Water and Sewer Authority (LA0)

The mission of the District of Columbia Water and Sewer Authority (WASA) is to provide retail water service to the District of Columbia and limited water service to portions of the surrounding metropolitan area. It is also responsible for providing retail wastewater collection and treatment service to portions of certain surrounding metropolitan areas (Montgomery and Prince George's Counties in Maryland and Fairfax and Loudoun Counties in Virginia), in an environmentally safe manner that protects our waterways.

Agency Director	**Jerry N. Johnson**
Proposed Operating Budget ($ in thousands)	**$230,614**

Fast Facts

- The proposed FY 2001 operating budget is $230,614, 000, a decrease of $5,461,000 from the FY 2000 approved budget. In FY 2000, the agency revised its budget to $219,859,000.
- WASA's rates and fees will be based on the actual cost to deliver each service. Rate increases will be implemented in a gradual and predictable manner, avoiding large one-time rate increases.
- As of February 2000, WASA has for the 40th consecutive month exceeded the 1974 standard for the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) maximum contaminant levels (MCLs) of bacteriological, turbidity, fluorides, certain pesticides, and certain heavy metals;
- In 1996, WASA began as an unrated utility. Rating factors and criteria include an assessment of management, service area demographics, rate structure, financial performance, and legal provisions. In 1999, WASA received an unsolicited bond upgrade from "A-" to a straight "A" from Fitch IBCA;
- During FY 2000, WASA did the following: Inspected every fire hydrant – all 8,374 of them, and achieved goal of having at least 99 percent operational at all times;
- Negotiated a single contract covering all unionized employees;
- Implemented a cutting-edge pilot program for removing excess nitrogen from wastewater that was so successful that WASA is moving forward with plans to use the process system-wide by 2000. This will enable WAS to meet the ambitious voluntary goals it set for itself under the Chesapeake Bay Agreement;
- Expanded program for cleaning and lining water mains, inspecting and repairing valves, cleaning and repairing catch basins and sewers;
- Inspected and cleaned all reservoirs and holding tanks, flushed the entire wastewater distribution network, and, together with the Washington Aqueduct, inspected all colliform sampling sites and made changes where appropriate;
- Established and staffed a Human Resources Department, a General Counsel's office and a Risk Management Unit;
- Made substantial progress on plans to upgrade information technology infrastructure;
- Greatly expanded training opportunities for all employees and for the first time, and had WASA operators seek certification from the Association of Boards of Certification;
- Revamped and reduced WASA fleet, raising the operational rate from less than 50 percent to 93 percent and reduced the overall size from 800 units to 650.

FY 2001 Proposed Budget by Department

The Water and Sewer Authority is comprised of five departments that serve as the major components of the agency's budget.

FY 2001 Proposed Budget by Control Center

(Dollars in Thousands)

Water and Sewer Authority

Control Center		Proposed FY 2001 Budget
1000	GENERAL MANAGER	16,122
2000	CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER	23,180
3000	ASSISTANT GENERAL MANAGER/SUPPORT SERVCS	11,321
4000	CHIEF ENGINEER	133,683
5000	SPECIAL/OTHER	46,308
LA0	Water and Sewer Authority	230,614

