



County of Fairfax, Virginia

MEMORANDUM

DATE: March 18, 2016
TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: Joseph M. Mondoro, Chief Financial Officer
SUBJECT: Responses to BOS Budget Questions – Package 2

Attached for your review is Package 2 of responses to Board questions on the FY 2017 budget. Please note that questions received as part of the LOBs process are being processed separately.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me. The following responses are included in this package:

Question Number	Question	Supervisor	Pages
	<i>Budget Questions 1-7 answered in package 1 dated 2/17/16</i>		<i>1-48</i>
Budget-8	Referencing slide 45, please provide details for the \$28.9 million included in the FY 2017 Advertised Budget for the Capital Paydown Program.	Foust	49-57
Budget-9	Referencing slide 65, please provide additional information on the decreasing balances available for transportation-related funding at the Northern Virginia Transportation Commission (NVTC).	Foust	58
Budget-10	How many Fairfax County fires were determined to be arson in 2013, 2014, and 2015 (realizing that 2015 investigations may still be underway?)	Gross	59
Budget-11	Please provide additional detail about the LOSAP program for volunteer firefighters. What are some options to funding a more robust program, especially as grant funds may disappear?	Gross	60-61
Budget-12	Following up question about 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.	Gross	62
Budget-13	Is it possible to charge a fee for medevac transport similar to the fee the County charges for EMS ground transport?	McKay	63-65
Budget-14	Referencing slide 33 in the County Executive's budget presentation, please provide additional information on retirement ratios. Does recent market activity have an impact?	Herrity	66
Budget-15	Referencing the proposed tax rate impact on the County taxpayers on slide 75, how much has average incomes gone up over the recent past in Fairfax County?	Smyth	67
Budget-16	Referencing slides 11 and slides 18-22 of the County Executive's <u>FY 2017 Advertised Budget</u> Presentation, please provide comparable data for Arlington County on employment, residential and nonresidential real estate assessments	Bulova	68-71

Department of Management and Budget

12000 Government Center Parkway, Suite 561
Fairfax, Virginia 22035-0074

Telephone: (703) 324-2391 Fax: (703) 324-3940 TTY: 711
www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dmb



County of Fairfax, Virginia

MEMORANDUM

Budget-17	<p>During deliberations on the Infrastructure Financing Committee, it was learned that the “Community Use” charges are set by each school and the funds collected are retained by the school itself, for use in the discretion of the principal. It was noted this situation may be appropriate for review, but took no further action as a committee. Now, however, it would be useful to gather additional information about such funds.</p> <p>Therefore:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> What are the criteria used by FCPS to set the Community Use fees? If criteria are established on a per school basis, please explain why and how the individual school criteria are set. Please also identify who sets the fees and the criteria. What are the amounts collected by each school for Community Use fees in each of the last three years? Are the fees collected retained by the individual school? If so, what guidelines govern the spending and who is responsible for making the spending decisions. How are the Community Use funds spent? 	Cook	72-73
Budget-18	Given the slowdown in enrollment growth, what are the assumptions for FY 2018 and beyond for enrollment growth/demographic changes?	McKay	74
Budget-19	Is FCPS projecting fuel savings in FY 2016 and FY 2017 due to the significant decrease in fuel costs? If so, what is the estimated amount and has this been factored into the FY 2017 Proposed Budget?	McKay	75
Budget-20	When will the Compensation Study be completed? Please provide details about the \$40 million Teacher Salary Scale Investment plan included in the FY 2017 Proposed budget. How are recruitment issues, such as the fact that 200 teacher positions were unfilled at the beginning of the school year, addressed in the allocation of the \$40 million? How does this level of vacancies at the beginning of the year compare with prior years?	McKay	76
Budget-21	Regarding the \$40 million for teachers’ compensation in the Superintendent’s budget request: What exactly is this meant to accomplish? A study has not yet been completed regarding compensation and benefits. When will that be completed? The graph provided at our budget workshop shows FCPS are middle of the pack overall, so where do the Schools anticipate they will they end up with this \$40 million investment? What is the target and is this a one-time adjustment or will it take more than \$40 million to reach their target?	Bulova	77-79
Budget-22	What percentage of Arlington’s School budget goes to teachers’ salaries compared to Fairfax County?	Bulova	80-81

Attachment

cc: Edward L. Long Jr., County Executive
 Patricia Harrison, Deputy County Executive
 David J. Molchany, Deputy County Executive
 David M. Rohrer, Deputy County Executive
 Robert A. Stalzer, Deputy County Executive

Response to Questions on the FY 2017 Budget

Request By: Supervisor Foust

Question: Referencing slide 45, please provide details for the \$28.9 million included in the FY 2017 Advertised Budget for the Capital Paydown Program.

Response: The following is a list of all Paydown projects funded in FY 2017, totaling \$28.9 million. Additional information can be found in Capital Overview within the FY 2017 Overview Volume, Pages 145-177.

Project	FY 2017 Advertised Amount	Description
GF-000001, ADA Compliance - FMD	\$2,000,000	Included for the continuation of ADA improvements at County owned facilities required as part of the Department of Justice audit. FMD has nearly completed all DOJ identified improvements. FMD has completed all required self-assessments and continues to address compliance improvement items identified as part of the self-assessments.
PR-000083, ADA Compliance - Parks	2,370,000	Included for the continuation of Park Authority ADA improvements. The Park Authority has nearly completed all DOJ identified improvements and has completed 100 percent of the DOJ required building assessments for the remaining facilities that were not part of the audit. Park staff continues to address items identified as part of their self-assessment.
2G51-001-000, Athletic Fields - Park Maintenance at FCPS	860,338	Provides safe athletic fields needed for community use that the Park Authority does not own. In FY 2001, the Park Authority assumed the responsibility for specific contracted services aimed at improving the condition of athletic fields scheduled for community use at Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS) elementary schools, middle schools and centers; currently 171 sites and 361 athletic fields. Maintenance responsibilities include mowing at a frequency of 32 times per year and annual aeration/over-seeding
2G51-002-000, Athletic Field Maintenance	2,700,000	Included for athletic field maintenance and repairs, irrigation repairs, lighting repairs, turf maintenance, utility costs, and capital equipment replacement costs. In FY 2015, the Park Authority was responsible for full service maintenance on 268 athletic fields, of which 40 were synthetic turf, 228 natural turf.

2G51-003-000, Athletic Services Fee-Diamond Field Maintenance	750,000	Dedicated to the maintenance of diamond fields at FCPS sites. This program provides twice weekly infield dragging on elementary, middle, and high school game fields (113 fields); pre- or post-season infield renovations (200 fields); mowing of high school diamond fields after June 1 (53 fields), and a turf management program of the high school diamond fields (53 fields). Athletic Fee revenue of \$250,000 supplements the General Fund to provide a total of \$1,000,000 for this project.
2G79-220-000, Athletic Fields - APRT Amenity Maintenance	50,000	Included for routine maintenance of girls' softball field amenities on select Fairfax County Public School sites. These amenities, such as dugouts, fencing and irrigation systems, were added or constructed by the County based on recommendations from the citizen-led Action Plan Review Team (APRT) in order to reduce disparities in the quality of fields assigned to boys' baseball and girls' softball organizations.
2G79-221-000, Athletic Services Fee-Sports Scholarships	75,000	The Youth Sports Scholarship Program provides support to youth from low-income families who want to participate in community-based sports programs. Athletic Fee revenue of \$75,000 supplements the General Fund to provide a total of \$150,000 for this project.
PR-000082, Athletic Fields - FCPS Lighting	250,000	To continue the replacement and upgrading of FCPS athletic field lighting systems at middle and high schools used by many County organizations. Funding supports a replacement and repair schedule, as well as improvements to bring existing lighting systems up to new standards.
PR-000097, Athletic Services Fee-Turf Field Replacement	1,450,000	Included to support the 10-year replacement program for the turf fields. Funding of \$800,000 is supported by Athletic Service Fee revenue and \$1,450,000 is supported by the General Fund. This level of funding represents an increase of \$1,000,000, including an increase of \$500,000 from Athletic Service Fee revenue and \$500,000 from the General Fund. This increase is based on a recommendation to increase the Athletic Service Fee from the current rate of \$5.50 per participant per season to \$9.50 per participant per season and an increase from \$15 to \$25 per team per tournament (for rectangular fields players only). There are a total of 86 synthetic turf fields throughout the County, of which 23 are FCPS stadium fields and 63 are County Parks/FCPS non-stadium fields. This increase would support the replacement of the 63 County turf fields.

