



Stephen P. Clark  
Government Center  
111 N.W. 1st Street  
Miami, FL 33128

## OFFICIAL Meeting Agenda

### Budget, Planning and Sustainability Committee

*Katy Sorenson (8) Chair; Joe A. Martinez (11) Vice Chair; Commissioners  
Audrey M. Edmonson (3), Carlos A. Gimenez (7), Sally A. Heyman (4), and  
Barbara J. Jordan (1)*

### Budget Conference

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Monday, August 24, 2009

9:30 AM

18th Floor, Rooms 18-3 and 18-4

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#### *County Commission Rules*

##### *Rule 6.05 DECORUM*

*Any person making impertinent or slanderous remarks or who becomes boisterous while addressing the commission, shall be barred from further audience before the commission by the presiding officer, unless permission to continue or again address the commission be granted by the majority vote of the commission members present. No clapping, applauding, heckling or verbal outbursts in support or opposition to a speaker or his or her remarks shall be permitted. No signs or placards shall be allowed in the commission chambers. Persons exiting the commission chamber shall do so quietly.*

*The use of cell phones in the commission chambers is not permitted. Ringers must be set to silent mode to avoid disruption of proceedings. Individuals, including those on the dais, must exit the chambers to answer incoming cell phone calls. County employees may not use cell phone cameras or take digital pictures from their positions on the dais.*

*Miami-Dade County provides equal access and equal opportunity and does not discriminate on the basis of disability in its programs or services. For material in alternate format, a sign language interpreter or other accommodation, please call Miami-Dade Agenda Coordinator Office at 305-375-2035 at least five days in advance.*

##### *Rule 5.06(h) PRIME SPONSORSHIP AND CO-SPONSORSHIP*

*When a resolution or ordinance is placed on the agenda at the request of a commissioner, the commissioner who requested the preparation of the item shall be designated as the prime sponsor. Any other commissioner who wishes to sponsor the resolution or ordinance shall be designated as a co-sponsor.*

*Pursuant to Rule 5.06(h), where a commissioner is listed as a sponsor, the first named commissioner is the prime sponsor and all other named commissioners are co-sponsors.*

#### **1A MOMENT OF SILENCE**

#### **1B PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

1C ROLL CALL

1D OPENING REMARKS FROM CHAIR SORENSON

2 DISCUSSIONS

2A

**092379**

GENERAL FUND

2B

**092380**

PROPOSED REDUCTIONS - COUNTYWIDE/UMSA

3 ADJOURNMENT

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**8/26/2009: 3<sup>RD</sup> DAY OF BUDGET CONFERENCE COMMITTEE MEETING**

The Budget, Planning and Sustainability Committee convened a Budget Conference in the Stephen P. Clark Center Commission Chamber, 111 N.W. First Street, Miami, Florida 33128, at 9:30 a.m. on August 26, 2009; there being present upon roll call Committee members Katy Sorenson, Chairwoman; and Commissioners Edmonson, Heyman, and Jordan (Commissioner Gimenez arrived later. Commissioner Martinez was absent.); and Deputy Clerks Doris Dickens and Alicia Stephenson.

Chairwoman Sorenson convened the meeting at 9:47 a.m. She noted that during the past two days, this Committee reviewed pages 47 through 62 of the 2009-2010 Proposed Resource Allocation and Multi-Year Capital Plan, Volume 1, and identified several possible proposed items that could be cut from the budget; items the Committee members desired to buy back; and whether commissioners were willing to buy back the items with monies recaptured through millage rate adjustments or other efficiencies. She also noted that Mr. Charles Anderson, the Commission Auditor, was creating a list of these proposed cuts, buy backs, and efficiencies. Chairwoman Sorenson further noted that the Committee today (8/26) would revisit issues relating to the Community Based Organizations (CBOs), address the General Obligation Bond and its related millage rate, address the County's proprietary departments, and address the possible option of deferring capital projects.

Chairwoman Sorenson initiated discussion regarding an issue addressed at yesterday's (8/25) Budget Conference Committee meeting regarding salaries. She asked whether reserves could be found in any area other than that of salaries in the Miami-Dade Transit Agency (MDTA).

