



FY2027 Budget & Override Options Town of Marblehead

April 8, 2026

“Providing Clear Choices for Our Community”



The Challenge

- Significant budget gap for FY2027
- Rising costs and limited revenue growth
- Balanced budget required for Town Meeting
- Service reductions were necessary
- Additional unmet needs from years of budget cutting



What Voters Will Decide

Override Question 1:

- Level of service funding
 - Tier 1: Restore
 - Tier 2: Stabilize
 - Tier 3: Invest

Override Question 2:

- How to fund curbside trash & recycling
 - Continue with Fees
 - Replace Fees with tax levy override



Tiered Override

- Three funding level options
 - Question 1A: Invest
 - Question 1B: Stabilize
 - Question 1C: Restore
- Higher tier builds on the previous tiers
- Voters decide level of funding
- Highest value tier with passing vote determines levy increase



Example Override Questions

Question 1. (Multiple Tiers)

1A Shall the Town of Marblehead be allowed to assess an additional \$15,000,000 in real estate and personal property taxes for the purposes of operating the Municipal Government and Public Schools for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2026?

1B Shall the Town of Marblehead be allowed to assess an additional \$12,000,000 in real estate and personal property taxes for the purposes of operating the Municipal Government and Public Schools for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2026?

1C Shall the Town of Marblehead be allowed to assess an additional \$9,000,000 in real estate and personal property taxes for the purposes of operating the Municipal Government and Public Schools for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2026?

EXAMPLE



Override Details - Town

VERRIDE IMPACTS	TIER 1	TIER 2	TIER 3
VERRIDE AMOUNT	\$9M	\$12M	\$15M
PUBLIC SAFETY: POLICE, FIRE AND INSPECTIONS			
Restore Police Department School Resource Officer Cut	65,482.00	65,482.00	65,482.00
Increase Police Department Staffing	-	65,482.00	130,964.00
Restore Police Department Equipment Cut	2,000.00	2,000.00	2,000.00
Increase Fire Department Staffing	-	148,000.00	444,000.00
Restore Inspections Other Technical Subscriptions & Maintenance Cuts	52,500.00	52,500.00	52,500.00
PUBLIC WORKS: DPW AND CEMETERY			
Restore Department of Public Works Staffing Cuts	140,594.00	140,594.00	140,594.00
Restore Department of Public Works Hot Top Cuts	60,000.00	60,000.00	60,000.00
Increase Department of Public Works Staffing GIS position	-	70,000.00	70,000.00
Restore Cemetery Laborer Cut	58,692.00	58,692.00	58,692.00
RECREATION: LIBRARY AND RECREATION & PARKS			
Restore Abbot Library Staffing cuts for accreditation	311,183.00	311,183.00	311,183.00
Restore Abbot Library Staffing Cuts	-	218,980.00	218,980.00
Restore Abbot Library Materials	-	168,400.00	168,400.00
Increase Abbot Library Staffing - 1 PT Custodian & 1 PT Assistant	-	38,378.00	38,378.00
Restore Recreation & Parks Groundskeeper Staffing Cut	45,000.00	45,000.00	45,000.00
Increase Recreation & Parks Staffing -1 PT Senior Clerk	-	27,000.00	27,000.00
Increase Recreation & Parks Maintenance	-	15,000.00	15,000.00
GENERAL GOVERNMENT: FINANCE, HUMAN RESOURCES, TOWN CLERK, PUBLIC BUILDINGS, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT & PLANNING			
Restore Finance Staffing Cut	68,287.00	68,287.00	68,287.00
Restore Finance Technology and Training Cut	58,361.00	58,361.00	58,361.00
Restore Finance Committee Reserve Fund Cut	26,000.00	26,000.00	26,000.00
Increase Finance Staffing - IT Director	-	150,000.00	150,000.00
Increase Finance Staffing - Budget Analyst	-	70,000.00	70,000.00
Restore HR Other Technical Advertisig, Subscriptions Cuts	11,000.00	11,000.00	11,000.00
Restore Community Development & Planning Staffing Cut	137,423.00	307,975.00	307,975.00
Increase Community Development Staffing - Grant Writer	-	-	70,000.00
Restore Town Clerk Special Clerk Staffing Cut	-	66,125.00	66,125.00
Restore Public Buildings Custodians Staffing Cuts	122,554.00	122,554.00	122,554.00
Increase Public Buildings Maintenance	-	450,000.00	450,000.00
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES: COUNCIL ON AGING AND HEALTH			
Restore Council on Aging Staffing Cuts	76,171.00	76,171.00	76,171.00
Increase Council on Aging Staffing - PT Social Worker	-	45,000.00	45,000.00
Increase Council on Aging Maintenance	-	15,000.00	15,000.00
Increase Health Department for Mental Health Psychological Counseling	-	-	60,000.00
OTHER GENERAL GOVERNMENT: OPEB, STABILIZATION, WORKERS COMP			
Restore Town Portion of Other Post Employment Benefits (OPEB) Transfer	96,771.00	96,771.00	96,771.00
Restore Stabilization Transfer	250,000.00	250,000.00	250,000.00
Restore Workers Comp and Section 111F Transfer	97,662.00	97,662.00	97,662.00
RECURRING CAPITAL -3 ARTICLES: LEASES, EQUIPMENT, BUILDINGS			
Recurring Capital funding Leases, Equipment, and Buildings Articles	-	-	1,000,000.00
REDUCTION TO UNEMPLOYMENT WITH RESTORATION OF POSITIONS	(410,116.00)	(592,361.00)	(592,361.00)



