Motor vehicle license tax generated $599.5 million in CY 2025 for local transportation infrastructure

Distributions to Local Governments for Roads and Bridges in Calendar Year 2025 ($ in millions)*			
Local Government	**State Tax**	**Permissive Local Tax**	**Total**
Counties *Levy authority: up to $20*	$265.0	$160.0	**$425.0**
Municipalities *Levy authority: $5-$25***	$62.9	$69.9	**$132.8**
Townships *Levy authority: up to $10*	$17.3	$24.4	**$41.7**
Total	**$345.2**	**$254.3**	**$599.5**

*Amount does not include annual International Registration Plan Compensation Distribution.
**The amount that a municipality can levy depends on the amount that is levied by the county.

Source: Ohio Bureau of Motor Vehicles

- In CY 2025, $599.5 million in state and local permissive motor vehicle license tax revenue was distributed to counties, municipalities, and townships to fund the planning, construction, and maintenance of roads and bridges.
- Of the 13.3 million vehicle registrations processed by the Bureau of Motor Vehicles (BMV) in 2025, just over 9.0 million were for passenger cars.
- The annual cost to register a passenger car in Ohio ranges from $44 to $74 (state plus local permissive motor vehicle license taxes and fees). It is distributed as follows:
  - $20 to local governments;
  - $16 to the Department of Public Safety for expenses incurred in administering and enforcing motor vehicle and traffic laws;
  - $8 service fee to deputy registrars or the BMV (for mail-in and online transactions); and
  - $0 to $30 to local governments from permissive motor vehicle license taxes, which are levied in $5 increments and cannot exceed $30 per vehicle.