Ms. Jennifer Glazer-Moon, Office of Strategic Business Management Budget Director, explained that the revenues accruing to MDTA were in excess of MDTA's expenditure need for next Fiscal Year (FY). She also noted the amount of the Maintenance of Effort (MOE) taken from the Countywide General Fund (General Fund) and given to MDTA was kept at the same level as last year rather than reduced by the amount associated with the salary reduction. Ms. Glazer-Moon further noted that the General Fund did not include a reserve for tax supported operations associated with the 5% salary reduction. She explained that the Wage Adjustment Separation and Energy Reserve was included in the General Fund, and the amount of this reserve had been increased by approximately \$10 million in order to provide for a separation that could occur if the Commission did not adopt all layoffs proposed by staff. Ms. Glazer-Moon noted that the possible separation would require payouts to employees and staff wanted to ensure that provisions were made for those payouts in order to avoid the need to make adjustments during next FY. She clarified that the \$10 million increase was not associated with the proposed 5% salary reduction.

Ms. Glazer-Moon responded to questions from Commissioner Gimenez regarding a resolution instructing the County Administration to prepare a survey to gauge employees'

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interest in early retirement. She noted the survey had not been done, but a report on the subject and on issues relating to other early departure programs was being finalized.

At Commissioner Gimenez's request, Ms. Glazer-Moon noted she would request that someone appear before this Committee today (8/26) to clarify what the report on the survey and departure program issues would say.

Ms. Glazer-Moon responded to Chairwoman Sorenson's inquiries regarding salaries in the Unincorporated Municipal Service Area (UMSA). She explained that the fiscal impact of a 5% salary adjustment in UMSA would be virtually all of the additional revenue that would accrue to UMSA by going to rollback. She further explained that reinstating salaries in UMSA while achieving either a flat rate or the rate proposed in the Mayor's budget was almost impossible without service cuts being made in addition to those cuts proposed in the 2009-2010 Proposed Resource Allocation and Multi-Year Capital Plan (the budget).

Commissioner Heyman expressed concern that she perceived the only options being presented to the Commission with regard to the budget were to roll back the rates or cut services. She noted that some members of County staff had been employed for more than 20 years and wanted to retire, but needed health insurance. Commissioner Heyman noted another possible option was to keep these employees insured for three to five years.

Ms. Glazer-Moon noted that a report to be submitted within the next two days would address issues regarding the option proposed by Commissioner Heyman.

Commissioner Jordan noted she did not want the community to be misled to think that the solution to the County's budget problems was simply to cut wasteful expenditures. She asked Ms. Glazer-Moon to ensure that a copy of a plan developed years ago for a departure incentive program was included in the report on early retirement and other early departure program issues.

Commissioner Gimenez later asked that this report include the impact of a departure incentive program in light of the \$10 million that was added to the proposed budget for issues relating to separation of employees and layoffs. He also asked that the report answer the questions of whether the Fire Rescue Department provided call back pay and if so, whether air rescuers received call back pay. Additionally, he asked that if the air rescuers did not receive this pay, the report include an analysis of having one additional air rescue helicopter available for use instead of two, and at the same time providing additional call back pay to every staff member, so that two of the helicopters were in use as necessary for only a period of time, like during the dry season.

Commissioner Jordan expressed concern that over the past few days, this Committee had not reached any consensus. She noted she did not feel assured that the minimum required seven votes would be reached on any issue at the County's Budget Hearings scheduled for September 3, 2009 and September 17, 2009.

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Chairwoman Sorenson noted her goal of the Committee developing three budgets was ambitious, but, knowing that the Committee could not get answers to all questions that Committee members had asked, she felt the best course of action included asking the Commission Auditor to evaluate with the County Administration efficiencies that were identified by the commissioners, to determine whether the efficiencies were real and/or what would be necessary to accomplish them and then submit to each Commissioner a report listing the efficiencies and the amounts that would be saved by each efficiency, the items each Committee member wanted to buy back, with the corresponding resource by which those items would be bought buy back (e.g. efficiencies, millage adjustments), and rates at which they would be bought back, and proposed enhancements with their corresponding costs.

