PLAN, POLICIES, AND PROCEDURES

I. Mission Statement

The Board of Commissioners has adopted the following mission statement:

The Mission of Fayette County Government is to provide critical services to protect and enhance the health, safety and welfare of its citizens in a manner that is efficient, fiscally and environmentally responsible, and which perpetuates a quality lifestyle for future generations.

The County departments will continue the development of departmental mission statements linked to the mission statement of the overall organization.

II. Strategic Goals and Objectives

In the form of a vision for Fayette County's operations in the future, the Board of Commissioners has espoused the broad-based goals of expanding services, making operations more efficient, recognizing and rewarding the efforts of our employees, reducing the tax burden on property owners, and maintaining our capital assets and infrastructure.

Each year, the Board of Commissioners, the County Administrator and other key staff members get together for a planning retreat. This annual meeting is held at various locations within the County to ensure that everyone who would like to has the opportunity to attend. At this public forum, the long-term goals and objectives of the Board of Commissioners are discussed and strategies for implementation are agreed upon. Critical issues that the county is facing are presented, alternative solutions are discussed, and recommendations on how to address these issues are made. The following strategic plan is a product of various annual retreats. The strategies represent the methods and philosophies that have been chosen for facing future growth and maintaining the highest standard of living.

III. The Plan

A. FINANCIAL STRENGTH THROUGH FISCAL CONSERVATISM

- Maximize the amount of interest income earned on idle cash balances through prudent investment practices.
- Identify opportunities where the amount of local taxes paid is supplanted by a reduction in taxes assessed by other units of government.

B. MAINTENANCE OF THE PHYSICAL PLANT AND INFRASTRUCTURE

Ensure the existence of an adequate physical plant and infrastructure to meet the County's future operating needs.

- Develop and adopt a five-year Capital Improvements Program to include future funding needs of the various projects.
- Follow required accounting and reporting procedures to be in compliance with the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement Number 34.
- Update the transportation plan based on current needs and growth corridors.

Maintain a safe and serviceable fleet of vehicles that meets the operational needs of the various County Departments.

· Continue the Vehicle Replacement Program that was initially approved in 2003. The vehicle replacement procedures were updated to also include procedures for the replacement of other assets. The policy is to also include an approved color scheme for various types of vehicles. The revised policy was adopted on September 3, 2008.

· Incorporate the purchase of alternative fuel vehicles into the replacement schedule in order to meet current federal requirements.

C. EFFICIENCY THROUGH TECHNOLOGICAL IMPROVEMENTS

Utilize available technological advances to make operations as efficient as possible.

· Continue to replace computers and computer equipment as needed.

· Encourage training on the MUNIS system and other software applications to improve the efficiency of operations.

D. SATISFYING THE INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL CUSTOMERS

Ensure that the citizens' needs are being properly addressed.

· As part of the agenda for each Commission meeting, time will be designated for public comment on any subject.

· Abide by the Georgia Open Records Act. The act establishes procedures to follow when responding to open records requests.

Ensure that employee contact with the citizens is helpful and courteous.

· Provide classes to county employees on customer service.

· Make improvements to the telephone menu system that will reduce the amount of time it takes for customers to receive the necessary assistance.

E. MAXIMIZING OUR VALUABLE HUMAN RESOURCES

Recognize and reward employees for their efforts.

· Fund Class and Compensation Studies to update employee job descriptions, employee classifications, and pay grades.

· When possible, provide "cost-of-living allowance" adjustments to the pay plan to ensure that employees maintain their current buying power.

F. MANAGING AND PLANNING FOR GROWTH

Ensure that Fayette County has a voice in the direction that local government is taking.

· Commissioners will become more involved in the activities of the Association County Commissioners Georgia (ACCG).

· Commissioners will meet periodically with the governing bodies of the cities, towns, and school system to discuss related issues.

· Staff will track new State Legislation having an impact on County operations and offer input to our local legislative delegation.

Facilitate the financial planning for future fiscal years, project expenditure needs and expected results of operations over a longer period of time.

· Department Heads are to continue to prepare issue papers for the Board which identifies any future requirements, legislation or topics that are expected to have a significant impact on the operations of the County.

- The Board will consider, review, and adopt a five-year Capital Improvements Plan.
- Staff will present a Capital Budget, which is intended to include the first year of the five-year Capital Improvements Plan.

FAYETTE COUNTY, GEORGIA
ADOPTED FISCAL POLICIES

STATEMENT OF INTENT

The following policy statements, as adopted by the Board of Commissioners, are intended to provide a broad framework as to how the various financial responsibilities associated with the operation of Fayette County are to be carried out. These policies provide general direction to staff, serve as a blueprint for financial operations, establish operational objectives, and promote continuity in fiscal decision making.

There are several distinct advantages to having fiscal policies for Fayette County in place. For one, they promote long-term financial stability for the County. For example, the budget and reserve fund policies encourage the level of fiscal responsibility needed to prepare the County for financial emergencies and abrupt adverse economic conditions. And the debt policies limit those scenarios where the County will pay for current services and projects with future revenues. Secondly, the adoption of long-range financial policies ameliorates some of the drawbacks of governmental accounting and budgeting which tends to focus only on short-term operations, generally one year. The Capital Budgeting Policies address the common pitfall of governments failing to provide for capital maintenance. Having a financial plan allows the Board of Commissioners to view their present approach to financial management from an overall, long-term vantage point. Current financial decisions are easier to make when long-term benchmarks are already established.

Lastly, these policies elevate the credibility of the governing body and promote public confidence in the financial decisions it makes. The policies call for complete disclosure of financial matters and provide a forum, the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report, to inform the citizens about the total financial condition of the County.

I. BUDGET POLICY

PURPOSE

One of the more important responsibilities of the Fayette County Board of Commissioners to its citizens is the faithful stewardship of public money. It is the Board's duty to ensure that this money is expended prudently.

The budget serves as the primary vehicle for directing resources to meet current and capital expenditures for the upcoming fiscal year and plan for anticipated outlays for the next five fiscal years.

POLICY

There shall be a consistent and uniform process for adopting and operating under an annual balanced budget for each fund and operating under a project-length balanced budget for each capital project fund of Fayette County government.

PROCEDURES

1. The Fayette County annual balanced budget will be divided into two major components: Capital and Capital Improvement Program (CIP) and Operating.
2. A formal budget calendar shall be developed and presented to the BOC for approval, then

disseminated to the County Administration, Department Heads, Constitutional Officers, the Judicial Circuit, and Outside Agencies. The budget calendar shall consist of dates for the distribution of budget materials, due dates for the submission of budget requests, dates for budget workshops with staff and the BOC, and dates for the public hearings on the proposed budget, to include the date of the adoption of the budget.

I. Capital Budget/Capital Improvement Program (CIP):

A. Fayette County will undertake capital projects for the construction and improvement of infrastructure and public facilities, and for the orderly replacement of existing assets to achieve the following goals:

1. Promote economic development;
2. Enhance the quality of life;
3. Improve the delivery of services; and
4. Preserve community and historical assets.

