



OFFICE OF THE COUNTY AUDITOR DUPAGE COUNTY, ILLINOIS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

FROM THE OFFICE OF THE DU PAGE COUNTY AUDITOR

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AUDITOR REPORTS ON COUNTY FINANCES

DuPage County Auditor Jim Rasins recently released his Quarterly Financial Report for the first six months of the County's fiscal year. He reported that revenue in the County's Corporate Fund amounted to \$58.6 million, which represented a 6.6% increase over the amount posted during the same period of fiscal year 2007.

The Corporate Fund is the main operating fund of the County that finances the majority of the County's day-to-day operations.

"The net Corporate Fund revenue increase of \$3.7 million over the 2007 figure was attributed to several factors. These included an increase in the amounts collected from various statutory fees, a boost in the County's share of State income tax collected, and the receipt of a one-time \$500,000 intergovernmental loan repayment," the Auditor explained.

Rasins noted that nearly \$1.5 million of the net increase in Corporate Fund revenue was directly attributed to an increase in the traffic violation fees remitted to the County by the Circuit Court Clerk. This increase was the combined result of recently

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implemented automated summons processing systems utilized by municipalities, and increased collection of past due balances by the Circuit Court Clerk.

The \$1.2 million increase in the County's share of State income tax resulted largely from the timing of the amounts remitted by the State.

Rasins noted that the various increases in Corporate Fund revenue were partially offset by a drop of \$828,759 collected by the County Recorder from the same period in the prior year. Mortgage interest rates continued to reduce the number of mortgage-related documents filed for recording.

On the opposite side of the ledger, the Auditor reported that the \$59.2 million of total Fund expenditures represented an 8.1% drop from the 2007 level.

Rasins noted that \$3.6 million of the decrease in expenditures resulted from a change in the accounting treatment of bond principal and interest payments. In 2007, these payments were charged against a budgeted appropriation amount, resulting in their inclusion in Fund expenditure amounts. During 2008, the payments were processed through a cash transfer that did not impact Fund expenditure amounts.

A \$1.6 million reduction in personnel-related costs also contributed to the dip in Fund spending from the 2007 level. During 2007, there was an extraordinary spike in the number of long-tenured individuals who left the employ of the County. This resulted in a jump in various personnel-related benefit payments during the first half of 2007.

These benefit payments were not repeated during 2008. In addition, the salary amounts paid to the replacement individuals was reduced.

Partially offsetting the decreased Fund personnel costs were increases in spending for capital outlay purposes and Jail inmate medical costs.

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The 124-page financial report also included information for the various special revenue funds maintained by the County. These funds reflect amounts received and spent for a variety of specific County functions and programs, including the operation of the Convalescent Center, various human service grant programs, and the operation of County-owned sewage treatment facilities.

The County Auditor's Quarterly Financial Report can be viewed on the internet at www.dupageco.org/auditor/. Copies are also available for inspection at college and public libraries throughout DuPage County and at the Office of the County Auditor in Wheaton.

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For further information, call (630) 407-6075.