Office of Public Affairs



FY 2010 LOBs Presentation December 1, 2008

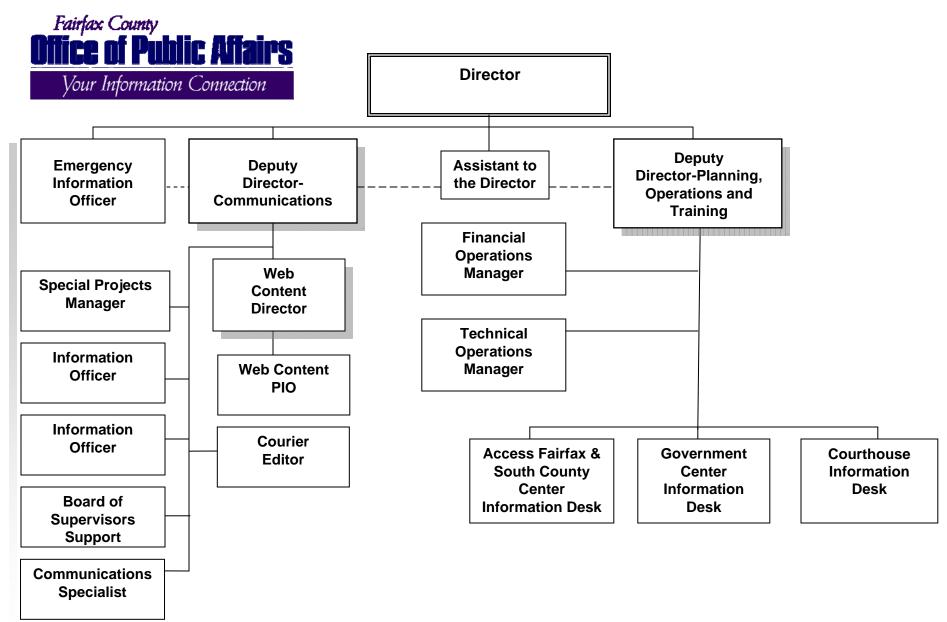
Agency Mission

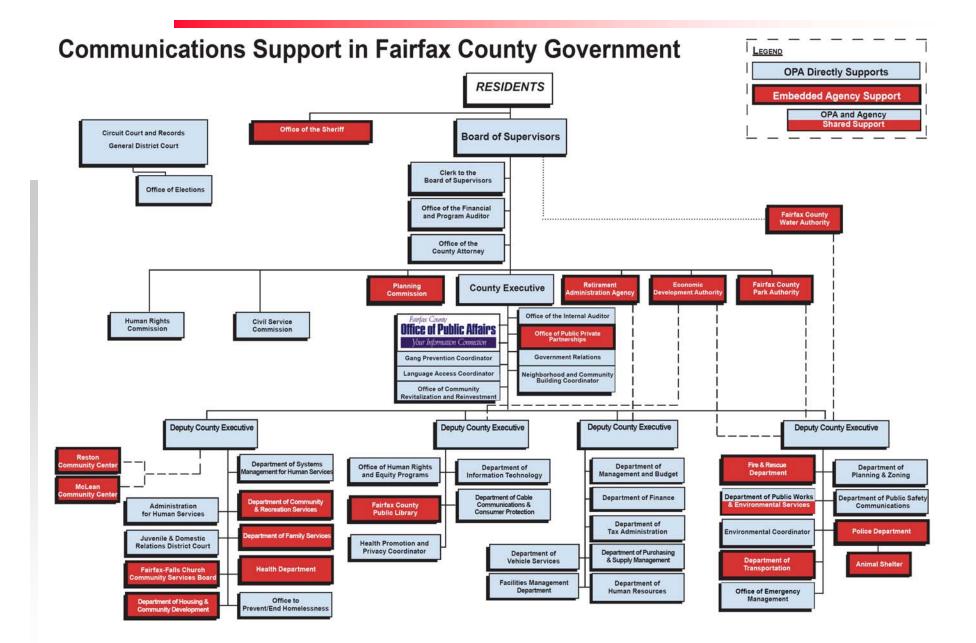


The Office of Public Affairs, from a Countywide perspective, delivers timely communication services about Fairfax County to the public, elected and appointed officials, County agencies and the media.