Later in the meeting, Chairwoman Sorenson asked that the foregoing requested report include the information requested by Commissioner Gimenez regarding items that would be cut from the County's budget whether or not the Commission increased the millage rates.

In response to Chairwoman Sorenson's request for clarification regarding \$310 million being unavailable because the Commission voted to buy back items using the \$117 million to be produced by rate rollback, and voted to use not more than that amount to buy back items, Ms. Glazer-Moon explained that a gap of \$427 existed between the dollar amount needed to deliver services at the same level as last year and the dollar amount expected to be generated by millage rates proposed in the overall budget. She further explained that the Commission would not have been able to retrieve all monies lost through monetary adjustments to the tax supported budget by making millage rate adjustment because the proposed overall budget encompassed not only gaps in the tax supported budget, but also gaps in the proprietary budget. Ms. Glazer-Moon clarified she discussed with the members of this Committee in previous Budget Conference Committee meetings that staff had determined certain job positions had become unessential to the County's delivery of services, and that regardless of whether the Commission intended to increase the millage rate to make up for gaps caused by adjustments, staff would recommend certain functions be restructured, and certain expenses would not be included in the budget.

Commissioner Gimenez asked Ms. Glazer-Moon to ensure that the County Administration prepared a document listing items that would be cut from the County's budget whether or not the Commission, in an effort to bridge the gap between the dollar amount needed to deliver services at the same level as last year and the dollar amount expected to be generated by proposed millage rates, increased the County's millage rates; and that the document reflect the total dollar amount of those items.

Commissioner Gimenez also asked Ms. Glazer-Moon to ensure that the County Administration prepared a report listing items that members of this Committee had agreed on during the course of this month's Budget Conference Committee Meetings, and asked that if a monetary amount was attached to these items, the Commission

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Auditor provide this information to The County Administration for inclusion in the report.

Ms. Glazer-Moon responded to Commissioner Gimenez's inquiry as to the amount of proprietary funds that contributed to the \$427 million gap. She responded to Commissioner Gimenez's inquiry in terms of how the gap was created and how the gap was proposed to be filled. During her response, Ms. Glazer-Moon noted that the combined expenditures of proprietary departments exceeded their combined revenues by approximately \$60 million, which contributed to the \$427 million gap. Ms. Glazer-Moon also noted that the amount of the combined reductions in all departments was \$201 million.

In response to Commissioner Gimenez's inquiries regarding what effect rollback would have, Ms. Glazer-Moon noted that the maximum millage was used in calculating the original budget gap, not rollback. She clarified that the \$427 million gap was the difference between maximum millage calculated and the maximum millage proposed. She noted the maximum millage calculated was equal to the rollback plus an adjustment for per capita income.

The Committee proceeded to address proposed reductions in General Fund support of CBOs in areas of social services and culture, and proposed reductions to the numbers of positions associated with the Office of Grants Coordination (OGC) and the Department of Cultural Affairs (DCA), as identified at the top of page 47 of the 2009-2010 Proposed Resource Allocation and Multi-Year Capital Plan (the budget book), Volume 1.

Ms. Glazer-Moon clarified that the proposed reduction of \$30.797 million in General Fund support to CBOs in the area of social services plus the proposed reduction of \$11.168 million in General Fund support to CBOs in the area of culture equaled approximately \$42 million.

Commissioner Edmonson noted she would like to buy back the proposed \$42 million reduction to CBOs using millage adjustment. She later added that she would like CBOs to be funded 100%. She also asked Ms. Glazer-Moon to submit to her a report listing CBOs that had been unable to collect funds allocated to them in the previous two years, and the total amount of funds not collected from these CBOs.

Chairwoman Sorenson noted the Commission faced the decision of whether to restore CBOs across the board, minus those that were not performing.

