

FPHS FEES: AN EXPLANATION

Fees support 50% of current FPHS spending and 39% of the estimated cost of FPHS.

At the state level

- State fees support \$87 million of current FPHS spending
- Fees pay for the following services at the state level:
 - Drinking water: Operating permits for public water systems, water plan review, system inspections
 - Radiation protection: use of radioactive materials, inspections of industry uses
 - Commercial shellfish licensing and certification
 - Newborn screening
 - Healthcare professional licenses/certification
 - Birth and death certificates
- Some fee-based services fully recover their costs through fees. Other services may not fully recover their costs, often for policy reasons or fees that are set in statute by the Legislature

At the local level

- Local fees support \$62 million of current FPHS spending
- Fees pay for the following services at the local level:
 - Community food safety: Restaurant inspections, food worker cards
 - Wastewater management: Wastewater and reclaimed water use, sewer plan review, on-site system permits
 - Water recreation facilities
 - Birth and death certificates
- Some fee-based services fully recover their costs through fees, while other services may not fully recover their costs
- There are variations in the level of fee recovery among LHJs. There are multiple reasons for this variation, such as political decisions to support fee-based services with general taxes, economic development goals, and the influence of fixed costs at smaller jurisdictions or for smaller programs. However, birth and death certificate fees are set by the legislature.

Changes Under FPHS Funding Alternative 1:

State is responsible for funding FPHS, except for federally-funded and local fee supported costs.

- Under this alternative, locals would be required to make commitments regarding the level of support for fee-based FPHS:
 - Since the state is funding all non-fee supported services, the legislature would need to ensure that appropriate support for fee based programs are being collected at the local level to avoid inequitable state funding support
 - If locals are not committed to a certain level of fee support, FPHS may not be fully funded statewide