



## *Town of Lexington* Town Manager's Office

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November 29, 2006

### **The Honorable Board of Selectmen, Appropriation Committee, Capital Expenditures Committee and Town Meeting Members:**

I am hereby submitting the Town Manager's FY2007 Appropriated Budget and Financing Plan as amended. This budget has been amended by vote of Special Town Meeting on November 29, 2006. Changes to the original budget are designated on each page.

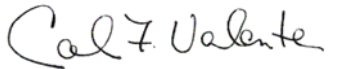
This budget is inclusive of the recommendations of the Board of Selectmen, the votes of 2006 Annual and Special Town Meeting #1 and the voters of Lexington. The budget book includes expanded revenue projections and operating and capital budget information.

**Appropriated Budget** - The operating budget recommended by the Town Manager and Superintendent of Schools and as modified by Board of Selectmen and School Committee is \$125,055,912. This budget is inclusive of \$1,858,435 approved by the voters as an override to the limits of Proposition 2 ½. This budget increases of \$11,943,434 or 10.56 percent over the FY2006 adopted budget. It is also inclusive of \$1,073,008 in supplemental appropriations for the Lexington Public Schools approved at the Special Town Meeting #1 on November 29, 2006

**Budget Process/Collaboration** - Lexington's budget process has been developed through a collaborative and public process that engages the Board of Selectmen, the School Committee, the financial committees, Town and School staff and the public. This year's process began with the Selectmen holding two goal-setting meetings in August and September. From there, two interrelated processes began in developing the budget. Municipal and school department managers prepared and analyzed budget requests internally during October – December. In January, the Town Manager and Superintendent of Schools presented their recommended budgets to their respective boards. Simultaneously, a series of six budget collaboration meetings took place. At these meetings the boards and financial committees critically reviewed budget issues and provided policy guidance to the Town and School staff in finalizing the budget recommendations. The budget was completed first by approval at Town Meeting and then by the voters on June 5, 2006. It was subsequently amended in November by action of Special Town Meeting #1.

As I conclude my first budget for the Town of Lexington, I want to thank the many boards and committees, staff and citizens who participated in this process. Singling out individuals to thank would diminish what was a team effort. I also appreciate the thoughtful questions and comments raised by Town Meeting Members at the TMMA budget information session. The diversity of opinion, problem solving perspective and commitment to community is a true pleasure to experience. The management team and I recognize and appreciate the leadership and vision the Town boards and committees have exemplified throughout this process.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Carl F. Valente". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned to the left of a vertical line.

Carl F. Valente  
Town Manger