B. For budgeting purposes, a capital project is generally defined as the acquisition of any asset or construction project with an anticipated cost of $5,000 to $49,999 and an estimated useful life of three or more years.

C. For budgeting purposes, a CIP project is generally defined as a major capital project with an anticipated cost of at least $50,000 and an estimated useful life of more than three years.

D. Fayette County will develop a five-year Capital Improvements Program (CIP) plan for all CIP projects. The first year of the CIP plan will be part of the annual budget.

E. The CIP plan will be updated annually to direct the financing of and appropriations for new projects and updates to existing projects.

F. Fayette County will estimate the impact on operations of capital and CIP projects and will include these operating costs in future operating budgets.

G. Fayette County will utilize a fund named Capital Projects to account for capital projects.

H. Fayette County will utilize a fund named Capital Improvement Program to account for CIP projects.

I. Fayette County will utilize an internal service fund named Vehicle/Equipment Fund to account for the acquisition of vehicles and other motorized equipment.

J. Operating transfers from the various operating funds will be made annually, as needed to the Capital Projects fund, Capital Improvements Program fund, and the Vehicle/Equipment fund.

K. Fayette County will aggressively seek public and private grants, contracts and other outside sources of revenue to fund projects included in the Capital Improvements Program.

L. A project-length budget will be adopted for each capital project. The balances of appropriations for capital projects at year end is understood as being designated by management and re-appropriated in the following years until the project is completed.

II. Operating Budget:

A. Fayette County will finance all current expenditures with current revenues. The County will avoid budgetary procedures that fund current expenditures through the obligation of future resources. Fayette County will not use short-term borrowing to meet operating budget requirements.

B. The operating budget will provide for adequate maintenance of capital equipment and facilities, as well as for their orderly replacement.

C. All Governmental Funds under the control of the Board of Commissioners are subject to the annual budget process. Flexible or cash flow budgets will be prepared for Proprietary Funds (Enterprise and Internal Service) to establish fees and charges and to control expenses.

D. The annual operating budget must be balanced for all budgeted funds. Total anticipated revenues and other resources available must be at least equal to estimated expenditures for each fund.

E. All budgets will be adopted on a basis consistent with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP). Pursuant to Governmental GAAP, revenues are budgeted when they become measurable and available. Likewise, expenditures are charged against the budget when they become measurable, a liability has been incurred, and the liability will be liquidated with current resources.

F. All unencumbered operating budget appropriations will lapse at year-end. Encumbered balances will be reserved on the year ending balance sheet and re-appropriated in the following fiscal period in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles.

G. Each operating fund budget will be adopted at the total fund level. In looking at compliance with State law, total expenditures for each fund may not exceed the total budget amount. Internal administrative procedures will be adopted to ensure that each individual department or cost center does not exceed their allotted appropriation amount.

H. Fayette County will strive to include an amount in the General Fund (i.e., a line item for contingencies) to cover unforeseen operating expenditures of an emergency type. The amount of the contingency reserve will be no more than 5% of the total operating budget.

I. Fayette County will integrate performance measurement and objectives, and productivity indicators within the budget.

J. The County will maintain a budgetary control system to ensure adherence to the budget and will prepare timely financial reports comparing actual revenues, and expenditures and encumbrances with budgeted amounts.

K. The operating budget shall be developed to control both the direct and indirect costs of programs and services whenever practical.

L. Fayette County shall comply with all State laws applicable to budget hearings, public notices, public inspections, and budget adoption.

M. Enterprise and Internal Service Funds budgets shall be self-supporting whenever possible. Excess revenues of Enterprise Funds shall not be transferred to other funds unless authorized in the Annual Budget.

3. The budget is divided into two major components: Capital and Capital Improvement Program (CIP) and Operating.

The Operating component of the budget is further divided into tracks: Track 1 - Staffing and Track 2 – Other Operating.

The budget is developed by levels: budget requests from the departments, budget recommendations from Staff, budget recommendations from the BOC, budget proposal, and final adjustments and approval of the budget by the BOC.

A budget calendar for the next fiscal year is developed and presented to the Board of Commissioners for approval.

A budget kickoff meeting is scheduled for the county departments, at which time the departments receive instructions on the budget process and all the budget forms necessary to complete their next year budget requests. Any new procedures are specifically clarified.

Letters are sent to the Judicial Circuit and the outside agencies to inform them of the start of the budget process and to provide them with the budget calendar.

Requests for funding are received from the Fayette County departments, the Judicial Circuit, and other outside agencies.

Capital and Capital Improvement Program (CIP):

The departments receive instructions and all budget forms necessary to complete their capital budgets, including forms necessary to provide updates to current capital and CIP projects. Classes are scheduled for staff members who are new to the process of next year budget entry.

Departments submit requests for new capital and CIP projects. Requests for projects detail funding sources and expenditures by line-item within the projects. The departments also provide updates on the status of capital projects and CIP projects from previous fiscal years.

New project numbers are created by the Finance Department. Budget line- items are assigned to each project. Projects are setup to be included in either the Capital Projects fund, the Capital Improvements Program fund, the Vehicle/Equipment fund, or any other special capital projects fund. The project numbers are then provided to the departments for them to do the budget entry.

By a predetermined deadline date, the departments submit all budget documentation on capital projects to the Finance Department. Budget entry for capital projects beyond this point is done only by the Finance Department. All requests of funding for capital projects are finalized.

The Finance Department prepares the capital budget reports to provide to the County Administrator. The County Administrator meets with the departments to discuss their new capital projects requests and updates on their current capital projects. The County Administrator makes recommendations and the capital budget is adjusted accordingly. The adjustments are finalized and the recommended capital budget is provided to the BOC. The departments are also provided with their recommended capital budgets.

The Board of Commissioners conducts budget workshops with the departments. New capital projects are discussed. The departments provide the BOC with updates of their current capital projects. The BOC makes recommendations. The capital budget is adjusted accordingly. The BOC recommended capital budget and CIP plan are finalized.

Operating Budget:

Track 1 – Staffing: budgeted salaries and benefits for current approved positions, current vacancies, and requests for new positions and promotions. The county departments are required to include detailed justification with their requests for new positions and promotions. The county departments are also responsible for providing a list of the budget contacts and the personnel who will be responsible for their budget entry.

The county departments are required to return all budget documentation by a deadline date. This is to allow sufficient time for the Finance Department and the Human Resources Department to complete the staffing budget process. Requests for positions with a new job title need to be submitted directly to Human Resources. These requests need to include a Job Content Questionnaire. Human Resources will establish the new job class and the corresponding pay grade for these new job titles.

The cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) is determined based on the CPI-W (Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers) three month average of July-September of the preceding calendar year and provided by the HR Department. The COLA is factored into the current year salaries for all County approved positions. The COLA adjusted salaries will be the salaries used in the next fiscal year budget. If the BOC decides not to incorporate the COLA, the salaries will be reverted back to the current year salaries.