2G51-005-000, Parks – General Maintenance	425,000	Included for general park maintenance at over 567,053 square feet at non-revenue supported Park Authority structures and buildings. These maintenance requirements include major non-recurring repairs and stabilization of properties, as well as repairs/replacements to roofs, electrical and lighting systems, sprinklers, HVAC systems, and the replacement of security and fire alarm systems.
2G51-006-000, Parks – Ground Maintenance	1,000,000	Included for annual requirements for Parks grounds maintenance at non-revenue supported parks. The Park Authority is responsible for the care of a total park acreage of 23,354 acres of land, with 426 park site locations, maintenance and repair of tennis courts, basketball courts, trails, picnic areas and picnic shelters, playgrounds, bridges, parking lots and roadways, and stormwater ponds. This funding is also used for arboreal services in response to citizens' requests.
2G51-007-000, Parks – Facility/Equipment Maintenance	484,000	To provide corrective and preventive maintenance for over 567,053 square feet at non-revenue supported Park Authority structures and buildings. These repairs include equipment repairs and the scheduled inspection and maintenance of HVAC, plumbing, electrical, security and fire alarm systems.
2G25-085-000, Joint Venture Development	350,000	This funding will support negotiations, development agreements, and staff time associated with joint venture projects that are not yet funded, as well as design support, financial consultation, and real estate development for the evaluation of project proposals. These projects are highly complex and require a significant amount of concept planning prior to the project's approval for financing.
2G25-102-000, Original Mt. Vernon High School Planning	350,000	Included for study and concept planning associated with the original Mt. Vernon High School facility. The original Mt. Vernon High School building is currently being leased and the lease will expire in October 2016. Planning efforts are underway to determine interim occupancy and long term development potential for this facility.

2G25-104-000, Massey Complex Master Planning	100,000	Included for master planning efforts to evaluate potential land use alternatives for the Massey Complex subsequent to the Massey Building being vacated and demolished. Master planning will include assessment of priority County uses for the site, including future criminal justice, public safety and human services' needs, as well as City of Fairfax and George Mason University interest in the site. Major areas of consideration will include the Massey Building, Burkholder Building, Police Administration Building sites, and existing surface parking lots.
GF-000022, Burkholder Renovations	300,000	Included for the design costs associated with renovations of the Burkholder Building. The Burkholder Building will be vacated upon occupancy of the Public Safety Headquarters anticipated in June 2017. Once vacated, the outdated mechanical, electrical, plumbing systems and elevator will be replaced, the building envelop will be repaired, the non-compliant accessibility items will be corrected, and basic tenant fit-outs will be provided.
GF-000023, Massey Building Demolition	600,000	Included for the design phase of the demolition of the Massey Building. The Massey Building will be vacated upon occupancy of the Public Safety Headquarters anticipated in June 2017. The scope of the project includes removal of asbestos/hazardous materials, demolition of the building (Massey Building, Cooperative Computer Center, and Massey Annex), and the restoration of the site to an open grass area. The total cost is approximately \$20 million.
IT-000023, Facility Space Reconfigurations	1,000,000	Included for facility and space realignment efforts that would maximize County owned space, potentially eliminate leased space, and facilitate hoteling of office spaces.
2G06-002-000, Payments Of Interest On Bond Deposits	50,000	To support payments to developers for interest earned on conservation bond deposits. The County requires developers to contribute funds to ensure the conservation of existing natural resources. Upon satisfactory completion of projects, the developer is refunded the deposit with interest.
2G08-001-000, Laurel Hill Development – FMD	860,000	Included to address only the most critical aspects of property management at the Laurel Hill property. Laurel Hill was transferred to the County by the federal government and includes approximately 2,340 acres of land and 1.48 million square feet of building space. This funding will support FMD's security, maintenance services, and grounds maintenance.

2G51-008-000, Laurel Hill Development – Parks	400,000	Included to address only the most critical aspects of Park property management at the Laurel Hill property. This funding will support the Park Authority’s critical maintenance activities.
2G25-014-000, Revitalization Maintenance – CRP Areas	750,000	Included to continue routine and non-routine maintenance in five major commercial revitalization areas (Annandale, Route 1, Springfield, McLean and Baileys Crossroads) and 10 Commuter Rail and Park-and-Ride lots. The goal of this program is to provide an enhanced level of infrastructure and right-of-way features in these urbanizing areas in order to facilitate pedestrian movements and create a “sense of place.”
2G25-088-000, Revitalization Maintenance – Tysons	460,000	Included to support routine and non-routine maintenance services to the Tyson’s Corner and Silver Line project. More specifically, this project will provide funding for recurring landscaping maintenance associated with the Tyson’s Corner Silver Line area along the Route 7 corridor, from Route 123 to the Dulles Toll Road. Routine maintenance services include landscape maintenance along the median and both sides of the road, trash removal, snow removal, and stormwater facility maintenance.
2G25-018-000, Emergency Directive Program	100,000	Funding provides for annual requirements associated with the Emergency Directives Program. This program provides for abatement services of both emergency and non-emergency directives related to health and safety violations, grass mowing violations, and graffiti removal directives. The funds are used to perform corrective maintenance for code violations under Chapter 46 and Chapter 119 of the <u>Fairfax County Code</u> , in which property owners fail to correct.
2G25-019-000, Survey Control Network Monumentation	75,000	Funding will support the maintenance of geodetic survey control points for the geographic information system (GIS). This project supports the development and maintenance of an interactive, GIS-based website that will provide convenient and cost effective monumentation information to the County’s land development customers.
2G25-020-000, Developer Defaults	200,000	To support the Developer Default program, including \$200,000 from the General Fund and \$100,000 in anticipated developer default revenue. This project is necessitated by economic conditions in the construction industry that result in some developers not completing required public facilities, including acceptance of roads by the state, walkways and storm drainage improvements.

2G25-021-000, Reinvestment, Repair, and Emergency Maintenance of County Roads	500,000	The County is responsible for 43 miles of roadway service drives not maintained by VDOT. As part of the <i>FY 2014 Third Quarter Review</i> , funding was approved to build an accurate inventory and condition assessment of County-owned roads and service drives. The 2015 Rinker study identified an amount of \$4 million in reinvestment funding requirements for the roadways with the most hazardous conditions, as well as \$500,000 in FY 2017 for annual emergency repairs. It is anticipated that funding for the \$4 million reinvestment program will be funded over a 5-year period, with initial funding from the allocation of the Capital Sinking Fund, anticipated as part of the <i>FY 2016 Third Quarter Review</i> .
2G25-057-000, Emergency Maintenance of Existing Trails	400,000	Included for emergency and critical maintenance requirements for County trails, sidewalks and pedestrian bridges. The Department of Public Works and Environmental Services (DPWES) and the Department of Transportation are responsible for maintaining approximately 664 miles of walkways and 68 pedestrian bridges. On-going critical maintenance includes the correction of safety and hazardous conditions such as the deterioration of trail surfaces, the replacement and/or repair of guardrails and handrails, and the rehabilitation of pedestrian bridges. This funding level is based on the recommendations of the 2013 Rinker Study. This study was conducted in order to build an accurate inventory and condition assessment of County walkways and revealed that there are approximately 10 miles of trails in extremely poor condition requiring \$3 million in reinvestment. It is anticipated that funding for the \$3 million reinvestment program will be funded over a 3-year period, with initial funding from the allocation of the Capital Sinking Fund, anticipated as part of the <i>FY 2016 Third Quarter Review</i> .
GF-000009, Fire Alarm System Replacement	320,000	Included for replacement of the fire alarm system at the South County Government Center, based on performance history, age, and difficulty in obtaining replacement parts and service.