In response to Chairwoman Sorenson's inquiry regarding the competitive solicitation process for CBOs, Ms. Glazer-Moon noted current funding to CBOs was available only until September 30, 2009. She also noted a solicitation process for CBOs could take some time. Therefore, she noted, if the Commission opted not to appropriate continuation funding to CBOs and opted for a CBO solicitation process to be performed, a service gap would exist between September 30<sup>th</sup> and the time at which the solicitation process and the Commission's approval of allocations to CBOs were complete.

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Chairwoman Sorenson suggested that the CBO solicitation process be performed every fall and contracts be awarded every January or February in order to prevent the contract awards process from coinciding with the County's budget proceedings.

County Commission Chairman Dennis Moss noted he did not recommend that a CBO solicitation process be performed, because next year's budget issues would be at least as difficult as this year's budget issues, and at that time, the Commission would have to consider whether it would fund CBOs. He suggested that CBOs be allowed to negotiate their contracts based on their economic situations.

Discussion ensued regarding funding to the Office of Grants Coordination.

Referring to page 47 of the budget book, Ms. Glazer-Moon noted that the \$30.797 million was the proposed reduction of General Fund support to CBOs in the area of social services; that the \$1.9 million represented the amount of General Fund support to the Office of Grants Coordination (OGC) for job positions to monitor CBO contracts, and this \$1.9 million was proposed to be cut; and that this \$1.9 million was separate from the \$30.797 million. In clarifying wording on page 22 of the book under the heading, "Community-based Organizations (CBOs)," she noted that \$11.168 million in General Fund support to cultural programming was excluded from the \$30.797 million.

Commissioner Gimenez suggested the County delegate to organizations the responsibility of distributing money to CBOs and monitoring CBOs' performance. He noted the County would get more for its money that way. Commissioner Gimenez indicated that he would not say whether he would be buying back items until he received answers which he was awaiting regarding the budget.

Referring to the \$30.797 million proposed reductions to CBOs in the area of social services, Commissioner Heyman asked Ms. Glazer-Moon to submit to her a previously requested report identifying these CBOs; prioritizing these CBOs according to Commissioner Heyman's ability to buy them back with as little decrease in efficiency efforts as possible and as much progress as possible, especially progress with regard to the CBOs which administered food, shelter and health services, and the CBOs which had not administered services due to cuts in their funding from the federal and State governments; and identifying the CBOs that received funding in the past, along with the types of service these CBOs provided. She also asked that each of the other twelve members of the Commission receive a copy of this report.

Commissioner Heyman further asked that Ms. Glazer-Moon identify organizations that had encountered trouble, such as loss of their lease(s), consolidation with other organizations, lack of continued need for services, etc.; acquire from commissioners names of funding sources for non-profit organizations; and use this acquired information to help identify the organizations that had encountered trouble. She noted she was requesting this information so that she could reach a better understanding of which organizations needed funding allocated to them by the Commission in order to provide

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services, and which organizations were seeking funding allocations in order to better deliver services.

Commissioner Heyman noted she was against restoring 100% of funding to CBOs and more inclined to support restoring only 75% of funding to CBOs. She noted that however, if CBOs showed they were endeavoring to provide for themselves, she was more inclined to give more funding to them.

In response to Chairwoman Sorenson's inquiry as to whether monies from the Tourist Development Tax (TDT) fund and the Convention Development Tax (CDT) fund could be used to support cultural affairs, Ms. Glazer-Moon noted a report was being developed on whether any cultural grant programs existed that were eligible to receive CDT monies.

In response to Chairwoman Sorenson's question as to whether the proposed reduction of \$11.168 million in General Fund support to CBOs in the area of culture could be offset by allocating CDT funds to cultural programs that were eligible to receive these funds, Ms. Glazer-Moon noted that because CDT funding was depleted, this was possible only if CDT funds were reallocated from CDT-funded items to the cultural programs.

Commissioner Gimenez noted that \$2.5 million of CDT monies was proposed to go toward establishing an endowment, and money slated for maintenance and operation of the South Dade Government Center could be made available for use now, since the center would not begin operating until 2010.

