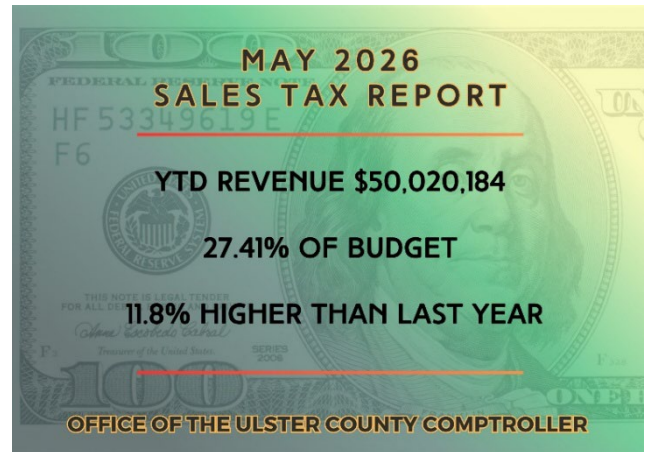




MAY 2026



Sales Tax:

On May 12th, The County received the final payment for March of 2026, and total revenues for the quarter are approximately \$50 Million. This puts the County 11.8% ahead from where we were one year ago and represents 27.4% of the adopted 2026 budget for our largest revenue source. The State Comptroller recently released a report showing that Ulster County had the strongest growth in sales tax revenues for the State fiscal year ending 3/31/26 when compared to all other Counties.

Occupancy Tax:

Total Occupancy tax revenues for the first quarter of 2026 are \$1,211,054. Currently the County's general ledger shows \$1,659,421 in collections for the first quarter of 2026. This is overstated by \$448,367, as the County will need to record a reversal of a 2025 accrual to the revenue account. There is an unrecorded journal entry awaiting the Commissioner's approval to do just that. The 2026 budget calls for \$8,688,000. This is an increase of 37.9% over the 2025 budgeted amount, and slightly under 2025 actual collections.

Occupancy tax revenue today, May 14, 2026, is \$1,486,558, which is 17% of the adopted budget. That the County has not collected 25% of budget four months into the year is not a cause for alarm, as the big seasons for this revenue line are summer and fall.

State and Federal Aid:

We typically do not report on these revenues on a monthly or quarterly basis because they are not recorded in a timely fashion. Instead, we periodically review the annual trends by department as a part of our risk assessment process.

Interest & Investment Earnings:

Interest budgeted for 2026 is \$6,545,091, which represents a 15.5% decrease from the 2025 budget. The County has earned approximately \$1.9 million through April, which represents approximately 30% of the 2026 budget. The County collected approximately \$757,000 less (a 28% decrease) over the first four months of 2026 than in 2025, when collections were \$2,727,000. This is due to both declining interest rates and bank balances when compared to the same period in 2025. We have made recommendations that the County seek to shift some funds to higher interest yield accounts to the Department of Finance and County Executive.

Adult-Use Cannabis Products Tax:

The County closed out 2025 strongly with this revenue, earning 225% of the amount budgeted. The County has budgeted \$220,000 for this revenue in 2026, an increase of 69% over the 2025 budget. The County has received one quarterly payment of \$245,900 for 2026 on April 23, 2026, for sales occurring from December 1, 2025, through February 28, 2026. The County will recognize \$61,475 of this as revenue, and the remaining \$184,425 will be paid to the Towns and Villages where the sales occurred.

Delays in Accounting Procedures:

The deadline for filing the County's Annual Financial Report (AFR) was May 1st and the Department of Finance unfortunately did not meet that deadline. The new Commissioner is taking the position that he would prefer to file a more accurate report with the State Comptroller a few weeks later rather than file an inaccurate report on time. Our understanding is that the Commissioner is working diligently to get the AFR filed soon. The Department of Finance has provided us with bank reconciliations through December of 2025. The Comptroller has been meeting biweekly with the Finance Commissioner and is satisfied that the Finance team is making best efforts to get caught up and that they understand the seriousness of delays in reconciling accounts.

The Comptroller's Office is clear that Ulster County will close 2025 with a budgeted deficit. The County's general ledger currently shows a \$45.7 reduction in fund balance for 2025. This is in part a result of \$33.6 million budgeted transfers to the Capital Projects Fund. The County's amended 2025 budget did plan to use \$78.5 million of fund balance, so this deficit is expected.

iPark Financial Status:

iPark failed to make two required mortgage payments due January 2 and January 10, 2026, bringing the total mortgage arrears to \$6,563,860. iPark also failed to pay general town, county and special district taxes due January 31, 2026, bringing the total tax arrears to \$2,960,269 including interest and penalties as of May 14, 2026. The total combined sums owed to taxpayers between mortgage and tax delinquencies are now \$9,524,129.

Audits, Reports and Initiatives:

The Comptroller's Office recently released reports on iPark and RUPCO's affordable rental upgrade program. We are currently working on reports on debt, utilization of bridge maintenance crews and bridge status, and a snapshot of overtime to accompany the release of the 2025 Payroll Dashboard which should be out soon

We are working on an audit of Sheriff's payroll. We are pleased to say that the County has now implemented the new p-card program that will provide more rebates to Ulster County as was recommended in our 2025 p-card audit.

We have finalized, published and distributed accounts payable claims audit guidance documents for Ulster County's internal departments and These are available in the initiative section of our website.

The Comptroller's Quality Team is reviewing the Restorative Justice contract with Family of Woodstock and planning site visits to Family operated homeless shelters and the Ellenville Regional Hospital.