

## Response to Questions on the FY 2012 Budget

**Request By:** Chairman Bulova

**Question:** Are new FAIRFAX CONNECTOR buses being ordered with voice annunciator systems and visual displays in the interior of the buses so that people with visual/hearing disabilities will be able to safely travel on CONNECTOR?

**Response:** The buses that will be ordered in FY 2012 will not come with voice enunciators or visual displays. This system enhancement may be made to the entire fleet in a future year, in combination with a number of technology upgrades to increase the efficiency of the system and better serve its users. The *FY 2011 Third Quarter Review* includes a redirection of \$2.5 million in State Aid revenue to update the Connector's Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) plan, which will evaluate and include a priority implementation plan for such technologies as voice enunciators and visual displays, Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) real-time information on deployed buses, real time information on street conditions and traffic, automation of bus stop announcements, installation of automated passenger counters, and enhanced automation of management reports. However, implementation of these technologies will depend on the overall needs of the system as well as cost effectiveness of each product.