Commissioner Heyman expressed concern regarding commissioners not having an understanding of the percentage of money they gave to organizations that funded the organizations' administration and/or operations, and the percentage that funded the organizations' delivery of services. She noted she supported the County delegating the responsibility of disbursing money to organizations.

Chairwoman Sorenson pointed out issues of legislative change, administrative costs, and operational costs that she noted were associated with delegating responsibility for distributing money. She thanked Commissioner Sosa for submitting to each Committee member a list of her inquiries regarding the budget.

Ms. Glazer-Moon clarified issues regarding Discretionary Reserves.

Referring to Chairwoman Sorenson's comments regarding delegation of responsibility for distributing money, Commissioner Jordan noted that organizations which distributed food did not want to be a part of the Sunshine laws.

Commissioner Edmonson noted that co-ops should continue to be funded. She expressed concern that if larger CBOs were delegated responsibility for distributing money to smaller ones, sensitivity to many of the smaller ones would be lost, and these smaller CBOs may not get any of the money.

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Commission Chairman Moss noted one option for acquiring funding for CBOs was to cut the allocations for job positions to monitor CBO funding, which may be about a 6% cut.

Commissioner Jordan noted the Office Discretionary Reserve should be combined with the County Services Reserve; that these reserves should total no more than \$4.3 million, and that she would like to buy them back at this amount, with a minimum of \$200,000 allocated for each commissioner to give to organizations, and with discretion being left to the commissioners as to whether to exceed the \$200,000. She also noted she would like to buy back In-Kind Reserves in the amount of \$800,000 and Mom & Pop Grants in the amount of \$1.658 million using rollback monies. Commissioner Jordan further noted she would like to buy back 28 positions associated with monitoring CBO contracts in the Office of Grants Coordination (OGC), in the amount of \$1.930 million using rollback funds. She added that the County Attorney's Office was researching the feasibility of a recommendation regarding a local business tax that had not been increased in 15 years. She added that implementing the tax might require legislative consideration. Commissioner Jordan further noted that she would like to buy back CBO funding in the area of social services in the amount of \$30.797 million and buy back CBO funding in the area of culture in the amount of \$11.168 million using rollback funds.

Commissioner Edmonson noted she would like to buy back Mom & Pop Grants in the amount of \$1.658 million with Millage Adjustment and In-Kind Reserves.

During discussion regarding Discretionary Reserves rolling over into next year, Ms. Glazer-Moon noted that the budget did not assume recapturing money that remained in commissioners' Discretionary Reserve, Office, or In-Kind Reserve accounts. She also noted that the County Administration suggested the Commission consider recapturing Office Funds, Discretionary Reserves and In-Kind Reserves, but also suggested members of the Board consider that delivering funds from these accounts to the CBOs would be difficult if the County eliminated staffing to process allocations made to the CBOs next year.

Commissioner Gimenez noted he would like to use money in his Discretionary Reserve funds to fund some County job positions next year.

In response to Commissioner Heyman's inquiries regarding the allowable uses of County Service Reserves and whether the proposed budget eliminated Mom & Pop Grants and In-Kind Reserves, Ms. Glazer-Moon clarified the allowable uses of County Services Reserves and the In-Kind Reserves, and noted that the proposed budget eliminated the County Services Reserve, Discretionary Reserve, Mom & Pop Grants, and the In-Kind Reserve.

Commissioner Heyman asked Ms. Glazer-Moon to submit to her the second and third quarterly reports for Fiscal Year 2008/09 that identified In-Kind services which had been allocated and the entities to which they were allocated. She expressed concern with the idea of eliminating County Services Reserves and In-Kind Reserves when these reserves were used to help CBOs raise money for themselves.

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Mr. Charles Anderson, Commission Auditor, noted that his office needed to vet out Commissioner Heyman's savings and proposed buybacks to determine the amount of monies available to her for funding items that the proposed budget suggested be eliminated.

