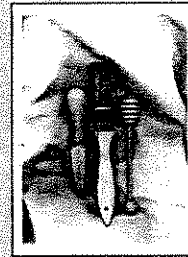
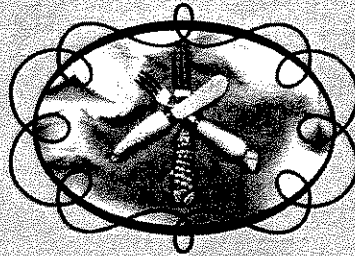


TODAY'S
SPECIAL

April 28th

LEVY LIMIT BISQUE
MADE WITH 2 1/2% MILK

2008



THE REPORT

OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE OF THE TOWN OF CONCORD

MAIN COURSE

TOWN BUDGET BAGUETTE
WITH GARLICKY FISCAL EXPENDITURE FRIES

PROPERTY TAX TENDERLOIN
AND SPICY STATUTE TO INCREASE EXEMPTION

RUSTIC ROAD REPAIR GRATIN
WITH REVOLVING FUND HASH

FRESH WATER SYSTEM SAUSAGE

BABY EMERSON PLAYGROUND GREENS
WITH IMPROVEMENT SLICES

WARM PUBLIC SCHOOL SAUTÉE
SIDE OF ROASTED RENOVATION STICKS

HUGE HUGH CARGILL FARM FLAPJACKS
AND CONCORD GRAPE JELLY

AFFORDABLE HOUSING HAM

WIND TURBINE TOAST
WITH CRUST REMOVED

DEMOLITION DELAY CRUMBLE
SIDE OF QUORUM RULE PUDDING

SIDES

BRUCE FREEMAN TRAIL MIX
A SWEET/SALTY MEDLEY OF
ROUTE CHANGE, REST STOPS,
TRAIL WIDTH AND MANY
SCHEMATIC DESIGN CHOICES

CONSERVATION LAND CAKES
A WARM CURD OF PROBABLE
USES OVER A CRUST OF
FUTURE ACQUISITIONS

SECRET BALLOT BITES
SPRINKLED WITH
LESS THAN A MAJORITY ZEST

SUPPLEMENTAL SOUP
TOPPED WITH CROUTONS
MADE FROM AVAILABLE FUNDS

MINIMUM PARKING FLAN
WITH AMENDMENT GLAZE

LIGHT PLANT MERINGUE PIE

DRINKS

BYLAW LASSI
PETITION PARFAIT

PAPER BALLOT LATTE
FUNDING FRAPPE

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This section includes a brief explanation of each Warrant article and the recommendations of the Board of Selectmen and the Finance Committee	

Town of Concord
Annual Town Meeting 2008

**PRE-SCHEDULING OF
HIGH-INTEREST WARRANT ARTICLES**

The following schedule will be followed at the Town Meeting commencing Monday, April 28, 2008, unless the Meeting decides on some different order of consideration of matters in the Warrant.

Monday Normal Warrant Sequence
April 28
7:00 p.m.

Tuesday Article 27: Bruce Freeman Rail Trail
April 29 Article 28: Bruce Freeman Rail Trail in Concord **By Petition**
7:00 p.m. Article 29: Access for All for the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail **By Petition**
 Article 30: Funding for Continuing Work on the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail **By Petition**

Proposed Amendments to Articles 27, 28, 29 or 30 are to be filed with the Town Manager's office by 12:00 noon, Friday, April 25. Amendments that are filed with the Town Manager's office will be taken up first with each article prior to amendments offered from the floor of Town Meeting.

These articles shall be taken up as the first order of business at 7:00 p.m., then continue with normal Warrant sequence to adjournment.

Wednesday Normal Warrant sequence
April 30
7:00 p.m.

Monday Normal Warrant sequence
May 5
7:00 p.m.

Tuesday Normal Warrant sequence to dissolution.
May 6
7:00 p.m.

If we lose a day because of snow, the entire schedule will be moved to the next scheduled meeting date.

Edward N. Perry
Town Moderator
April 2008

TOWN MEETING

Monday, April 28, 2008 7:00 p.m.

CONCORD-CARLISLE REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL

Parking

Town Meeting attendees should enter the high school parking lot via the Walden Street entrance only. Parking is limited. Carpooling is encouraged. Parking for people with disabilities is available at the flag-pole circle at the high school.