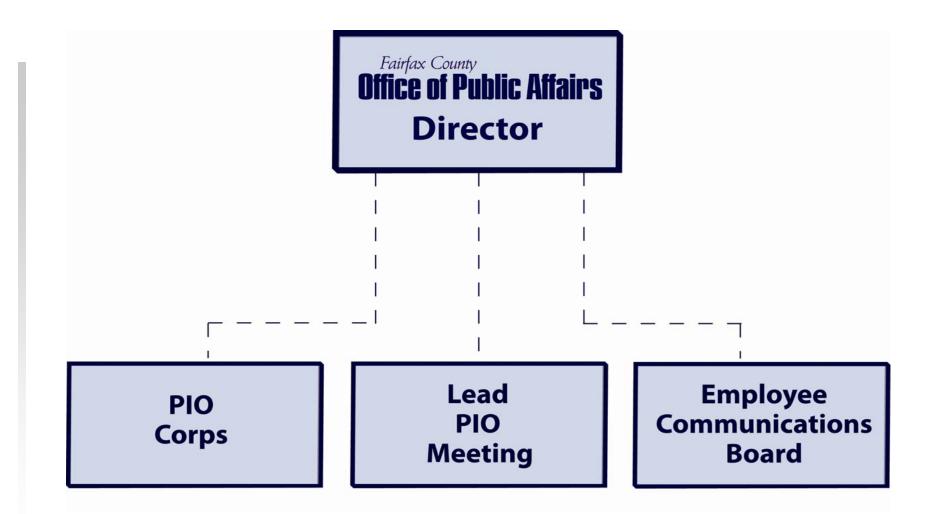
OPA at a Glance ...

- A full-service communications agency.
- OPA Director serves as spokesperson for Countywide issues.
- Manages County communications response to high-priority crosscutting issues.
- Provides direct communications support to agencies/offices, in addition to Countywide issues.
- PIOs either have dotted-line reporting or directly report to OPA Director.
- Supports Board of Supervisors events and ceremonies, and Board meetings.
- Lead agency for ESF 15: External affairs during emergencies.
- Customer service staff at three County locations.
- Manages Access Fairfax (multi-use E-government center).





Connections to OPA Director



Agency Growth Since FY 2001



Growth in Expenditures:

FY 2001: \$0.70 million - FY 2009: \$1.50 million. Increase of \$800,000 or 113.89%. Average annual increase of 9.97%.

Growth in Positions/Staff Year Equivalency (SYE):

FY 2001: 10/10.0 - FY 2009: 18/18.0. Increase of 8/8.0.

> During this time period, OPA obtained a customer satisfaction rating of 96% as measured by the annual OPA customer survey.

New Programs/Services Since FY 2001

- County spokesperson.
- Oversight and coordination of County's Public Information Officers and Communications Specialists.
- Emergency Communications.
 - Lead Agency for ESF 15: External Affairs.
 - Regional Communications Lead Agency for RESF 15: External Affairs.

