
Utilities

MISSION STATEMENT

The goals of the County Government relating to utility consumption are to:

- achieve energy savings by the elimination of wasteful or inefficient operation of building systems;
- continue improvements in energy efficiency in all County operations; and
- obtain required energy fuels at the most favorable cost to the County.

HIGHLIGHTS

This budget funds the utility costs for 236 (General Fund) facilities with approximately 5,592,578 total square feet, and over 66,903 streetlights and 791 traffic controlled signalized intersections.

BUDGET OVERVIEW

The FY12 Approved Budget for the tax supported Utilities non-departmental account (NDA) is \$28,526,380, a decrease of \$104,060 or -.4 percent from the FY11 Approved Budget of \$28,630,440. Allocation of these utilities expenditures is approximately: electricity, 84.1 percent; natural gas, 8.0 percent; water and sewer, 7.5 percent; and fuel oil, 0.4 percent. The total increase is due to unit rate cost increases, and from new or annualized facilities, streetlights, or traffic signals.

The FY12 Approved Budget includes County government utilities expenditures for both tax and non-tax supported operations. Tax supported utilities expenditures related to the General Fund departments are budgeted in the Utilities NDA, while utilities expenditures related to special fund departments are budgeted in those funds. Some of these special funds, such as Recreation and portions of the Department of Transportation, are tax supported. Other special funds, such as Solid Waste, are not supported by taxes, but through user fees or charges for services.

Utilities expenditures are also found in the budgets of other County agencies: Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS), Montgomery College, the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission (WSSC), and the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission (M-NCPPC). The total budget request for these "outside" agencies is \$79,816,990 which includes the entire bi-county area of WSSC.

The FY12 Approved tax supported budget for Utilities Management, including both the General Fund NDA (\$28,526,380) and the other tax supported funds (\$3,289,650), is \$31,816,030, a decrease of \$98,290 or approximately -.3 percent from the FY11 Approved utilities budget. The FY12 Approved budget for non-tax supported utilities expenditures is \$6,016,040, an increase of \$99,444 or 1.7 percent from the FY11 Approved Budget.

In both the tax and non-tax supported funds, increased utilities expenditures result primarily from higher commodity unit costs due to market price fluctuations; greater consumption due to new facilities or services; and in some cases, a more precise alignment of budgeted costs with actual prior-year expenditures by utility type. Energy conservation and cost-saving measures (e.g., new building design, lighting technology, and energy and HVAC management systems) help offset increased utility consumption or unit costs.

LINKAGE TO COUNTY RESULT AREAS

While this program area supports all eight of the County Result Areas, the following are emphasized:

- ❖ **An Effective and Efficient Transportation Network**
- ❖ **Safe Streets and Secure Neighborhoods**

PROGRAM CONTACTS

Contact Adam Damin of the Office of Management and Budget at 240.777.2794 for more information regarding this department's operating budget.

PROGRAM DESCRIPTIONS

Utilities (for All General Fund Departments)

The Utilities non-departmental account provides the General Fund utilities operating expense appropriations for the facilities maintained by the Department of General Services and the Department of Transportation. The utilities expenditures for other non-tax supported operations and other agencies are appropriated within their respective department or agency.

BUDGET SUMMARY

	Actual FY10	Budget FY11	Estimated FY11	Approved FY12	% Chg Bud/App
COUNTY GENERAL FUND					
EXPENDITURES					
Salaries and Wages	0	0	0	0	—
Employee Benefits	0	0	0	0	—
County General Fund Personnel Costs	0	0	0	0	—
Operating Expenses	25,724,051	28,630,440	28,630,440	28,526,380	-0.4%
Capital Outlay	0	0	0	0	—
County General Fund Expenditures	25,724,051	28,630,440	28,630,440	28,526,380	-0.4%
PERSONNEL					
Full-Time	0	0	0	0	—
Part-Time	0	0	0	0	—
Workyears	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	—

FY12 APPROVED CHANGES

	Expenditures	WYs
COUNTY GENERAL FUND		
FY11 ORIGINAL APPROPRIATION	28,630,440	0.0
<u>Other Adjustments (with no service impacts)</u>		
Increase Cost: Due to Rate Changes: Water and Sewer	244,840	0.0
Increase Cost: East Germantown and Takoma Park Fire Stations Coming Online	160,470	0.0
Shift: Imagination Stage Utilites to NDA	100,000	0.0
Increase Cost: Due to Rate Changes: Street Lights and Street Light Maintenance	59,960	0.0
Decrease Cost: Delay in Opening of the Remainder of the GE Building	-120,000	0.0
Decrease Cost: Due to Consumption Changes: Facilities Electricity Conservation Efforts	-549,330	0.0
FY12 APPROVED:	28,526,380	0.0