Childcare

Childcare will be provided at the high school for children two and a half or older. The Concord Recreation Department offers the service at a cost of \$5 per child per hour or \$25 for two or more children for the evening. To guarantee a space, reservations should be made in advance by calling the Concord Recreation Department: 978/369-6460.

Seniors

Seniors may arrange transportation with the Council on Aging office: 978/318-3020. Advance reservations are necessary.

Check-in

All voters who were registered to vote by March 12, 2008 are eligible to participate at Town Meeting. Voters should check-in at the tables in the main lobby by last name and pick up a Town Meeting ballot on each night of attendance.

Seating

Seating is available in either the auditorium or the cafeteria. The auditorium will be the main meeting room.

Refreshments

Pizza, desserts, water and coffee will be available for purchase in the lobby beginning at 6:30 p.m., proceeds to benefit the CCHS Class of 2010.

Assisted listening devices

Assisted listening devices will be available in the lobby.

Special arrangements or needs

Anyone with a disability requiring special arrangements for Town Meeting should contact Douglas Meagher, Assistant Town Manager/ADA Coordinator by April 22, 2008: 978/318-3000.

Tellers

Anyone willing to be a teller at Town Meeting should contact Abe Fisher, head teller: 978/371-7350 or Todd Crocker, assistant head teller: 978/549-1598.

THANKS

THE FINANCE COMMITTEE THANKS THE
TOWN AND SCHOOL ADMINISTRATIONS,
EMPLOYEES AND COMMITTEES FOR THEIR
COOPERATION AND ASSISTANCE
DURING THE PAST YEAR.

THE TOWN OF CONCORD FINANCE COMMITTEE

TERMS TO EXPIRE IN 2008

TERRI ACKERMAN,
CLERK

MARK HOWELL

MARK RUSSELL PRIOR

JUDITH QUANRUD

ROBERTO TENENBAUM

TERMS TO EXPIRE IN 2009

THOMAS C. ANZER, CHAIR

SUSAN BATES

WALTER W. BIRGE, VICE CHAIR

MICHAEL E. LAWSON

CAROL WILSON

TERMS TO EXPIRE IN 2010

CHARLES R. BLAIR

PAMELA A. HILL

DAVID W. KRAMER

JOHN D. LAMOTHE

MAURA L. PERKINS

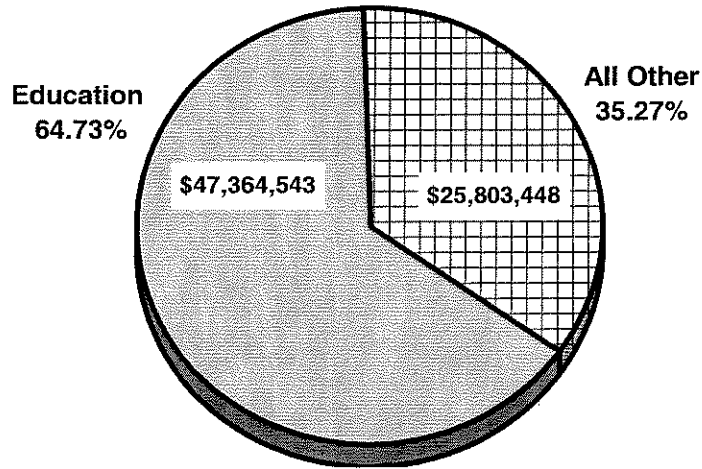
CHARTS AND TABLES BY THE TOWN OF CONCORD FINANCE DEPARTMENT

THIS REPORT OF THE CONCORD FINANCE COMMITTEE
WAS DESIGNED, EDITED AND PRODUCED WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF
JANET BEYER.