Commissioner Heyman noted she would forgo In-Kind Services and Discretionary Reserve funds in order to support funding CBOs at 75%. She also noted she would forgo funding of some training programs in order to support health care and food services. Commissioner Heyman referred to Appendix J in Volume 2 of the budget book. She expressed concern that the full \$15.2 million in proposed expenditures for mitigation and annexation reversal may not be needed.

Ms. Glazer-Moon explained that the \$15.2 million was formerly recognized as revenue from municipalities under the condition of mitigation and was now lost as a result of the phase-out of mitigation. She added that the full \$15.2 million had to be recognized in the FY 2009-10 budget.

Commissioner Heyman noted she would work with the Office of the Commission Auditor to determine the minimum amount that had to be budgeted for County reserves and for expenditures identified on pages 615 to 618 in the appendices of the budget book, particularly expenditures for outside legal and management consulting services, and use that information to determine whether some of the money budgeted for the reserves and expenditures could instead be budgeted to maintain levels of service and jobs. She noted she would present a proposal regarding this issue.

Mr. Anderson noted he would work with OSBM and staff regarding items which Commissioner Heyman mentioned in connection with recapturing monies budgeted for the reserves and expenditures, and would submit a report to the Commission regarding this issue.

Commissioner Gimenez asked Ms. Glazer-Moon to submit to him the proposed Wage Adjustment, FRS, Separation, and Energy Reserve amounts for UMSA and for the Countywide area from last year.

Commissioner Sorenson noted that she was willing to create efficiencies by giving up the discretionary County Services Reserve and that she would like to buy back Mom & Pop Grants in the amount of \$1.658 million and In-Kind Reserves in the amount of \$1.26 million using money from millage adjustment.

In response to Commissioner Gimenez's inquiries as to whether staff previously stated in essence that the countywide debt service millage needed not be higher than .285, Ms. Glazer-Moon noted she did not believe staff had stated this, and further noted that what staff had done was discuss with Committee members the amount of the debt service millage that could be leveraged in a bond sale next year. She provided information on and spoke about county projects and the potential for additional operating expenses, which

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led to a series of requests for clarification on this subject from Commissioner Gimenez and comments on the subject by Commissioner Gimenez.

During the exchange of information and comments between Commissioner Gimenez and Ms. Glazer-Moon, Commissioner Gimenez noted he would consider how the millage rate could be adjusted to yield more operational dollars. He also noted that the Library District could be funded at a lower level than last year, and the resulting available money could be used to cover operational millages like Fire Rescue millages.

Commissioner Sorenson commented on debt issuance as it related to consequences of delaying projects.

Ms. Glazer-Moon responded to an inquiry from Commissioner Jordan regarding the dollar amount that would go to operational expenses if some of the debt service millage was shifted.

The Committee recessed, and during the process of reconvening, held a moment of silence in honor and acknowledgement of efforts made by the late Senator Edward Kennedy, who passed away in the morning (8/26).

Chairwoman Sorenson noted she would like the Committee to address proprietary departments and re-organizations, and then finish discussing previously addressed issues.

In response to Chairwoman Sorenson's inquiries as to what efficiencies could be gained with regard to the Department of Environmental Resources Management's (DERM's) budget, and whether funding could be acquired from cuts to DERM's budget and used to restore some CBO funding, Ms. Glazer-Moon noted that the County Administration proposed to increase DERM's revenues by reducing job positions and adjusting fees, and that CBO funding could be restored from cuts to DERM's budget only if other appropriations in DERM's budget were decreased.

In response to Chairwoman Sorenson's inquiry as to whether any of the items being cut from the Office of Capital Improvements (OCI) as reflected on page 58 of the proposed budget book were funded from the Countywide budget, Ms. Glazer-Moon noted that the funding sources supporting the OCI were interest proceeds from various bond programs and a capital working fund. She also noted that the capital working fund was supplied with monies acquired from charging capital project accounts for efforts made by OCI staff.

No Committee members responded to Chairwoman Sorenson's call for comments on items reflected under the heading "Capital Improvements" on page 58 of the budget book.

