

## State Budget Cuts to Caroline County Fact Sheet

Since FY2008, Caroline County has reduced its budget by \$4.2 million. This is a 9.63% reduction.

The County must now cut an additional \$1.8 million from the FY2010 budget. That will result in a 12% total reduction over the last three fiscal years.

Over the same time period, the State government budget, under the leadership of Governor O'Malley has grown approximately 5.36%.

The Board of Public works has hijacked 90% of the County's Highway User Revenues. This is money paid in titling tax and gas tax by all Marylanders and under the law it is supposed to be shared by state, county, and municipal governments for road improvements and repairs. Instead, the State has taken all but 10% of the County's share, while still moving forward with administration pet projects like the Intercounty Connector in PG and Montgomery counties and a light rail system in the Bethesda area.

Most of what the State refers to as "local aid" is actually money to pay for things that are State responsibilities under the Maryland Constitution and state law, such as education, the court system, election offices, and local health departments. The trend of State government managing its budget by shifting the burden of its responsibilities to the counties is likely to continue.

### What can YOU do?

Write, email, call, or fax any of the State government leaders listed on the reverse of this paper. Let them know that you do not want State government to balance its budget on the backs of local governments. Demand that State government rein in its own spending, give counties and municipalities their fair share of Highway User Revenues, and to not pass the buck on its own responsibilities.

### Questions for us?

Contact the County Commissioners Office at 410.479.0660  
or via email at [info@carolinemd.org](mailto:info@carolinemd.org).

## State Government Leadership

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