

Response to Questions on the FY 2005 Advertised Budget Plan

Request By: Supervisor Frey

Question: Currently, the daily stipend paid to precinct election officers who work on election day (workday assumed at 15 hours) at the Fairfax County polls is \$100 for officers; \$125 for Assistant Chiefs; and \$150 for Chiefs. What would be the cost of increasing the daily stipend paid to precinct election officials to the following levels?

For the 2004 Presidential election and 2006 Congressional election:

Officers: \$200/daily (\$13.33 per hour)

Assistant Chiefs: \$250/daily (\$16.66 per hour)

Chiefs: \$300/daily (\$20 per hour)

For the 2008 Presidential election:

Officers: \$250/daily (\$16.66 per hour)

Assistant Chiefs: \$300/daily (\$20 per hour)

Chiefs: \$350/daily (\$23.33 per hour)

Response: The additional cost of increasing the daily stipend paid to election officials would be as follows:

- ◆ 2004 Presidential election additional cost is \$297,500.
- ◆ 2006 Congressional election additional cost is \$267,675.
- ◆ 2008 Presidential election additional cost is \$467,825.

		Estimated Nov. 2004		Estimated Nov. 2006 *		Estimated Nov. 2008	
No Change							
	Pay Rate	No.	Comp.	No.	Comp.	No.	Comp.
Chief Officers	\$150	225	\$33,750	227	\$34,050	229	\$34,350
Asst. Chiefs	\$125	250	\$31,250	253	\$31,625	255	\$31,875
Officers	\$100	2,325	\$232,500	2,020	\$202,000	2,516	\$251,600
Total Comp.		2,800	\$297,500	2,500	\$267,675	3,000	\$317,825

Increase 1							
	Pay Rate	No.	Comp.	No.	Comp.		
Chief Officers	\$300	225	\$67,500	227	\$68,100		
Asst. Chiefs	\$250	250	\$62,500	253	\$63,250		
Officers	\$200	2,325	\$465,000	2,020	\$404,000		
Total Comp.		2,800	\$595,000	2,500	\$535,350		
Additional Costs			<u>\$297,500</u>	<u>\$267,675</u>			

Increase 2							
	Pay Rate			No.	Comp.		
Chief Officers	\$350			229	\$80,150		
Asst. Chiefs	\$300			255	\$76,500		
Officers	\$250			2,516	\$629,000		
Total Comp.				3,000	\$785,650		
Additional Costs					<u>\$467,825</u>		

* The number of election officers is based on the projected voter turnout for each election. Since 2006 is not a presidential election, the number of election officers and estimated cost is lower.

The Electoral Board (EB) recommended raising compensation for Chiefs from \$150 to \$200 and Assistant Chiefs from \$125 to \$150. They did not recommend any changes to Election Officers. Based on these increases the additional cost would be as follows;

- ◆ 2004 Presidential election additional cost is \$17,500.
- ◆ 2006 Congressional election additional cost is \$17,675.
- ◆ 2008 Presidential election additional cost is \$17,825.

EB suggested increase	Pay Rate	Estimated Nov. 2004		Estimated Nov. 2006 *		Estimated Nov. 2008	
		No.	Comp.	No.	Comp.	No.	Comp.
Chief Officers	\$200	225	\$45,000	227	\$45,400	229	\$45,800
Asst. Chiefs	\$150	250	\$37,500	253	\$37,950	255	\$38,250
Officers	\$100	2,325	\$232,500	2,020	\$202,000	2,516	\$251,600
Total Comp.		2,800	\$315,000	2,500	\$285,350	3,000	\$335,650
Additional Costs			<u>\$17,500</u>		<u>\$17,675</u>		<u>\$17,825</u>

These increases were not included in the FY 2005 Advertised Budget Plan based on a November 2003 survey which showed that Fairfax County's compensation was consistent with other local jurisdictions, as shown below.

Election Officer Compensation Survey, November 2003

	Officers	Assistant Chiefs	Chiefs	Additional Compensation
Arlington County	\$120.00	\$135.00	\$150.00	\$24 for pickup/return of materials
Alexandria City	\$100.00	\$125.00	\$150.00	(no additional compensation)
Falls Church City	\$100.00	\$125.00	\$150.00	(no additional compensation)
Fairfax City	\$120.00	\$140.00	\$160.00	(no additional compensation)
Fairfax County	\$100.00	\$125.00	\$150.00	(no additional compensation)
Fauquier County	\$125.00	\$150.00	\$200.00	(no additional compensation)
Hanover County	\$110.00	\$115.00	\$135.00	\$15 for attending training
Henrico County	\$135.00	\$165.00	\$185.00	\$15 for attending training
Loudoun County	\$100.00	\$150.00	\$200.00	\$15 for attending training
Manassas City	\$100.00	\$110.00	\$125.00	\$20 training, \$10 pickup/return of materials
Prince William County	\$100.00	\$115.00	\$150.00	\$15 training, \$20 pickup/return of materials
Stafford County	\$100.00	\$110.00	\$120.00	\$15 training, \$20 pickup/return of materials
Washington, DC	\$100.00	\$150.00	\$175.00	(no additional compensation)
Montgomery County, MD	\$100.00		\$130.00	\$20 for attending training
Anne Arundel County, MD	\$100.00		\$130.00	\$25 for attending training
Prince Georges County, MD	\$125.00		\$200.00	\$25 for attending training
New Castle County, DE	\$165.00		\$205.00	(no additional compensation)