

# **SPECIAL FIRE SAFETY AND PARAMEDIC COMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT TAX FUND**

## **BASIS FOR THE PROPOSED BUDGET**

The 2003-04 Proposed Budget for the Special Fire Safety and Paramedic Communications Equipment Tax Fund relates to current year funding as follows:

	<b>Amount</b>	<b>% Change</b>
2002-03 Budget	\$ 2,156,326	
2003-04 Proposed Budget	\$ 447,784	
Change from 2002-03 Budget	\$ (1,708,542)	(79.2)%

On November 8, 1989, the voters approved an ordinance adding Article 1.14 to Chapter 11 of the Los Angeles Municipal Code imposing a Special Fire Safety and Paramedic Communications Equipment Tax. The Special Tax was imposed for 10 years, commencing with Fiscal Year 1989-90 and ending with Fiscal Year 1998-99. The Special Tax paid for up to \$67 million in bonds to finance the following: a fire radio system; a microwave network; a Computer Assisted Dispatch (CAD) system that includes mobile data terminals and an administrative terminal network; an apparatus intercom system; a face piece communications system; and, a remodel of the existing dispatch center. Due to a change in Trustees and a resulting change in debt service payment dates, an over-levy of the Special Tax occurred. The funds remaining in Fiscal Year 2003-04 are reserved for the refund to taxpayers.