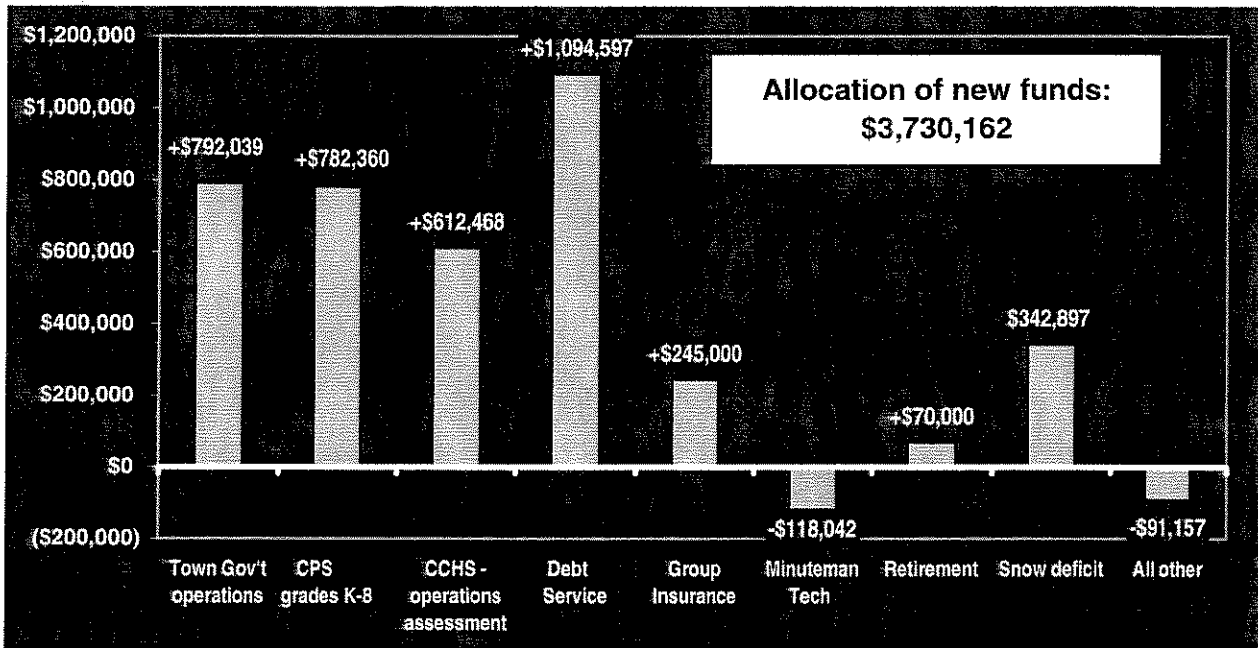
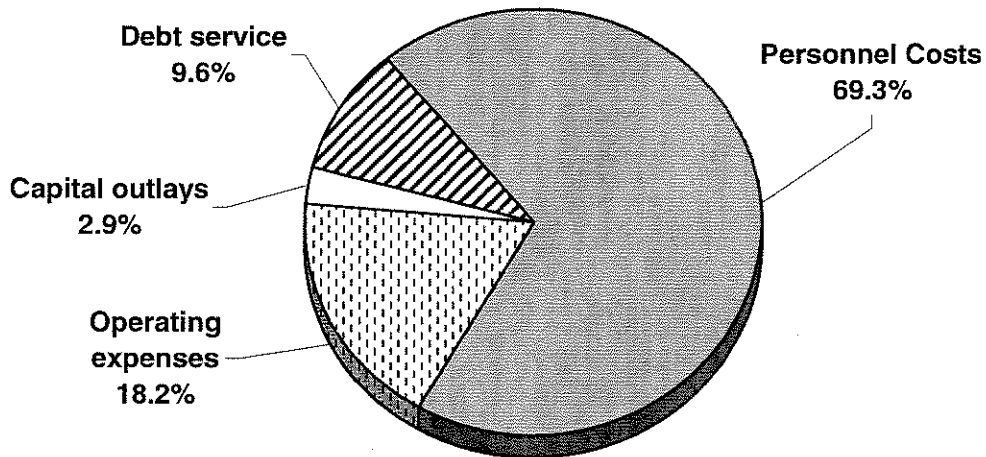
COVER DESIGN BY DONNA THOMAS

Budget Overview

Education share of proposed budget



By Expenditure category



THE BUDGET IN BRIEF

Essential information at a glance

Total Budget: Town Government and Education at Finance Committee Guidelines

- The total proposed FY09 General Fund budget, at the Finance Committee's Guideline, is \$73,167,991. This is \$3,730,162 or 5.4% over FY08. The Town government and education proposed operating budgets total \$57,200,098, which is 4.0% over FY08 operating budgets.
- 65% of the proposed FY09 spending plan is for expenses related to primary and secondary education.
- Total debt service (principal and interest payments on long and short-term debt) is budgeted at \$6,347,193. Additionally, the Town's assessed share of debt service for the Concord-Carlisle regional school district is budgeted at \$684,143. The total allocation to debt repayment is \$7,031,336, or 9.6% of the total proposed budget. This is an increase of \$1,094,597, or 30% of the overall FY09 budget increase. Most of this increase, \$904,347, is on account of debt service excluded from the Proposition 2½ property tax levy limit, in accordance with previous Town-wide ballot votes.
- Long term bonds have now been issued for the full financing of the new Alcott and Thoreau schools. The FY09 budgeted debt service costs are:

Alcott:	\$ 813,016
Thoreau:	\$ 1,570,663

 The proposed budget also includes \$532,800 as the debt service cost for the Willard School. This covers bonding of the design cost and short-term interest on construction-period financing.

Property taxes

- The median single family residential tax bill in FY08 is \$7,886; based on an assessed value of \$735,650 at a tax rate of \$10.72 per thousand.
- The tax rate projected increase is 5.63% (an additional \$444 on the median bill, \$60 per \$100,000 of assessed valuation).
- Each 1% increase in the tax levy equals \$589,000 in revenue for FY09.
- 86% of the Proposed Budget support is derived from property taxes.
- 81% of property taxes are paid by single family residential property.

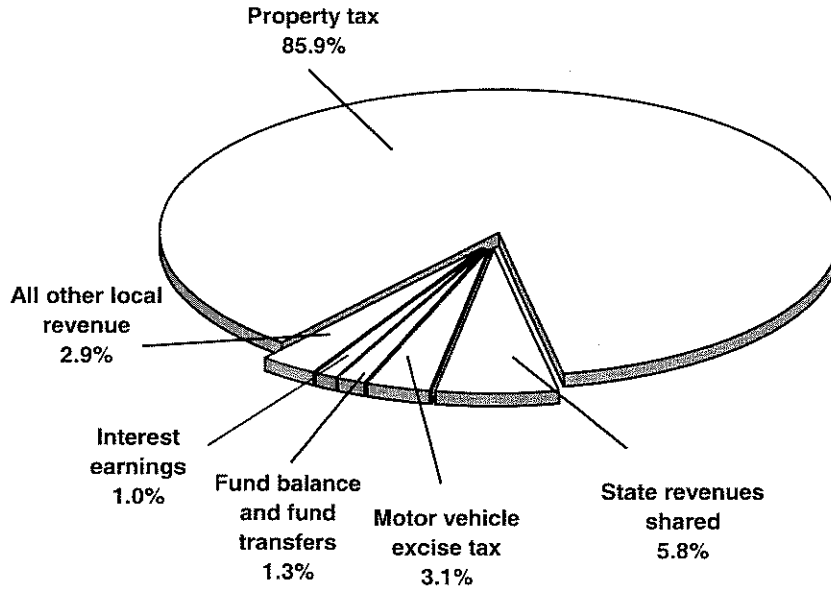
Free Cash Use

- The Finance Committee recommends allocating \$600,000 from Free Cash to support the FY09 budget plan. Free Cash is a term denoting the available portion of the unreserved General Fund balance. Free Cash is certified as of each June 30 by the state for each city and town.