Increases in salary and supplements for constitutional officers that are mandated by law are determined by the HR department and factored in to determine the salaries to be used in the next year budget. The Human Resources Department also determines any changes to benefits premiums and payroll deductions to be effective for the next year budget.

Increases for COLA, salary increases for constitutional officers, new positions, promotions, and changes in premiums/deductions are entered into the payroll system. Salary and Benefits projections and personnel (FTE) counts are prepared for each department.

Staff (County Administrator, CFO, and the HR Director) meet to discuss the staffing projections and to make recommendations regarding the requests for new positions and promotions. As necessary, the County Administrator meets with the departments that requested new positions and promotions to inform them of the recommendations by Staff.

Staffing requests and recommendations are provided to the BOC. Budget workshops are held between the BOC and the departments to discuss staffing. The BOC makes recommendations on requests for new positions and promotions.

This is an important step in the budget process because the departments will base the remainder of their operating budget requests on their current year positions and the associated costs of new positions and promotions recommended by the BOC. Printouts of staffing budgets are provided to each of the departments.

Also during **Track 1** of the operating budget, the Finance Director/CFO prepares the estimated revenue projections for all funds except the Water System who prepares their own. The revenue projections are reviewed by the County Administrator and the CFO and later presented to the BOC.

Track 2 – Other Operating:
The departments receive instructions and all the budget forms necessary to complete track 2 of the budget. The departments are provided data on actual expenditures for the previous two fiscal years, current year adjusted budget, and year-to-date actual expenditures by line-item to aid them in projecting their next year budget requirements.

Department Heads are instructed to be conservative in their budget projections. The departments enter their budgets in the system. Refresher classes are scheduled for staff members on the process of next year budget entry.

Funding requests from the Judicial Circuit and other outside agencies are received by the deadline date. These budgets are entered by the Finance Department.

At a predetermined deadline date, budget entry beyond this point is done only by the Finance Department. Any changes or adjustments from the departments need to be submitted directly to the Budget Officer and agreed on by the CFO.

All requests for operating funding are finalized. The Finance Department prepares the reports to provide to the County Administrator. The County Administrator meets with the departments to discuss their operating budget requests. The County Administrator makes recommendations and the operating budget is adjusted accordingly.

The recommendations are finalized and the recommended operating budget is provided to the BOC. The departments are also provided with their recommended operating budgets. The Board of Commissioners conducts budget workshops with the departments. The BOC makes recommendations.

The budget is adjusted according to the BOC recommendations to produce a balanced budget proposal. The proposed budget is advertised one week prior to the first public meeting. Two public meetings are conducted to allow the citizens an opportunity to speak with the Board regarding the budget proposal.

The Board of Commissioners takes official action to adopt the budget. The budget is adopted by resolution and it becomes effective with the start of the new fiscal year, July 1st.

For the FY 2010 budget process, the Board of Commissioners approved specific budget parameters. These parameters took into consideration current FY 2009 revenue levels that have been lower than expected. These parameters apply only to the FY 2010 budget. The parameters are listed below:

FY 2010 BUDGET PARAMETERS
As adopted by the BOC February 4, 2009

Parameters:

1. The FY 2010 Budget should be developed taking into consideration current FY 2009 revenue levels that have been lower than expected.

2. Current FY 2009 Personnel levels should be maintained.
   a. Current FY 2009 vacant positions should be eliminated for FY 2010.
   b. There should be no new positions (or position upgrades) requested for FY 2010.
   c. There should be no promotions requested for FY 2010.
   d. There should be no merit-based salary increases for FY 2010.
   e. There should be no COLA adjustments for FY 2010.

3. There should be no new Capital projects requested for FY 2010.

4. There should be no new CIP projects requested for FY 2010.

5. The current 5-year CIP Plan should be delayed one year.

6. There should be no new or replacement vehicles or equipment requested for FY 2010.

7. Departments should keep their operating (non-personnel) budget requests for FY 2010 at the same level, or lower, than their FY 2009 approved operating budgets.

8. The FY 2010 annual balanced budget development process will consist of only one element: Operating budget.

9. Any deviations from these parameters should be presented by the departments to the County Administrator during the budget workshops. Upon recommendation, the departments would need to provide the required budget documents for processing.

10. The FY 2010 Budget development process should take place between the third week of March and the third week of May of 2009. This will allow for any mid-year budget adjustments to be finalized, end-of-calendar year revenues to be received, and FY 2009 year-end figures to be more accurately projected.

II. RESERVE FUND POLICY

PURPOSE
The county will maintain a sufficient working capital reserve in the general and enterprise funds to help offset economic downturns, provide sufficient working capital, and provide for sufficient cash flow for current financial needs. In addition, the county will maintain an emergency fund

reserve in the general fund.

POLICY
There shall be a consistent and uniform process for maintaining working capital and emergency fund reserves for Fayette County.

PROCEDURES
The county will strive to maintain a general fund working reserve from the unreserved and undesignated fund balance equal to at least three months of the total general fund appropriations budget. Also, the county will accumulate sufficient cash reserves in the enterprise funds to equal three months of operating expenses. These reserves shall be created and maintained to provide the capacity to:

1. Offset significant economic downturns and the revision of any general government activity;
2. Provide sufficient working capital; and
3. Provide a sufficient cash flow for current financial needs at all times without short-term borrowing.

In addition to the working capital reserves, the county will also maintain a $2 million emergency fund reserve in the general fund. The emergency fund reserve will be used only upon approval of the Board of Commissioners.

Any unreserved, undesignated fund balances for governmental funds in excess of the working capital and emergency reserve should be used only for one-time capital non-operating expenditures as appropriated by the Board of Commissioners.

The county will also maintain reserves in compliance with all debt service requirements to maintain bond ratings and the marketability of bonds. The county will develop capital reserves to provide for normal replacement of existing capital plant and additional capital improvements financed on a pay-as-you-go basis.

III. INVESTMENT POLICY

PURPOSE
The purpose of this policy is to provide guidelines for the investment of funds that are not needed immediately to pay current obligations.

This policy will be used so that funds not needed for immediate cash will be invested in a way that (1) safeguards the principal, (2) provides the liquidity required to meet financial obligations in a timely manner, and given these two goals, (3) provides the best return on investment.

POLICY
There shall be a consistent and uniform process for the investment of Fayette County funds not needed for immediate cash.

PROCEDURES

The first and foremost consideration in choosing investments is security. To reduce the risk of loss because of the failure of any financial institution, depository, broker, or dealer the county will 'pre-qualify' these entities prior to investing funds with them. Qualification will include, as appropriate, an audited financial statement demonstrating compliance with state and federal capital adequacy guidelines, proof of certification by a recognized association, proof of state registration, and evidence of adequate insurance coverage. The investment portfolio will be diversified in order to reduce the impact of potential loss from any one type of security or individual issuer. Risk of interest loss will be reduced by assuring that security maturity dates coincide with anticipated cash requirements, and by investing operating funds primarily in short-term securities.

The investments chosen will provide adequate liquidity to meet upcoming cash-flow requirements that may be reasonably anticipated. The investment portfolio will be structured so that investment securities mature concurrent with cash needs. In order to respond to unanticipated cash needs, investments will include securities with good resale markets, such as the local government investment pool.