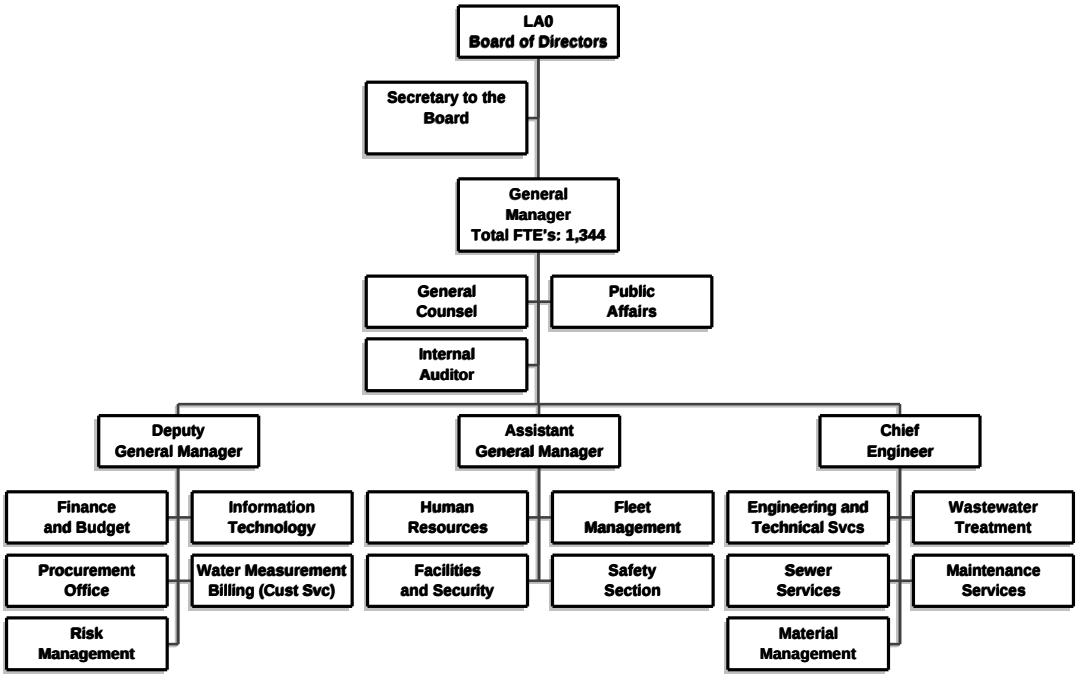
Agency Overview and Organization

WASA is a self-funded agency and enjoys strong and relatively secure revenue streams from a variety of established customers, including the federal government, the District government, surrounding jurisdictions in Maryland and Virginia and commercial and residential customers within the District.

The Water and Sewer Authority is organized into several operational and administrative departments. The operational functions of the agency comprise 61 percent of its operating budget. The Chief Engineer is responsible for the operational functions of the agency. The operational functions include:

- **Engineering and Technical Services:** Plans and implements the capital improvement program (CIP) for WASA and provides engineering assistance and advice to WASA's operating bureaus and management on engineering aspects of the Agency's operations and facilities.
- **Wastewater Treatment:** Treats wastewater delivered to Blue Plains from the collection system of the District of Columbia and surrounding jurisdictions in Maryland and Virginia, ensuring that water quality is in compliance with the requirement of the Clean Water Act.
- **Water Services:** Operates and maintains drinkable water transmission, storage and distribution system.
- **Sewer Services**: Provides for the operation and maintenance of the sewer system of the District of Columbia which collects and transports sewage and storm-water flows to the Blue Plains wastewater treatment plant.
- **Maintenance Services:** Provides other WASA departments, and ultimately the public, with responsive, professional, cost-effective, and industry-leading maintenance services that contribute to highly reliable, efficient and safe equipment and systems for water supply, sewage and storm-water transportation and wastewater treatment.
- **Material Management:** Provides guidance in carrying out policies, goals and objectives of the Agency in supply and inventory management to ensure that materials, supplies and equipment are procured in the most economical and expeditious manner.

The administrative functions represent approximately 10 percent of WASA's budget. The Chief Financial Officer (CFO) and the Assistant General Manager have oversight responsibility for the administrative functions of the agency. The CFO is responsible for administrative functions, which include finance and budget, information technology, procurement and risk management. The CFO oversees the operational task of water measurement billing (customer service). The Assistant General Manager oversees an additional set of administrative functions, which include human resources, fleet management, facilities and securities and safety.


LA0
Board of Directors
Secretary to the Board
General Manager
Total FTE's: 1,344
General Counsel
Public Affairs
Internal Auditor
Deputy General Manager
Assistant General Manager
Chief Engineer
Finance and Budget
Information Technology
Procurement Office
Water Measurement Billing (Cust Svc)
Risk Management
Human Resources
Fleet Management
Facilities and Security
Safety Section
Engineering and Technical Svcs
Wastewater Treatment
Sewer Services
Maintenance Services
Material Management

FY 2001 Proposed Operating Budget

The Water and Sewer Authority's Operating Budget is composed of two categories: (1) Personal Services (PS), and (2) Nonpersonal Services (NPS).