Override Details - Schools

Tier 1 (Restore) consists of the following

- Nothing restored in FY27
- COLA / Step Salary Increases for FY28 and FY29
- Restore positions funded from Revolving in FY27 to General Fund in FY28 and FY29 - \$59,699 / \$209,374 respectively
- Restore Special Education Out of District Tuition of \$1,500,000. In FY27, we reduced our Special Education Out of District Tuition Budget by \$1,500,000 due to the utilization of surplus FY26 Funds. We will need to have this restored in FY28 (and beyond) to meet IEP obligations.



Override Details - Schools

Tier 2 (Stabilize) consists of the following

- Everything in Tier 1
- Nothing added in FY27
- Add Technology Lease Funding for FY28 and FY29 - \$150,000 each year
- Remove fee for Full Day Kindergarten for FY28 and FY29 - \$671,408 / \$710,711 respectively



Override Details - Schools

Tier 3 (Invest) consists of the following

- Everything in Tiers 1 and 2
- Reestablish Curriculum Development and Professional Development with regards to Teaching & Learning in FY28 - \$100,000
- Create a Special Education Program dedicated to students aged 18-22 in FY29. Special Education students who are not eligible to receive a diploma at the completion of High School are entitled to educational programming through age 22. The town is fiscally responsible for the costs surrounding such programming, which currently is serviced out of district by private special education schools or public collaborative schools – both with a cost for tuition and transportation.
- Add capital funding in FY29 specifically for the School Department to support extraordinary maintenance on our school buildings - \$500,000



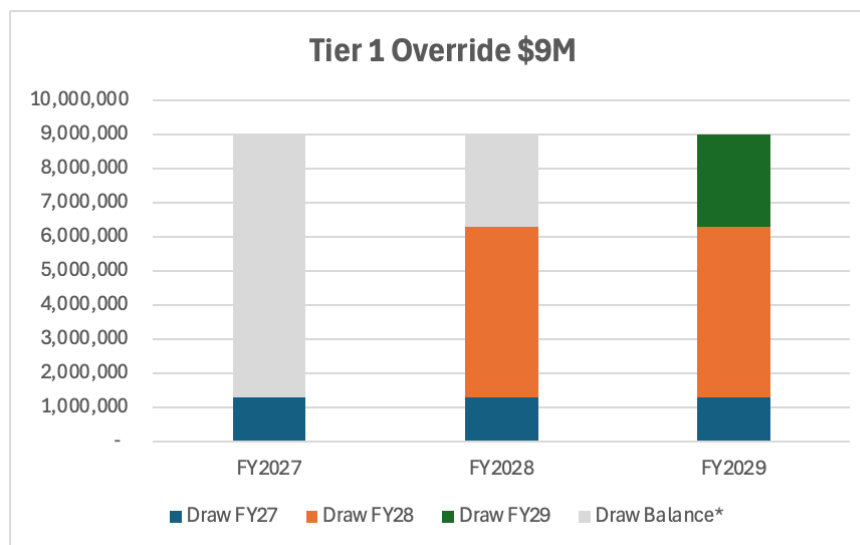
Tier 1 Override Draw

Tier 1 Override

Tier 1	FY2027	FY2028	FY2029
Draw FY27	1,269,564	1,269,564	1,269,564
Draw FY28		5,025,781	5,025,781
Draw FY29			2,704,655
Draw Balance*	7,730,436	2,704,655	-

Override Total	9,000,000	9,000,000	9,000,000
Tax Impact	\$127	\$503	\$270
		3 Year Total	\$900

