

Response to Questions on the FY 2009 Advertised Budget Plan

Request By: Supervisor Hudgins

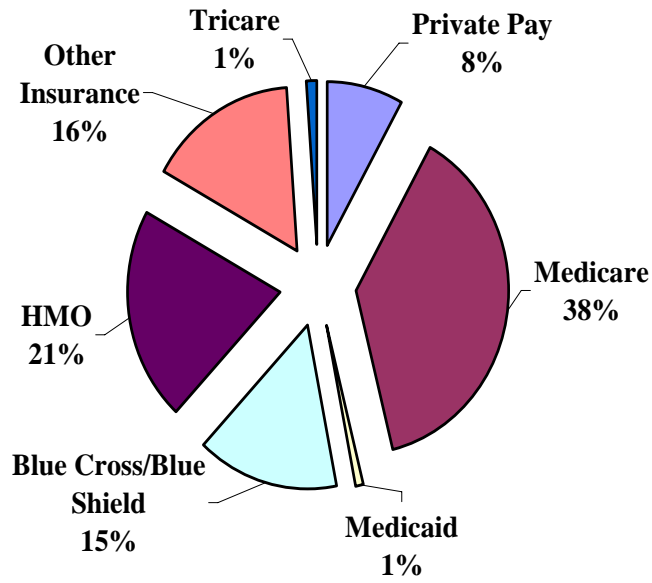
Question: Provide annual revenue receipts and collection rates, for the EMS Transport Fee. What proportion of the County's rates is reimbursed by Medicare and Health Insurance Companies?

Response: The County began billing for Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Transport services in April 2005 with FY 2006 and FY 2007 being the first two full fiscal years of implementation. In FY 2006 and FY 2007 the County received \$10,217,854 and \$11,332,091 in revenue, respectively, from the EMS Transport Fee. The current FY 2008 and FY 2009 revenue estimates for the EMS Transport Fee are \$11,558,733 and \$15,255,855, respectively. It should be noted that the FY 2009 estimate includes the proposed changes to EMS Transport Fee schedule included in the FY 2009 Advertised Budget Plan, which are provided below.

Proposed EMS Transport Billing Fee Schedule Changes		
Category	Existing Rate	Proposed Rate
Basic Life Support Transport	\$300	\$400
Advanced Life Support-1 Transport	\$400	\$500
Advanced Life Support-2 Transport	\$550	\$675
Per Mile Charge	\$7.50	\$10.00

In FY 2006 and FY 2007, the net collection rates for EMS Transport Services were 69 percent and 71 percent, respectively. The net collection rate indicates how much revenue the County receives as a percentage of total billed less any contractual adjustments such as those associated with Medicare and Medicaid, which have mandated reimbursement amounts that differ from the County's rate schedule. It also takes into account co-payment and hardship waivers. Staff anticipates similar collection rates in FY 2008 and FY 2009. The following charts illustrate the break-out of collected (net of refunds) revenue by source in FY 2006 and FY 2007.

**EMS Transport Billing Collections
FY 2006**



**EMS Transport Billing Collections
FY 2007**

