

**MIAMI-DADE COUNTY  
FINAL OFFICIAL MINUTES  
Economic Development and Human Services  
Committee (EDHSC)**

**Board of County Commissioners**

Stephen P. Clark Government Center  
Commission Chambers  
111 N.W. First Street  
Miami, Florida 33128

August 13, 2007  
As Advertised

Harvey Ruvlin, Clerk  
Board of County Commissioners

Kay Sullivan, Director  
Clerk of the Board Division

Jovel Shaw, Commission Reporter  
(305) 375-1289





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

**FINAL OFFICIAL**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**Economic Development and Human Services**  
**Committee**

Audrey M. Edmonson (3) Chair; Katy Sorenson (8) Vice Chair; Commissioners  
Barbara J. Jordan (1), Dennis C. Moss (9), and Javier D. Souto (10)

**BUDGET WORKSHOP**

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**Monday, August 13, 2007**

**9:30 AM**

**COMMISSION CHAMBERS**

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**Members Present:** Audrey M. Edmonson, Barbara J. Jordan, Dennis C. Moss, Katy Sorenson, Javier D. Souto.

**Members Absent:** None.

**Members Late:** None.

**Members Excused:** None.

**Members Absent County Business:** None.

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**1 MINUTES PREPARED BY:**

**Report:** *Jovel Shaw, Commission Reporter, (305) 375-1289*

**1A INVOCATION**

**1B PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**1C ROLL CALL**

**Report:** *The following staff members were present: Senior Advisor to the County Manager Cynthia Curry, Assistant County Attorneys Cynthia Johnson-Stacks and Mandana Dashtaki; and Deputy Clerk Jovel Shaw.*

**1D CHAIRPERSON REMARKS**

1D1

072358 Discussion Item

CHAIRPERSON REMARKS

*Presented*

**Report:** *Chairwoman Edmonson called the meeting to order at 9:46 a.m. and provided the Committee with opening remarks regarding the importance of today's budget workshop. She noted this workshop was another indication of the Committee's commitment to constituents regarding the impact of the County budget. She commended the County Administration especially the County Manager's Office, the Department Directors and staff for providing the necessary budgetary information for today's workshop. She also expressed appreciation to the Commission Auditor's Office for providing a comprehensive breakdown and supplemental information for each area within the budget.*

*Chairwoman Edmonson expressed concern regarding the reality of the impacts of this budget. She noted that part of this reality involved the housing crisis, including the lack of affordable housing; and that disparity was increasing in the County. She noted the proposed budget would eliminate some County departments, reduce critical services to a community with increasing challenges, and decrease funding to small Mom and Pop businesses and community-based organizations (CBOs) responsible for direct services to the neighborhood(s) they served. Chairwoman Edmonson noted that policymakers had to be guided by more than just numbers and must always consider the impact of their decisions on County residents. She invited her colleagues to work together to gather answers to the Committee questions and to provide suggestions and recommendations for areas within economic development and human services.*

*Commissioner Moss asked the Committee to convene in a moment in silence for the passing of the father of the City of Hialeah's Mayor Julio Robaina.*

## 2 REPORTS

2A

## 072357 Report

DEPARTMENTAL BUDGET PRESENTATIONS:

*Report Received*

1. MIAMI DADE HOUSING AGENCY
2. OFFICE OF COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
3. COMMUNITY ADVOCACY
4. COMMUNITY SERVICES
5. HOMELESS TRUST
6. CONSUMER SERVICES
7. INTERNATIONAL TRADE CONSORTIUM
8. HOUSING FINANCE AUTHORITY

**Report:** *Commissioner Moss asked Senior Advisor Cynthia Curry to provide a status report on all of the County reserve accounts/funds. In addition, he asked that this report specifically outline the reserves as follows: the name, the amount, and the purpose of each reserve.*

*Later in the meeting, Commissioner Moss asked Commission Auditor Charles Anderson to review the foregoing report coming forth and provide the Committee with information to determine how the County may utilize the reserve accounts/funds during this fiscal year (FY) 2007-08 County budget process due to potential budget cuts as a result of the property tax reform legislation.*

