

Memorandum



Date: August 20, 2007

To: Clerk of the Board of County Commissioners

From: Honorable Chairperson Audrey M. Edmonson, District 3
Economic Development and Human Services Committee

Subject: Recommendations for Economic Development and Human Services Committee
Budget Process Review

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Audrey M. Edmonson", written over the "From:" line of the memorandum.

At the August 13, 2007 Economic Development and Human Services Budget Process Review hearing, the members of the committee measured the realities and budgetary challenges facing Miami-Dade County as a result of the mandates imposed by the Florida Legislature.

Let me reiterate my deep concerns about the impact of the Mayor's proposed budget. We are all fully aware of the reality this budget will present if adopted. Part of this reality involves the provision of services to the core element of our community - the elderly and youth. We must do all that we can as elected officials to ensure the protection and well-being of ALL citizens.

As policymakers, we have more than just raw numbers to be guided by; we must always consider the impact our decisions will have on the people of Miami-Dade County. While we all have the duty to be fiscally responsible, we are also obligated to our constituents to provide the best services to our community. How we invest our resources today, relative to meeting the needs of constituents, will determine what we **MUST** invest in the future. We must continue to support Head Start programs, other human services initiatives, CBO funding and "Mom and Pop" programs. These initiatives are the direct connection to the people in the community.

Based on the August 13, 2007 EDHS Budget Review Process meeting, my colleagues and I will discuss and finalize our recommendations and priorities in the following areas:

1. The Community Action Agency (CAA) should not be merged with any other county department. CAA should be funded at its current level.
2. The Metro-Miami Action Plan (MMAAP) should not be merged into the Office of Community Advocacy. It should be maintained as a separate entity with its current level of funding. The Committee will review and amend the MMAAP ordinance as necessary to provide additional safeguards.

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DADE COUNTY, FLA.
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3. Community based organization (CBO) funding should be maintained at its current level in order to avoid interruption of service. A complete assessment of the current CBO process should occur before funding cuts are considered.

4. The Mom and Pop Program funding should be maintained at its current level given its success County-wide.



MEMORANDUM
OFFICE OF COMMISSIONER DENNIS C. MOSS
MIAMI-DADE COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
DISTRICT 9

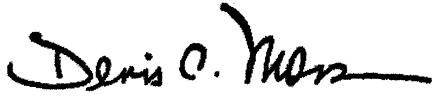
☐ **Downtown Office**
111 NW 1st Street, Suite 320
Miami, Florida 33128
(305) 375-4832 ~ Fax (305) 372-6011

☐ **District North Office**
10710 SW 211th Street, Suite 206
Miami, Florida 33189
(305) 234-4938 ~ Fax (305) 232-2892

☐ **District South Office**
1634 NW 6th Avenue
Florida City, Florida 33034
(305) 245-4420 ~ Fax (305) 245-5008

Date: August 17, 2007

To: Clerk of the Board of County Commissioners

From: Dennis C. Moss, District 9
Board of County Commissioners 

Re: **Recommendations for Economic Development & Human Services Committee**

I am writing to share with the Economic Development and Human Services Committee my thoughts and priorities as it relates to our budget responsibilities.

1. Funding for CAA including HeadStart should be restored and the funding should be designated for CAA and HeadStart as a separate department.
2. MMAP's Organization should be maintained as an independent entity with its general fund allocation as well as the other funding sources that it currently has.
3. Funding for the Mom and Pop Program should be maintained.
4. Current CBO's funded through a competitive process should be continued at least through June 2008 at their current level. The Mayor/ Manger proposal cuts the funding by one third.
5. Funding for DHS functions that monitor CBO's should be maintained rather than reduced.
6. A list of all reserves that are available to meet priority needs should be identified.



CLERK OF THE BOARD

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MEMORANDUM

OFFICE OF VICE CHAIRWOMAN BARBARA J. JORDAN
CLERK, CIRCUIT & COUNTY COURTS
DADE COUNTY, FLA.
MIAMI-DADE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS - DISTRICT I

111 N.W. 1 Street, Suite 220

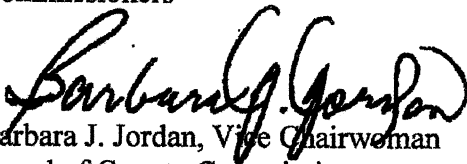
Miami, Florida 33128-1963

(305) 375-5694

(305) 372-6028/Fax

To: Clerk of the Board of County
Commissioners

Date: August 20, 2007

From: 
Barbara J. Jordan, Vice Chairwoman
Board of County Commissioners

Subject: Recommendations for Economic
Development & Human Services
Committee

During the August 13, 2007, Economic Development Human Services Committee Budget Review Process Meeting several issues were raised relating to the reduced budgets of several departments and programs. I have listed below my concerns and priorities as requested by Chairwoman Edmonson.

