



Response to Questions on the FY 2010 Advertised Budget

Request By: Chairman Bulova

Question: How are other jurisdictions handling the requirement to provide dedicated funding for stormwater projects?

Response: There are 11 Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) Phase 1 communities in Virginia, including Fairfax County. The Phase I communities include the 11 jurisdictions in the State that had separate storm sewer systems and populations exceeding 100,000 when the MS4 program was established in the early 1990's. The Federal and State requirements applied to these communities are much more specific and stringent than smaller communities. Of the other 10 communities, 7 have established a stormwater utility tax, and one has a tax district similar to the proposal included in the FY 2010 Advertised Budget Plan. The remaining two communities do not have a dedicated funding source and utilize their general fund to operate and maintain their systems. The average cost to single family residences for the communities that charge a dedicated fee or tax is \$62/year. Based on conversations with several of these communities, many of them use the utility revenues to supplement the expenditures already funded by the general fund. Much of the utility revenue is focused on increasing the capital program. There are also several other communities in the state currently studying or proposing the establishment of a Stormwater Utility tax or a dedicated funding source for stormwater.

The attached matrix includes more information regarding other jurisdiction survey results.



Research Conducted

(All Phase I Jurisdictions Within the Commonwealth)

| JURISDICTION | ANNUAL FEE PER EQUIVALENT RESIDENTIAL UNIT (ERU) | COMMENTS |
|------------------------|--|---|
| Arlington County | \$54.00 | Levies a sanitary district tax of \$0.01 per \$100 of assessed property value. The average homeowner pays \$50 per year for the stormwater program, which covers Operating, CIP and Watershed Planning. |
| Chesterfield County | -0- | Funds Stormwater out of general fund. |
| City of Newport News | \$58.20 | Based on an ERU rate of \$4.85 per month. Covers Operating, CIP, debt service and Watershed Planning. |
| City of Virginia Beach | \$66.07 | Based on an ERU rate of 18.1 cents per day, but is scheduled to increase each year over the next three fiscal years. Covers Operating, CIP and Watershed Planning. |
| City of Hampton | \$55.20 | Based on an ERU rate of \$4.60 per month. Covers Operating, CIP, debt service and Watershed Planning. |
| City of Norfolk | \$93.96 | Based on a flat fee per dwelling of \$7.83 per month. Covers Operating, CIP, debt service and Watershed Planning. |



Research Conducted

| JURISDICTION | ANNUAL FEE PER EQUIVALENT RESIDENTIAL UNIT (ERU) | COMMENTS |
|-----------------------|--|--|
| City of Portsmouth | \$72.00 | Based on an ERU rate of \$6.00 per month. Covers Operating, CIP, debt service and Watershed Planning. |
| City of Chesapeake | \$76.20 | Based on an ERU rate of \$4.45 per month. Covers Operating, CIP, debt service and Watershed Planning. |
| Prince William County | \$26.36 | Flat fee per detached dwelling; townhouses and condos pay a flat fee of \$19.78. Covers Operating, CIP and Watershed Planning. |
| Henrico County | -0- | They maintain the storm drains along with their road system. |
| | \$62.75 | AVERAGE IMPOSED ANNUAL FEE |