GF-000011, HVAC System Upgrades and Replacement	3,000,000	Included for HVAC system component replacements at the Government Center. Approximately 5 Air Handling Units are required to be replaced based on increased failure of the equipment, the difficulty in procuring obsolete parts, outdated technology and multiple water leaks. Failure to replace these units can lead to mold accumulation, increased energy usage and a disruption to the building.
GF-000012, Emergency Generator Replacement	1,680,000	Included for the Government Center Emergency back-up generator system. This generator system provides Building Code required back-up power to the Government Center's life safety systems such as emergency lights, sprinklers, fire alarms, automatic transfer switches, emergency distribution boards, and the generator fuel pump system. This project represents the first year of a multi-year project.
2G06-001-000, Salona Property Payment	891,600	The annual payment associated with the Salona property based on the Board of Supervisors' approval of the purchase of this conservation easement on September 26, 2005. The total cost of the property is \$18.2 million with payments scheduled through FY 2026.
2G25-012-000, School-Aged Child Care Contribution	1,000,000	Included for the County's annual contribution to offset school operating and overhead costs associated with School-Aged Child Care (SACC) Centers.
2G25-013-000, NOVA Community College Contribution	2,517,489	Included for Fairfax County's contribution to the Northern Virginia Community College (NVCC). Funding provides for the continued construction and maintenance of various capital projects on college campuses within the NVCC system. FY 2017 funding is based on a per capita rate of \$2.25 and is consistent with the FY 2016 level.
2G02-001-000, EIP – Environmental Initiatives	5,000	Included for the Green Purchasing Program. This program is designed to assist in clearly specifying environmental attributes during the County's procurement process. Fairfax County has a current inventory of over 2,400 contracts and emphasizing environmental attributes such as recycling, energy efficiency, durability and reduced toxicity during the procurement process can contribute to the purchase of green products, creating fiscal and environmental savings.

2G02-021-000, EIP – Energy Education and Outreach	75,000	Included for the Watershed Protection and Energy Conservation Matching Grant Program. This program is intended to support the Energy Education and Outreach initiatives and promote community engagement around sustainability and conservation issues. Specifically, the matching grant program will provide financial incentives to empower homeowners through their associations to implement on-the-ground sustainability projects. The initiative will build on current programs that provide technical assistance, hands-on support, outreach and education to Fairfax County homeowners and residents.
2G40-121-000, EIP – Bike Lane Pilot Project	50,000	Included to construct a protected bike lane demonstration project in Tysons on VDOT Right-of-Way. Every year, VDOT repaves select roadways throughout Fairfax County. In conjunction with VDOT’s repaving work, the Department of Transportation has successfully created over 50 miles of bicycle facilities. This demonstration project will build upon the existing coordination efforts with VDOT to create the County’s first protected bike lane which provides safety enhancements in areas of the high volume and proximity of automobile traffic to bicyclists.
2G51-032-000, EIP – Invasive Plant Removal	150,000	Included to continue the Invasive Plant Removal Program. The Park Authority manages this volunteer program, as well as other invasive removal initiatives. These programs restore hundreds of acres of important natural areas, protect tree canopy, and reach thousands of volunteers. Currently, more than 12,000 trained volunteer leaders have contributed 37,400 hours of service since the program’s inception in 2005, improving over 1,000 acres of parkland.

2G51-034-000, EIP – Park Lighting and Energy Retrofits	255,000	Funding is included for several Park Authority energy initiatives, including \$105,000 for lighting retrofits and upgrades at Park Authority facilities for energy efficiency and conservation. Lighting will be upgraded to LED fixtures and lighting controls will be installed to manage operating hours more efficiently. These energy saving retrofit replacements will reduce approximately 80 percent of energy usage, improve lighting, reduce the Greenhouse gas inventory and contribute to the dark skies initiative. In addition, funding of \$95,000 is included to install Water Smart web-based irrigation controllers utilizing weather technology at the remaining Park facilities that have existing irrigation systems. Lastly, \$55,000 is included to install Variable Frequency Drives (VFDs) at five RECenter pools. A VFD is a type of adjustable-speed drive used to control motor speed by varying motor input frequency and voltage.
Total	\$28,853,427	

Response to Questions on the FY 2017 Budget

Request By: Supervisor Foust

Question: Referencing slide 65, please provide additional information on the decreasing balances available for transportation-related funding at the Northern Virginia Transportation Commission (NVTC).

Response: The FY 2017 Advertised Budget Plan reflects an increase in the General Fund Transfer of \$2.26 million and \$1.38 million for the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA) and the Fairfax County Connector (Connector), respectively, over the FY 2016 Adopted Budget Plan. Prior to this increase, General Fund support remained level since FY 2012 for WMATA and FY 2014 for Connector.

The County receives State Aid to support annual operating subsidies to WMATA and Connector. NVTC is the designated recipient of Northern Virginia State Aid on behalf of participating jurisdictions. State Aid balances are held with NVTC for jurisdictional use against future contribution requirements that are set by a funding formula agreement with WMATA. In addition to NVTC funding, the County uses General Fund support for these operating requirements. Balances accrued primarily from increased contributions from the State (e.g., HB2313 revenues starting in FY 2014). As the County continues to spend down State Aid balances to meet operating requirements, further increases to General Fund transfers may be required.

The following table includes balances at NVTC from FY 2015 (actual) through FY 2018 (estimate).

	Actual	Estimate	Estimate	Estimate
	<u>2015</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2018</u>
Ending Balance	\$ 88.16	\$ 58.63	\$ 27.43	\$ (2.03)

Response to Questions on the FY 2017 Budget

Request By: Supervisor Gross

Question: How many Fairfax County fires were determined to be arson in 2013, 2014, and 2015 (realizing that 2015 investigations may still be underway?)

Response: Please see the following chart reflecting the “incendiary,” or fires set intentionally, in Fairfax County:

Intentional/Incendiary Fires in Fairfax County	
2015	51
2014	58
2013	51

The Fire and Hazardous Materials Investigations Unit is responsible for enforcing County and State laws regarding fires or explosions that occur in the County that meet one or more of the following criteria:

- Are of a suspicious nature,
- Involve the loss of life,
- Cause serious injury to one or more person, and/or
- Cause damage of, or damage to, property.

Statistics of note for 2015 incendiary cases:

- 70 percent of the incendiary fires were closed with an arrest compared to the national clearance rate of 21.8 percent according to the FBI’s Uniform Crime Reporting for 2014
- 25 percent remain under investigation
- 5 percent are inactive (no current leads for follow-up are available) at this time

Response to Questions on the FY 2017 Budget

Request By: Supervisor Gross

Question: Please provide additional detail about the LOSAP program for volunteer firefighters. What are some options to funding a more robust program, especially as grant funds may disappear?

Response: Length of Service Awards Programs (LOSAPs) are pension-like programs increasingly used across the United States to assist communities in recruiting, retaining and rewarding volunteer firefighters and Emergency Medical Services (EMS) personnel.

The amount of the LOSAP benefit is directly related to the number of years of service credit earned by the volunteer. To earn a year of credit, a volunteer must perform 240 hours of operational service, accomplish a minimum amount of training, and be certified to some advanced level ranging from ambulance driver to certified chief officer. A member becomes vested in the program after earning five years of credit, and can earn a maximum of 30 years of credit. Once vested, a member receives a monthly benefit of \$10 for every year of credit earned when they turn 65 up to a maximum of \$300 per month (for 30 years of service). The benefit is paid until death; however, once payments begin, it is guaranteed for a minimum of 10 years. It should be noted that this program does include a benefit provision if an individual is disabled on the job or if death occurs prior to age 65.

LOSAP is a proven retention tool, which several surrounding jurisdictions utilize to retain their volunteers. The following are examples of local jurisdictions that utilize a LOSAP program: Montgomery County, Loudoun County, Prince William County, and Hanover County.

The value to the County to support LOSAP is twofold – increased return on investment and increased capacity.

The average length of volunteer service in the fire department is approximately three years. The majority of the costs to the County are incurred in the first six months of hiring, equipping and training new volunteers, and can range from \$3,000 for a new volunteer firefighter to \$21,000 for a new Emergency Medical Technician (EMT). The LOSAP program provides an incentive to volunteers to increase their years of service to five or more thus providing the County a much greater return on the initial investment.

Secondly, the longer a volunteer is in the system, the more capacity there is to serve the residents and visitors of Fairfax County. Keeping members longer, along with proper recruiting, will lead to more volunteers in the system to provide emergency response services. In addition, keeping members longer ensures more highly trained senior volunteers will be able to supplement the career staff in serving the residents of the County. These senior volunteers will also be able to use their experience to mentor and train new volunteers resulting in a safer, more robust system.