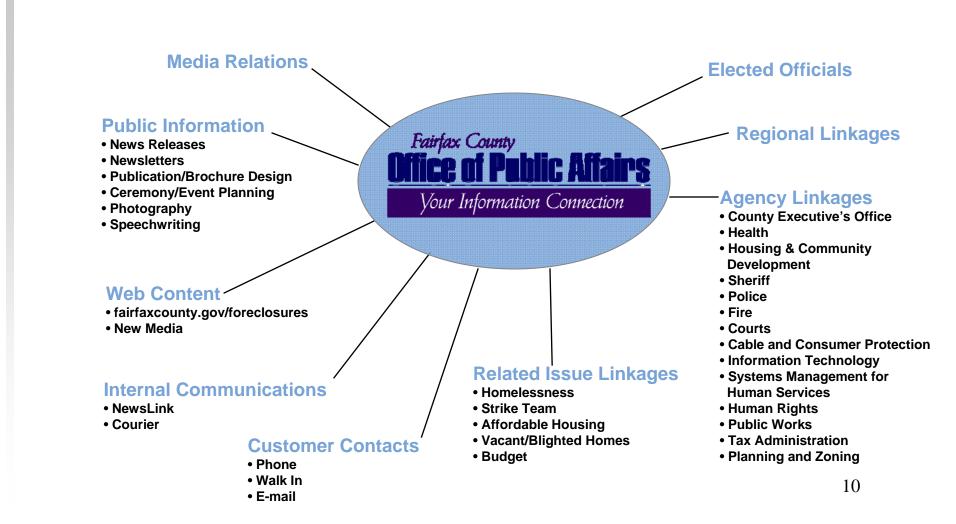
New Programs/Services Since FY 2001

New communications tools, including:

- NewsLink and Courier.
- Increased Countywide Web presence.
 - www.fairfaxcounty.gov.
 - Infoweb.
- New Media.
 - Facebook, MySpace, YouTube, Podcasts, Blogs, RSS.
- Access Fairfax multi-use e-government center.
- Customer Service Locations.
 - South County Center Information Desk.
 - Courthouse Information Desk.

Communications Management for Countywide Issues

Example: Foreclosures



OPA Manages Web Content for Countywide Issues

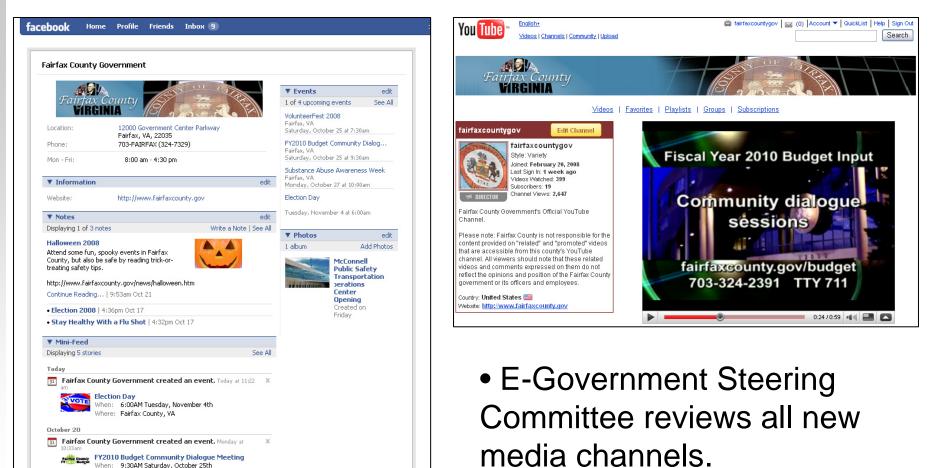




New Media

Where: Various Locations

 The County has launched pages on YouTube, MySpace and Facebook.

