

In the past, the County has used master lease financing to acquire equipment, rolling stock, furniture, and technology purchases that have useful lives ranging from three to ten years. This type of financing is very flexible, allowing the County to finance projects with minimal transaction costs and on an “as needed” basis over the term of the master lease. However, due to changing market conditions, the County is exploring other short-term financing options for items that it had previously funded through master lease. Because of the shorter maturities of these financial products, interest rates are typically lower than rates available for long-term bonds. The projects discussed below are recommended to be financed through short-term financing with related debt service costs funded through the General Fund Non-Departmental budget or charge backs from the Auto Fund, as appropriate.

FY 2019 Short-Term Financing Project Costs (\$ in 000's)

	Short-Term Financing	PAYG	Total Funding
Endpoint Replacement	\$1,985		\$1,985
Network Equipment Refresh	1,500	491	1,991
Data Storage	500		500
Subtotal Enterprise Technology and Equipment	\$3,985	\$491	\$4,476
Fire Station Alerting System	1,110		1,110
Fire Breathing Apparatuses	3,298		3,298
ECC Radio System - Circuit to IP Simulcast Conversion	715		715
Subtotal Public Safety	\$5,123	-	\$5,123
General Fund: Program Costs	\$9,108	\$491	\$9,599
TOTAL Project Costs	\$9,108	\$491	\$9,599

The FY 2019 list of projects will replace aged and critical technology infrastructure and public safety equipment. The FY 2019 debt service budget of \$7.9 million in the General Fund Non-Department budget for short-term financing is a three percent increase from the FY 2018 adopted level. Various public safety equipment, previously funded through one-time federal and state grants and other sources, have reached their end of life and must be refreshed. This annual debt service budget level will cover the financing costs (principal and interest) of the General Fund’s base program projects listed in the table above and continue to cover debt service costs of capital projects previously approved.

Endpoint Replacement **\$1,985,000**

Most end user computing devices in the County currently operate on Windows 7. In January 2020, manufacturer support for this operating system will terminate, and any devices still running it will

stop receiving critical security patches. Thus, all County devices must be upgraded to Windows 10 before this date. These funds will be used to replace over 960 devices and upgrade over 1,200 devices.

Network Equipment Refresh **\$1,500,000**

These funds will be used to replace network switches and routers which are still being used past their useful life.

Data Storage **\$500,000**

These funds will be used to replace servers and other storage hardware that have reached the end of their useful life.

Fire Station Alerting System **\$1,110,000**

These funds will be used to upgrade and standardize station alerting, replacing the County’s current twelve-year-old technology. The alerting system reduces response time for firefighters and paramedics, reducing the chance of flashover and increasing the chances of patient survival.

Fire Breathing Apparatuses **\$3,298,000**

These funds will be used to replace Self Contained Breathing Apparatuses (SCBA), which are devices that provide clean air to firefighters in hazardous conditions. The County’s current SCBAs were purchased in September 2008 and will no longer be covered under the manufacturer’s ten-year warranty as of September 2018. In addition, Arlington, Fairfax and Alexandria have jointly decided to move towards superior SCBAs with a starting pressure of 5500 psi, phasing out the region’s current 4500 psi models. Arlington County frequently operates in mutual aid calls with these neighboring jurisdictions, and using the same SCBA model is essential to ensuring the safety of every firefighter on the scene in an emergency situation. A consistent SCBA allows for buddy breathing between jurisdictions and guarantees that firefighters from all jurisdictions are familiar with the operations of every SCBA available at an emergency event.

ECC Radio System – Circuit to IP Simulcast Conversion **\$715,000**

The existing emergency communication radio system network operates using circuit-based connectivity between remote sites within the system. Building more advanced features into this radio system will require first converting it to Internet Protocol (IP) based connectivity. These funds will convert all remote sites to the IP based connectivity and replace all relevant hardware and fiber.