



New York City Council

Christine C. Quinn, Speaker

Finance Division

Preston Niblack, Director

Jeffrey Rodus, First Deputy Director

Hearing on the Mayor's Fiscal Year 2011 Preliminary Budget

Campaign Finance Board

March 15, 2010

Committee on Government Operations

Hon. Gale A. Brewer, Chair

Andy Grossman, Deputy Director, Finance Division

John Russell, Legislative Financial Analyst

Summary and Highlights

Campaign Finance Board

Dollars in Thousands

	2008 Actual	2009 Actual	2010 Adopted	2010 Jan. Plan	2011 Preliminary	Difference, 2010 – 2011*
Spending						
Personnel Services	\$4,349	\$5,379	\$6,286	\$6,431	\$6,540	\$255
Other Than Personal Services	1,948	1,779	10,465	10,465	3,822	(6,643)
Campaign Finance Fund	200	1,500	50,800	30,800	1,000	(49,800)
Table Total	\$6,497	\$8,658	\$67,550	\$47,696	\$11,362	(\$56,188)

The Fiscal 2011 Preliminary Budget for the Campaign Finance Board (approximately \$11.4 million) is \$56.2 million less than the agency's Fiscal 2010 Adopted Budget of \$67.6 million. The proposed Fiscal 2011 appropriation, however, is subject to change according to the specialized budget process for the Board discussed below.

Issues and Budget Highlights

- **Fiscal 2011 Funding.** No specific actions in the January Plan impact the agency's budget for Fiscal 2011.
- **Fiscal 2010 Funding – Return of Campaign Matching Funds.** The January Plan for Fiscal 2010 has been reduced by \$20 million in recognition of a lower-than-planned need for campaign matching funds. At the time of Fiscal 2010 Budget Adoption, the sum of \$50.8 million was appropriated for the Campaign Finance Fund. With the return of \$20 million, the Fund is reduced to \$30.8 million. Further adjustments may be made to the Fund before the accounting for Fiscal 2010 is finalized.

Campaign Finance Board

The Campaign Finance Board (The Board) or CFB is responsible for implementing the City's campaign finance program. The Board establishes regulations regarding contribution and expenditure limitations for candidates seeking election to the office of Mayor, Public Advocate, Comptroller, Borough President and City Council. The Board renders advisory opinions and initiates reviews and investigations to insure compliance with, and administration of, the New York City Campaign Finance Act. In addition, the Board publishes and distributes the Voter Guide.

Campaign Finance Board

Dollars in Thousands

	2008 Actual	2009 Actual	2010 Adopted	2010 Jan. Plan	2011 Jan. Plan	Difference 2010–2011
Spending						
Personal Services	\$4,349	\$5,379	\$6,286	\$6,431	\$6,540	\$255
Full-Time Salaried – Civilian	4,215	5,155	5,380	5,525	5,623	244
Other Salaried & Unsalariated	22	72	384	385	385	1
Additional Gross Pay	68	95	31	31	31	-
Overtime - Civilian	8	57	75	75	75	-
Amounts to be Scheduled	-	-	416	416	426	10
Other Than Personal Services	\$1,948	\$1,779	\$10,465	\$10,465	\$3,822	(\$6,643)
Supplies and Materials	195	215	2,254	2,254	287	(1,967)
Property and Equipment	465	242	320	320	475	155
Other Services and Charges	679	774	1,551	1,551	1,230	(321)
Contractual Services	609	548	6,340	6,340	1,830	(4,510)
Campaign Finance Fund	200	1,500	50,800	30,800	1,000	(49,800)
Fixed and Misc. Charges	200	1,500	50,800	30,800	1,000	(49,800)
TOTAL	\$6,497	\$8,658	\$67,550	\$47,696	\$11,362	(\$56,188)
Funding						
<i>City Funds</i>	\$6,497	\$8,658	\$67,550	\$47,696	\$11,362	(\$56,188)
TOTAL	\$6,497	\$8,658	\$67,550	\$47,696	\$11,362	(\$56,188)
Headcount						
Full-Time Salaried	65	80	80	80	81	1

- The Budget Submission Process Following Charter Reform.** The budget submission process for the Campaign Finance Board has changed significantly since Fiscal 1999. Following adoption of the Charter reform ballot proposal in the general election of 1998, the Campaign Finance Board's budget request is to be included, without change, in the Mayor's Executive Budget submission to the City Council. The Board's budget is submitted annually to the Mayor and the Speaker of the Council by March 10th. This year, an extender bill was passed by the Council giving the Board until March 22nd to make its submission.

Due to the aforementioned Budget Submission Process, the CFB's Preliminary Fiscal 2011 budget didn't reflect the calculated needs of the CFB. The CFB's budgetary needs change annually according to the election cycle. Driven by the legal requirement to give campaign matching funds to participating candidates, the agency requires budgetary resources proportional to the number of candidates who participate in any given election cycle.

Appendix A: Budget Actions in the November and January Plans

<i>Dollars in Thousands</i>	Fiscal 2010			Fiscal 2011		
	City	Non-City	Total	City	Non-City	Total
Agency Budget as per June 2009 Plan	\$67,551	\$0	\$67,551	\$11,216	\$0	\$11,216
Program to Eliminate the Gap (PEGs)						
Campaign Finance Fund Reduction	(20,000)	\$0	(\$20,000)	0	\$0	\$0
Total PEGs	(\$20,000)	\$0	(\$20,000)	\$0	\$0	\$0
Other Adjustments						
Collective Bargaining - Managers and Other Jurisdictions	146	0	\$146	\$146	\$0	\$146
Total Other Adjustments	\$146	\$0	\$146	\$146	\$0	\$146
Total January Plan Budget Changes	(\$19,854)	\$0	(\$19,854)	\$146	\$0	\$146
Agency Budget as per the January 2010 Plan	\$47,697	\$0	\$47,697	\$11,362	\$0	\$11,362