

BROOME COUNTY FIREFIGHTERS' ASSOCIATION

BROOME COUNTY, NEW YORK

FASNY BUDGET UPDATE

As of March 31st, the NYS Legislature and Governor have enacted this year's budget.

This budget affects three items on FASNY's legislative agenda:

- Loan Interest Revolving Loan Fund. The budget contains a \$4 million appropriation for the Low Interest Loan Fund. This is the same amount as last year. For several years, the Loan Fund received \$1.5 million from the 911 surcharge revenues. However, because of the difficult financial situation in NYS, this 911 surcharge money for the Loan Fund will be delayed until 2013.
- Training Funds. Funds for volunteer firefighter training come from the NYS Office of Fire Prevention and Control (OFPC). The budget contains a \$4.9 million appropriation for all OFPC operations. In addition, the budget authorizes \$15.2 million to be sub-allocated to OFPC from the Department of Financial Services. The amount of OFPC funds that will be used for volunteer firefighting is projected to be the same as in prior years.
- 911 Surcharge Distribution. The budget contains a \$45 million appropriation to support statewide interoperable communications for first responders. The budget also requires an annual distribution of \$9 million from the wireless surcharge for grants or reimbursements to counties for costs related to the operation and improvement of public safety answering points.