

## Response to Questions on the FY 2017 Budget

**Request By:** Supervisor Gross

**Question:** Following up questions about Emergency Medical Services (EMS) billing revenue, please provide examples of other departments, if any, that generate revenue, and how that revenue is allocated -- into the General Fund, or direct allocation for use in the department. Please also provide a brief discussion of the policy issues that may be involved.

**Response:** Below is a summary of the treatment of EMS Transport Billing revenue in several surrounding jurisdictions. In Fairfax County these revenues are deposited into the general fund as directed by the Fairfax County Code, Article 26, Section 4-26-1 A, *“The funds received from the payment of this fee shall be paid into the general fund of the County to aid in defraying the cost of providing such service.”* A change to this designation would require a code amendment.

Jurisdiction	Response
Arlington County	General Fund
City of Alexandria	General Fund
City of Fairfax	General Fund. A small percentage is paid to the volunteers at Fire Station 403 who indirectly support the department through apparatus purchases along with other initiatives.
District of Columbia	General Fund
Frederick County, Maryland	General Fund
Loudoun County	The collected revenues stay within the fire department. Use is restricted to payouts to volunteer agencies, department infrastructure and training.
Montgomery County, Maryland	Revenue is directed to a dedicated Fire Fund. 15 percent of net revenue is disbursed to the volunteer organizations and the balance is spent by the department on the approved budget items.
Prince William County	General Fund. The first \$500K is reserved for department equipment purchases.

While EMS billing revenue does not directly support the Fire and Rescue Department, it indirectly supports numerous EMS initiatives including: funding the EMS billing program, various EMS positions, implementation of riding pay and funding for the Virginia Commonwealth University Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) to Paramedic School.