

## Response to Questions on the FY 2007 Advertised Budget Plan

**Request By:** Supervisor Gross

**Question:** Provide a list of all mandates in both state and federal categories and the amount of funds provided to the County as well as FCPS to implement them. How much in General Fund monies are used to make up the shortfall in meeting these mandates? In the past five fiscal years, how much is total increase in federal and state mandates on both the County side and the school side? Please provide the impact on reducing the real estate tax rate if these mandates were fully funded by Congress and the General Assembly? Please provide information in chart format.

**Response:**

On February 1, 2006 the County Executive released the FY 2006 Federal and State Mandate Report. This report, compiled from data provided by County agencies and funds, identifies what mandates they are required to comply with and any offsetting revenue. A copy of the report, which is 50 pages in length, is available on the Department of Management and Budget's website at [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dmb/mandates.htm](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dmb/mandates.htm).

The Department of Management and Budget has been compiling data for the Mandate Report since FY 2004. The data on the estimated expenditures and net cost are included in the table below.

	Estimated Total Expenditures for Mandates	Estimated Total All Revenue for Mandates	Estimated Net Cost to the County to Comply with Mandates	Net Cost as a Percent
FY 2004	\$1,053 million	\$507 million	\$546 million	52%
FY 2005	\$1,079 million	\$497 million	\$582 million	54%
FY 2006	\$1,193 million	\$533 million	\$660 million	55%

From FY 2004 to FY 2006, the total increase in estimated expenditures for mandates is approximately \$140 million. As shown in the table above, the estimated net cost to the County to comply with mandates in FY 2006 is approximately \$660 million for all funds. As a subset of that, the estimated net cost to the County to comply with mandates in just General Fund agencies is approximately \$506 million. If these mandates were fully funded and General Fund funding was not required, the Fairfax County real estate tax rate could be reduced by approximately 23 cents.

Also, as part of an enhanced review of mandates, attached is the first edition of *The Mandate Review*. This semi-annual publication has been prepared by the Department of Management and Budget to explore the types of federal and state mandates the County is required to comply with and their effect on Fairfax County Government.

The Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS) have been provided a copy of this question and are preparing their response.