

Manatee County Cash Balances...

	2017	2026 YTD
Unrestricted	\$430 million	\$884.4 million
Restricted	\$296.4 million	\$867.2 million

Conclusions:

Can easily afford to eliminate the existing .15 millage and proposed additional .15 millage for Environmental Lands and fund this program from existing Unrestricted Cash of \$884.4 million rather than ask cash-strapped property taxpayers dealing with higher gasoline, groceries, mortgage payments, insurance and health care for more money.

Should investigate a conversion of Restricted Cash to Unrestricted Cash if unspent after a five year holding period. Unrestricted Cash offers much more flexibility in terms of offering millage reductions and/or property tax credits to cash-strapped Manatee County property taxpayers.

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Remarks to Manatee County Commission 9/22/2026

