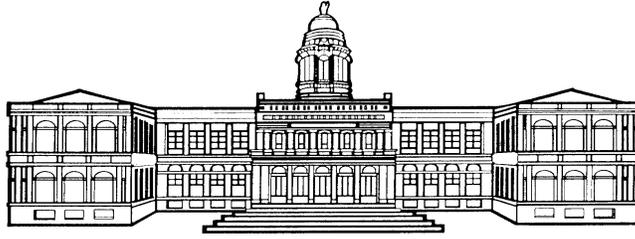


New York City Council



HEARING REPORT FINANCE COMMITTEE JOINTLY WITH COMMITTEE ON AGING

Finance Division

December 2010

Hon. Christine C. Quinn
Speaker

Hon. Domenic M. Recchia, Jr.
Chair, Committee on Finance

Preston Niblack, Director
Jeffrey Rodus, First Deputy Director

Hon. Jessica Lappin
Chair, Committee on Aging

DEPARTMENT FOR THE AGING (125)

The Department for the Aging (DFTA) administers a wide range of programs to enhance independence and quality of life of the City's elderly population. The Department's services include the operation of senior centers, provision of home delivered and congregate meals, employment counseling and placement, case management, social and legal services and home care services. DFTA serves as an advocate for the City's elderly population through legislative activity and public policy initiatives.

AGENCY FUNDING OVERVIEW (in \$000s)

Agency Funding Sources	Fiscal 2011 Adopted Budget	Fiscal 2011 November Plan
City	\$145,893	\$139,709
Other Categorical	\$0	\$31
State	\$37,331	\$37,880
Federal -- Community Development	\$2,495	\$2,495
Federal-Other	\$77,797	\$83,762
Intra-City	\$778	\$1,652
Total	\$264,294	\$265,529

November Plan Highlights

The program area most adversely affected in Fiscal 2011 by the November Financial Plan is case management. The agency's total PEG program for Fiscal 2011 totals just over \$8 million.

<i>NOVEMBER PLAN PEGS (in \$000s)</i>			
	Fiscal 2011 Adopted Budget and Forecast	Fiscal 2011 November Plan PEGs	PEG as percentage of Adopted Budget and Forecast
Fiscal 2011	\$264,294	(\$8,350)	(3%)

Restructuring of the DFTA Case Management Program (\$3.3 million)

DFTA contracts with 23 case management agencies to provide comprehensive in-home assessments and link homebound seniors with services including home delivered meals, homecare, information and referral, and other supportive programs. Case Managers also monitor and coordinate social programs, provide supportive counseling, as well as assist with light housekeeping, shopping and laundry. Additionally, case managers link homebound seniors with City social service benefits including public assistance/food stamps, HEAP, and SCRIE. Seniors access case management through referrals from senior centers, home delivered meal providers, hospitals and other community-based social service and health care agencies.

The November Financial Plan includes a \$3.3 million PEG in Fiscal 2011 for the case management program. DFTA will cut 15 percent in Fiscal 2011 and 30 percent in Fiscal 2012, from contracted provider budgets. It is likely that this cut will result in over 100 layoffs within the provider community. Case management agencies provide the City's most vulnerable, homebound seniors with, at times, the *only* link to services and benefits, as well as monitoring and support from the "outside world." DFTA has stated that this cut will result in an increase in caseloads for case management workers, as they try to ensure that no senior currently receiving care will be without service. It is reasonable to assume that this cut may cause an increase in the number of preventable emergency situations, emergency room visits, hospitalizations, elder abuse reporting, nursing home placements and deaths.

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