

Response to Questions on the FY 2011 Budget

Request By: Board of Supervisors

Question: Please describe the impact of the proposed reduction in the Taxi Access program.

Response: A proposed funding reduction of \$120,000 is included in the FY 2011 Advertised Budget Plan for the Taxi Access program. This reduction will not impact the current level of participation in this program, and it allows for some modest growth.

The Taxi Access program provides MetroAccess participants (disabled individuals) with vouchers that can be used for taxi services throughout the County. Similar to the department's *Seniors-on-the-Go!* Program, the Taxi Access Program provides an increased mobility option to Fairfax County through the availability of a subsidized taxicab program for individuals eligible for MetroAccess. The program was established in spring 2007. The participation levels that were originally anticipated at the initiation of this program have not yet been reached. Currently 619 individuals participate in the program; that number is projected to grow to 778 participants in FY 2011. A reduction of \$120,000, or approximately 35 percent of operating expenses, will leave remaining funding of approximately \$214,000. This amount is more than adequate to support the projected 778 participants.