



Craig S. Gerhart
County Executive

COUNTY OF PRINCE WILLIAM

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April 6, 2007

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Board:

I am pleased to present to you the Prince William County 2006 Service Efforts and Accomplishments (SEA) Report. This report is a key part of the accountability component of the Prince William County System. Through the SEA Report the community is provided a level of government accountability that is rare because the Report provides information not only on how much is spent on government services but also how well those services are performed. In addition the report provides benchmarks for gauging performance by making comparisons to prior year trend data, to other jurisdictions, and to targets.

Last year, Prince William County was one of fourteen jurisdictions in the country to win the Association of Government Accountants (AGA) Certificate of Excellence in Service Efforts and Accomplishments Reporting. The Certificate is presented by the AGA to "state and local governmental entities whose annual performance reports fulfill the Governmental Accounting Standards Board's suggested criteria for communicating results and thereby increasing public accountability."

Besides providing public accountability the report is used by County staff to review results, raise questions, and when appropriate, initiate change. The SEA Report also provides us with an awareness of how we stack up in some areas against other jurisdictions and thereby injects a level of competition that is generally not present in government operations.

Sincerely,

Craig S. Gerhart
County Executive