

**FIRE DEPARTMENT
SUPPORT SERVICES DIVISION**

FIRE PREVENTION, CODE ENFORCEMENT, INVESTIGATIONS AND EDUCATION PROGRAM

PROGRAM MISSION: To reduce threats to life, property and the environment through education, inspection, enforcement, and community service.

This program enforces the Fire Prevention Code; enforces requirements in the County code in order to insure public building safety; educates the public, investigates the causes of fires, explosions and environmental crimes and renders safe all identified hazardous devices. These functions will be accomplished through comprehensive Fire Prevention Code inspections and ongoing training in the community. Investigations are conducted to determine origin and cause of fires or explosions and determine the circumstances or person responsible for spills, leaks and/or clean up of environmental incidents. In addition, this program provides fire safety education to the community which includes civic associations, school children, businesses, organizations, hotels, motels, medical facilities, and municipal employees. Additionally, the Public Education Program evaluates evacuation plans, which include organizing fire brigades for high-rise buildings, coordinating fire safety programs between fire stations and public schools and coordinating car safety seat inspections/installations with the Fire/Emergency Medical Services Operations Program.

The proposed budget provides funding to continue inspections of places of assembly during hours of peak activity, continue the tests of high-rise buildings fire protection systems, expanded code enforcement activities by Shift Fire Marshals, continuing "Operation Fire Safe" (the smoke detector give away and installation program) supported by fire operations units, continuation of the "Risk Watch Program" in County Schools at a rate of one school per year, and the "Remembering When Program" for all seniors living in Arlington.

The Code Enforcement, Investigations and Education Program, previously a separate Division within the Fire Department, was incorporated into the Support Services Division in FY 2005.

Fire Prevention, Code Enforcement, Investigations and Education Program				
	FY 2004	FY 2005	FY 2006	% Change:
	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Adopted</u>	<u>Proposed</u>	<u>'05 to '06</u>
Personnel	\$1,065,886	\$1,066,825	\$1,097,039	3%
Non-Personnel	83,059	124,305	124,305	-
Total Expenditures	1,148,945	1,191,130	1,221,344	3%
Revenues	107,433	169,401	230,618	36%
Net Tax Support	\$1,041,512	\$1,021,729	\$990,726	-3%
Authorized FTEs	12.0	12.0	12.0	
Funded FTEs	12.0	12.0	12.0	

SIGNIFICANT PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS: The budget for the Code Enforcement, Investigations and Education Program reflects:

- ↑ Revenues increased due to an increase in Falls Church billing (\$61,217).

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PERFORMANCE MEASURES:

	FY 2002	FY 2003	FY 2004	FY 2005	FY 2006	FY 2006
	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Estimate</u>	<u>Estimate</u>	<u>Goal</u>
<i><u>Mission Outcome Measure</u></i>						
Violations cited	700	670	923	950	950	950
<i><u>Workload Measures</u></i>						
Inspections conducted	N/A	N/A	1,024	1,200	1,200	1,200
Systems tests conducted	86	88	56	90	90	90
Fires investigated	129	136	158	160	160	160
Request for information Processed	124	126	104	120	120	120
Environmental crimes investigated	5	3	4	5	5	5
Fire Prevention Code permits issued	720	820	730	750	750	750

- ❖ The Inspection Program includes all Fire Prevention Code, fire protection systems, and hazardous materials inspections. Actuals are not available prior to FY 2004.

FUTURE BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS:

- ❖ Additional Fire Prevention resources to manage growth in development and increase the systems testing program.
- ❖ Automating operations in the areas of data collection, electronic file storage and records management in order to enhance service delivery and deployment.
- ❖ As recommended in the TriData report, the public education unit should be increased by at least one full-time public educator and one administrative assistant.