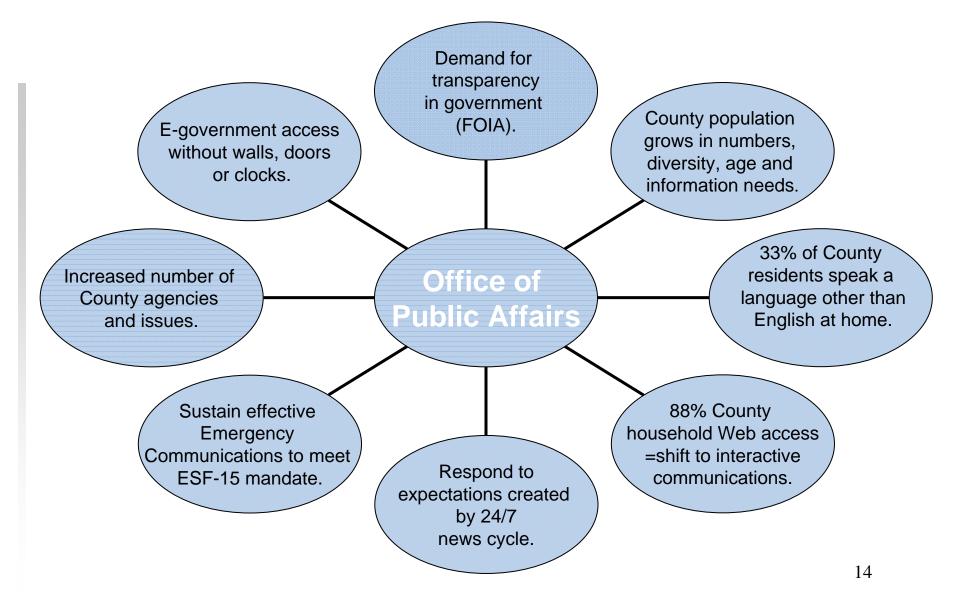


Agency Strategic Focus



- OPA is organized to provide the highest quality service to our internal and external customers in four main areas:
 - Emergency information.
 - Web content.
 - Communications.
 - Customer contact services.
- Coordinates a common message when delivering information about issues that impact the County.
- Helps make County Government transparent to its residents.
- OPA is driven by a Strategic Plan based on Strategy Map and Balanced Scorecard methodologies. Regular performance measurements will link all OPA operational activities to our vision and strategy, leading to continuous improvement.
- OPA is customer-driven, employee empowered, management led.

OPA Strategic Challenges



LOBs Summary Table: FY 2008 Adopted Budget Plan Data

Net LOB Number of LOB Title Positions LOB SYE Number Cost 13-01 Employee Communications \$166,860 2 2.0 13-02 Issues Management \$166,860 2 2.0 Customer Service \$333,717 13-03 4 4.0 13-04 Media Relations \$166,860 2 2.0 13-05 Communication Support for County Agencies \$250,287 3.0 3 2 Web Content 13-06 \$166,860 2.0 13-07 **Emergency Communications and Planning** \$83,430 1 1.0 Agency Planning and Organizational Development 13-08 \$166,859 2 2.0 TOTAL \$1,501,733 18.0 18

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LOB 13-01: Employee Communications

What	Who We Serve	Why/Benefits
 OPA is the lead County agency for internal communications, providing essential news and information. Communications methods include: NewsLink. Courier. E-mails. Infoweb. Chat with the County Exec. Employee Communication Board. 	All county employees, including limited- term and seasonal staff, as well as their families and County retirees.	Effective and timely communication engages and informs employees of important issues in the County; their role and how they can contribute; and ultimately, how best to serve County residents. Recent issues that OPA has worked on include: • Budget news. • Ethics. • Live Well. • Compensation Task Force. • FOCUS. • Emergency Preparedness. • Go Green.
Manage the Fairfax County Communication Strategy.	County employees.	The goal of the strategy is to provide a cohesive look, feel and message in all County communications. The strategy outlines the County's official policy, procedures and standards for providing information about County services, programs and activities.

LOB 13-02: Issues Management

What	Who We Serve	Why/Benefits
Provide strategic communications consulting for a variety of high-profile nitiatives and issues.	Fairfax County residents, the media, elected and appointed officials, County employees, and strategic partners such as schools, nonprofits and businesses.	With OPA serving as the lead agency on communicating Countywide issues, we provide a central point of contact and coordinate communications with all the stakeholders.
 ead the overall development of communication strategies, including: Developing key messages about the ssues or initiative. 	Agencies impacted by the issues. Issues include: Foreclosures. Budget. 	With OPA serving as the lead agency on communicating Countywide issues, we ensure that a Strategic Communication Plan has been developed and implemented for issues
 Coordinating media response among multiple agencies. Creating issue-specific communication plans. Providing communication counsel to elected and appointed officials, County management and others. Issuing news releases. Conducting media briefings. Monitoring media coverage, including new media, such as blogs. Responding to related FOIA 	 Environment/Air Quality/Cool Counties. Gang Prevention. Ending Homelessness. Code Enforcement Strike Teams. Tysons Corner Land Use. Special Medical/Social Needs. Day Laborers. Bonds. Mental Health Reform. BRAC. 	that impact the lives of the County's residents.
new media, such as blogs.	 Mental Health Reform. 	