* Draw Balance is unused override capacity





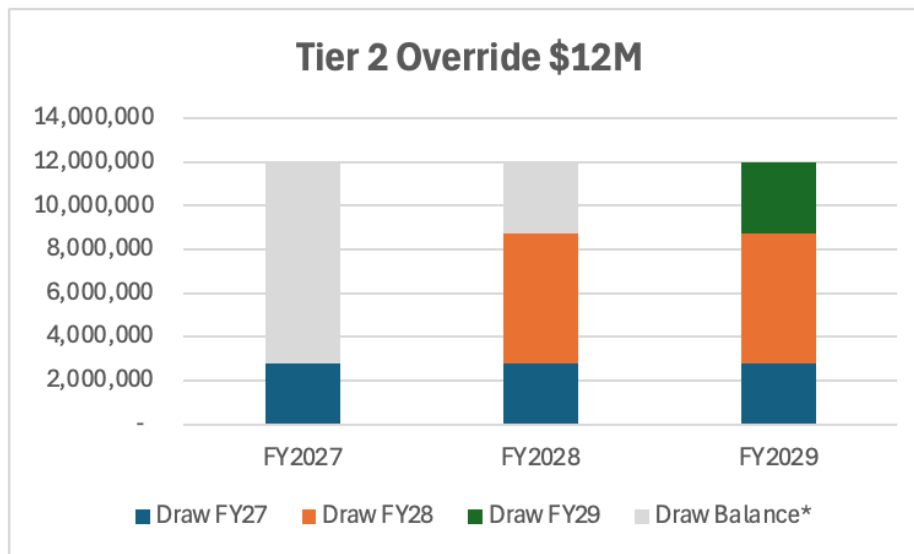
Tier 2 Override Draw

Tier 2 Override

Tier 2	FY2027	FY2028	FY2029
Draw FY27	2,805,236	2,805,236	2,805,236
Draw FY28		5,901,975	5,901,975
Draw FY29			3,292,789
Draw Balance*	9,194,764	3,292,789	-

Override Total	12,000,000	12,000,000	12,000,000
Override Draw	\$281	\$590	\$329
		3 Year Total	\$1,200

* Draw Balance is unused override capacity





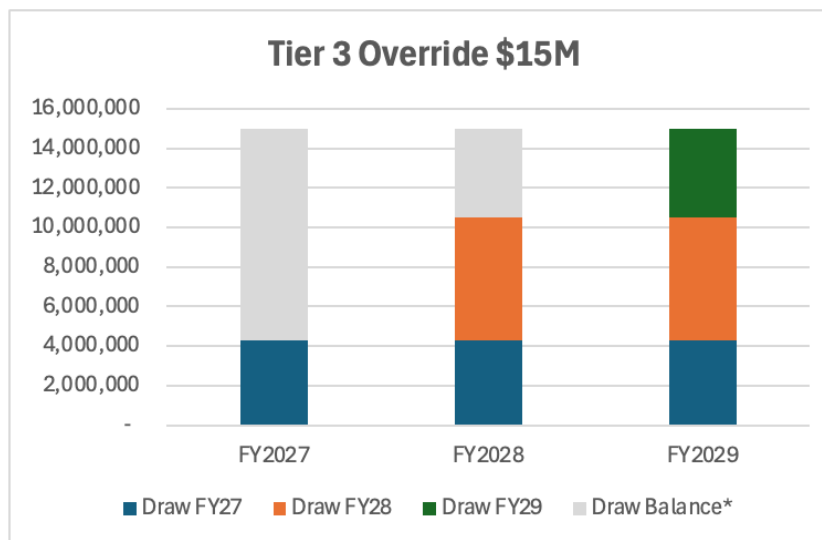
Tier 3 Override Draw

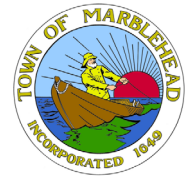
Tier 3 Override

Tier 3	FY2027	FY2028	FY2029
Draw FY27	4,296,718	4,296,718	4,296,718
Draw FY28		6,240,647	6,240,647
Draw FY29			4,462,635
Draw Balance*	10,703,282	4,462,635	-

Override Total	15,000,000	15,000,000	15,000,000
Tax Impact	\$430	\$624	\$446
		3 Year Total	\$1,500

* Draw Balance is unused override capacity





Tier 1 ASF Tax Impact

Property Tax Increase on Average Single Family Assessed Value of \$1,291,507

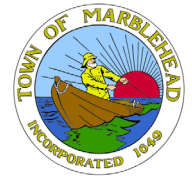
	Tier 1		
	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3
Override Draw	\$1,300,000	\$4,900,000	\$2,800,000
Annual Tax Increase	\$167.90	\$172.09	\$176.40
Annual Tax Increase	-	\$632.84	\$648.66
Annual Tax Increase	-	-	\$361.62
Total Tax Increase	\$167.90	\$804.93	\$1,186.68
<i>Per Month</i>	<i>\$13.99</i>	<i>\$67.08</i>	<i>\$98.89</i>



