



MEMORANDUM
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
Commissioner Rebeca Sosa
District 6

TO: The Honorable Chairman Dennis C. Moss and Members of the Board of County Commissioners

DATE: July 16, 2009

FROM: The Honorable Rebeca Sosa
Commissioner, District 6

SUBJECT: Budget Recommendations

The Mayor and County Manager have presented their proposed budget for FY 2009/2010 and after initial review, I feel that it is necessary to express my initial concerns regarding the proposed cuts to the following areas:

- Programs that impact services to our most frail citizens, including elderly meals, disabled and veteran programs.
- Anti-venom unit, which is the only one of its kind in the United States and save lives globally.
- Reduction to County Employee Salaries.

Due to the unprecedented downturn in the economy, all options should be considered by the Board of County Commissioners. I believe that we should restore funding for services benefiting our elderly, disabled and our veterans. Additionally, the Anti-Venom Unit is a nationally recognized program that saves the lives of persons who are victims of snake bites. This program is also utilized by our armed forces to provide anti-venom serum to our troops who are deployed overseas protecting our nations freedom. If we pursue salary reductions, they should be conducted in a sliding scale as follows:

SALARIES

Over \$250,000	10%
\$250,000 to \$200,000	7%
\$199,000 to \$150,000	6%
\$149,999 to \$100,000	5%
\$99,999 to \$70,000	4%
69,999 to \$50,000	3%
\$49,000 to \$40,000	2%
Under 39,999	0%

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Across the board salary cuts have a negative multiplier effect, the lower the salary range. We need to hold harmless our employees who are earning less than \$39,999. Explore the possibility of initiating five (5) furloughs in lieu of salary reductions.

Thank you for allowing me to share my initial concerns regarding the proposed budget by the Mayor and County Manager. I look forward to a fruitful and spirited debate on how we continue to provide essential direct services to our residents and visitors while at the same time providing a budget that our taxpayers can afford to pay.

c.c. The Honorable Carlos Alvarez, Mayor
Denis Morales, Chief of Staff, Mayor Carlos Alvarez
George Burgess, County Manager
Robert Cuevas, County Attorney
Wayman Bannerman, Chief of Staff, Chairman Dennis C. Moss
Roly Marante, Chief of Staff, Commissioner Rebeca Sosa
Diane Collins, Clerk of the Board, Assistant Director
Diane Davis, Agenda Coordinator