*Commissioner Moss objected to the proposed elimination of the Metro-Miami Action Plan (MMAP); and objected to the proposed merger of the Community Action Agency (CAA) into the Department of Community Services. He stressed the need for CAA to remain a separate entity with appropriate funding. Commissioner Moss expressed concern with the recommendation to decrease funding of CBOs to 75% of their current funding level. Commissioner Moss spoke in opposition to the recommendation to eliminate funding for the Mom and Pop Small Business Grant Program. He stated the Committee should identify its priorities and the funding sources. He pointed out that the Legislature's property tax reform legislation had impacted this year's budget.*

*Commissioner Jordan concurred with Commissioner Moss' comments. She added she supported the CAA Head Start Program being maintained at its current funding level to the list outlined by Commissioner Moss. She spoke in opposition to the County Administration proposing*

to privatize the Head Start Program; and noted privatization was a policy issue for the Board to consider. She reiterated her concern and asked staff to provide to this Committee at its next budget workshop a list of all centers it proposed to privatize and close. She noted she would not support closing any centers in Commission District 1 and urged her colleagues oppose all proposed closures in their districts.

Commissioner Sorenson pointed out the Legislation that set the millage rate in the County's budget was subject to override by a 2/3 vote of the County Commission. She expressed concern with using the County reserves as a one-time solution to an ongoing problem. She concluded her comments by stressing the need for the budget priorities to be set by the Board of County Commissioners (BCC).

Responding to Chairwoman Edmonson's request to provide a brief overview, Mr. Charles Anderson, Commission Auditor, informed the Committee this was a difficult year for the County's budget process. He noted the change in the structure of County government with no transition period, and the notification from the Legislature in July 2007 of the property tax reform legislation. Mr. Anderson noted the efforts of the Commission Auditor's staff to review the revenue and expenditure of the departments.

Ms. Curry informed the Committee that some department directors were not present at today's workshop, but the assistant directors were present. She indicated if some of the questions by Committee members could not be answered, staff would meet with the respective Committee members to address their concerns individually.

#### 1. MIAMI-DADE HOUSING AGENCY (MHDA)

Ms. Kris Warren, Director, Miami-Dade Housing Agency (MDHA), presented the proposed MDHA budget. She proceeded to provide an overview of the revenue, the operating expenditures and the non-operating expenditures summaries. She noted a shortfall of \$2.7 million and provided an overview of the shortfall. Ms. Warren highlighted the budgeted items due to the recent events surrounding the MDHA and the restructuring of the agency. She informed the Committee of the numerous issues regarding Section 8 and specifically highlighted the Recertification Initiative for MDHA Section 8 Families.

*Responding to Chairwoman Edmonson's question regarding what are "Operating Expenditures Adjustments" for MDHA, Ms. Warren noted some the budgeted line items along with the allocation would be adjusted with the new administration for MDHA by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development.*

*Responding to Chairwoman Edmonson's request regarding the difference between the fiscal year (FY) 2006-07 budget and the FY 2007-08 proposed budget, Ms. Glenda Blasko, Chief Financial Officer, MDHA, provided an overview of the non-operating expenditures, the invoices from previous budget years for services provided by MDHA, and the debt service items that reflected the difference in total revenues, operating expenditures, non-operating expenditures and the operating expenditures for the health and human services strategic area.*

*Responding to Chairwoman Edmonson's request for an explanation regarding the Recertification Initiative for MDHA Section 8 Families, Ms. Warren provided an overview of the Recertification Initiative.*

*Responding to Chairwoman Edmonson's comments regarding the miscellaneous revenues, Ms. Warren informed the Committee that DLAD had been transferred to the Office of Community and Economic Development, and that the Housing Finance Authority (HFA) homeownership functions and the Surtax functions were being transferred to the respective County departments.*

*Following a discussion among Chairwoman Edmonson, Ms. Curry and Mr. Anderson regarding the decrease in MDHA's budget and the miscellaneous revenue, Ms. Curry requested she be allowed to review and explain to the Commission Auditor the information reflected in the Auditor's report along with MDHA's budgeted line items.*

*Responding to Chairwoman Edmonson's request, Ms. Blasko provided an overview of the MDHA Financial Summary.*

*Responding to Commissioner Moss' comments regarding Section 8 carryover, Ms. Blasko provided an overview of the details for the carryover and noted that for the FY 2007-08 proposed budget the private rental program*

carryover was approximately \$1.78 million. She proceeded to inform the Committee of how the carryover funds would be used for items such as upgrading the computer system and other MDHA program costs.