For many years now Miami-Dade County's Head Start program has received national recognition for the excellent quality of service provided to our children and families. The Manager's proposed budget proposes that 400 Head Start slots be transferred to certain delegated agencies. This transferal will reduce the General Fund budget by \$716,000. I am requesting that the \$716,000 shortfall be addressed by directing the Manager to remove the General Fund allocations from the following programs and fund them through the Tourist Development Tax or through the Convention Development Tax:

\$185,000 Historical Museum of Southern Florida

\$143,000 Miami Art Museum

\$219,000 Miami Science Museum

\$386,000 Vizcaya Museum and Gardens

The Manager should reallocate those dollars necessary to fund 400 Head Start slots, with the remainder placed back into the General Fund to be allocated to assist in restoring funding for the Mom and Pop program.

I am not in support of the Mom and Pop program being eliminated; I am requesting that the General Fund allocation in the amount of \$687,000 from the Miami-Dade Housing agency be placed in abeyance until the final outcome of HUD's possible takeover. In the event that the Housing Agency comes under the Federal government, I am requesting that these dollars be used to restore funding for the Mom and Pop program.

The Miami-Metro Action Plan organization was formed by the Board of County Commissioners through ordinance; I strongly believe that MMAP should remain in existence and all general funds that were removed are re-appropriated back into the organization's budget.

Separation of the Department of Human Services and the Community Action Agency (CAA); the purpose and functions for these two organizations while similar in nature are not duplicative in the services they provide. Community Action Agency houses a nationally recognized Head Start program which provides comprehensive direct child care services. Also, CAA's mission involves citizen participation and community advocacy components thru its Board of Directors and community advisory committees that engage the community and promote self sufficiency and empowerment. I am also requesting that \$2.816 million be appropriated to restore the Community Action Agency to its full capacity: \$1.7 million (Administration), \$716,000 (Head Start) and \$400,000 (Office of Citizen's Participation).

The Manager should also fund Greater Miami Service Corps at its FY 2006-2007 funding level.



MEMORANDUM

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2007 AUG 20 PM 4:20

CLERK CIRCUIT COURT COUNTY COURTS
DADE COUNTY, FLA.
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TO: Honorable Audrey Edmonson, Chair **DATE:** August 20, 2007
Economic Development and Human Services Committee

FROM: Katy Sorenson **SUBJECT:** BUDGET SUNSHINE MEETING
Commissioner, District 8

I am sorry that I will not be able to attend the EDHS sunshine committee meeting on August 22, 2007, due to pressing family issues in the Midwest.

Because of the reduction in our property tax revenue due to the actions taken by our state legislature and our decision not to override, this will be a difficult budget. As a committee dedicated to Economic Development and Human Services, we need to advocate for the full funding of several activities.

We need to restore funding to the Community Based Organizations which provide vital services to our residents. At the same time, we must ensure a comprehensive approval and evaluation process for these funding allocations based on priorities, performance measures and outcomes, so that our investments of tax dollars are used most effectively. So along with continuing to fund these CBO's, we must also restore a portion of the funding supporting the allocation and oversight process. Currently, the Department of Community Service is slated for a \$6.2 million reduction. The budget number will have to be adjusted if we are to effectively monitor these agencies.

The Mom and Pop grant program provides a unique opportunity for small local businesses to get assistance which helps them build their capacity and guides them toward future success. We must ensure that this program continues.

Please consider these issues as the committee sets its priorities for the budget process.

C: Honorable Chairman Bruno Barreiro and
Members of the Board of County Commissioners
Honorable Carlos Alvarez, Mayor
George Burgess, County Manager
Abigail Price-Williams, County Attorney
Charles Anderson, Commission Auditor
Kay Sullivan, Clerk of the Board