SCCOG NON-TAX REVENUE SURVEY
30 June 2008

In the spring of 2008, staff of the Southeastern Connecticut Council of Governments (SCCOG) undertook a survey of SCCOG's twenty municipalities in an attempt to compile an accurate inventory of all non-tax revenue sources that were available to southeastern Connecticut towns. The information is now being disseminated to SCCOG member towns so that it might be used to determine if there are additional fees and charges that they could impose in order to raise additional revenue to fund municipal operations. This survey is the first component of a three-part project which will also include a shared services study and a joint purchasing study.

The initial survey was mailed to all SCCOG chief elected officials and city/town managers in March of 2008. The chief elected officials and city/town managers were asked to distribute the survey to the appropriate person in each department for which information was being requested. Information was requested in the following thirteen departments or areas: Building, Planning and Zoning, Engineering, GIS, Health and Sanitation, Police, Fire, Animal Control, Public Works, Water and Sewer, Library, Parks and Recreation, and Town Clerk. After an initial low response, additional requests were made to towns to submit the requested data. While the information being reported in the attached tables is still not 100% complete, it is fairly comprehensive and should prove valuable for towns interested in researching how much other southeastern Connecticut towns charge for certain services. In addition, it is noted that originally information was requested concerning annual revenue collected in fees and charges by category. Because of the low response to this part of the survey, no attempt has been made to compile what information was received regionally.

The information in the attached tables is presented as it was reported by the town. In a few cases, individual departments were contacted and clarification requested. However, time constraints and the desire not to overburden those individuals/departments which took the time to respond resulted in most of the data being recorded here as originally reported by each municipal department. Because there could be different interpretations of what was being requested and various permeations from town to town as to how a specific fee is applied, caution should be taken when comparing some of the fees. If specific questions do arise, it is suggested that inquiries should be directed to the department where the data originated.

Only non-tax revenue information provided by SCCOG municipalities has been included in the survey response. No attempt was made to gather the information from another source. If no data is listed in one of the thirteen departments or areas, the municipality did not respond for that particular department or area. If no data is listed for an item where a municipality responded for other items in that area or department, the municipality did not list a fee in their response for that item so it is assumed that no fee exists.