



Economic Development and Human Services Committee
March 26, 2008

EXHIBITS LIST

Prepared by: Jovel Shaw

NO.	DATE	ITEM #	DESCRIPTION
1	3/26/08	--	Memorandum from Cmr. Sorenson re: Notice of absence
2	3/26/08	--	Memorandum from Cmr. Sorenson re: EDHSC Budget priorities for FY 2008-09
3	3/26/08	--	Memorandum from Chairwoman Edmonson re: Proposed Budget Priorities: EDHS Committee

FYI



CLERK OF THE BOARD
2008 MAR 25 PM 12:32
CLERK OF COUNTY COURTS
MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLA.

MEMORANDUM
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

TO: Honorable Chairperson Audrey M. Edmonson and
Members of the Economic Development and Human Services Committee

FROM: Katy Sorenson, Vice-Chairperson
County Commissioner, District 8 *Katy Sorenson*

DATE: March 25, 2008

SUBJECT: Absence from EDHSC Special Meeting – Budget Presentation

I will be unable to attend the Economic Development and Human Services Committee Special Meeting regarding the budget presentation scheduled for Wednesday, March 26, 2008. I had already made arrangements to go out of town for the Florida Association of Counties (FAC) Legislative Day in Tallahassee, FL. I apologize for any inconvenience this may cause.

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By the Clerk for the record.

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Item _____
Exhibit 1
Meeting EDHSC

cc: Honorable Chairman Bruno Barreiro and Members,
of the Board of County Commissioners
George Burgess, County Manager
Robert Cuevas, County Attorney
Cynthia Curry, Senior Advisor
Charles Anderson, BCC Commission Auditor
Kay Sullivan, Clerk of the Board



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Exhibit 2
Meeting EDHSC

MEMORANDUM
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

TO: Honorable Chairperson Audrey M. Edmonson and
Members of the Economic Development and Human Services Committee
(EDHSC)

FROM: Katy Sorenson, Vice-Chairperson
County Commissioner, District 8 

DATE: March 25, 2008

SUBJECT: EDHSC Budget Priorities for FY2008-2009

We are once again facing a difficult budget season. The cuts made last year, while painful, were mostly the low-hanging fruit and we were able to avoid significant service disruption for our residents. This year, however, with another \$150-\$200 million in cuts, we will not be able to avoid difficult choices.

As our economy worsens and tax revenues decrease, the need for social services will only increase, and we must design a budget that can achieve savings without leaving the most vulnerable in our community without necessary resources. We should always strive to be more efficient in our operations, but we should protect the services residents have come to rely on.

Our Department of Human Services has cut positions drastically over the last several years. They have lost over 200 positions, and their level of administrative staff is particularly low. While we all want to focus our resources on direct services, these services can only be delivered efficiently with an effective administrative team. We only have to look at the State's lack of appropriate administrative oversight and the ensuing disasters to understand that social workers who provide direct services require strong, competent supervision. Additionally, our commission offices often contact DHS with constituents' concerns and we have come to rely on their efficient responses. If we expect this to continue, we must ensure that this department has the administrative resources it needs.

We also must continue to support, and expand if possible, the efforts supported by general fund dollars to help our veterans. These monies support caseworkers who help veterans access federal programs for which they are eligible. In a time of war when our

Memorandum to Honorable Chairperson Edmonson and
Members of the EDHSC
FY2008-09 EDHSC Budget Priorities
March 25, 2008
Page 2

veteran population is steadily increasing, it is our duty to make sure our servicemen and women, who are returning home with serious and severe problems, are guided toward the federal services they deserve.

We need to maintain general fund support for our elderly programs as well. Meals on Wheels and other programmed activities for the elderly should not be sacrificed this budget year.

It is important for our community that we maintain funding for Community Based Organizations, and it is important that we as a commission quickly establish a feasible, effective policy for funding our CBO's. The interim grading process set up for this year is a step in the right direction, but we need an outcome-based strategy for evaluating CBO's so that we can be confident that the money we spend is a good investment yielding the desired services and results.

cc: Honorable Mayor Carlos Alvarez
Honorable Chairman Bruno Barreiro and Members
of the Board of County Commissioners
George Burgess, County Manager
Robert A. Cuevas, Jr., County Attorney
Cynthia Curry, Senior Advisor
Jennifer Glazer-Moon, Director, Office of Strategic Business Management
Charles Anderson, BCC Commission Auditor
Kay Sullivan, Clerk of the Board



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Item _____
Exhibit 3
Meeting EDHSC

MEMORANDUM
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
COMMISSIONER AUDREY M. EDMONSON
DISTRICT 3

Date: March 25, 2008
To: Honorable Katy Sorenson, Vice Chair and Members
Economic Development and Human Services Committee (EDHS)
From: Audrey M. Edmonson, Chair *Audrey M. Edmonson*
Subject: Proposed Budget Priorities: EDHS Committee

As the Chairman of the Economic Development and Human Services (EDHS) Committee, I submit the following recommendations and priorities for FY 2008-09 EDHS Budget.

Please review the following list of budget priorities for the EDHS Committee. The committee will discuss these and other recommendations in the EDHS Special Meeting on Wednesday, March 26, 2008.

Community Advocacy

- Increase the number of volunteer Goodwill Ambassadors to assist with crowd control at high-attendance events.

Community Action Agency

- Continue to fund the Head Start program at FY 2007-08 levels to ensure the needs of children are being met throughout Miami-Dade County.

Metro-Miami Action Plan

- Continue funding the Metro-Miami Action Plan at its current levels, and maintain this agency as a separate department.

Homeless Trust

- Maximize resources through the active pursuit of private funding, and federal and state grants.
- Increase the placement of homeless citizens and families in permanent and emergency housing.

Housing Agency

- Complete the Hope VI project through partnerships with established developers and increase monitoring of the project's progress.
- Address all outstanding issues identified in the settlement with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to advance the return of the Agency to the County.

Consumer Services

- Support additional taxicab lotteries to be used as an additional revenue source.

Memorandum to Honorable Katy Sorenson, Vice Chair and
Members of the EDHSC
Proposed Budget Priorities: EDHS Committee
March 25, 2008
Page 2

- Support legislative efforts to prevent the State from preempting local governments from collecting fees for certain services.

Office of Community and Economic Development

- Continue funding Community Based Organizations at 75%-85% of FY 2007-08 levels.
- Develop and implement a strategic plan to guide the equitable and targeted distribution of General Obligation Bond proceeds earmarked for affordable housing.
- Continue to support the Mom & Pop Grant Program by funding this program at FY 2007-08 levels.
- Continue to operate the Documentary Stamp Surtax and State Housing Initiatives Partnership programs to increase the rental and homeownership opportunities in Miami-Dade County.

c: Honorable Carlos Alvarez, Mayor
Honorable Chairman Bruno Barreiro and Members,
of the Board of County Commissioners
George Burgess, County Manager
Cynthia Curry, Senior Advisor
Cynthia Johnson Stacks, Assistant County Attorney
Kaye Sullivan, Clerk of the Board
Dianne Davis, Agenda Coordinator
Charles Anderson, Commission Auditor