LOB 13-03: Customer Service

What	Who We Serve	Why/Benefits	
Respond to information requests from phone, walk in and e-mail.	Fairfax County residents, County employees, elected and appointed officials, media and businesses.	Connecting people with information about Fairfax County programs and services.	
Manage multi-use e-government center in South County including a telework center.	Fairfax County residents who otherwise would not have access to phone, Internet and other administrative services and staff.	Services and programs provided where consumers and staff live minimizing transportation challenges.	
Manage South County schedule for building Conference Center.	Available to Fairfax County employees, County agencies and nonprofit organizations.	Provide conference room scheduling for this location.	
Coordinate Access Fairfax Customer Service Volunteer Program.	OPA, Department of Family Services VIEW program, County agencies that hire volunteers upon completion of the program.	Trained customer service volunteers who understand County culture available to fill County vacancies and to hit the ground running.	
Maintain phone scripts for 24/7 information phone line.	Anyone who accesses the system.	Connecting people with information about Fairfax County Government at all times.	
Maintain Public Meetings Calendar and Brochure Room for Government Center.	Visitors to the Government Center, County organizations and Internet users.	Immediate access to information about Fairfax County public meetings, programs and services.	
Manage daily updated information about 28 courtrooms in the Fairfax County Courthouse.	4,000 daily visitors to the Fairfax County Courthouse.	Timely delivery of information re: judicial dockets.	
Deliver information and guidance about Circuit Court, General District Court and soon Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court.	4,000 daily visitors to the Fairfax County Courthouse.	Assist residents in locating the right courtroom on time, which can eliminate the need to reschedule court dockets and courtrooms.	

LOB 13-04: Media Relations

What	Who We Serve	Why/Benefits	
Director of Public Affairs serves as spokesperson for the County.	Media, County Government, public.	As the designated spokesperson for the County, the OPA Director is responsible for making sure the County has a common message with one voice.	
Coordinating media requests among multiple County agencies.	Media, County Government, public.	Ensure that the County has a coordinated message among appropriate subject matter experts. The goal is to be transparent with the public and distribute accurate information in a timely manner.	
OPA staff are available 24/7 to immediately respond to issues and/or concerns requiring immediate attention.	Media.	Ensure that the media has access to the County around the clock.	
OPA proactively works with reporters to provide story ideas.	Media.	Keep the media informed of the latest news and events happening in the County.	

LOB 13-05: Communication Support for County Agencies

What	Who We Serve	Why/Benefits
 Provide external and internal communication support, including: Strategic communication planning. Media relations. Writing and editing news releases. Creating and designing publications. Planning and holding ceremonies and special events. Providing the public with requested information and public records. Producing Web content. Publishing internal newsletters. And more. 	County agencies that do not have their own Public Information Officer, Communications Specialist or Public Safety Information Officer.	Because of the importance of government's transparency with the public, it is crucial for every agency in the County to have communication support. Issues arise in every agency that require coordinated and strategic communication with staff, the public or the media.
PIOs, CSs and PSIOs embedded in an agency have a dotted line relationship with the Director of Public Affairs.	Agencies that have their own Public Information Officer, Communications Specialist or Public Safety Information Officer.	The Director of Public Affairs approves all County communications positions and participates in the hiring of all County communicators.