Responding to Chairwoman Edmonson's inquiry regarding the Lakeside and Park Lakes Revenues listed under MDHA Revenue Summary, Ms. Warren noted those developments contained 623 housing units.

Commissioner Moss requested a list of those properties for the Lakeside and Park Lakes developments noted by Ms. Warren.

Responding to Commissioner Moss' comments on how the County acquired those properties, Ms. Blasko noted she researched all deeds for the properties and ensured that they remained affordable.

Commissioner Jordan recommended the \$687,000 Countywide General Funds for MDHA be held in abeyance until the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) receivership issue was settled. She indicated if the receivership was not successful, then those funds should be transferred to offset the \$716,000 General Fund cut to Head Start. She pointed out she would place that recommendation in writing to the BCC Chairman and the full BCC.

Commissioner Jordan noted MDHA needed to identify Federal funds during the HUD receivership issue to use as an alternative funding source for updating MDHA's computer system.

During Ms. Blasko's overview of the MDHA Financial Summary, Commissioner Jordan asked Mr. Anderson to work with MDHA to review the \$687,000 FY 2007-08 General Fund Countywide line item.

Mr. Anderson responded to Commissioner Moss' comments regarding the Non-Operating Adjustments, by asking the MDHA Director to meet with him to discuss the Other Operating line item under the Operating Expenditures Summary, and to discuss the recommendation to forgive the \$11.7 million Surtax funds loaned to the MDHA on behalf of its Public Housing Division.

Discussion ensued among Commissioner Moss, Ms. Warren and Ms. Blasko regarding the Other

*Non-Operating Adjustments line item under the Non-Operating Expenditures Summary and the corrective measures for accountability in making future payments to landlords for public housing and vendors who provided goods and services for public housing units.*

## **2. OFFICE OF COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

*Mr. Jose Cintron, Director, Office of Community and Economic Development (OCED), presented the OCED budget.*

*Responding to Chairwoman Edmonson' request, Mr. Cintron provided an overview of the budgeted line item allocated from the General Fund Countywide.*

*A discussion ensued between Commissioner Moss and Mr. Cintron regarding the Abatement Fees, the Tax Abatement Program for businesses, and the expiration of the Abatement Program in the near future.*

*Mr. Cintron proceeded to provide an overview of OCED's Financial Summary that included the Revenue Summary, Operating Expenditures Summary, and the Non-Operating Expenditures Summary.*

*Responding to Commissioner Moss' comments regarding the Hurricane Andrew Trust Fund (HATF), Mr. Cintron informed the Committee of the HATF Carryover budgeted line item and the purpose of this item.*

*Discussion ensued between Commissioner Moss and Mr. Cintron regarding the Surtax Loan Repayments and specifically for a multi-family redevelopment.*

*Following Commissioner Moss' inquiry regarding the General Fund Countywide budgeted line item, Mr. Cintron noted a portion of this funding was mostly used for the Mom and Pop Small Business Grant Program and its staff, the Qualified Target Industry Program, the Targeted Job Incentive Fund and other programs administered by OCED, which federal funds could not be used for operation.*

*Responding to Commissioner Moss' comments regarding the Urban Economic Revitalization Task Force (UERTF), Mr. Cintron provided a*

*brief overview of OCED's support of the UERTF Board in the formulation of economic development policies and procedures for the Targeted Urban Areas (TUAs).*

*Ms. Curry noted that UERTF did not administer the TUAs program; that UERTF was responsible to ensure the recipients were paid; and the TUAs programs were monitored through OCED.*

*Responding to Commissioner Moss' comments regarding Metro-Miami Action Plan's (MMAP) reorganization, Mr. Cintron provided an overview of the OCED's staff positions for FY 2007-08, that included one position from MMAP Trust to support economic development initiatives in the African American community.*

*A discussion ensued regarding the County Manager's recommendation to reorganize MMAP and Chairwoman Edmonson's support of Commissioner Moss' comments regarding MMAP remaining a separate entity.*

*Following this discussion, Ms. Curry noted meetings with the MMAP Director to address alternative approaches for MMAP. She indicated she would advise the Committee of the outcome of those discussions.*

