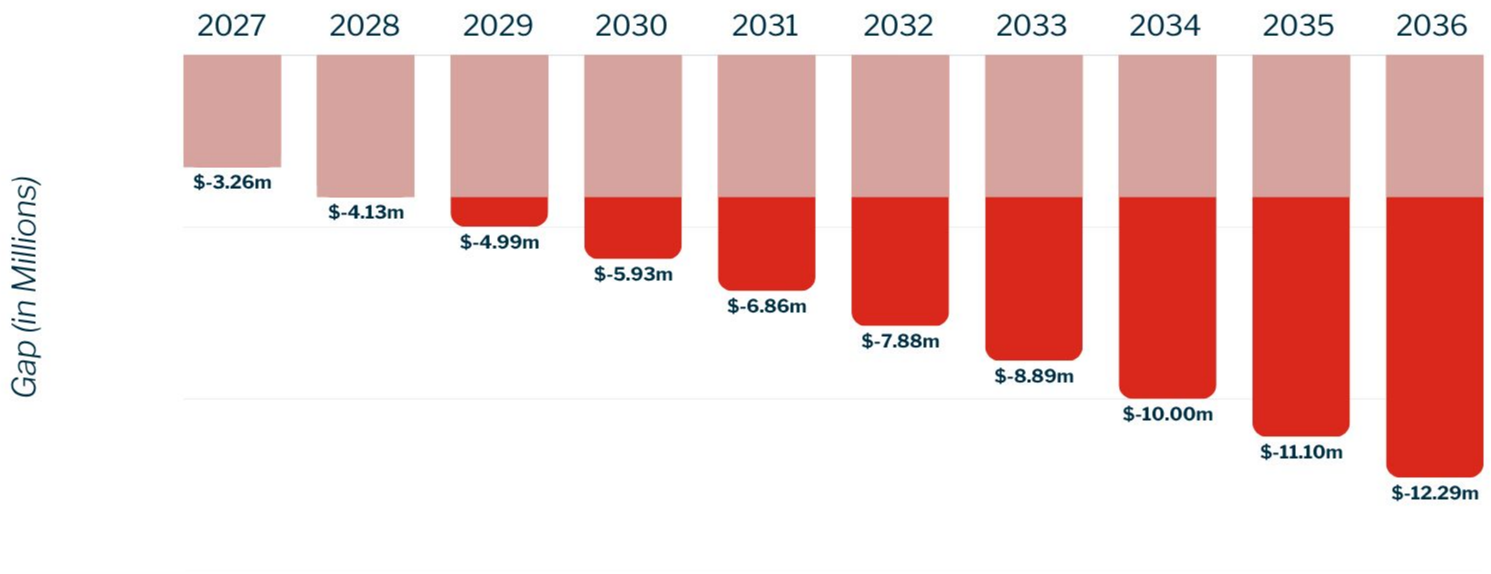
- **51 Teachers**

  OR

- **89 Support Staff**

These are examples to illustrate scale, not proposed cuts.