LOB 13-06: Web Content

What	Who We Serve	Why/Benefits	
Create, update and verify public Web site content.	Fairfax County residents, businesses, County employees, elected and appointed officials, media and anyone with an Internet connection. 88 % of County households have Internet access.	OPA publishes Countywide content and content for some agencies/offices, including for elected officials. Web content must convey the County's mission, message and business effectively and efficiently. OPA coordinates content to ensure accurate information is presented in user-friendly ways. The public Web site serves as the County's front door to the world, welcoming 7.75 million unique visitors in FY08.	
Create, update and verify Infoweb content.	Fairfax County employees.	Manage key internal initiatives by communicating through the Infoweb.	
Create, update and verify emergency Web content.	Fairfax County residents, businesses, County employees, elected and appointed officials, media, regional partners and anyone with an Internet connection.	ESF-15 mandate to provide timely, accurate information to the public.	
Create, update and verify new media content.	Fairfax County residents, businesses, elected and appointed officials, media and anyone with an Internet connection.	Expand distribution for County information on popular and heavily used new media platforms.	
Planning and development.	All audiences.	OPA and DIT work jointly to identify new Web site tools and technologies that allow us to convey information more effectively and efficiently.	
Metrics/public outreach.	All audiences.	Feedback and metrics are essential to understand how Web content is accessed and used.	
Education and training.	Fairfax County employees.	Provide internal training for the 300+ County Web contributors in all agencies/offices.	

LOB 13-07: Emergency Communications and Planning

What	Who We Serve	Why/Benefits
Provide emergency public information.	Fairfax County residents, the media, elected and appointed officials, County employees, and strategic partners such as schools and businesses.	OPA has a mission to provide timely and accurate information during emergencies or threatened emergencies, and to provide protective action guidance as appropriate in order to save lives and protect property.
Direct all internal and external communications during an emergency.	Fairfax County residents, the media, elected and appointed officials, County employees, and strategic partners such as schools and businesses.	OPA serves as the lead agency for Emergency Support Function 15 as mandated by the Emergency Operations Plan.
Crisis Communications – Planning appropriate actions and coordinating the dissemination of information.	Fairfax County residents, the media, elected and appointed officials, County employees, and strategic partners such as schools and businesses.	Ensure the public is prepared and aware before, during and after an emergency situation.
Risk Communications – Providing the public with information that reduces fear and anxiety and tells the public what to do.	Fairfax County residents, the media, elected and appointed officials, County employees, and strategic partners such as schools and businesses.	Ensure the public is prepared and aware before, during and after an emergency situation.

LOB 13-08: Agency Planning and

Organizational Development

What	Who We Serve	Why/Benefits	
Continuity of operations planning.	OPA and internal and external customers.	Ensure capability to continue essential OPA functions.	
Work force planning.	OPA, Human Resources and DMB.	Inclusive process involving all staff; implement strategy for allocating resources; orderly growth and progress; proactive vs. reactive in anticipating work force needs.	
Strategic planning to include: Balanced Scorecard, Strategy Map, Issue-based Strategic Plan; Technology Strategic Plan and Financial Plan.	OPA.	Strategic basis for making business decisions; maximize organizational effectiveness by integrating mission, budget, technology and human resource needs.	
Manage budget to include Financial Plan.	OPA and DMB.	Balance competing priorities; support strategic allocation of resources, develop and implement a model for agency financial planning.	
Manage technology within OPA in conjunction with DIT to support agency day-to-day and emergency communications.	OPA and DIT.	Staff has necessary hardware and software to fulfill mission and vision of OPA; secure and properly document technology.	
Implement performance measurements and management.	OPA and DMB.	Insights into efficiency and effectiveness of processes and people; emphasis on continuous improvement; drives day-to-day operations as well as long-term planning.	
Develop and implement agencywide and departmental training program.	OPA, Customer Service staffs, PIOs, Communications Specialists and Countywide PIOs, CSs and PSIOs.	Build capacity for excellence in pursuit of County vision, mission and objectives.	

