



FULTON COUNTY
JANUARY 28, 2011

FULTON STAKEHOLDER REPORT

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The Fulton Stakeholder Report is a mechanism for Fulton County government to have greater transparency with citizens regarding our budget process. We want to keep residents and business owners informed of how their tax dollars from the General Fund are being utilized. The Fulton County General Fund is used for services that are provided countywide such as elections, libraries, arts, health and human services, and the justice system.

How We Managed Your Tax Dollars in 2010

Through lower expenditures and conservative projections in FY2010, Fulton County enters 2011 well-prepared to serve citizens effectively and efficiently. **Here is how we managed the investment of your tax dollars for FY2010:**

- Fulton County Government's 2010 total General Fund expenditures of \$548.6 million were \$39.9 million less than the budgeted \$588.5 million.
- Even with lower expenditures in 2010 and conservative budget projections, the County launched several new programs for citizens, including a new senior transportation service and construction of new cultural amenities.
- The County's 2010 revenues exceeded the projections by \$75.1 million, due to conservative tax revenue projections at the beginning of the year.
- In June 2010, Fulton County received the lowest interest rate it has ever been offered. The low interest rate was due in part to the County's designation of having the best possible short term credit ratings from the top three credit agencies. The low rate saved the County approximately \$1 million in interest payments compared to the 2010 budgeted amount.
- Countywide tax collection rates for 2010 were approximately 98%. Most homeowners experienced a tax reduction on the Fulton County portion of their 2010 property tax bill due to lower property assessments and increase in homestead exemption credit.
- Fulton County ended FY2010 with a fund balance of \$156.8 million.

Here is a look at General Fund Expenditures over the last 6 years:

FISCAL YEAR	GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURES	COUNTY ¹ POPULATION
2010	\$548,612,000	1,040,156
2009	\$602,350,000	1,033,756
2008	\$637,779,000	1,014,932
2007	\$641,604,000	992,137
2006	\$609,976,000	964,649
2005	\$589,540,000	934,242

¹From U.S. Census mid-year estimates, 2010 added 6,400 per ARC publication.

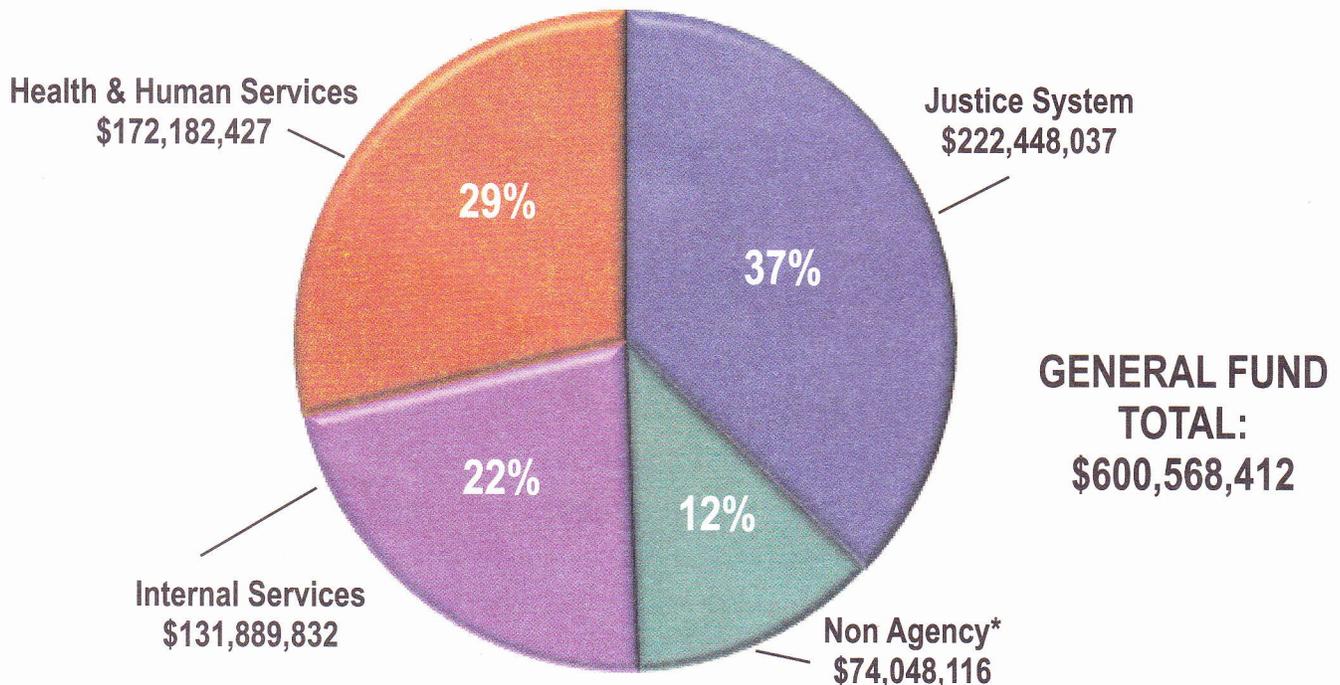
By comparison, 2010 actual expenditures were \$41 million less than the 2005 actual expenditures of \$589.5 million, and were the lowest since 2001, when expenditures were \$536 million.

FY2011- How We Plan to Manage Your Tax Dollars

The Board of Commissioners approved the final FY2011 budget on January 19, 2011. The County Manager and Finance team plan to continue working with the Board of Commissioners and County staff to ensure continued conservative budgeting throughout 2011 and into 2012. **Here is how we plan to manage the investment of your tax dollars for FY2011:**

- Fulton County's approved FY2011 General Fund Budget is \$600.6 million.
- The FY2011 approved budget reflects no change in the millage rate, but a decrease in tax payment by most taxpayers because of a reduction in property value and an increase in homestead exemption.
- The FY2011 approved budget maintains current service levels and anticipates no layoffs or furloughs of employees, and a 2% cost of living increase for employees earning \$40,000 or less to offset the effects of the economy to front line staff.
- \$172.2 million of the budget was allocated to Health and Human Services, including \$62.1 million for Grady Health System and \$300,000 for the Library GED program.
- \$131.9 million was budgeted for Internal Services (services for residents in this category include Registration and Elections, the Tax Assessor's and Tax Commissioner's offices, County Manager's Office and the Board of Commissioners, among others).
- \$222.4 million of the budget was designated for the Justice System (services for residents in this category include the District Attorney's Office, the Courts, Sheriff's Office, Medical Examiner, among others).
- The County anticipates ending 2011 with \$50 million in reserves or 8.33% of our operating budget in accordance with Board policy.

General Fund Expenditures



*Note: The Non Agency budget is used to fund activities within the General Fund that are not categorized in any other county departments such as utility charges, lease payments and other debt service charges.