

**George Maragos**  
**Comptroller**



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Thomas P. DiNapoli  
New York State Comptroller  
633 Third Avenue  
31<sup>st</sup> Floor  
New York, NY 10017-6754

Dear Comptroller DiNapoli:

I am writing to express my concern over the projected \$43.6 million or about 45% increase to the Nassau County pension contribution for 2011 which was sent to my office. This mandated increase in pension contributions is at an alarmingly high record level and accounts for about 15% of the gross County payroll.

These double digit levels of pension contributions as a percentage of gross salaries have persisted since 2005 and are unsustainable for any business. They should not be acceptable for government. New approaches need to be found to reduce the future levels of pension contributions to more sustainable levels. The time to act is now.

Fiscal officers on the state and local levels must join forces to find workable solutions to counteract such increases. To that end, I am requesting a full review of the Nassau County's 2011 pension contributions including the methodology that justifies this dramatic increase.

Local municipalities cannot continue to carry the brunt of increases to address problems with the state pension system. I reiterate that immediate action is required. I look forward to receiving the requested information and hearing your proposed solutions to counteracting this problem.

Sincerely,

**George Maragos,**  
**Nassau County Comptroller**