In 2014 initial seed money, in the amount of \$260,000, was funded for two years through the Fairfax County Volunteer Fire and Rescue Association (FCVFRA) and the United States Department of Homeland Security's Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) grant program. It should be noted that the County had no role in the application process for these funds. Due to cost efficiencies, the LOSAP Board was able to stretch this initial period to four years. Now that this funding is nearly exhausted, the program is in danger of collapsing without a continuing long term funding source. Currently, there are no other grant options available to assist with this program.

Although volunteer membership fluctuates, it is anticipated the number of eligible members will stabilize at around the 200 range. The actuary that is responsible for managing the program has indicated that annual funding of \$95,000 will be required to cover 200 credits per year.

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.

Response to Questions on the FY 2017 Budget

Request By: Supervisor McKay

Question: Is it possible to charge a fee for medevac transport similar to the fee the County charges for EMS ground transport?

Response: Fairfax County's helicopter program is designated as "Public Use" by the Federal Aviation Administration. As a public use aircraft, the Police Department is not permitted to charge any fee for services rendered. If Fairfax County chose to pursue charging a medevac transport fee, the Fairfax County Police Helicopter Division would need to be reclassified under the FAA's "14 CFR Part 135" regulations, which apply to all commercial aviation operations. There are much more stringent regulations placed on Part 135 programs than are placed on Public Use operations. A few examples of how transitioning to a Part 135 may affect operations are:

- There are requirements on the heliport design, such as the inclusion of bunk rooms, and enhanced restrictions on the types of shifts employees are permitted to work.
- The change would have liability implications for the Office of the Medical Director, which may require enhanced malpractice insurance.
- The change may negate the Department's tax exempt status for jet fuel, which would result in increased fuel costs.
- There are enhanced inspection and aircraft maintenance requirements for Part 135 operators.
- Converting to Part 135 would make the Helicopter Division a covered entity under the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA). HIPAA imposes significant additional procedural and security requirements on the handling of health records, which the department would need to implement. Other agencies have found it necessary to separate medevac missions from their other operations and become a hybrid entity under the HIPAA privacy regulations to effectively incorporate this into police helicopter operations.

The Helicopter Division could likely incorporate the changes necessary to achieve Part 135 certification, especially with renovations to the heliport facility being planned in the near future. There would be significant costs associated with meeting and maintaining the more stringent regulations and requirements to operate under Part 135 outlined above. While a detailed cost-benefit analysis has not been conducted, it appears likely that the revenue generated by billing for medevac transports would not generate significant income for the County, especially when considering the increased costs for operating in this capacity. Some operational considerations that would limit the amount of revenue are:

- As an agency, the department conducts a small number of medevac missions annually. In 2015, a total of 58 medevacs were conducted. In the 3 years preceding 2015, a total of 66, 72 and 74 medevacs were conducted, respectively.

- Almost all missions are “scene” medevacs, which means the patients are flown from the scene of the incident that caused their injuries to a medical center. Private medevac providers prefer inter-hospital transports over scene medevacs because the patient’s insurance is already on file and the air transport requests are usually made by an attending doctor. Scene medevacs have a much lower ratio of flights where payment can be collected because it is often unknown if the patient has insurance, and there is a heightened requirement to show that the air transport is medically necessary. Companies that do charge are able to collect fees on only approximately 30 percent of scene medevacs.
- Insurance companies have widely varying policies for how they reimburse medevac transportation. Some do not cover it at all, some set a low maximum fee they will pay, and others require substantial documentation to show the air transport was medically necessary, or that other methods of transportation were not available.
- Medicare and many private insurers reimburse for medevac transport at a specific rate based on the number of miles the patient is flown. Billing rates are also increased if the patient is picked up in an area considered to be “rural” for Medicare reimbursement purposes. The majority of our flights go from a non-rural location in Fairfax County to Fairfax Hospital, so the number of miles flown is usually minimal.

The Maryland State Police Aviation Division conducted a similar analysis in 2011 where they attempted to estimate the amount of revenue they would be able to generate by billing for medevac services. Their estimate takes into account the varying levels of payment based on a projected mix of patients with different insurance coverage. It also estimates that 10 percent of the collected fees would go to a company contracted to handle the billing and collection process. Their estimate was based on the 2,235 medevac transports their agency conducts on average each year. Based on that figure, they estimated that billing could generate \$2,976,244 in revenue annually. There is likely some variation in the permissible charge rates and our average flight distance versus those flown by Maryland State Police. However, the figures they reached indicate a profit of \$1,332 per medevac, which would translate into \$90,576 in annual revenue with the department’s average number of 68 medevacs over the last 4 years.

While \$90,576 represents some revenue to the County, it does not account for the additional costs that may be incurred in fuel taxes, malpractice insurance, HIPAA compliance, aircraft maintenance and operational procedures needed to comply with Part 135 requirements. It is likely that when all those expenses are factored in, the amount of revenue would be extremely small, or possibly none. There would also be substantial start-up costs in having aircraft and operations certified for Part 135 operation by the FAA to begin charging for medevac services.

When this issue has been looked at in the past, the general consensus has been that it would be prohibitively expensive to seek certification and operate under Part 135. Additionally, the type of missions flown and the small number of those missions would preclude the billing process from generating much, if any, revenue for the County. Operating under Part 135 would also place substantial additional regulations and procedural requirements on the Helicopter Division’s staff and operational activities. The Helicopter Division flies more than 1,000 public use police and Search and Rescue missions each year. Unlike the Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department, or the Maryland State Police Aviation Division, medical missions make up only a small percentage of the division’s overall mission profile.

As Maryland State Police found in their research, other considerations include a possible negative reaction to the billing procedure by the public, and EMS and public safety providers, who often see profit motive and public service as incompatible. There is also the possibility of patients being “double billed” for the ambulance transport to the helicopter, and then for the helicopter transport itself. Finally, and possibly most importantly, private medevac providers are often scrutinized for accepting unnecessary risk by taking missions in unfavorable conditions because of profit motive. This is much of the reason Part 135 operations are more heavily regulated, and a safety issue that has garnered national attention in recent years. While risk tolerance can be controlled, there are safety and public opinion benefits to making operational decisions solely on the basis of public safety and service.

Response to Questions on the FY 2017 Budget

Request By: Supervisor Herrity

Question: Referencing slide 33 in the County Executive's budget presentation, please provide additional information on retirement ratios. Does recent market activity have an impact?

Response: The retirement funding included in the FY 2017 Advertised Budget Plan reflects the results of the July 1, 2015, actuarial valuation of the retirement systems. For the purposes of determining the County's contributions to the retirement systems, investment returns are smoothed into the valuation over a three-year period. Therefore, the FY 2017 contribution rates include the impact of investment returns in FY 2013, FY 2014 and FY 2015. As shown in the table below, the gross returns in FY 2013 and FY 2014 exceeded the long-term expected return of 7.5 percent, while the FY 2015 returns were positive but below 7.5 percent.

<u>System</u>	<u>FY 2013</u>	<u>FY 2014</u>	<u>FY 2015</u>
Employees'	8.1%	15.2%	0.8%
Uniformed	10.5%	16.5%	1.8%
Police Officers	9.7%	16.2%	3.5%

The retirement systems have experienced losses through December 2015 of 3.6 percent for the Employees' system, 3.8 percent for the Uniformed system, and 1.2 percent for the Police Officers system. These losses have not yet been included in the calculation of the unfunded liability or employer contribution rates for the systems, as FY 2016 experience will first be reflected in the July 1, 2016, actuarial valuation and the FY 2018 employer contribution rates.

Response to Questions on the FY 2017 Budget

Request By: Supervisor Smyth

Question: Referencing the proposed tax rate impact on the County taxpayers on slide 75, how much have average incomes gone up over the recent past in Fairfax County?

Response: The table below shows the median household income in Fairfax County from 2011 to 2017. Actual data are available from the U.S. Census Bureau’s American Community Survey through the end of calendar year 2014. Forecast data for 2015 through 2017 are based on projections of Gross County Product for Fairfax County.