While taking care to assure that security and liquidity needs are met, investments will be made in a way that can be expected to produce a reasonable return on investment. Meeting all three of these goals at once will mean that the majority of investments are in relatively low-risk securities, which will earn a fair return relative to the risk assumed. Investments will be diversified by maturity, issuer, and class of security in order to help meet these goals.

In compliance with Georgia Code Section 36-82-7, the county will invest bond issue proceeds only in the following:

1. The local government investment pool.
2. Bonds or other obligations of the State of Georgia, or any county municipal corporation, or other political subdivision of the state.
3. Bonds or other obligations of the United States, or subsidiary corporations which are fully guaranteed by the government.
4. Obligations of agencies of the United States government which are issued by the Federal Land Bank, the Federal Home Loan Bank, the Federal Intermediate Credit Bank, for the Central Bank for Cooperatives.
5. Bonds or other obligations issued by any public housing agency or municipal corporation in the United States, if they are fully secured as to the payment of both principal and interest under an annual contributions contract with the United States government.
6. Project notes issued by a public housing agency, urban renewal agency, or municipal corporation which are fully secured by agreement with the United States government.
7. Certificates of deposit of national or state banks located within the State of Georgia, and which have deposits insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation.
8. Certificates of deposit of federal savings and loan associations, state savings and loan associations, or state building and loan associations located within the State of Georgia, and which have deposits insured by the Savings Association Insurance Fund of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or the Georgia Credit Union Deposit Insurance Corporation.
9. Securities or other interests in any no-load, open-end management type investment

company or investment trust registered under the Investment Company Act of 1940.

10. A common trust fund maintained by any bank or trust company, so long as:

(a) Their portfolio is limited to bonds or other obligations of the U.S. government or subsidiary corporations of the U.S. government, which are fully guaranteed by the government,

(b) The company takes delivery of collateral either directly or through an authorized custodian,

(c) The company is managed in such a way as to maintain its shares at a constant net asset value, and

(d) Securities in the company are purchased and redeemed only through the use of national or state banks having corporate trust powers and located within Georgia.

As authorized by Georgia Code 36-83-4, the county may invest any money within its control (other than bond issue proceeds) in any of the following, in order to achieve the goals of security, liquidity, and return on investment:

(a) The local government investment pool.
(b) Obligations of this or other states.
(c) Obligations issued by the United States government.
(d) Obligations fully insured or guaranteed by a U.S. government agency.
(e) Obligations of any corporation of the U.S. government.
(f) Prime bankers' acceptances.
(g) Repurchase agreements
(h) Obligations of other political subdivisions of the state.

The Finance Department will prepare a quarterly investment report to be submitted to the County Administrator and the Board of Commissioners. The report will include a list of individual securities held at the end of the quarter, average weighted yield-to-maturity on investments, maturity dates of investments, and the percent of the portfolio which each type of investment represents.

IV. DEBT MANAGEMENT POLICY

PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to provide guidelines for issuing debt for the county. This policy will be used as a framework to ensure the county will meet its obligations in a timely manner, for public policy development, and for managing the capital improvement program.

POLICY

There shall be a uniform and consistent process in debt issuance for Fayette County.

PROCEDURES

Fayette County's debt management policy is designed to be fiscally conservative enough to safeguard the resources entrusted to it, yet flexible enough to use the most appropriate financing mechanisms as conditions and needs change.

In issuing, managing, and retiring debt, the county will abide by relevant provisions in the Georgia Constitution and codified law. As used in the state constitution, the term 'debt' means a fiscal liability not to be discharged by taxes levied within the year in which the liability is undertaken (Attorney General Opinion 75-19). Before incurring any bonded indebtedness, an analysis will be completed that shows anticipated annual tax collections will be sufficient to pay the principal and interest within 30 years.

To facilitate use of this policy in financial administration and management, it is divided into sections pertaining to: debt limit, debt structure, debt issuance, and debt management.

1. Debt Limit - Article IX of the state constitution sets legal limits on the maximum allowable amount of debt. In compliance, the county's total debt will not exceed 10% of the assessed value of all taxable property within the county.

Any proposed debt will be coordinated with the multi-year comprehensive plan and capital improvement program, and will reflect the priorities identified in the plans.

The county will use voter-approved general obligation debt to fund general purpose public improvements which cannot be financed from existing funding streams. Long-term debt will not be used to pay for on-going costs. Analysis of the feasibility of issuing debt for a capital project will consider ability to fund future operating, support, and maintenance costs.

A major consideration in issuing debt is affordability. To develop an indication of county residents' ability to absorb additional debt, the following ratios will be considered:

a. Current debt per capita for the county
b. Per-capita debt as a percent of per-capita income
c. Debt service as a percent of current general fund revenues
d. The ratio of debt to taxable property value

An analysis of revenue and expense trends will also be completed to provide an indication of the county's ability to repay the debt into the future.

2. Debt Structure - Debt will be financed for a period not to exceed the useful life of the capital improvements or other benefits derived, but in no event shall it exceed 30 years.

Debt will not be used when pay-as-you-go funding is available. If the direct users of a county service can be readily identified, consideration should be given to their paying for the services they receive through fees, assessments, or other appropriate charges.

Revenue bonds will be used to finance enterprise systems or other undertakings where appropriate. Since revenue-bond debt is paid out of revenue derived from the undertaking, and is not considered a debt of the county in state law, care will be taken to assure that anticipated revenues will meet principal and interest payments as they come due. In compliance with the state constitution, the county will not exercise the power of taxation for paying any part of the principal or interest of revenue bonds, nor will it pay revenue bond obligations out of general revenues or with revenue sharing funds.

The county will operate in a fiscally conservative way that best preserves and safeguards it citizens' resources. Toward this objective, the favored type of debt instrument will normally use fixed rates of interest.

Debt with variable-rate interest payments should not be used unless it can be clearly documented that it will provide the best alternative for debt financing, taking care to consider the total cost of issuing, monitoring and managing this type of debt. If used, the county's variable-rate debt will not exceed 20% of total debt, unless benefit to the county's taxpayers is clearly documented.

The county will not use derivatives or other alternative financing for speculative purposes. Alternative financing products will be used only with approval of the Board of Commissioners, and only for appropriate objectives, such as debt savings due to market conditions, better management of assets and liabilities, reduced interest rate risk, or improved cash flow. Any consideration of using derivatives will include an analysis of all known or anticipated costs, and all risks such as basis risk, tax risk, counter-party risk, termination risk, liquidity renewal risk, remarketing risk, and credit risk. It should also include an analysis of the county's ability to perform adequate risk management over the life of the obligation. Inasmuch as variable rate debt will not be the prevalent form of financing, the need for alternative financing products like derivatives should be minimal.

In the event that an investment introduces the possibility of an arbitrage rebate liability, the Finance Department will monitor the investment closely. Outside expertise will be acquired to assist with the calculation and determination of rebates due to the Internal Revenue Service, inasmuch as the regulations and calculations are very complex, and any errors could result in significant settlement payments by the county.