Tier 2 ASF Tax Impact

Property Tax Increase on Average Single Family Assessed Value of \$1,291,507

	Tier 2		
	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3
Override Draw	\$2,800,000	\$5,900,000	\$3,300,000
Annual Tax Increase Year 1	\$361.62	\$370.66	\$379.93
Annual Tax Increase Year 2	-	\$761.99	\$781.04
Annual Tax Increase Year 3	-	-	\$426.20
Total Tax Increase	\$361.62	\$1,132.65	\$1,587.17
<i>Per Month</i>	<i>\$30.14</i>	<i>\$94.39</i>	<i>\$132.26</i>



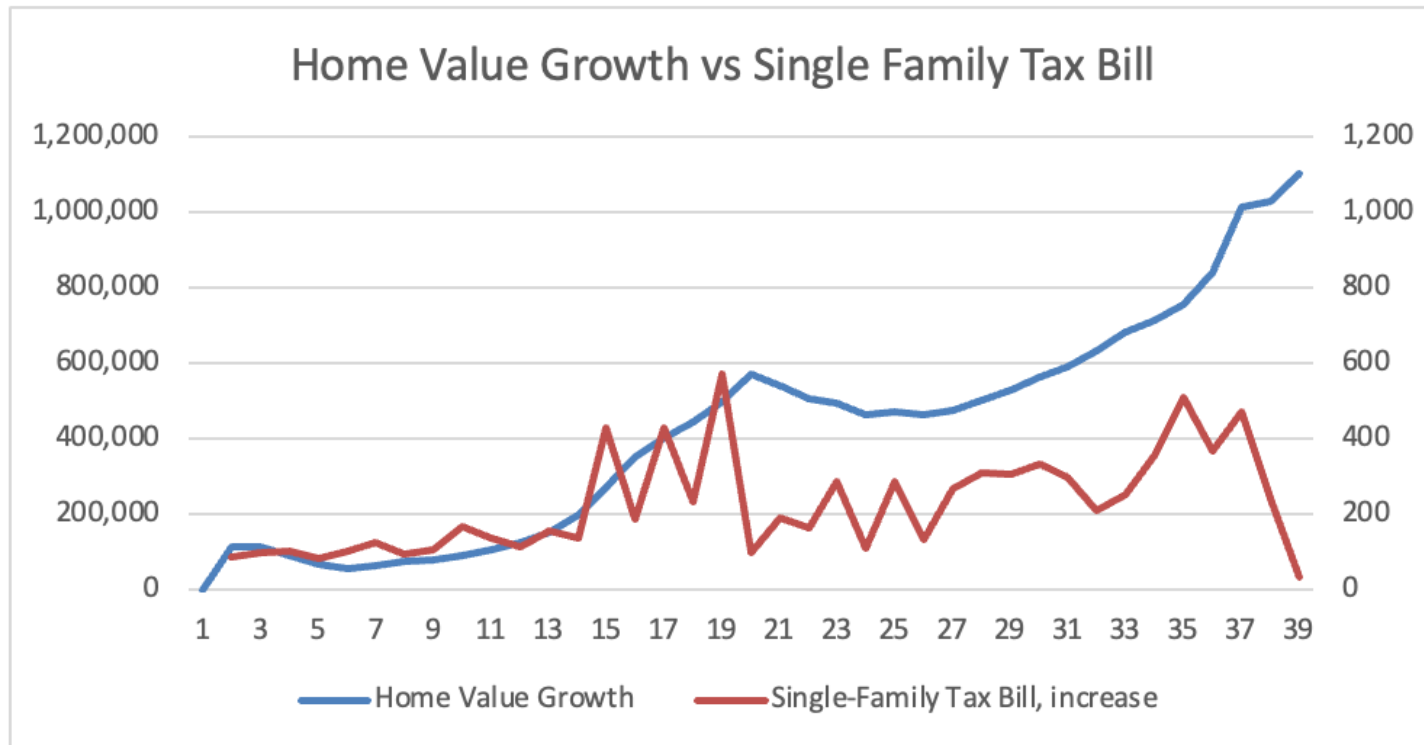
Tier 3 ASF Tax Impact

Property Tax Increase on Average Single Family Assessed Value of \$1,291,507

	Tier 3		
	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3
Override Draw	\$4,300,000	\$6,200,000	\$4,500,000
Annual Tax Increase Year 1	\$555.35	\$569.23	\$583.46
Annual Tax Increase Year 2	-	\$800.73	\$820.75
Annual Tax Increase Year 3	-	-	\$581.18
Total Tax Increase	\$555.35	\$1,369.97	\$1,985.39
<i>Per Month</i>	<i>\$46.28</i>	<i>\$114.16</i>	<i>\$165.45</i>