Year	Median Household Income	% Change
2011	\$105,797	2.7%
2012	\$107,096	1.2%
2013	\$111,079	3.7%
2014	\$110,674	(0.4%)
2015*	\$111,294	0.6%
2016*	\$113,327	1.8%
2017*	\$115,802	2.2%

*Projected

Response to Questions on the FY 2017 Budget

Request By: Chairman Bulova

Question: Referencing slides 11 and slides 18-22 of the County Executive’s FY 2017 Advertised Budget presentation, please provide comparable data for Arlington County on employment, residential and nonresidential real estate assessments.

Response:

1. Employment (all data as of June each year)

Fairfax County

Year	Total Non-Farm Employment	Increase/ (Decrease)	% Change
2012	597,394	12,677	2.2%
2013	595,321	(2,073)	(0.3%)
2014	588,265	(7,056)	(1.2%)
2015	593,836	5,571	0.9%

Arlington County

Year	Total Employment	Increase/ (Decrease)	% Change
2012	167,287	(2,164)	(1.3%)
2013	167,079	(208)	(0.1%)
2014	165,355	(1,724)	(1.0%)
2015	170,687	5,332	3.2%

2. Real Estate Data

Based on information from the Metropolitan Regional Information System (MRIS), during 2015 the average home sales price in Fairfax County increased 1.1 percent to \$544,055 compared to 2014; in Arlington County, the average home sales price increased 2.3 percent to \$636,977 in the same time period. In Fairfax County, the number of home sales increased 9.6 percent from 13,549 in 2014 to 14,850 in 2015; in Arlington County, it increased 3.9 percent from 2,774 in 2014 to 2,881 in 2015. In addition, homes that sold in 2015 in Fairfax County stayed on the market for 52 days before they sold, up from 45

days in 2014; in Arlington County, it took on average 49 days to sell a house in 2015 compared to 40 days in 2014.

2.1 Residential Equalization

Residential equalization, or reassessment of existing residential properties, for Fairfax County and Arlington County is shown in the table below:

Fiscal Year	Fairfax County	Arlington County
2012	2.3%	2.8%
2013	0.7%	0.2%
2014	3.5%	1.1%
2015	6.5%	6.0%
2016	3.4%	5.1%
2017	1.6%	2.9%

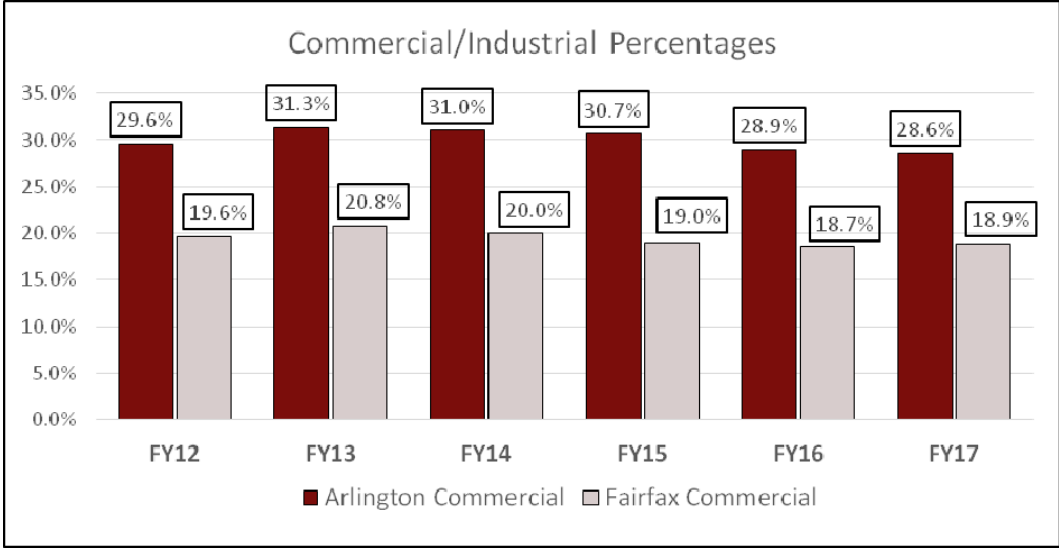
2.2 Nonresidential Assessments

Arlington County has a little over 40 million square feet of office space, compared to 116.5 million square feet in Fairfax County. As of mid-year 2015, the office vacancy rate in Arlington County, including sublets, was 20.6 percent compared to 17.5 percent in Fairfax County. These vacancy rates equate to over 8 million square feet of vacant space in Arlington compared to over 20 million vacant square feet in Fairfax County.

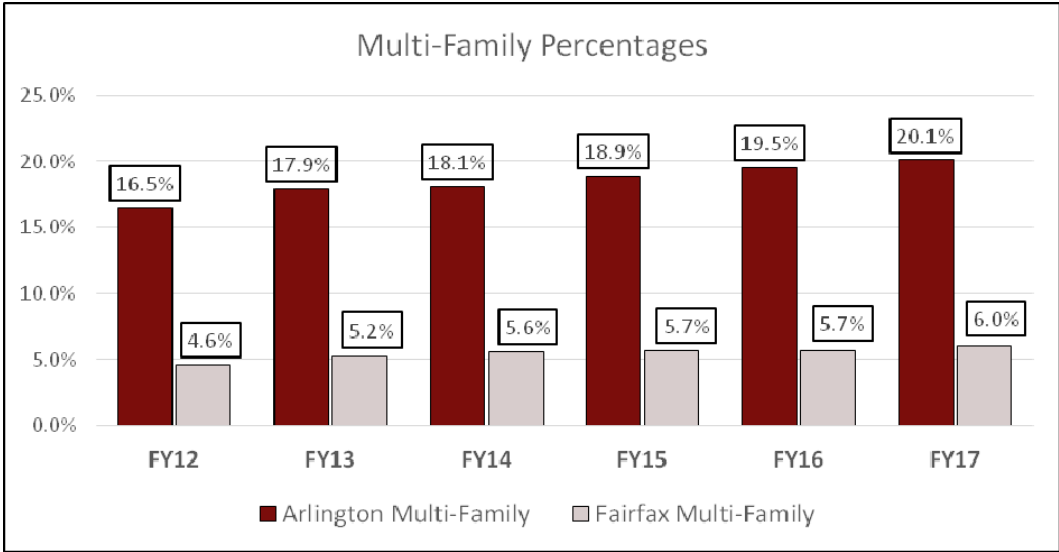
Nonresidential equalization for Fairfax County and Arlington County is shown in the table below:

Fiscal Year	Fairfax County	Arlington County
2012	3.7%	1.3%
2013	8.2%	13.3%
2014	0.1%	0.0%
2015	(0.1%)	3.5%
2016	(0.6%)	0.4%
2017	2.9%	1.2%

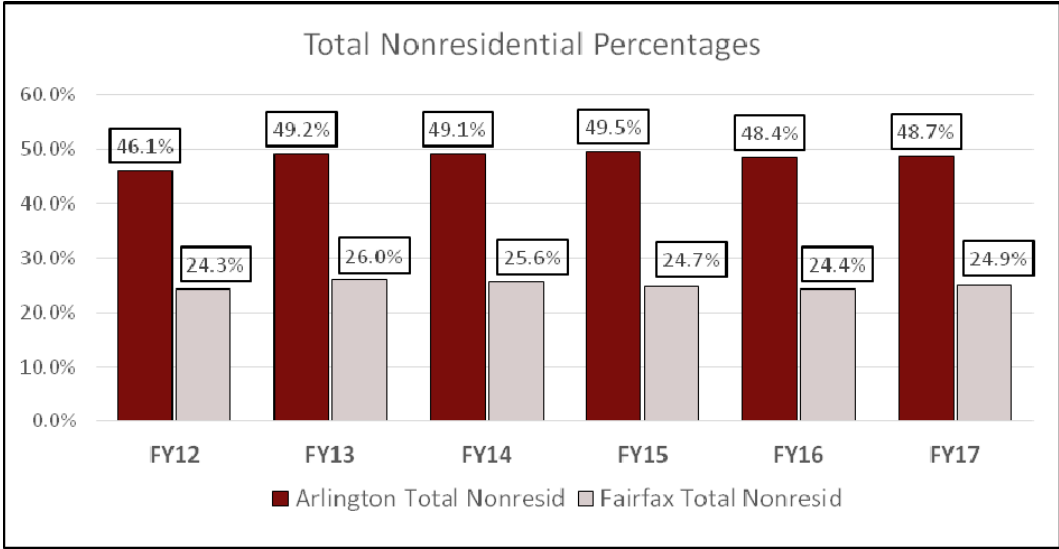
The chart below shows the Commercial/Industrial percentage of the total real estate assessment base in Fairfax County and Arlington County. The Commercial/Industrial percentage is based on Virginia land use codes and includes all nonresidential property except multi-family rental apartments:



The chart below shows the Multi-family Rental Apartments percentage of the total real estate assessment base in Fairfax County and Arlington County:



The chart below shows the Total Nonresidential percentage (including Commercial/Industrial and Multi-family) of the total real estate assessment base in Fairfax County and Arlington County:



Response to Questions on the FY 2017 Budget

Request By: Supervisor Cook

Question: During deliberations on the Infrastructure Financing Committee, it was learned that the “Community Use” charges are set by each school and the funds collected are retained by the school itself, for use in the discretion of the principal. It was noted this situation may be appropriate for review, but took no further action as a committee. Now, however, it would be useful to gather additional information about such funds.

