

Response to Questions on the FY 2016 Budget

Request By: Chairman Bulova

Question: How many full-time merit positions have been eliminated since FY 2010 and how many non-merit positions were added and/or filled during that time?

Response: Since FY 2010, the County has eliminated 653 positions as part of reductions to balance the budget. These reductions do not include positions proposed for elimination as part of the FY 2016 Advertised Budget Plan.

Non-merit (limited-term) positions are managed, not by the number of positions, but by the funding related to those positions. Funding for limited-term support has fluctuated during this time period based on requirements or programmatic adjustments. For example, in FY 2012, the County converted 400 positions from non-merit to merit status after a review of all positions to ensure compliance with new and existing federal regulations. As a result, limited-term funding was reduced significantly (with commensurate increases in merit position funding) at that time. Conversely, staffing for the School-Age Child Care (SACC) program was adjusted to include a larger percentage of non-merit positions due to the implementation of a modified staffing model which utilized a combination of merit and benefits-eligible employees. This program adjustment resulted in an increase to limited-term funding as that transition was implemented.