In response to Chairwoman Sorenson's inquiry as to whether the Committee needed to address other issues concerning proprietary funding or any other topic that had not been addressed because no cuts were recommended, Ms. Ines Becher, Budget Coordinator,

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OCA, noted that Commissioner Jordan requested information regarding how budget cutbacks would impact bus routes and that the OCA had a draft report of that information.

Ms. Glazer-Moon advised that the County Administration could not currently inform the Commission what bus routes would be impacted by budget cutbacks, but during the upcoming fiscal year, the County Administration would submit bus route lineups to the Commission, and then request that the Commission adopt changes to the bus routes.

Commissioner Jordan expressed concern over the idea of the Commission adopting changes to bus routes without the impact of these changes being projected by staff and reviewed by the Commission, and without verifiable data from staff indicating that productive route services would be not be reduced.

Ms. Glazer-Moon spoke about an analysis that was performed to project savings associated with arranging bus routes so as to eliminate duplication of route service.

In response to Commissioner Jordan's comments regarding a source for buying back the maintenance of effort (MOE) provided to Miami-Dade Transit Agency (MDTA) from the General Fund and request for clarification as to what was represented by the \$15 million in savings reflected on page 51 of the budget book, Ms. Glazer-Moon noted that money from MDTA's reserves could not be used to increase the MOE, but that General Fund money had to be used, which required a reduction in another General Fund appropriation or the identification of a new revenue source; and that the \$15 million represented a savings in maintenance costs, which included costs for mileage, fuel, and drivers.

Chairwoman Sorenson noted that since a report was expected from the County Administration on bus routes, the Committee should later return to Commissioner Jordan's concerns regarding the impact that changing bus routes would make on the community.

Chairwoman Sorenson reminded Committee members that after today's meeting, they would receive reports from staff and each of them would work with the County Manager's Office, OCA, and OSBM. Chairwoman Sorenson noted she invited all members of the Commission who were not on this Committee to create a ledger listing the items they wanted to buy back, the rate at which they supported the items being bought back, and the efficiencies the commissioners had identified.

In response to Chairwoman Sorenson's invitation for comments from Committee members regarding the subject of reorganizations, Commissioner Heyman referred to the Financial Summary of the Office of Sustainability (OOS), found on page 570 of the budget book, and requested clarification regarding the \$3.644 million in federal grants reflected on this page.

Ms. Glazer-Moon clarified the \$3.644 million was a part of an approximately \$12.5 million grant that OOS applied for from the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block

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Grant (EECBG) program. She noted this \$3.644 million was the portion of the EECBG that was budgeted for fiscal year (FY) 2009-10 and that it was intended to fund sustainability-related programs, including job positions to coordinate these programs.

Ms. Glazer-Moon clarified the FY 2009-10 OOS Revenue Summary, as requested by Chairwoman Sorenson.

Commissioner Heyman noted she would like to buy back the proposed FY 2009-10 General Fund Countywide appropriation to OOS (\$516,000) and the Interagency Transfers amount (\$121,000), which Ms. Glazer-Moon later explained was the dollar amount that was transferred from the Water and Sewer Department (WASD) to OOS in accompaniment of a job position. Commissioner Heyman noted the total buyback amount of these two items was approximately \$600,000.

In response to Commissioner Heyman's inquiry as to the proposed source of funding for an Assistant County Manager's position that was proposed to be transferred from the County Manager's Office's (CMO's) budget to the OOS's budget, Ms. Glazer-Moon noted the funding source was the EECBG.

Commissioner Heyman noted she would like to buy back the funding for this position that was cut from the CMO's budget. She initiated discussion regarding Jackson Memorial Hospital (JMH ) and the Public Health Trust (PHT).

In response to Chairwoman Sorenson's request for clarification regarding adequate funding for JMH and the PHT, Ms. Glazer-Moon noted that no cuts were recommended for JMH and PHT; that the County was required by law to provide a Maintenance of Effort (MOE) to JMH and the PHT; and that the PHT had a budget gap, but would submit recommendations to the Commission between the First and Second Budget hearings for filling this gap. She also noted Chairwoman Sorenson was correct in stating that if the County wanted to give money to JMH/PHT, the money would have to come from the General Fund.