Conduit debt involves certain limited-obligation revenue bonds, certificates of participation, or similar debt instruments issued by a county government specifically to provide capital financing for an independent third party, such as a development authority. This does not obligate the county financially. However, the county reserves the right to approve or disapprove a conduit debt issue based on the third-party borrower's creditworthiness, credit rating, or other circumstances that it may deem of significance. The county may also consider how the use of the proposed debt would fit into existing public policy and long-range plans.

3. Debt Issuance - Standard practice will be to sell bond issues through the competitive bid process. There may be times, however, when conditions indicate that a negotiated bid will be more favorable; for instance, if an issue is unusually small, unusually large, or contains complex or innovative features. An evaluation of the method of sale will be done for each bond issue, including an assessment of the different risks associated with each method. Thorough records will be kept that document the process to demonstrate that it was equitable and defensible.

If a negotiated bid is to be used for a bond issue, the competitive process will be used to select an underwriter, in order to ensure that multiple proposals are considered.
Outstanding debt will be reviewed on a routine basis. When there is a demonstrated economic or other benefit, the county should consider initiation of fixed-rate refunding or alternative financing products. In compliance with the Georgia Constitution, refunding debt (other than revenue bonds) will not extend the maturity date beyond the original debt being refunded, and will not increase the original interest rate, without voter approval.

4. Debt Management - The county will ensure that adequate internal controls exist to provide compliance with relevant federal, state or other laws, rules, regulations, and covenants associated with outstanding debt.

For revenue bonds supported by enterprise funds, an annual analysis will be completed to ensure fees, rates, or other enterprise revenue are sufficient to meet debt service requirements.

Note: For guidance on investment of bond proceeds, please see the Fayette County investment policy.

V. PURCHASING CARD POLICY

PURPOSE
The purpose of this policy is to provide guidelines by which Fayette County employees can participate in purchasing card program as an efficient and cost effective means to purchase job-related goods and services.

POLICY
This policy will apply to all employees participating in the purchasing card program and is intended to provide flexibility to make small dollar purchases as well as travel arrangements and seminar/conference reservations when needed. The purchasing card program is intended to reduce the use of petty cash and small dollar purchase orders. Goods requiring solicitation of bids should de directed to the Purchasing Department.

PROCEDURES
Purchasing cards will be issued to employees only by direction of their Department Head. Elected Officials may request cards for themselves. Each card will have set limits as agreed upon by the Department Head or Elected Official and Chief Financial Officer for the following with a not to exceed amount as indicated. Any exceptions to these limits must be approved by the County Administrator:

- Dollar limit per transaction * – not to exceed $500
- Number of transactions per day – not to exceed ten (10)
- Billing cycle dollar limit – not to exceed $5,000
- Annual credit limit – not to exceed $20,000

* Transactions for seminars and hotel stays covering multiple days may exceed $500.00.

Purchases shall not be split to stay within limits established. Splitting charges will be considered an abuse of the program which in addressed in the Violations section.
The purchasing card can be used for the following transactions only within limits of the department's budget:

- Emergency purchases
- Employee training / seminars & dues
- Medical supplies and pharmaceuticals
- Misc other supplies/services up to a maximum unit cost of $250, such as

    - Building supplies;
    - Cleaning supplies;
    - Parts for
        - Computers / printers repair
        - Vehicle repairs;
    - Safety supplies;
    - Shipping services;
- Office supplies;
- Travel related expenditures.

The purchasing card can NOT be used for:

- Cash advances
- Gifts
- Legal services
- Medical services
- Personal items
- Unbudgeted items

Responsibilities

The ***Department/Division Heads/Elected Officials*** are responsible for determining which employees will be issued a card, coordinating with Finance on establishing spending limits, approving and signing off on each billing statement for their department's purchasing card transactions and ensuring that funds are available in the department's budget. In addition, any suspected abuse should be reported to the CFO or the Assistant CFO/Controller immediately.

The ***Cardholder or Department Designee*** as appointed by the Department Head will be responsible for reconciling purchasing cards billing statements. The completed billing cycle reconciliation must be signed by both the cardholder or department designee and the department head, and submitted to the Finance Department by the scheduled due date. The reconciliation shall contain proper sales receipts equaling the total amount billed as authorization for payment of the statement balance. A proper sales receipt must contain an itemized list of items or services purchased rather than a credit card slip. Lack of such receipt will be considered an abuse of the program and is addressed in the Violations section. Each cardholder is responsible for buying only job-related goods or services, obtaining a detail receipt for each transaction, ensuring sales tax is not charged (exception – meals), completing a transaction log and submitting to Finance no later than the due date, and complying with all county purchasing policies and procedures. Failure to comply with these responsibilities will be considered a violation of the policy and is addressed in the Violations section.

The ***Finance Department Accounting Analysts*** will serve as purchasing card administrators for their assigned departments coordinating the issuance of cards, monitoring the receipt of the billing cycle reconciliations from the departments, verifying the account code assigned within the vendor's system is accurate, recording the accounting, and cancelling cards and maintaining card limits as necessary. Additional responsibilities include coordination with the Assistant CFO/Controller for annual publication of the scheduled due dates for completed transaction logs, timely payment of the balances due. Monthly audits to verify the monthly spending activity relative to the established guidelines, will be conducted on 10% of the number of cards utilized during that period, no less than two cards, (Example, 30 cards had activity during the month of July. Three cards will be selected for audit.) Additionally, the purchasing card administrators will coordinate with the Assistant CFO/Controller in maintaining the program policy and procedures, provide training as needed and handle other tasks as may be required by management.

<u>Training</u>

Training for the reconciliation of the purchasing cards billing statements utilizing the transaction log form will be provided by the Finance accounting analysts.

<u>Violations</u>

Failure to comply with policy will be considered a violation of the program with the following actions and/or employee disciplinary action as appropriate.

1st violation	verbal reminder
2nd violation	written warning and 30 day card suspension
3rd violation	removal from the purchasing card program

VI. REPLACEMENT OF VEHICLES, HEAVY EQUIPMENT, AND OTHER ASSETS

PURPOSE

Fayette County owns and uses vehicles, road-construction and other heavy equipment, tractors, trailers, and similar assets in conducting county business. This policy and procedures section is designed to produce the desired outcomes of:

- Predictability in establishing annual budgets for asset replacement.
- Predictability for the Departments in planning replacement and use of assets.
- Minimized wait times between identifying the need to replace an asset and receipt of the new asset.
- Conservation of tax dollars by achieving optimum useful life from each asset.
- Enabling employees to conduct county business by providing appropriate equipment.

POLICY

Vehicles, heavy equipment, tractors, and similar assets will be purchased, maintained, used, and retired in a manner that provides the best return on investment. The policy for replacement of these classes of assets is designed to accomplish this goal, while assuring that appropriate equipment is available to effectively conduct county business.