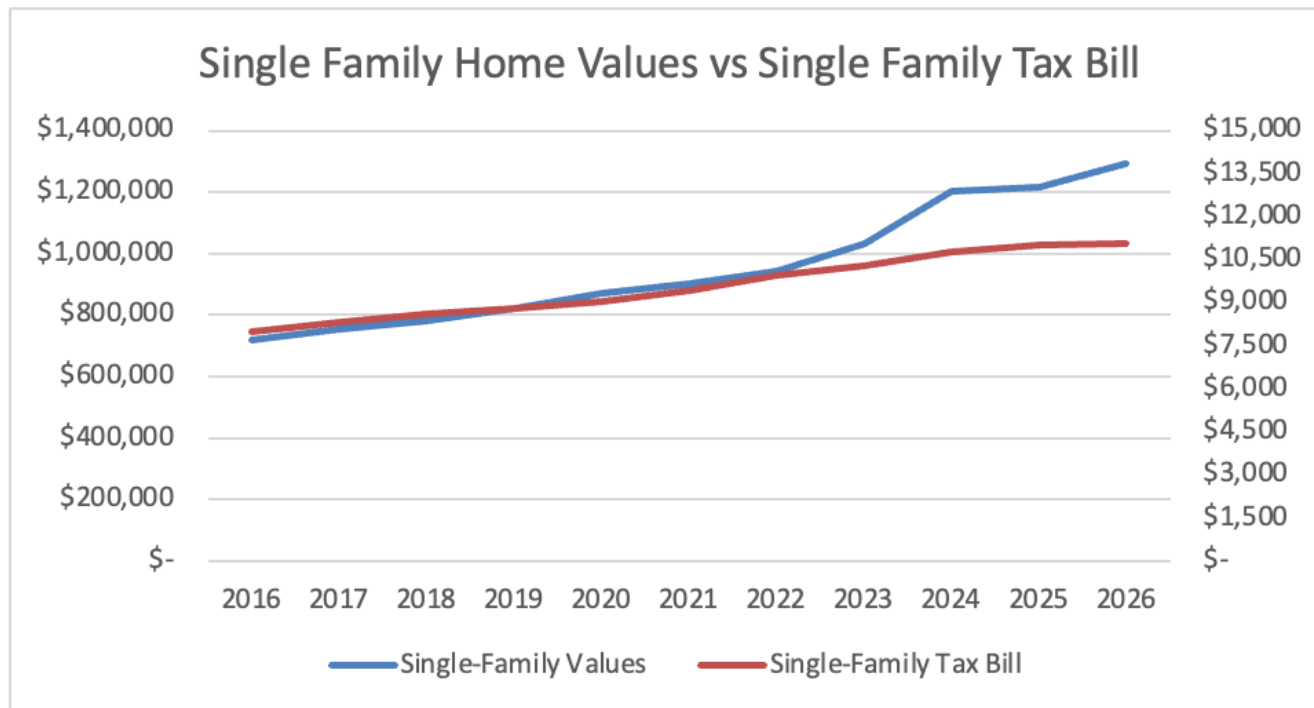


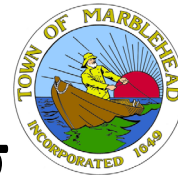
Home Value Growth vs Tax Bill





SF Value vs SF Tax Bill





Question 2 – Trash Funding



Current: Trash fee



Override option:
Fund via property
tax



Example Override Questions

Question 2. (Single Question)

Shall the Town of Marblehead be allowed to assess an additional \$2,298,575 in real estate and personal property taxes for the purposes of operating the curbside trash and recycling for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2026?

EXAMPLE



Question 2 – Trash Funding

Override Amount **\$2,298,575**

Fiscal Years	FY27	FY28	FY29
Waste Override \$	\$2,186,516	\$54,663	\$57,396
Curbside Collection	✓	✓	✓
Recycling	✓	✓	✓
Disposal	✓	✓	✓



Trash Funding Decision

Maintain as a trash fee

- Includes discounts for eligible households based on qualifying for Assessor tax abatements
- Allows for opting out of curbside fee

Replace Fee with tax levy increase

- Increases taxes to cover cost of curbside services
- Eliminates some administrative costs for billing



Override Summary

Voters to Decide

- Choose service level for operating budget
- Decide funding approach for curbside trash and recycling