During discussion, Commissioner Heyman identified the dollar amount of the salaries of some management staff members at JMH and expressed concern regarding top heavy administration at JMH. She noted that she would like allocations for 150 top executives at JMH to be cut. Commissioner Heyman also noted that she would like significant redress on two JMH management positions.

Also during discussion, Assistant County Attorney Jess McCarty noted the PHT budget process involved the PHT approving its budget and then the Commission considering this budget for approval.

Ms. Glazer-Moon noted that the PHT approved its budget during the Commission's budget process, and that the County's proposed budget contained no recommendations for General Fund support to the PHT besides the legally mandated MOE.

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In response to Commissioner Heyman's inquiry as to whether JMH and PHT services such as collection, auditing, and in-house operations could be consolidated and placed under the direction of the County in order to keep Jackson from budgeting for these services, Ms. Glazer-Moon noted that the County had been working closely with the PHT to share resources when this sharing was feasible, but the PHT's operation was very distinct from the County's operation, which made consolidation more difficult in some areas than in others.

In response to Commissioner Heyman's inquiry as to whether efforts had been made to incorporate consolidation, increase efficiency, and reductions into the proposed PHT budget, Ms. Glazer-Moon noted that nothing was proposed to decrease the amount of money going to the PHT.

In response to Commissioner Heyman's comment that on page 368 in Volume 2 of the budget book, the Capital Budget Summary reflected that expenditures exceeded revenues by approximately \$102 million for FY 2009-10, and in response to her inquiry as to whether the \$102 million was made up somewhere else, Ms. Glazer-Moon noted that the aforementioned summary was a multi-year schedule, that revenues were carried forward from previous years, and that after a number of future years were taken into consideration, the budget was balanced.

In response to Commissioner Heyman's inquiry as to whether some of the PHT's capital revenues could be shifted from funding capital projects to funding an item that needed funding more immediately, Ms. Glazer-Moon noted that sources of the PHT's capital revenues required the revenues be used only to fulfill the PHT's capital needs.

Commissioner Jordan asked Ms. Glazer-Moon to submit to her a report on the details of a contract with Mount Sinai Medical Center that provided for the center to perform physical examinations, and include the value of the contract in this report.

No Committee members responded to Chairwoman Sorenson's invitation for their comments on proposed reductions to Aviation's budget, reflected in Volume 1 of the budget book, page 50, under the heading for proposed transportation reductions, entitled "Transportation."

Chairwoman Sorenson noted that the Committee was waiting on reports from the County Administration regarding budget issues and would not be able to progress without them. She also noted that on September 3, 2009, the Commission would hold its First Budget Hearing, which she noted would be a public hearing. Chairwoman Sorenson additionally noted she urged her colleagues to create the ledger she mentioned of items they wanted to buy back, the rate at which they supported the items being bought back, and efficiencies they had identified, before the meeting on September 3<sup>rd</sup>. She pointed out that at the September 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting, the Commission had to adopt a tentative millage rate and a tentative budget.

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In response to Chairwoman Sorenson's inquiry as to whether the Commission would have a ceiling on the rate it could adopt at its Second Budget Hearing, scheduled to be held on September 17, 2009, Assistant County Attorney Jess McCarty noted that the tentative millage rate adopted at the September 3<sup>rd</sup> budget hearing would be the ceiling for the rate the Commission could adopt at the September 17<sup>th</sup> budget hearing.

Chairwoman Sorenson noted that pursuant to an ordinance sponsored by Commissioners Gimenez and Sosa, a meeting of this Budget Conference Committee would be held on September 11, 2009. She also noted that at the September 11<sup>th</sup> meeting, Committee members would discuss actions and discussion from the September 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting. Chairwoman Sorenson further noted that the Commission was required to balance the County's budget during the Second Budget Hearing.

Chairwoman Sorenson expressed appreciation to all members of staff who participated in the Budget Conference Committee process so far this year.

Hearing no other business, the Committee adjourned the meeting at 2:30 p.m.

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