Note: Except as otherwise noted, this policy does not pertain to assets acquired with federal or state seizure funds, property obtained through the Georgia Emergency Management Agency's 1033 Excess Property Program, or other non-county resources. Assets used by Water System and Solid Waste will be replaced with enterprise funds, but will follow the process set forth in this policy.

PROCEDURES

A. <u>Funding for Asset Replacement</u> - A sinking fund shall be established and maintained for the systematic, timely replacement of vehicles, road machinery, tractors, trailers, and similar assets. This will be a reserve account, with the fund balance carried forward each fiscal year.

As part of the annual budget process, the Finance Department will recommend an estimated amount to be added to the fund. Proposed amounts will be based on an annuity that will enable relatively consistent amounts to be added to the sinking fund each year.

The fund will consist of two amounts:

1) The annuity balance designated to replace vehicles and other assets, as approved by the Board of Commissioners during the annual budget process.

2) An amount to be used for unexpected or infrequent events, such as damaged or wrecked vehicles. This portion of the fund can be used to compensate departments for actual losses sustained, such as insurance deductibles or repairs that insurance has not covered, upon approval of the Board of Commissioners.

B. <u>Criteria for Replacement</u> - County departments should use assets until it is no longer advantageous to keep them, due to economic, obsolescence or other reasons. Guidelines as to expected useful life of assets have been established using age, mileage or both as criteria, as appropriate. The guidelines assume proper maintenance and repair of the assets.

Guidelines for replacement of vehicles are based on mileage and age, as follows:

1) Emergency / pursuit sedans, trucks, & SUV's	100,000 miles or	5 years
2) Other sedans and sport-utility vehicles	150,000 miles or	7 years
3) Pickup trucks, vans	150,000 miles or	10 years
4) Dump trucks	120,000 miles or	10 years
5) Ambulances	250,000 miles or	10 years
6) Fire apparatus (front-line service)		15 years
7) Fire apparatus (reserve – after 15 years front-line)		5 years
8) Brush units / BFP units		10 years
9) Rescue Units		15 years

Guidelines for other assets covered under this policy are:

10) Backhoes, bush hogs, compactors, drum rollers, hay blowers, loaders, rollers, sand & salt spreaders, tack distributors, track hoes, large tractors, and similar equipment	15 years
11) Dozers, graders, pan scrapers, skid steer loaders, soil compactors, and similar equipment.	20 years
12) Trailers	15 years
13) Grounds equipment, mowers, tractors, attachments	7 years

Replacement guidelines for other assets that do not fit these descriptions will be established on a case-by-case basis as needed.

Assets included in Categories 1-11 above will be placed on consent agendas after consideration and approval by the Vehicle Replacement Committee, as described in Part E below. Assets included in Categories 12-13 will not need to go through the Vehicle Replacement Committee for replacement; instead, they can be replaced as approved in the budget development and approval process.

C. <u>Maintenance and Care of Assets</u> - The department head who is custodian for an asset will be responsible for maintaining it in good repair and working condition until it is replaced. Records should be kept by each department to document regular maintenance and reasonable care that preserve the utility of each asset.

The county's Fleet Maintenance operation is available for most maintenance and many types of repairs. The Sheriff's Department is invited to use this service, especially in instance when they will realize an economic or other benefit. Other departments and offices are to use Fleet Maintenance to repair, maintain and preserve their vehicles or heavy equipment.

D. <u>Authorized vehicle colors</u> - The color of a county vehicle helps citizens to quickly identify its official purpose. All newly acquired vehicles will be white, with the official logo of the acquiring department, with the following exceptions:

1) The Sheriff has authority to determine the color(s) of the vehicles used by the Sheriff's Office.
2) Vehicles used by the Marshal's Office will be black.
3) Fire and Emergency Medical Services vehicles will be red, or red with white.
4) The vehicle used by the Constable will be beige or a similar color.

Any other color exceptions must be approved by the County Administrator prior to acquisition of the vehicle. When a vehicle is transferred from one department to another, if it is not the authorized color for the receiving department, it must be painted the authorized color.

E. <u>Replacement Planning</u> - The Finance Department will coordinate development of an annual projection of assets that will meet the guideline criteria for the upcoming fiscal year. The Finance Department will prepare a spread sheet that identifies, based on available information within the asset inventory system, all of the assets that will meet replacement guidelines at the beginning of the upcoming fiscal year. The Finance Department will forward the draft document to other departments, who will update mileage or other data as needed, and return it to the Finance Department. The finished document will be used for planning and budget purposes, to increase the level of predictability in establishing annual contributions to the sinking fund, and to assist departments in planning for asset replacement.

Timeframes and deadlines for this document will be established by the Finance Department each year in order to include the information in the overall budget development process.

F. <u>Replacement Process</u> - After an asset meets the guideline criteria for replacement, or when it is expected to do so in the upcoming quarter, the department to which the vehicle is assigned will be responsible for obtaining an inspection by Fleet Maintenance. The Director of Fleet Maintenance will determine if the asset can be economically repaired and returned to duty, or if it should be retired from its present use for safety, economic, or other concerns. If the asset can no longer be appropriately used in its present capacity, the Director of Fleet Maintenance will recommend whether the county should retire the asset, or use it in another capacity. The recommendation will consider the estimated remaining useful life, cost to maintain, anticipated downtime, or any other pertinent facts.

A standing Vehicle Replacement Committee shall consist of:

- the Finance Director or designee(s)
- the Fleet Maintenance Director
- the Chief Marshal
- a representative of the Sheriff's Department
- any other person(s) as decided by the County Administrator

The Committee shall be chaired by the Finance Director or designee. Its primary purpose will be to recommend replacement, re-assignment, or other disposition of vehicles, heavy equipment, tractors, trailers, and similar assets, as requested by department heads.

The Chair of the Vehicle Replacement Committee will schedule quarterly meetings to consider recommendations for asset replacement. Assets will be considered (1) which have met the criteria for replacement, or are anticipated to do so in the upcoming quarter and (2) which have been inspected by Fleet Maintenance prior to the meeting date. The Committee Chair will consider proposals from the Sheriff's Department, Fleet Maintenance, or others regarding the scheduling of meetings to take advantage of manufacturers' production or delivery schedules, urgency of replacing the vehicles, or other considerations.

The Fleet Maintenance Director will bring documentation to Committee meetings that will facilitate the process of developing recommendations for vehicle replacement. The documentation will include the results of the Fleet Maintenance inspection, plus any other observations or information that will be needed to make a good recommendation. Documentation should also note any attachments or components that can economically be removed from the old asset and reassigned to a new one.

The head of the department that owns the asset, or his / her designee, will be a participant in the called meeting, and will provide information as needed by the Committee. The department's representative will provide a list of proposed purchases to replace the asset(s), including any additional components, attachments, or other add-on equipment.
NOTE: The following distinctions are provided to clarify what types of items should be included in an asset replacement proposal, and what types of items should be a separate purchase decision. For this purpose, two categories of property are considered:

1) **Attachment** – tangible property that is usually actually attached to the "parent" asset (e.g. automobile or truck), and they function as one piece of equipment. In general, an attachment should:

a. Have the same person responsible for the parent asset and the attached item.
b. Be financially depreciated in the accounting records with the parent asset.
c. Plan to be disposed of with the parent asset or removed and transferred to a

different parent asset later.

