

Response to Questions on the FY 2019 Budget

Request By: Supervisor John Cook

Question: Please identify any public safety increases in the proposed budget that were not part of the fiscally-constrained budget projection reviewed at the November 2017 meeting of the Public Safety Committee of the Board.

Response:

At the November 28, 2017 Public Safety Committee Meeting, a revised, fiscally- constrained, Public Safety 5-year Staffing Plan was presented to the Board of Supervisors. The primary focus of the presentation was positions associated with new facilities and full funding for programs already implemented.

Two items are included in the FY 2019 Advertised Budget Plan as increases to public safety spending that were not discussed at the November meeting as they are not position-specific, but rather operational needs. (Please note that countywide adjustments such as compensation and changes to internal service charges, including fuel, have not been included as part of this response.)

The first is an increase of \$100,000 to provide operational support to the Fairfax County Volunteer Fire and Rescue Association (FCVFRA). FCVFRA is a partnership of 12 volunteer fire and rescue departments in Fairfax County that partner with career firefighters of the Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department to provide emergency services. In FY 2010, \$150,000 in annual contributions to the volunteers for discretionary purchases was eliminated, reducing the total County-funded annual contributions to \$375,000 for apparatus. The addition of \$100,000 will bring the annual contributions closer to the pre FY 2010 funding levels.

The second is an increase of \$663,288 to support the 9-1-1 phone system upgrade which is transitioning from the legacy analog network to the Next Generation 9-1-1 (NG9-1-1) ESInet platform in response to the growing requirements and advances in communications technology. NG9-1-1 has the ability to deliver calls to the appropriate public safety answering point (PSAP) faster, transfer 9-1-1 calls and associated data anywhere needed, interconnect with other public safety systems and databases, and securely receive multimedia communications such as texts, photos, and videos.