



NEWS FROM THE ULSTER COUNTY COMPTROLLER

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

COMPTROLLER AUERBACH RELEASES LEGISLATIVE REPORT CARD

KINGSTON, NY (January 4, 2009)... Ulster County Comptroller Elliott Auerbach announced a new reporting medium he is calling **Measure 2 Manage**. "Borrowing from the adage, 'If you can't measure it, you can't manage it,'" explained Auerbach, "we believe this is an effective and affordable way to report government spending, efficiency and effectiveness."

Measure 2 Manage is a series of short, 1 -2 page, snap shots portraying the use of County resources. This inaugural **Measure 2 Manage** report documents legislator attendance in 2009. The report identifies for each Ulster County Legislator the percentage of meetings attended including regular sessions of the legislature, public hearings and committee meetings.

The report provides factual background information regarding the role of the Legislature and the over \$500,000.00 of salaries and benefits provided to legislators.

Future **Measure 2 Manage** reports will share information such as property leases the county has entered into, mileage reimbursement for personal vehicle use, EZ Pass use, hotel-motel occupancy tax collection and gas and diesel fuel consumption

"On a daily basis my office generates data worthy of analysis," said Auerbach, "this data can be valuable to managers. By presenting the data in a useable format, the work of my staff will contribute to a culture of data-driven decision making within the County and within the community."

The Ulster County Charter crafted the Office of the Comptroller to serve an independent analyst of county functions and finances. The Comptroller is to be a watchdog who reports on economic, efficiency and effectiveness findings. In this role, the Comptroller has identified the importance of education and creative thinking as key components.

"We want this data to cause people to pause and reflect and question," said Auerbach, "and in so doing, create new strategies, ideas and concepts for continuous improvement in governance."

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The mission of the Ulster County Comptroller's Office is to serve as an independent agency of the people and to protect the public interest by monitoring County government and to assess and report on the degree to which its operation is economical, efficient and its financial condition sound.