*Chairwoman Edmonson noted that she would not support any merger of MMAP; and that she would support more accountability for MMAP.*

*Commissioner Jordan explained that MMAP was created by an ordinance adopted by the BCC. She objected to the merger of MMAP and the elimination of the Mom and Pop Small Business Grant Program. She indicated she welcomed any recommendation to sustain MMAP and to require a reporting mechanism for MMAP.*

*Commissioner Jordan asked Office of Community and Economic Development (OCED) Director Jose Cintron to review the economic development component of the OCED budget to determine the possibility of restructuring the Mom and Pop Small Business Grant Program and placing it under the OCED.*

*Responding to Commissioner Jordan's request, Mr. Cintron indicated he would review the OCED economic development component. He also pointed out that United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (USHUD)*

*guidelines applied to OCED and that the Mom and Pop Small Business Grant Program was not eligible for USHUD funding.*

*Commissioner Jordan stated she would meet with Mr. Cintron to identify a funding source within the OCED budget for the Mom and Pop Small Business Grant Program.*

*Following the OCED Departmental Budget presentation, Mr. Anderson asked for more information and details on the budgeted line item entitled, "Other Operating" listed under the Operating Expenditures Summary and "Debt Service" listed under the Non-Operating Expenditures.*

### 3. OFFICE OF COMMUNITY ADVOCACY

*Mr. Oscar Braynon, Projects Coordinator, Office of Community Advocacy (OCA), presented the OCA budget. He provided an overview of the OCA Financial Summary and noted the proposed recommendation to place the MMAP Trust under OCA would transfer three staff positions. Mr. Braynon pointed out the addition of the MMAP Trust would increase the number of advisory boards in the department from five to six and staff would decrease from 16 to 15. He noted the proposed resource allocation plan with the loss of four positions would adversely impact the quantity of activities sponsored by the five advisory boards. Mr. Braynon noted the department's priorities would be to maintain the core functions of the six advisory boards; to maintain a viable community response team; and to maintain a strong viable Goodwill Ambassador Program. He noted OCA would continue to respond to requests from individual commissioners to address special needs in their respective districts. Mr. Braynon noted Mr. Milton Vickers, Executive Director, MMAP, would address the impact of the proposed budget on the operations of the MMAP Trust. Mr. Braynon informed the Committee that with the exception of each advisory board's Program Officer, OCA staff members served on at least two other advisory boards, and provided clerical and administrative support. Therefore, the MMAP staff transferred to OCA would not be solely devoted to the MMAP Trust with the exception of the Program Officer or the Special Projects Administrator.*

*Chairwoman Edmonson offered her condolences to Mr. Vickers due to death in his family.*

*Mr. Vickers noted staff had prepared an adjustment to MMAP's original proposed budget to reflect a further reduction in MMAP's proposed budget. He noted the MMAP Trust requested to review MMAP's proposed budget and to reduce it. He pointed out MMAP's initial proposed budget was \$998,000 out of the County's General Fund. Mr. Vickers noted the Trust has recommended the Committee and the County Manager consider reducing MMAP's budget to \$774,000, by reducing the number of staff from 32 positions to 30. He indicated this budget represented a 9% reduction in the General Fund line item. Mr. Vickers informed the Committee that a majority of MMAP staff was paid from a dedicated funding source, and 11 staff members were funded through the General Fund. He stated the two position reduction would reduce the number of staff paid from the general fund from 11 to 9.*

*Commissioner Moss discussed the downsizing of MMAP and his experience as a former MMAP Trust Board member. He noted he would support more accountability for MMAP. He urged the County Manager to present a more acceptable recommendation regarding MMAP to the BCC.*

*Ms. Curry noted her discussion with the MMAP Director on other issues/concerns merited further discussions. She noted staff would prepare a future recommendation that would encompass those concerns and the concerns of the Committee.*

*Chairwoman Edmonson asked Senior Advisor Cynthia Curry and MMAP Executive Director Milton Vickers to keep her abreast of the discussions and recommendations involving the reorganization of MMAP.*

*Commissioner Jordan and Chairwoman Edmonson concurred regarding a revised MMAP ordinance to be sponsored by the Committee and to be considered by the BCC.*

*Ms. Curry stated the proposed revised ordinance would deal with the MMAP structure and the MMAP Trust composition versus the budget perspective for MMAP.*