Therefore:

- a) What are the criteria used by FCPS to set the Community Use fees? If criteria are established on a per school basis, please explain why and how the individual school criteria are set. Please also identify who sets the fees and the criteria.
- b) What are the amounts collected by each school for Community Use fees in each of the last three years?
- c) Are the fees collected retained by the individual school? If so, what guidelines govern the spending and who is responsible for making the spending decisions. How are the Community Use funds spent?

Response: The following response was prepared by Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS):

Community Use fees are not set by individual schools but are approved by the School Board through regulations, policies, and notices. The documents that govern community use in FCPS buildings and property are Regulation 8420 which governs community use of facilities, Notice 8420 which establishes current community use fees, and Regulation 8428 which governs the remittance of fees.

The Community Use Section researches fees from surrounding jurisdictions every two to three years to ensure FCPS is charging a reasonable rate and submits these recommendations to the School Board for approval. This past fall a community use study was completed by our Department of Facilities and Transportation which included six local jurisdictions. The results of the survey found that FCPS’ rental and fee rates are in line with other jurisdictions with one exception, FCPS’ fees for custodial personnel are lower than four of the six jurisdictions reviewed. As a result, the custodial fee is being increased in FY 2017.

All fees collected by the Community Use Section are reflected in the revenue section of the School Operating Fund (SOF) under Tuition, Fees, and Other or in Work Performed for Others. Once a month, the Community Use Section distributes funds to local schools using Regulation 8428 as a guide. Local schools receive 15 percent of rental fees; 100 percent of certain special fees, excluding fees for air conditioning, heating, field lights, kitchen equipment, and weekend utilities; and 92.35 percent of personnel fees and work performed for others. Personnel fees are used by schools to pay for the custodians who must open, clean, and close the building for a community use event. Special fees can be used to help maintain and replace building and equipment that experience usage through community use. Residual revenue after distribution of the schools share is used to offset FCPS utility costs and the Federal Insurance Contribution Act (FICA) tax. Local schools follow Regulation 5810, which governs local school spending. Schools may place rental

fees in the Educational Contingency Account which can be used to supplement or support staff development, planning meetings and special functions. The chart below reflects the total revenue FCPS has received for community use from FY 2013 through FY 2015 and the allocation of funds distributed to schools and kept centrally.

	Community Use Revenue			Allocation of Funds	
	FY 2013	FY 2014	FY 2015	School Operating Fund	Individual Schools
Work Performed for Others	\$ 1,642,605	\$ 1,784,568	\$ 1,628,384	7.65%	92.35%
Personnel Revenue	1,365,372	1,387,157	1,534,350	7.65%	92.35%
Facilities Use - Rental Income	1,271,072	1,264,124	1,449,227	85.0%	15.0%
Facilities Use - Special Fees	196,199	224,932	352,369	(A)	(A)
Total Receipts	\$ 4,475,248	\$ 4,660,781	\$ 4,964,330		

(A) Special fees for air conditioning, heating, field lights, kitchen equipment, and weekend utilities, are allocated to the School Operating Fund, while special fees for microphones, speakers, spotlights, stage lights, headsets, audiovisual equipment, time clocks, pianos, risers, and choral shells are distributed to the schools.

Response to Questions on the FY 2017 Budget

Request By: Supervisor McKay

Question: Given the slowdown in enrollment growth, what are the assumptions for FY 2018 and beyond for enrollment growth/demographic changes?

Response: The following response was prepared by Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS):

The Capital Improvement Program (CIP) five-year student enrollment projections show an overall contracted growth in the future forecast. This is a change from the higher growth levels experienced in Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS) in recent years. The projection includes indicators that elementary aged student enrollment will decrease in the future, while middle school and high school will experience moderated growth. This is due to the fact that larger cohorts of elementary students will progress in the system during the upcoming five-year period.

Since SY 2009-10, student enrollment in FCPS has grown on average by approximately 2,400 students each year for a total enrollment growth of more than 13,700 students. In FY 2016, FCPS experienced contracted growth due to a decrease in the birth to kindergarten yield ratio, which compares the number of kindergarten students enrolled to the number of births in Fairfax County five years ago. It was also caused by a rapidly declining in-migration of new students.

FCPS Five-Year Projections					
School Type	Projections				
	SY 2016-17	SY 2017-18	SY 2018-19	SY 2019-20	SY 2020-21
Elementary ¹	98,631	98,189	97,725	96,925	96,297
Middle ¹	28,766	29,284	29,720	30,038	30,109
High ¹	56,355	56,635	56,828	57,353	58,079
ES, MS, HS Sub-Total	183,752	184,108	184,273	184,316	184,484
Special Education Centers ²	732	759	779	801	822
Preschool Resource	903	895	882	869	839
Alternative Programs ³	1,819	1,914	1,950	1,976	1,998
Category A ⁴	5	5	5	5	5
CIP Planning Total	187,211	187,681	187,889	187,967	188,148
Adult HS, Multi-Agency, Private School Special Education	880	880	880	880	880
Total	188,091	188,561	188,769	188,847	189,028

1 - Enrollment numbers include: general education, special education, AAP, FECEP/Head Start, and preschool (wherever applicable)
 2 - Enrollment numbers include: Burke School, Cedar Lane School, Kilmer Center, Key Center, Pulley Center, Quander Road School, and Davis Center
 3 - Enrollment numbers include alternative high schools, alternative learning centers, alternative court programs, AIM programs, and ESOL transitional high schools
 4 - LD (learning disability) and ED (emotional disability) students at alternative learning centers

All enrollment and projection numbers based on September 30th enrollment

Source: FY 2017-2021 Capital Improvement Program as presented on January 11, 2016 All-Day WS Nos. 55-58

Response to Questions on the FY 2017 Budget

Request By: Supervisor McKay

Question: Is FCPS projecting fuel savings in FY 2016 and FY 2017 due to the significant decrease in fuel costs? If so, what is the estimated amount and has this been factored into the FY 2017 Proposed Budget?

Response: The following response was prepared by Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS):

FCPS is recognizing fuel savings in FY 2016. Based on actual vehicle fuel rates, savings of \$3.0 million is being recognized by FCPS at the FY 2016 Third Quarter Budget Review. FCPS has experienced lower than budgeted fuel rates, and projecting fuel rates to remain below the budget rate through the end of the fiscal year 2016.

For FY 2017, unlike the County which currently maintains a \$4.0 million fuel price stabilization reserve, FCPS does not maintain a fuel price stabilization reserve. FCPS continues to closely monitor actual fuel rates versus the forecast rates, as well as costs for bus maintenance. While fuel rates are trending lower, bus maintenance costs have trended upward as a result of increased county labor costs and FCPS' aging bus fleet. Any potential adjustments to and between all of FCPS' county services (including fuel, parts, and labor), will be reviewed prior to FCPS' budget being approved in May.

Response to Questions on the FY 2017 Budget

Request By: Supervisor McKay

Question: When will the Compensation Study be completed? Please provide details about the \$40 million Teacher Salary Scale Investment plan included in the FY 2017 Proposed budget. How are recruitment issues, such as the fact that 200 teacher positions were unfilled at the beginning of the school year, addressed in the allocation of the \$40 million? How does this level of vacancies at the beginning of the year compare with prior years?