Examples of attachments would include decals, light bars, push bumpers, headlight flashers, or prisoner cages. Although some of these items are often used in more than one vehicle, it is not administratively or financially advantageous to tag, inventory, depreciate and track these items separately.

2) **Component –** tangible property that is related to, but not an integral part of, another asset. Generally, a component will:

a. Be able to function away from the parent asset, either as a stand-alone unit or with another parent.

b. Be financially depreciated (if applicable) separately from the parent asset.

c. Be inventoried and tracked separately from the parent asset.

d. Ordinarily be disposed of separately from the parent asset.

Examples of components include 800 MHz radios, digital video cameras, or shotguns.

The department head should request any attachment items along with a new "parent" asset. Component items will be part of a separate purchasing decision process and, in general, should be considered as part of the annual budget development process, apart from vehicle or other "parent" asset replacement.

After the Vehicle Replacement Committee has voted to recommend replacement of an asset, the Finance Department will prepare a consent agenda request for the Board of Commissioners' consideration. The request will include the proposed type and cost of the replacement vehicle or other asset, as well as any attachments or other proposed expenditures that are not part of the requesting department's existing Maintenance and Operating budget.

In order to assure that insurance, asset security, and overall accountability are maintained, acquisition or retirement of assets will be addressed by the Board of Commissioners through the consent agenda process as follows:

1. Acquisition of assets:

(a) The Board of Commissioners will give prior approval to the acquisition of any asset that falls within the scope of this policy, whether purchased with county funds, or with enterprise funds such as water system or solid waste disposal revenues.

(b) Assets that are available as a result of federal or state seizure or similar program may be acquired through the court process. To assure that assets are properly insured, registered and titled within timeframes allowed, the Finance Department will need to be notified within two weeks of acquisition.

(c) For the reasons enumerated in (b) above, the Sheriff's Department will need to notify the Finance Department of assets purchased through use of resources derived from sources such as federal or state seizure programs (e.g. cash or trade-ins) within two weeks of acquisition. This will enable the Finance Department to assure that vehicles are properly insured, registered and titled within time frames allowed.

2. Disposal of assets:

(a) The Board of Commissioners will give prior approval to the disposal of any asset that falls within the scope of this policy, and which was purchased with county funds or enterprise funds.

(b) The Board of Commissioners must authorize the Finance Department to take necessary actions associated with the disposal of assets acquired through federal seizure, state seizure, or similar programs. This includes, but is not limited to, such steps as transfer of confidential license tags from an old vehicle to a new one, removing as asset from the county's inventory records, or properly recording financial transactions (e.g. monthly depreciation schedules). So that the county can properly execute these types of transactions, the Sheriff's Department agrees to notify the Finance Department of disposal of federal seizure, state seizure, or similar assets within two weeks of such disposal.

FAYETTE COUNTY, GEORGIA
ACCOUNTING, AUDITING, AND FINANCIAL REPORTING

1. An independent audit in compliance with Generally Accepted Audit Standards will be performed annually by a qualified external auditor in accordance with Georgia Code Section 36-81-7 and Section 14 of Article II of the Fayette County Code.

2. Fayette County will prepare a Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP) for governmental entities. The County will strive to prepare the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report to meet the standards of the GFOA Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting Program.

3. Fayette County will establish and maintain a high degree of accounting practices. Accounting records and systems will conform to Generally Accepted Accounting Principles.

4. Fayette County will maintain accurate records of all assets to ensure a high degree of stewardship of public property.

5. Fayette County will develop an ongoing system of financial reporting to meet the needs of the Board of Commissioners, the County Administrator, Department Heads, and the general public. Reporting systems will monitor the costs of providing services wherever possible. The reporting systems will also promote budgetary control and comparative analysis.

6. Fayette County will follow a policy of full disclosure on its Financial Reports.

FAYETTE COUNTY, GEORGIA
BUDGET AMENDMENTS

Each year, an annual budget is formulated which represents the County's plan for expending its anticipated revenues during the upcoming fiscal period. When the budget is adopted at the end of June each year, it is at that point in time, management's best estimate as to the most efficient allocation of financial resources to meet the service needs of the community. Even then it is recognized that amounts originally adopted can be affected by the occurrence of unanticipated revenues and/or expenditures or the need to transfer appropriations among funds or among departments. Original appropriations are then amended by transferring funds. This will bring line-items within a new "revised" budget amount.

There are two classes of budget adjustments: amendments that need to be approved by the governing body and transfers that only need approval by the county management.

Budget amendments that need to be approved by the Board of Commissioners:

1. Changes in appropriations at the legal level of control, whether accomplished through a change in anticipated revenues in any fund or through a transfer of appropriations among departments, shall require the approval of the Board of Commissioners.

2. Changes in appropriations of capital projects shall require the approval of the Board of Commissioners.

3. Any transfer of appropriations from/to salary, benefits and or contingency line-items shall require the approval of the Board of Commissioners.

Procedure for amendments – the requesting department will prepare a Consent Agenda Item to be presented to the Board of Commissioners for approval. After approval by the Board of Commissioners, the Finance Department will enter the budget amendment in the financial system.

Budget transfers that only need approval by county management:

1. Reassignment of resources among line-item expenditures (except salary, benefits, and contingency) within a department's approved budget requires only approval by the Department Head. This should be a reassignment of funds that does not change the department's total approved appropriations.

Procedure for transfers – the Finance Department will submit to the departments YTD Budget reports identifying line-item expenditures that are over budget. The Department Head will then submit to the Finance Department the line-item(s) from where the funds will be transferred to bring these within budget. The transfer(s) will be entered in the financial system by the Finance Department.

Budget amendments and transfers change original line-item appropriations. The net effect of increases and decreases is shown as an adjustment that results on a new "revised" budget amount.

FAYETTE COUNTY, GEORGIA
FY 2010 BUDGET CALENDAR

2009 DATE		RESPONSIBLE PARTY	BUDGET ACTIVITY TO OCCUR
Mar 23, 2009	Mon	Departments Finance Department	Budget packages distributed to departments.
Apr 10, 2009	Fri	Departments Finance Department	Budget submissions due from departments.
Apr 28-29, 2009	Tue-Wed	Departments Staff	Budget workshops as necessary between departments and Staff (County Administrator and Finance).
May 6, 2009	Wed	Finance Department Commissioners	Deliver FY 2010 recommended budget to Board of Commissioners.
May 19, 2009	Tue	Commissioners Departments Staff	Conduct budget workshops of departments with the Board of Commissioners
Jun 3, 2009	Wed	Finance Department Commissioners	Submit budget proposal to the BOC.
Jun 11, 2009	Thu	Commissioners Staff	Hold first Public Hearing on the FY 2010 budget.
Jun 25, 2009	Thu	Commissioners Staff	Hold second Public Hearing on the FY 2010 budget (Adopt the FY 2010 Budget).