Agency Reduction Priorities

Reduction Philosophy

- Maintain staffing levels to meet ESF-15 mandate.
- OPA's goal is for Fairfax County Government to remain transparent to the public. Staff reductions make it difficult to accomplish that goal.
- As a central support agency, other agencies are dependent on OPA for support. It is important to minimize the reduction of the level of service provided to these other agencies.
- Potential PIO cuts in other agencies will impact OPA workload.
- Strategic goals and objectives prioritize agency reductions.
- Involvement at all levels of agency staff in business planning and reductions.

Agency Reduction Priorities

Reduction Summary

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Priority Ranking	Reduction Description	Positions	SYE	Net Reduction
1	Reduce Agencywide Operating Expenses	0.0	0.0	\$127,040
2	Eliminate ELT Positions	0.0	0.0	\$104,715
TOTAL REDUCTION	N	0.0	0.0	\$231,755

LOBS Reduction Impact



Reduction 1: Reduce Agencywide Operating Expenses

Total Net Reduction = \$127,040.

Description:

- Eliminate or reduce distribution of printed material.
- Reduce Courier distribution from 16,000 to 10,000 copies per issue (Countywide internal newsletter).
- Eliminate all non-essential travel and training.

Impact:

- Reduction in distribution of important printed news and messages in Courier.
- Primary sources for information will be Web publication, news releases, new media Web sites, etc.

LOBS Reduction Impact Reduction 2: Eliminate Positions



Total Net Reduction = \$104,715.

Description:

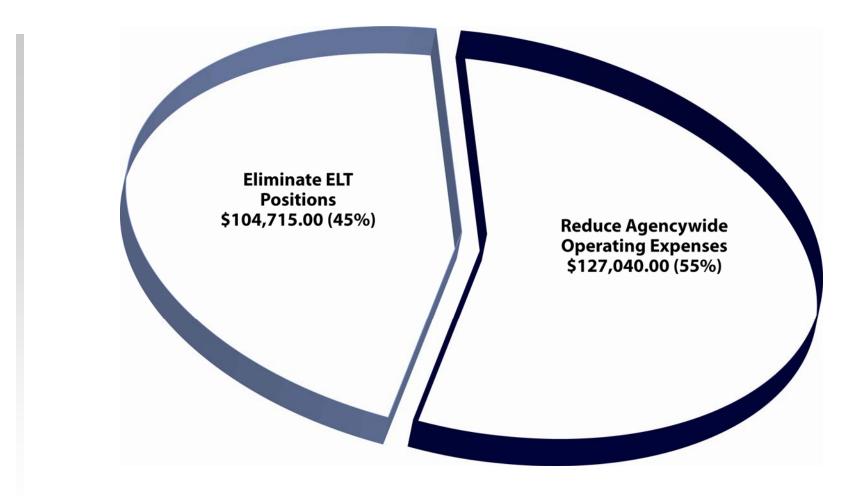
- Eliminate ELT PIO III.
- Eliminate ELT Admin Asst II.
- Eliminate ELT work student.

Impact:

- Loss will have an adverse impact on ESF 15; transparency in Government; coordination of media requests among multiple County agencies; ability to respond to issues or concerns requiring immediate attention and to work proactively with reporters to provide story ideas.
- Decreased flexibility in meeting staffing requirements across all Customer Service locations.
- Increased workload of existing staff and decreased administrative support.

Agency Reduction Priorities

Reductions by Classification



* No elimination of programs for this agency.

Possible Revenue Generation

Access Fairfax Annual Conference Center Fees.

Gross Revenue \$517,890

Assumptions:

Manage administration of eight South County conference rooms.

Conference room rental (per FMD).

Revenue Description

Total hours of conference rooms rental in 2007.

\$60.00/hour x 8,631.50 hours in 2007.

(Expenses not reflected in this calculation.)

\$60.00/hour 8,631.50 \$517,890

Recommendations for Fee Policy Include:

- No fees charged to Boards, Authorities or Commissions for use.
- No fees charged for Fairfax County agencies.
- Fees charged for all nonprofit groups, organizations, County employees and residents for non-business purposes.

Questions and Answers