Response: The following response was prepared by Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS):

The Compensation Study is being done in two phases. The first phase consists of a market study to determine how total compensation (salary and benefits) for teachers, instructional assistants, and benchmarked Unified Scale positions compares to the local market averages.

In the second phase of the project, various compensation structures and models will be explored and evaluated. The Employee Compensation Survey was just completed and feedback was collected on employee opinions and preferences regarding compensation program options, such as pay and benefits. This information will help identify ways to attract and keep highly effective employees at FCPS. The survey results will help guide upcoming focus group discussions this spring and assist in the development of future compensation models. Recommendations regarding a new strategic compensation package are expected to be presented to the School Board in early summer.

The \$40.0 million included in the FY 2017 Proposed Budget is an initial investment to improve the teacher salary scale and enable FCPS to attract and retain the highest quality teachers. Early findings from the Compensation Study that is currently underway indicate that beginning teacher salaries (years 1 to 4) and ending teacher salaries (years 21 to maximum) are generally competitive among area school systems, but become increasingly non-competitive as employees attain 5 to 20 years of service. Findings indicate that over a 30-year career, an FCPS teacher earns \$142,000 less than the average of surrounding school-districts, and \$293,000 less than a teacher in Arlington County.

If the \$40.0 million is applied evenly across all the teacher scales, it would provide a 2.9 percent increase. When applied to the salary scales, this closes the gap by nearly half when looking at an FCPS teacher's earnings relative to market over a 30 year career. While this is an initial step to help close the gap between FCPS and neighboring jurisdictions, additional funding will be required in future years to attain and maintain parity.

At the beginning of the school year, about 200 teacher positions were still vacant, and many of those unfilled positions were in critical fields, such as STEM and special education. Teacher turnover has increased over the years. Teacher turnover was 7 percent in 2014, up from 5 percent in prior years, and exit surveys show that pay levels are a driver of this increased turnover. Over a third of the teachers who left FCPS last year had at least five years of service.

Response to Questions on the FY 2017 Budget

Request By: Chairman Bulova

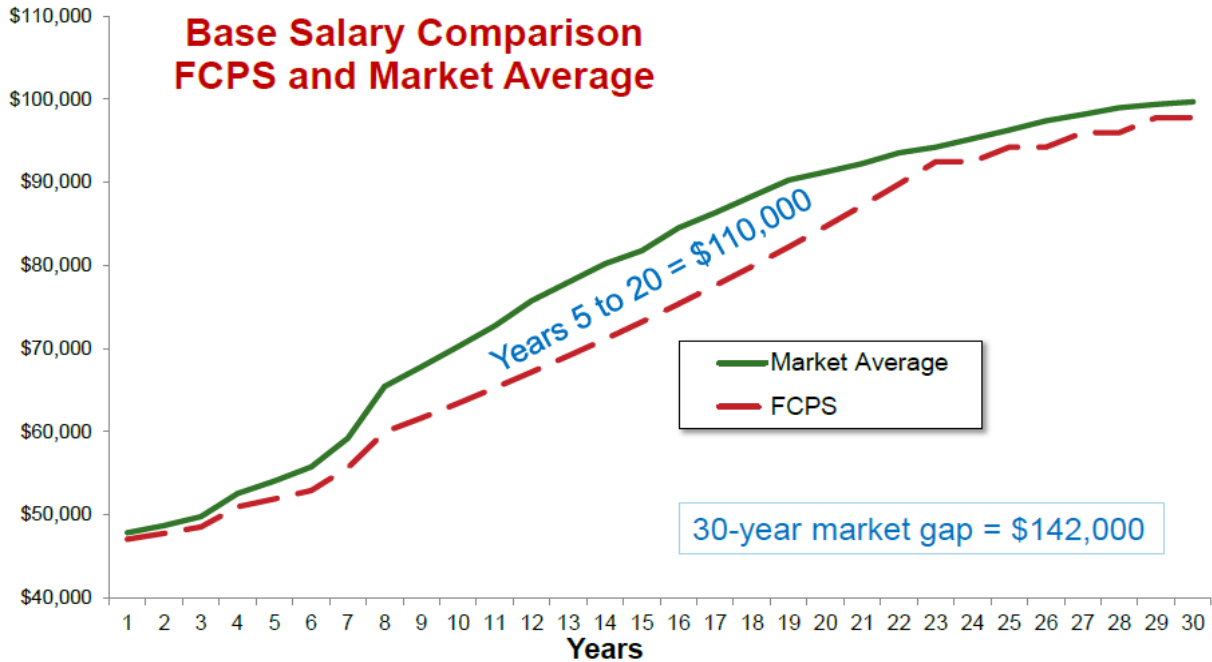
Question: Regarding the \$40 million for teachers' compensation in the Superintendent's budget request: What exactly is this meant to accomplish? A study has not yet been completed regarding compensation and benefits. When will that be completed? The graph provided at our budget workshop shows FCPS are middle of the pack overall, so where do the Schools anticipate they will end up with this \$40 million investment? What is the target and is this a one-time adjustment or will it take more than \$40 million to reach their target?

Response: The following response was prepared by Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS):

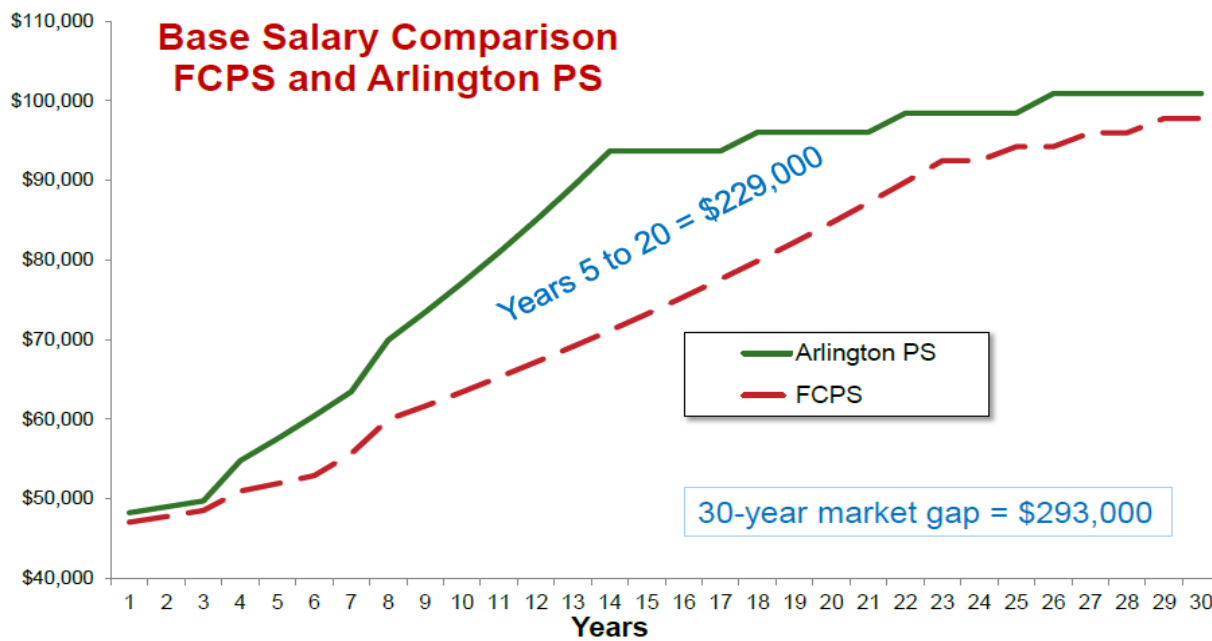
The \$40.0 million included in the FY 2017 Proposed Budget is an initial investment to improve the teacher salary scale and enable FCPS to attract and retain the highest quality teachers. Early findings from the Compensation Study that is currently underway indicate that beginning teacher salaries (years 1 to 4) and ending teacher salaries (years 21 to maximum) are generally competitive among area school systems, but become increasingly non-competitive as employees attain 5 to 20 years of service. Findings indicate that over a 30-year career, an FCPS teacher earns \$142,000 less in salary than the average of surrounding school-districts, and \$293,000 less in salary than a teacher in Arlington County. With regard to total compensation, which includes base salary and employer costs for health benefits and retirement plan contributions, FCPS is still below the market average. The 30-year market gap between FCPS and the market average is \$52,000. When compared to Arlington County Public Schools, the 30-year market gap is \$141,000. The following charts show FCPS salaries and compensation relative to market and Arlington County Public Schools.