$4.1 million doesn't close the shortfall long-term

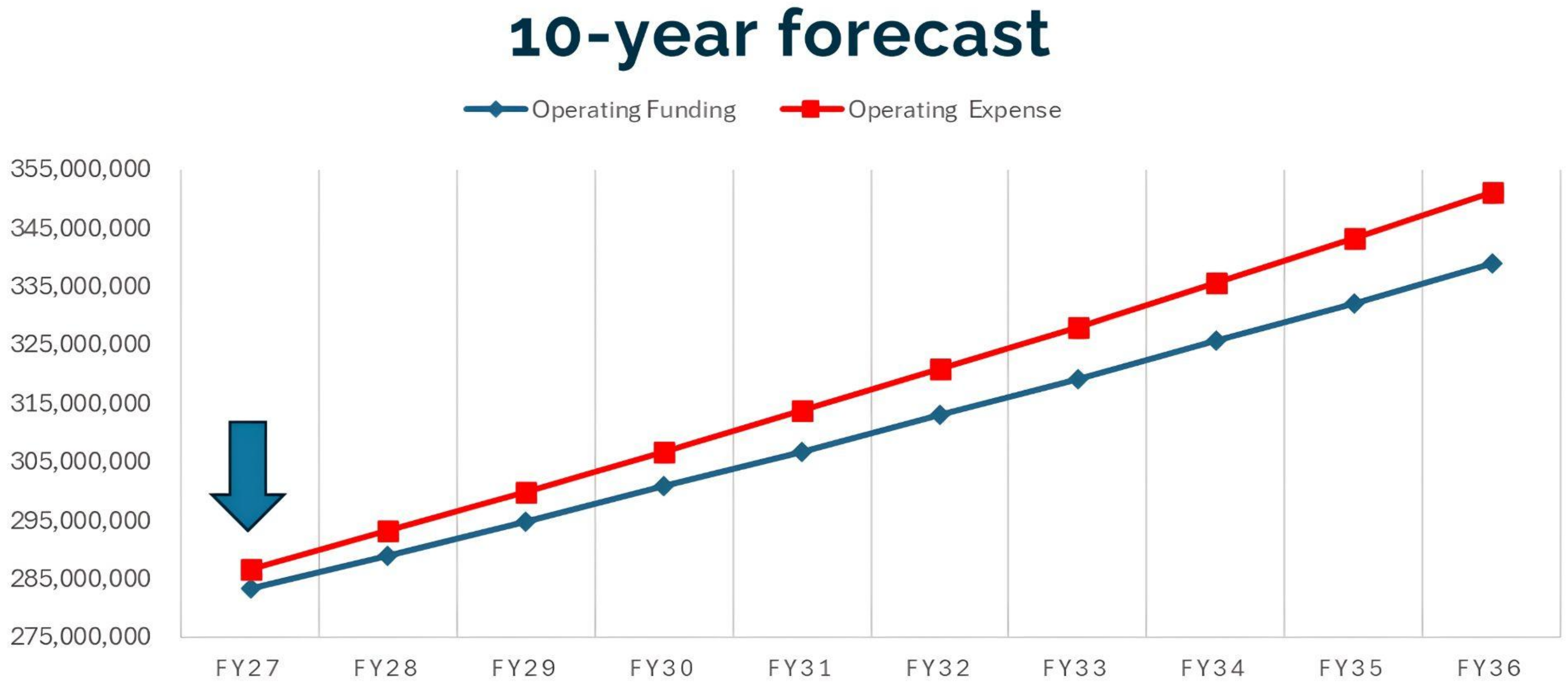


Proactive Planning

What we have already done

Dr. Melissa Schneider

My introduction to Parkway



Cuts that protected students and classrooms

2025-26

- 10% reduction in supplies and services
- Some vacant positions left unfilled
- Reduced professional development
- Reduced building and department budgets

= **$12.7 million**

Cuts planned to protect students and classrooms

2026-27

- Reducing building and department budgets even more
- A funding shortfall begins in 2027-28
- Strong reserves can cover shortfall in short-term, but this is not sustainable

The last time Parkway asked the community for an operating tax increase was **20 years ago.**

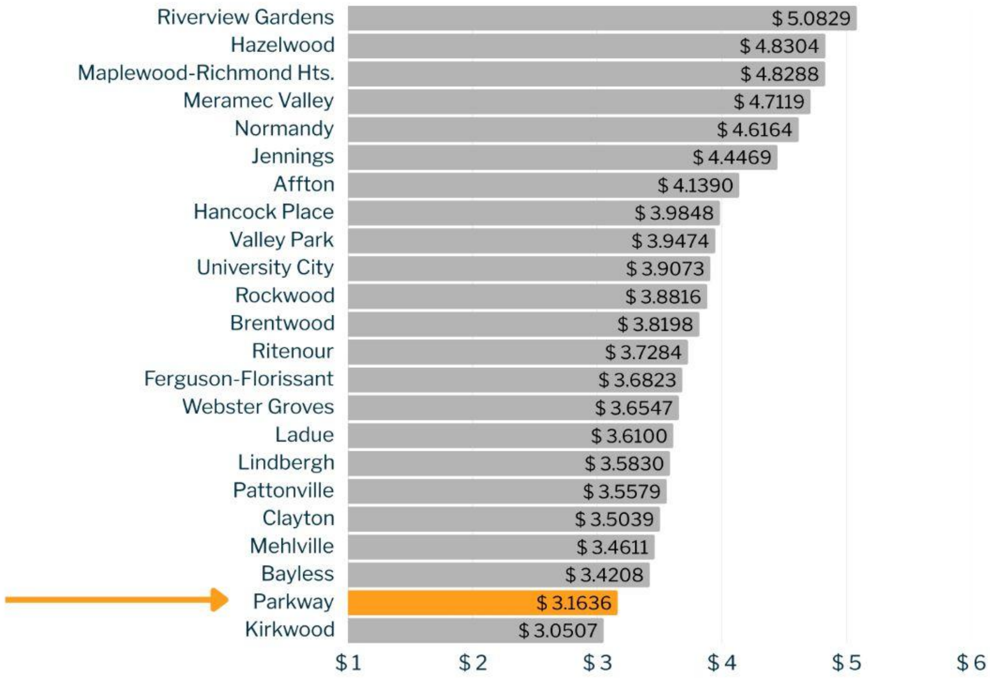
Parkway's Residential Tax Rate History

PARKWAY
SCHOOLS

Operating tax rate reduced $1.30 over 10 years.

Source: *stlouiscountymo.gov (2025)*

How does Parkway's residential tax rate compare?



PARKWAY SCHOOLS

Second-lowest residential tax rate in St. Louis County.

Source: *stlouiscountymo.gov (2025)*

Recap and How we move forward

- Current reality:
    - Rising costs
    - Reductions in funding

- How do we move forward?

- Addressing this challenge will require additional funding and/or significant reductions in expenses.

Group Discussions

We want to hear from you

Elisa Tomich
Chief Communications Officer

Discussion process

At each table: Choose one note taker

Format: You will discuss three questions and decide what to share

At the end: Share out from 5 tables per question

Norms: Listen respectfully, allow everyone to share, and stay focused on the questions

Timing: We'll have 30 minutes before we share out

1. What are your group's **top three surprises and concerns** from what you heard?

2. Budget challenges can be solved by identifying new funding or reducing expenses. **What does your group see as the pros and cons of each approach? Which approach does your group prefers?**

3. What questions should we consider as we determine the best path forward?

What's next?

- **Community Conversations**
  - March 31 - South High - 6-7:30 pm
  - April 27 - North High - 6-7:30 pm
  - April 30 - Central High - 6-7:30 pm
- Feedback from tonight and next week will inform our conversations in April, please come!
- **Community Survey** - look for a postcard in April
- **Report to the Board of Education** later this spring

Stay informed

- Take the FAQ flyer with you
- We will respond to your questions and post some of them on **InvestedInParkway.net**

Thank You!