Within the PS budget category are several object classes of expenditure such as regular pay, other pay, additional gross pay, and fringe benefits. Within the NPS budget category are several object classes of expenditure such as supplies and materials, utilities, communications, rent, other services and charges, contractual services, subsidies and transfers, equipment and equipment rental, and debt service.

FY 2001 Proposed Operating Budget

(Dollars in Thousands)

Water and Sewer Authority

Object Class	FY 1999 Unaudited	Budget FY 2000	Proposed FY 2001	Variance
Regular Pay -Cont. Full Time	44,087	52,813	54,813	2,000
Regular Pay - Other	538	0	0	0
Additional Gross Pay	7,385	5,927	5,927	0
Fringe Benefits	8,290	10,941	11,157	216
Subtotal for: Personal Services (PS)	60,300	69,681	71,897	2,216
Supplies and Materials	10,299	15,155	15,733	578
Utilities	21,447	18,743	18,101	-642
Other Services and Charges	48,981	54,802	52,059	-2,743
Subsidies and Transfers	27,884	43,011	31,964	-11,047
Equipment and Equipment Rental	668	1,371	1,267	-104
Debt Services and Others	18,767	33,312	39,593	6,281
Bad Debt Expense Accrual	-1	0	0	0
Depreciation Expense	-4,235	0	0	0
Subtotal for: Nonpersonal Services (NPS)	123,809	166,394	158,717	-7,677
Total Expenditures:	184,109	236,075	230,614	-5,461

Authorized Spending Levels by Revenue Type:	FTEs	Dollars	FTEs	Dollars	FTEs	Dollars	FTEs	Dollars
Local	0	-15	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other	1,122	181,568	0	236,075	0	230,614	0	-5,461
Intra-District	0	2,556	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total:	1,122	184,109	0	236,075	0	230,614	0	-5,461

Agency Funding Summary

The proposed FY 2001 operating budget *for all funding sources* is $230,614,000, a decrease of $5,461,000 or 2.3 percent, over the FY 2000 approved budget. The Water and Sewer Authority receives funding from other revenue sources.

- **Other.** The proposed *other* revenue budget is $230,614,000 a decrease of $5,461,000 from the FY 2000 budget. Of the net decrease, $2,216,000 is an increase in personal services and ($7,677,000) is a decrease in nonpersonal services.

  The change in personal services is comprised of:

  – $2,215,000 increase in labor adjustments in FY 2001

  The changes in nonpersonal services is comprised of:

  – ($642,000) decrease in utilities

  – $ 578,000 increase in supplies

  – ($2,743,000) decrease in other services and charges

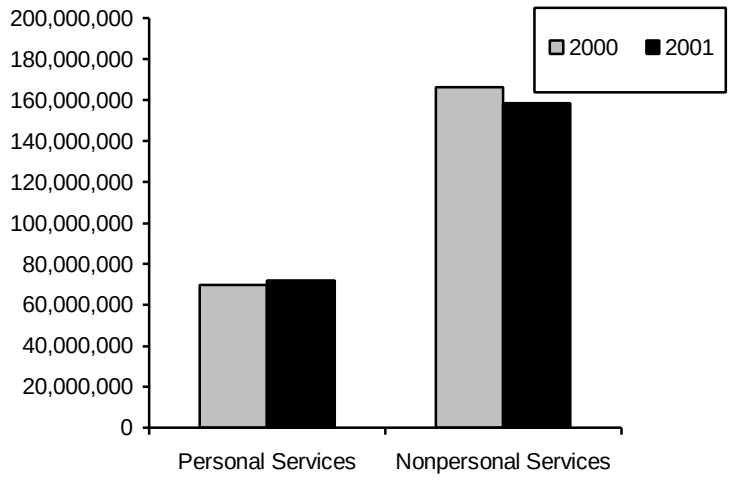
  – ($11,047,000) decrease in subsidies and transfers

  – ($104,000) decrease in other adjustments

  – $6,281,000 increase in debt services

Figure 1

FY 2001 Proposed Budget Includes an Increase in PS and a Decrease in NPS

Personal Services increased by 2 percent, from $69 million in FY 2000 to $72 million, in FY 2001.

Nonpersonal services decreased by 3.3 percent, from $166 million to $159 million.