



**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
OFFICE OF THE COMMISSION AUDITOR**

**M E M O R A N D U M**

**TO:** Honorable Jean Monestime, Chairman  
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

**FROM:** Charles Anderson  
Commission Auditor

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Charles Anderson", is written over the printed name.

**DATE:** September 2, 2015

**SUBJECT: Fiscal Year 2015-2016 Proposed Budget – First Committee of the  
Whole**

---

To assist the Board of County Commissioners at the upcoming budget hearings, the Office of the Commission Auditor has prepared the attached report with the issues raised at the First Committee of the Whole as required by Ordinance No. 15-44.

Should you require additional information, feel free to contact me at (305) 375-2524.

Attachment

c: Honorable Carlos Gimenez, Mayor  
R.A. Cuevas, County Attorney  
Edward Marquez, Deputy Mayor  
Jennifer Moon, Director, Office of Management & Budget  
Christopher Agrippa, Division Chief, Clerk of the Board

Commissioner Sosa

- Fire - wanted to confirm that Fire Rescue Units were not affected; wanted to confirm that all firefighter positions were budgeted
- Police – hire more officers and locate them in target crime areas; establish an agricultural patrol in the South area; concern with retiring employees that have institutional knowledge
- Library – concerned with hours/days; requested map of all libraries with times/days
- Budget – wanted confirmation that a flat rate budget was still being proposed

Commissioner Edmonson

- CBOs – requested a funding and status update; timing of RFP process
- Disparity Study – issues should be added to proposed budget
- Library – requested status on the opening of the Little River Library
- Small Business Development – concerned with staffing levels

Commissioner Moss

- Police – wanted clarification on the vacancies and recruiting classes
- Tree Canopy – needs to be increased
- Summer Youth Employment – request from the Federal government additional slots
- Elections – wanted confirmation that there is proper funding
- South Dade Justice Center – wanted confirmation that funding is allocated to take care of structural issues; requested report on timeframe for addressing other courthouse issues
- Aviation – provide additional support and improvements for the Homestead airport

Commissioner Levine Cava

- Employees – wanted confirmation that employees under the Mayor’s purview would have their benefits restored
- Animal Services – enhanced funding for spay/neuter
- Library - concerned with hours/days; restoration of hours for Regional Libraries
- Sea Level Rise – concerned with upcoming infrastructure improvements and if the County is prepared with additional resources to handle this issue

Commissioner Jordan

- Police – wanted clarification on the vacancies, retirements, and recruiting classes; concerned with succession planning and the preservation of diversity in leadership
- Fire – discussion on previous certification requirement that diminished diversity; restoration of fire training academy and partnership with the School Board
- Employees – status of agreement with unions; concerned that reserve is set aside for the bargaining units without an agreement
- Parks – North Glade should be included in the \$3 million funding for parks with high crime

- Transit – 10 new bus technician positions is not enough to maintain aging/new fleet
- Small Business Development – need liaison position in the Departments to monitor compliance; reconsider making SBD a department

Commissioner Diaz

- Police – wanted clarification if the recruiting classes were lateral or new; law enforcement should be a priority in the protection of the community
- Corrections – increase resources
- Fire – concerned with total number of fire boats (one new) and possible UASI funding
- Animal Services – discussion on the new shelter, new clinics, and no kill policy
- Transit – concerned with the proposed funding; review \$3 million in savings
- Military Affairs Board – continue to strengthen and grow
- Trade & Tourism – continue support
- Contingency Reserve – continue the reserve to reach \$100 million

Commissioner Suarez

- Real Estate Taxes – \$1 million to jobs program
- Animal Services – Pets Trust funding
- Employees – concerned that 5 bargaining units are without an agreement
- Transit – replenish PTP; discussion on the Maintenance of Effort and MDX
- Library – continue in the right direction by providing additional funding
- Housing – spend 1% of yearly operating budget revenue on housing

Commissioner Barreiro

- Budget – held previous meetings with the Mayor and OMB Director and communicated concerns; will continue to communicate with them

Vice Chairman Bovo

- Library – create small satellite libraries in Parks
- Transit – decrease reliance on PTP funding; timetable for decreased funding for operational needs

Chairman Monestime

- UMSA – strong advocate
- Employees – living wage for County employees; concerned about the notable difference in pay rates between service contract employees and County employees
- Small Business Development – requests a more robust office
- Mom & Pop Businesses – increase District allocation

- Streetscape and Right of Way Maintenance – should be increased
- Transit – allocate additional funding in FY15-16; discussion on the Maintenance of Effort