



NEWS FROM THE OFFICE OF
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SUMMER HEAT COOLS COUNTY COSTS
AUGUST SPENDING DROPS \$1.4 MILLION

KINGSTON, NY (September 10, 2014)... Ulster County Comptroller Elliott Auerbach's August ULSTER COUNTY SPENDING TRACKER indicates that monthly expenses took a dip as the temperature rose during the last full month of summer. Spending was roughly \$1.4 million less than last month with the County writing checks totaling nearly \$9.8 million

NUMBERS TO WATCH:

The largest monthly spending of any County Department originated from the Department of Finance, spending over \$4.7 million and accounting for nearly 48% of August's entire expenditures. One of Finance's largest expenses, totaling close to \$1.7 million, was the payments to towns and villages for their portion of the sales tax revenue.

The Department of Public Works, taking advantage of the pleasant weather to perform highway maintenance, followed the Department of Finance as a distant second, spending over \$1.5 million. 40% of total monies, or approximately \$640,000, was spent on materials used for road repairs.

August's payments once again included over \$350,000 to the third party administrator of the County's Health Benefit Plan. A recent audit of the plan by the Comptroller's Office made recommendations to improve County oversight of dependent eligibility and reduce risk of fraud and waste in the administration of this approximate \$24.7 million County program. The Personnel Department, which oversees the plan, has committed to an exhaustive review of its files and a follow up meeting with the Comptroller to evaluate the recommendations and the corrective action plan.

The AUGUST 2014 County Spending Tracker can all be found at youreyesonulster.com.

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