FAYETTE COUNTY, GEORGIA
BASIS OF ACCOUNTING

The term "*basis of accounting*" refers to that point in time when revenues and expenditures are recognized in the accounts and reported in the financial statements. Basis of accounting relates to the timing of the measurements made, regardless of the particular measurement focus being applied.

The accounting policies utilized by the County are in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) as applied to government units. The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) is the accepted standard-setting body for establishing governmental accounting and financial reporting principles.

The County uses funds to report its financial position and the results of its operations. Fund accounting is designed to demonstrate legal compliance and to aid financial management by segregating transactions related to certain government functions or activities.

The basic unit of organization and operation within the County exists at the "fund" level. Consistent with this operational concept, the County's accounting system also employs the "fund" as the basic budgetary and accounting entity.

A fund is a separate accounting entity with a self-balancing set of accounts. Funds are further classified into distinct categories: governmental, proprietary, and fiduciary. Each category, in turn, is divided into separate "fund types".

Governments use the same accounting as private-sector businesses for proprietary funds and trust funds with the measurement focus of the operating statement on changes in economic resources (i.e., changes in total net assets). Such changes are recognized as soon as the underlying event or transaction has occurred, regardless of the timing of related cash flows (i.e., the accrual basis of accounting). Thus, proprietary and similar trust funds recognize revenues as soon as they are earned and expenses as soon as a liability is incurred, just like private-sector businesses.

However, governments account for governmental funds and expendable trust funds differently than businesses. The measurement focus is on changes in current financial, or expendable, resources to the extent that they normally are expected to impact near-term cash flows (i.e., the modified accrual basis of accounting). Under the modified accrual basis of accounting, revenues are recognized when susceptible to accrual (i.e., when they are "measurable and available"). "Measurable" means the amount of the transaction can be determined and "available" means collectible within the current period or soon enough thereafter to pay liabilities of the current period.

FAYETTE COUNTY, GEORGIA
BUDGETED FUNDS

Governmental Funds

100 - General Fund

Special Revenue Funds
- 205 - Law Library Surcharge
- 210 - State Confiscated Property
- 215 - Emergency 911
- 216 - Jail Surcharge
- 217 - Juvenile Supervision Surcharge
- 218 - Victims Assistance Surcharge
- 219 - Drug Abuse & Treatment
- 270 - Fire Services
- 271 - Street Lights
- 272 - Emergency Medical Services
- 290 - SPLOST Library

Capital Projects Funds
- 342 - Early Warning Siren Construction
- 356 - Kenwood Park Construction
- 361 - Criminal Justice Center Construction
- 372 - Capital Projects
- 375 - Capital Improvement Program

Enterprise Funds

505 - Water System
540 - Solid Waste

Internal Service Funds

610 - Vehicle/Equipment

FAYETTE COUNTY, GEORGIA
FUND TYPES

Governmental funds are used to account for all or most of a government's general activities, including the collection and disbursement of earmarked monies (i.e., special revenue funds). Governmental funds are accounted for using a current financial resources measurement focus. All governmental fund types use the modified accrual basis of accounting. Governmental funds include the ***General Fund***, ***Special Revenue Funds***, and ***Capital Projects Funds***.

1. ***General Fund*** is the County's primary operating fund. It accounts for all financial resources of the general government, except those required to be accounted for in another fund. Principal sources of revenue are property taxes, sales & use taxes, and charges for services. Primary expenditures are for public safety, general government, judicial system, and public works.

2. ***Special Revenue Funds*** account for resources legally restricted to expenditures for specified current operating purposes. The focus of Special Revenue Fund accounting is on sources and uses of "available spendable resources" rather than on costs of services. They are accounted for on a spending measurement focus using the modified accrual basis of accounting. The following are Special Revenue Funds are used by the County:

a) ***Emergency 911*** **–** to account for revenues generated by a telephone usage surcharge used to operate and maintain an emergency 911 telephone communications and dispatch center.

b) ***Emergency Medical Services*** **–** to account for emergency services provided within the EMS tax district. Financing is derived principally from a special tax levy against property owners.

c) ***Fire Services*** **–** to account for fire protection provided within the fire district. Financing is derived principally from a special tax levy against property owners.

d) Other Special Revenue Funds derive their revenue from fine surcharges that are broken down into various specific County functions including ***Juvenile Supervision***, ***Victims Assistance***, ***Drug Abuse and Treatment***, ***Law Library*** and ***Jail Construction***.

e) ***Law Enforcement Confiscated Monies (L.E.C.M.)*** **–** to account for monies confiscated under Federal and Georgia law by Fayette law enforcement officers related to controlled substance offenses. The Federal monies come from both the Department of Justice and Department of the Treasury. This money is restricted and must be used to enhance law enforcement efforts such as to defray the costs of complex investigations, to purchase equipment and to fund training for staff of the Sheriff's department.

f) ***Library–S.P.L.O.S.T.*** **–** Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax approved by voter referendum for a 1% sales tax to build the library building and purchase materials.

g) ***Street Lights*** **–** to account for revenues generated by rates imposed to residents of subdivisions that voluntarily request to be part of a street light district.

3. ***Capital Projects Funds*** **–** to account for the acquisition of fixed assets or construction of capital projects not being financed by proprietary fund types. These are discussed in detail in

the Capital Budget section of this document.

Proprietary funds are used to account for activities similar to those found in the private sector. Proprietary funds use the accrual basis of accounting. There are two types of proprietary funds: ***enterprise funds*** and ***internal service funds***.

1. ***Enterprise Funds*** are used to account for operations that are financed and operated in a manner similar to private business enterprises – where the intent of the government is that the costs of providing goods or services to the general public on a continuing basis be financed or recovered primarily through user charges. Fayette County uses the following Enterprise Funds:

a) ***Water System Fund*** **–** The County uses a Water System Enterprise Fund to account for the provision of water services to the residents of the County. All activities necessary to provide such services are accounted for in this fund, including, but not limited to, administration, operations, maintenance, financing and debt service, and billing and collection.

b) ***Solid Waste*** **–** The Georgia Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Act requires the County to report to the Department of Community Affairs the total cost of providing solid waste management services and to disclose this information to the public. All activities necessary to provide such services are accounted for in this fund, including, but not limited to, administration, operations, maintenance, and landfill charges.

2. ***Internal Service Funds*** are used to account for operations that provide services to other departments or agencies of the County, or to other governments, on a cost-reimbursement basis. Fayette County uses the following Internal Service Funds:

a) ***Vehicle/Equipment Fund*** **–** used to account for the acquisition of vehicles, heavy equipment, and similar assets.

b) ***Worker's Compensation Self-Insurance*** **–** used to provide resources for payment of workers' compensation claims of County employees.

c) ***Dental/Vision Self-Insurance*** **–** used to provide resources for payment of employee dental/vision claims.

d) ***Medical Self- Insurance*** **–** used to provide resources for the payment of medical claims, the cost of the Employee Assistance Program (EAP), and the annual flu shots.