*Responding to Commissioner Moss' inquiry regarding Mr. Braynon's position on the resources to carry out the OCA mission, Mr. Braynon noted the major emphasis and resources for OCA was staffing. He noted 91% of the OCA*

*budget represented personnel and only 9% for operations. Mr. Braynon noted the department has operated under the same budget for the past four years.*

*Commissioner Jordan noted a draft of the revised MMAP ordinance had been prepared and would be brought forth. She indicated she intended to schedule a Government-in-the-Sunshine meeting to discuss the proposed draft. In addition, she noted the Committee could be listed as the sponsor to the proposed revised ordinance. Commissioner Jordan asked that Ms. Curry be present at the Sunshine meeting to present the County Manager's recommendation.*

#### **4. COMMUNITY SERVICES**

*(Note: This was the proposed name for the office created by consolidating the Department of Human Services and the Community Action Agency)*

*Ms. Maritza Alonso, Acting Assistant Director, Department of Human Services (DHS), presented the DHS budget and noted Ms. Julie Edwards, Interim Director, Community Action Agency (CAA) would present the CAA budget. Ms. Alonso provided an overview of the impact in the loss of revenues and job positions due to the property tax relief initiatives.*

*Ms. Edwards noted the proposed consolidation of DHS and CAA would impact 106 job positions. She explained that 96 of the existing positions were funded by the general fund; that 548 positions were funded by Federal funds; and that 37 positions were funded by other revenues generated by the Department. She proceeded to provide an overview of the CAA budget.*

*Commissioner Moss spoke in opposition to the proposed merger of CAA with DHS and expressed concern with the missions of these agencies being lost.*

*Responding to Commissioner Moss' request for her perspective of this proposed merger, Commissioner Jordan urged the County Mayor and County Manager to reconsider this proposed merger.*

*A discussion ensued regarding the CAA Early Head Start Program and the potential impact of the merger on this program.*

*Responding to Chairwoman Edmonson's request for the impact of less community-based organization (CBO) funding on the community, Ms. Alonso explained that CBOs provided a number of social services ranging from summer youth employment to elderly programs.*

*Ms. Carmen Morrina, Office Support Specialist, Department Of Human Services, explained that the CBO budget was not part of the DHS budget. She indicated the Contract Officers who visited the sites and monitored CBOs were part of DHS. Ms. Morrina concurred that the number of Contract Officers would be reduced to 10 instead of 17.*

*Ms. Edwards noted staff has preliminary identified those centers for closure and noted 6,210 head start slots were approved in the County.*

*Commissioner Jordan noted in reference to the proposal to privatize Head Start the County was shifting General Fund monies and transferring Federal funds that would result in eliminating positions.*

*Responding to Commissioner Jordan's request, Ms. Edwards noted the following CAA Head Start or Early Head Start programs/centers and the location of these centers in the respective Commission District that would be transition:*

- the Arthur Mays Center, Commission District 9;*
- the Bethune Center, Commission District 3;*
- the Greater Bethel, Commission District 3;*
- the Community Partnership for Homeless, Commission District 3;*
- the Mount Zion, Commission District 2;*
- the D. A. Dorsey Skills Center, Commission District 2;*
- the Engle Center (phonetic), Commission District 7;*
- the Florida Memorial site, Commission District 1;*
- the Thena Crowder (phonetic), Commission District 2;*
- the Early Intervention Center, Commission District 3;*
- the Florida City sites, Commission District 9;*
- the Phyllis Miller, Commission District 3;*
- the City of Sweetwater, Commission District 12;*
- the Treasure Island, Commission District 12;*
- the Community Partnership for Homeless, Inc., Commission District 9; and*
- the Archer Village, Commission District 3.*

*Commissioner Jordan asked the CAA Director to*

*provide her with a copy of Barry University's operating license and/or certification to operate a CAA's Head Start/Early Head Start Program.*

*Responding to Commissioner Moss' comments regarding how much General Fund monies were allocated to CAA, Ms. Edwards advised that approximately \$11 million of General Fund monies were allocated to CAA and that Federal Grants accounted for the remainder of the budget balance.*

*Responding to Commissioner Jordan's comments regarding the transferal of 400 CAA Head Start slots, Mr. Alberto Parjus, Budget Analyst, Office of Strategic Business Management, advised the County would save approximately \$716,000 by transferring the recommended 400 slots.*