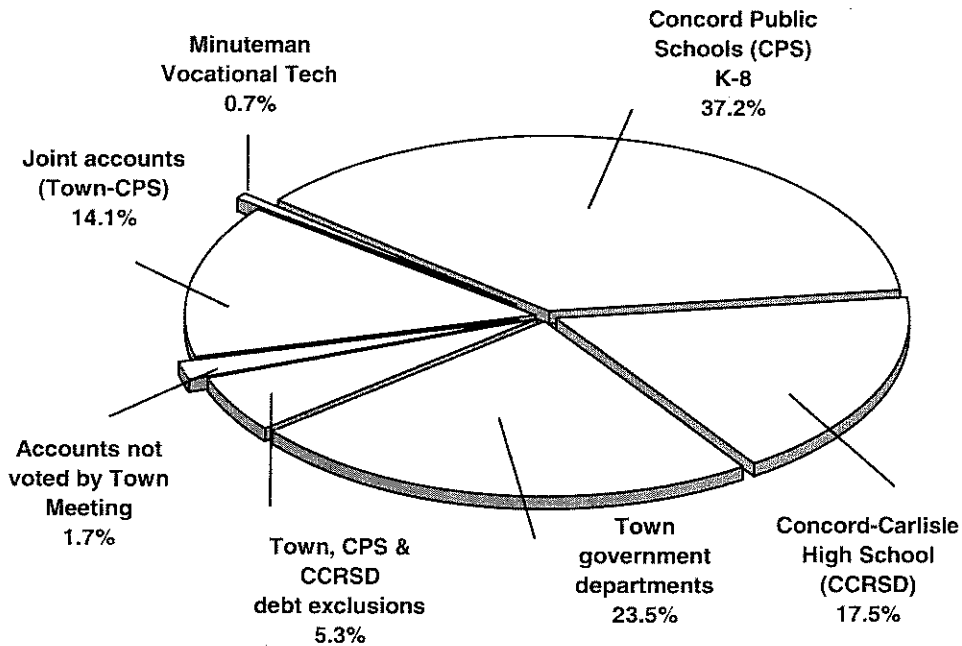
FY09 Guideline Budget Plan

General Fund
FY09 total budget
at Finance Committee Guideline
\$73,167,991 (+5.4%)

Income



Outlays



The Proposed General Fund Appropriation for the year beginning July 1, 2008 (FY09)

Recommendations of the Finance Committee Articles 7, 8 and 9

	Warrant location reference	Appropriated FY08	Proposed FY09	percent change	percent of total
Town Government					
General Government	Art. 7, items 1-6	\$ 1,808,782	\$ 1,876,447	3.7%	2.6%
Finance & Administration	Art. 7, items 7-11	1,658,948	1,755,573	5.8%	2.4%
Public Safety (Police & Fire)	Art. 7, items 12-17	6,836,755	7,012,823	2.6%	9.6%
Public Works	Art. 7, items 18-28	3,239,706	3,234,292	-0.2%	4.4%
Library	Art. 7, item 29	1,677,391	1,688,849	0.7%	2.3%
Reserve Fund	Art. 7, item 39	225,000	225,000	0.0%	0.3%
Salary Reserve	Art. 7, item 40	189,322	600,000	--	0.8%
Recreation and all other	Art. 7, items 30-38, 42	762,070	797,029	4.6%	1.1%
Total Town Gov't operations		\$ 16,397,974	\$ 17,190,013	4.8%	23.5%
Concord Public Schools (CPS)	Article 8	\$ 26,423,840	\$ 27,206,200	3.0%	37.2%
Concord-Carlisle Regional HS	Operations	\$ 12,191,417	\$ 12,803,885	5.0%	17.5%
<i>Concord's assessment share</i>	Debt Service	476,557	684,143	43.6%	0.9%
	Article 9, Item 1 - total	\$ 12,667,974	13,488,028	6.5%	18.4%
Town and School (CPS) debt service					
debt repayment within levy limit		\$ 2,909,750	\$ 3,100,000	6.5%	4.2%
debt excluded from levy limit		2,550,432	3,247,193	27.3%	4.4%
Total debt service	Art. 7, item 47	\$ 5,460,182	\$ 6,347,193	16.2%	8.7%
Employee Benefits (Town and CPS only):					
Group Insurance	Art. 7, item 43A	\$ 3,600,000	\$ 3,845,000	6.8%	5.3%
Retirement (pension funding)	Art. 7, item 45	2,380,000	2,450,000	2.9%	3.3%
Social Security & Medicare	Art. 7, item 46	522,000	510,000	-2.3%	0.7%
Total Employee Benefits		\$ 6,502,000	\$ 6,805,000	4.7%	9.3%
Minuteman Tech Regional HS	Art. 9, item 2	\$ 604,702	\$ 486,660	-19.5%	0.7%
Property & liability insurance	Art. 7, item 43B	225,000	225,000	0.0%	0.3%
Unemployment/Worker's Comp	Art. 7, item 44	200,000	200,000	0.0%	0.3%
TOTAL Town Meeting appropriations		\$ 68,481,672	71,948,094	5.1%	98.3%
Not Appropriated:					
State assessments (mostly for MBTA)		\$ 367,696	\$ 377,000	2.5%	0.5%
Snow & Ice expense account deficit		0	342,897	--	0.5%
Overlay for tax exemptions and abatements		588,461	500,000	-15.0%	0.7%
TOTAL SPENDING PLAN		\$ 69,437,829	\$ 73,167,991	5.4%	