

Response to Questions on the FY 2005 Advertised Budget Plan

Request By: Supervisor DuBois

Question: Do any other County Departments or organizations incur operating costs related to zoning activities as defined above? If so what organizations incur costs and what are those costs? How does the County recover those costs – taxes, fees or some combination thereof?

Response: The Department of Public Works and Environmental Services is the department with primary responsibility for subdivisions and building construction. Many departments incur costs related to the zoning process including the Department of Transportation, the Department of Public Works and Environmental Services, the Fairfax County Park Authority, the Planning Commission Office and the Office of the County Attorney. Also involved to a lesser degree are the Fire Marshal, the School Board, the Water Authority, and the Health Department. No fees are collected for these zoning services.

A review of the personnel costs of those agencies which form the core reviewers for the majority of zoning applications - the Department of Transportation, the Park Authority, and the Urban Forestry Branch, DPWES - indicates that 7.7 SYE positions and approximately \$600,000 in personnel costs are budgeted annually to the review of zoning applications. The Department of Planning and Zoning is unable to provide specific information on the costs related to zoning activities incurred by the aforementioned departments; those departments will have to be contacted directly.