*A discussion ensued regarding the cost factor of providing Head Start, and the consultation between the County Manager's Office and OSBM to determine the cost factor.*

*Commissioner Jordan asked Assistant County Attorney Mandana Dashtaki if the County Manager, the BCC, or any entity could reduce the CAA Head Start Program without prior approval by the Head Start Policy Council.*

*Responding to Commissioner Jordan's request, Assistant County Attorney Dashtaki advised the Committee pursuant to 45 CFR 1304.50, the Policy Council approval was required.*

*Discussion ensued in connection with the 45 CFR 1304.50 (c) entitled, "Program Performance Standards for the Operation of Head Start Programs by Grantees and Delegate Agencies, Policy Group Responsibilities – General."*

*Mr. Adrian Ellis, President, Early Head Start Policy Council, noted the curriculum for pre-school and early childhood education. He also noted the program worked with the entire family, as well. He proceeded to provide an overview of different scenarios involving disability, health, and behavior to assist the whole family. Mr. Ellis noted preliminary discussions had occurred among the Policy Council members regarding early head start enrollment and the original intent was to expand slots for the Early Head Start Program.*

*Discussion ensued regarding the Policy Council's authority, the recommendation to reduce the*

*number of slots for Head Start, and the potential impact of this proposed change.*

*Commissioner Jordan asked the CAA Director to provide her with a copy of the cost analysis outlining the cost that the County provides in terms of psychological, dental, disability, physical examinations and all other related factors.*

*Chairwoman Edmonson asked the Commission Auditor to work with the County Manager to identify funding to ensure the continued operation of CAA Head Start/Early Head Start Program Centers Countywide.*

*Commissioner Jordan asked Senior Advisor Cynthia Curry to initiate efforts to identify additional space in County-owned buildings to facilitate the continued operation of existing CAA Head Start/Early Head Start Program Centers, pending the County Commission's consideration of the Mayor's recommendation due to the reduction in the County's General Fund support for this division. In addition, she asked Assistant County Attorney Mandana Dashtaki to review the legal issues pertaining to the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (USHUD) requirements and guidelines concerning Head Start Program centers and to prepare a report of the findings for Committee review.*

*Responding to Chairwoman Edmonson's inquiry regarding the County being in violation of Federal regulations concerning Early Head Start programs, Assistant County Attorney Johnson-Stacks asked that the Committee allow staff to research this issue and follow-up immediately with her.*

*Commissioner Moss expressed concern regarding this proposed merger due to the federal regulations that both departments must adhere to.*

*Chairwoman Edmonson noted the need for consideration that the BCC was the policymakers and the County Manager's budget recommendations must be approved by the BCC. She noted this Committee did not support the proposed merger of DHS and CAA.*

*Mr. Anderson asked for more detailed information regarding the revenues and expenditures for the proposed Department of Community Services, specifically for operating expenditures.*

#### 5. OFFICE OF HOMELESS TRUST

*Mr. David Raymond, Executive Director, Office of Homeless Trust (OHT), presented and provided a brief overview of the OHT's budget. He noted OHT was a proprietary department.*

*Responding to Commissioner Moss' inquiry regarding the status of the Homestead Air Force Base Housing Program, Mr. Raymond noted OHT filed an application with the United States Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) on June 13, 2007, outlining the planned use of the 52 acres with 145 permanent support housing and mirco-enterprise landscape nursery. He noted HHS had not yet responded to OHT's application.*

#### 6. CONSUMER SERVICES

*Ms. Cathy Peel, Director, Consumer Services Department (CSD), presented the CSD's proposed budget. She noted that the majority of the CSD budget was proprietary revenues from regulatory fees and fines. Ms. Peel noted 17% of CSD budget was allocated from the Countywide General Fund and this funding predominately supported the Cooperative Extension Division and the general consumer protection activities. She proceeded to provide an overview of CSD's Financial Summary.*

*Responding to Commissioner Moss' inquiry regarding the one-time fund, Ms. Peel explained that the one-time funds were funds collected from cable television audit monies due to the last froze cable regulations. She noted these carryover funds were being used to supplement CSD General Fund.*