If the \$40.0 million is applied evenly across all the teacher scales, it would provide a 2.9 percent increase. When applied to the salary scales, this closes the gap by nearly half when looking at an FCPS teacher's earnings relative to market over a 30 year career. While this is an initial step to help close the gap between FCPS and neighboring jurisdictions, additional funding will be required in future years to attain and maintain parity.

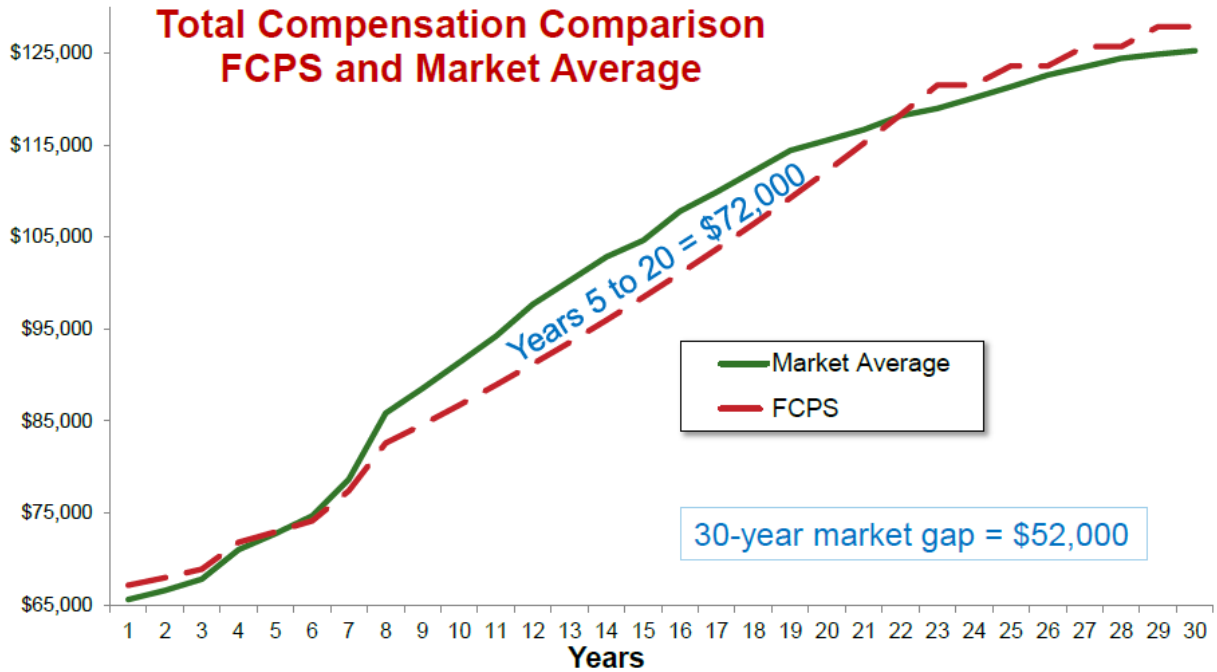
Recommendations regarding a new strategic compensation package are expected to be presented to the School Board in early summer. Monthly updates are provided to the School Board. A retirement study is also expected to be completed in April this year.



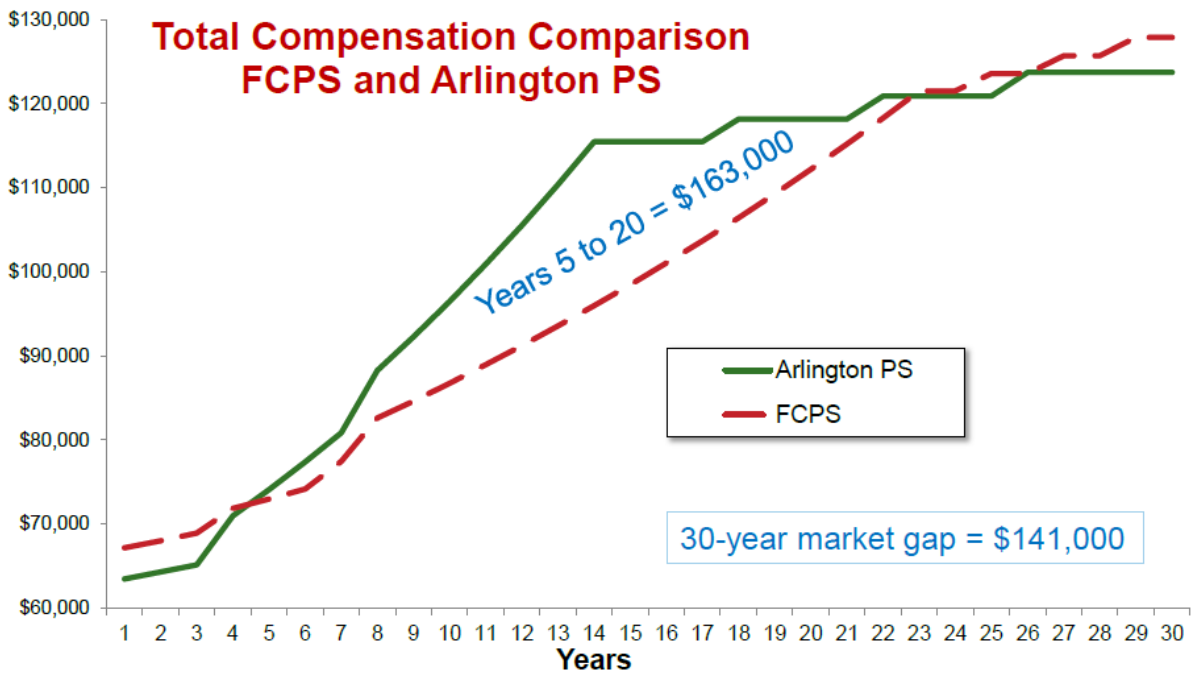
This career earnings scenario assumes starting with a Bachelor's degree, attaining a Master's after 6 years.



This career earnings scenario assumes starting with a Bachelor's degree, attaining a Master's after 6 years.



Total compensation includes base salary, employer costs for health benefits and retirement plan contributions



Total compensation includes base salary, employer costs for health benefits and retirement plan contributions

Response to Questions on the FY 2017 Budget

Request By: Chairman Bulova

Question: What percentage of Arlington's School budget goes to teachers' salaries compared to Fairfax County?

Response: The following response was prepared by Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS):

While FCPS spends a greater percentage of our budget on teacher compensation, Arlington County Public Schools spends a higher percentage of their budget on compensation for all positions.

Teacher salaries are 41.4 percent of Arlington Public Schools' FY 2016 Operating Fund Budget, as compared to 40.2 percent for FCPS. Total teacher compensation, which includes employee benefits, is 57.5 percent of Arlington Public Schools' budget versus 59.0 percent of FCPS' budget.

FY 2016 Approved Budget Percentage of Operating Fund Expenditures

	Arlington Public Schools	FCPS
Teacher Salaries	41.4%	40.2%
Employee Benefits *	16.1%	18.9%
Total Teacher Compensation	57.5%	59.0%

* Based on FY 2016 WABE Guide Annual Employer Cost for Average Teacher Salary
Does not add due to rounding.

Total salaries for all employees are 66.2 percent of Arlington Public Schools' FY 2016 Operating Fund Budget, as compared to 62.1 percent for FCPS. However, this disparity is eliminated when total compensation, which includes employee benefits, is compared. Total compensation equals 89.4 percent of Arlington Public Schools' budget versus 88.8 percent of FCPS' budget.

**FY 2016 Approved Budget
Percentage of Operating Fund Expenditures**

	<u>Arlington Public Schools</u>	<u>FCPS</u>
Total Salaries	66.2%	62.1%
Employee Benefits **	23.2%	26.6%
Total Compensation	89.4%	88.8%

** Total employee benefits as a percentage of the operating fund budget.
Does not add due to rounding.