#### 7. JAY MALINA INTERNATIONAL TRADE CONSORTIUM

*Mr. Tony Ojeda, Executive Director, Jay Malina International Trade Consortium (ITC), presented the ITC's budget. He provided an overview of the ITC's Financial Summary.*

*Responding to Chairwoman Edmonson's comments regarding third party mission, Mr. Ojeda explained that third party mission was the funds that ITC provided to third party organizations, such as Greater Miami Chamber of Commerce that took missions abroad.*

*Responding to Commissioner Moss' inquiry regarding how the new proposed budget for ITC affected staffing, Mr. Ojeda noted the proposed*

*budget reductions would reduce the number of missions from three (3) to two (2) per year.*

#### *8. HOUSING FINANCE AUTHORITY*

*Ms. Patricia Braynon, Director, Housing Finance Authority (HFA), presented the HFA's budget. She noted the department did not receive any County General Fund dollars. However, the year HFA would administer the State Homeownership Initiatives Partnership (SHIP) and the Documentary Stamp Surtax programs for single family homeownership and rehabilitation programs. She noted HFA would receive 13 additional staff persons transferred from the Miami-Dade Housing Agency and the Metro-Miami Action Plan Trust.*

*Responding to Chairwoman Edmonson's inquiry regarding concerns raised by the lending industry pertaining to the availability of funding for homeownership, Ms. Braynon noted the demand for funding exceeded the supply. She stated the increase in housing costs necessitated more subsidies. Ms. Braynon expressed concern with depleting the current funding sources and the need to review the administering of the funds.*

*A discussion ensued among the Committee members and Ms. Braynon regarding the use of the HOME Deep Subsidy loans, the MMAP Down payment Assistance Program, and the HFA mortgage revenue bonds.*

*Ms. Curry informed the Committee of the County Manager's intent to meet with OCED and HFA to discuss the split of the Documentary Stamp Surtax funds based on his recommendation to increase the HFA portion of those funds. She noted the County Manager's meeting would include discussing how much of those funds should be used for homeownership versus development of housing.*

*Commissioner Jordan agreed with reviewing and establishing a County policy based on the current housing market.*

*Mr. Anderson expressed appreciation to OSBM for their responsiveness to requests concerning budget information from the Commission Auditor's staff.*

*Ms. Braynon informed the Committee that the Home Depot Foundation selected HFA to receive*

*a \$100,000 grant to bring Global Green to Miami-Dade County. She noted a symposium would convene November 12-15, 2007, to promote and build affordable green houses that are environmentally friendly.*

*Commissioner Moss questioned how the Committee would proceed to set its budget recommendations and priorities.*

*Commissioner Jordan noted she would put her recommendations in writing based on the departmental budget presentations. She noted this Committee had purview over a number of issues. Therefore, the Committee's budget recommendations could be presented and incorporated into the County's budget at the BCC First Budget Hearing for consideration at the Second Budget Hearing.*

*Chairwoman Edmonson asked individual Committee members to prepare their budget recommendations in writing, and to submit their recommendations to the Office of the Clerk of the Board, with copies to the Commission Auditor and the County Manager by Friday, August 17, 2007. She noted she would schedule a Government-in-the-Sunshine Meeting to discuss the budget recommendations submitted by Committee members, as recommended by Assistant County Attorney Cynthia Johnson-Stacks.*

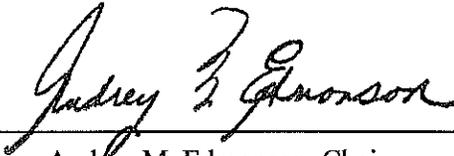
*Further discussion ensued among the Committee members regarding the budgetary challenges, recommendations, and priorities for the County, the BCC, and this Committee.*

*Commissioner Moss asked the Assistant County Attorney Cynthia Johnson-Stacks to review the entire issue of Miami-Dade Housing Agency (MDHA) and provide the Committee with guidance in terms of the resources and the day-to-day operations for MDHA. Therefore, the County could stay in compliance with USHUD as it pertained to the take-over and the role of the County in the day-to-day operations of MDHA.*

*Responding to Commissioner Moss' request, Assistant County Attorney Johnson-Stacks stated she would work with him and the MDHA administration to address his concern.*

**3 ADJOURNMENT**

**Report:** *There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting adjourned at 2:05 p.m.*



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Audrey M. Edmonson, Chair