



Coalition of County Unions
County of Los Angeles

News

www.coalitionofcountyunions.org

May 2009

Member Unions

- ★ American Federation of State, County & Municipal Employees
Council 36, AFL-CIO
- ★ Association for Los Angeles Deputy Sheriffs
MEBA, AFL-CIO
- ★ California Association of Professional Employees
MEBA, AFL-CIO
- ★ International Union of Operating Engineers
Local 501, AFL-CIO
- ★ Joint Council of Interns and Residents
SEIU 1957
- ★ Los Angeles County Building & Construction Trades Council
AFL-CIO
- ★ Los Angeles County Fire Fighters
Local 1014, AFL-CIO
- ★ Los Angeles County Lifeguard Association
MEBA, AFL-CIO
- ★ Los Angeles County Deputy Probation Officers Union
Local 685, AFSCME, AFL-CIO
- ★ Union of American Physicians and Dentists (UAPD)
AFSCME, AFL-CIO

2009-10 County Proposed Budget Released

Budget Axe Largely Avoided (For Now)

On April 21, Chief Executive Officer William Fujioka released his proposed budget for fiscal year 2009-10. Despite the collapse of the global economy, the crash in real estate prices, and the enormous state deficit, the proposed County budget of more than \$22 Billion is reduced by just \$127 million, or a modest 0.7 percent.

The proposed budget funds 100,774 budgeted positions, a reduction of 1,684 from 2008-09 levels, which CEO Fujioka has said publicly can be managed “without layoffs.”

With the economic decline, CEO Fujioka has declared a “structural deficit” – the difference between revenues and expenditures – of \$300 million. The following details how the CEO proposes to resolve the “deficit” without major service reductions and layoffs:

Major Risks Ahead

The County’s fiscal health remains tenuous. Not only is the demand for County services skyrocketing, but we risk a further erosion in property tax and other revenues. Already the Assessor is saying that property tax estimates in the proposed budget are off by more than \$88 million... Further, if Propositions 1A-F on the May 19 Special Election ballot do not pass, the County could face hundreds of millions of dollars in further cuts from the State.



2009–10 Budget Gap

Revenue Reductions.....	\$145.5 million
Assistance Caseload Increases.....	\$94.9 million
Net Program Cost Changes.....	\$5.6 million
Unavoidable Cost Changes.....	\$54.4 million
Projected Budget Gap.....	\$300.4 million

2009–10 Budget Gap Solutions

Ongoing Department Budget Cuts.....	\$107.2 million
One-Time Bridge Funding (Reserves).....	\$115.5 million
Federal Stimulus Funding.....	\$77.7 million
Budget Gap Solutions.....	\$300.4 million

Story continues on reverse.



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2009-10 County Proposed Budget, cont.

In putting together his proposed budget, CEO Fujioka initially asked all departments (except DHS) to submit a budget with 5 percent reductions. Fujioka wrote in the proposed budget, "After reviewing the results of the curtailment exercise and weighing the potential impact, our office modified some of the curtailments or eliminated them all together." At the close of the process, the CEO's recommended spending cuts include:

- **Sheriff:** Reduction of 51 budgeted positions from a variety of administrative functions totaling \$6.1 million, along with a \$23.8 million reduction in services and supplies and fixed assets, and \$1.7 million in revenue increases.
- **District Attorney:** Reductions of 51 budgeted positions along with a reduction in services and supplies from various operational units, a funding reduction of \$9.5 million.
- **Coroner:** Reduction of \$1.2 million along with the deletion of 9 vacant budgeted positions.
- **Fire Department – Lifeguard:** Reduction of \$1.1 million in services and supplies.
- **Department of Public Health:** Curtailment of \$2.5 million and a reduction of 17 budgeted positions that affects ten different departmental programs.
- **Department of Mental Health:** Curtailment of \$1.1 million with reductions to contract providers utilized to decompress the DHS psychiatric emergency rooms.
- **Department of Regional Planning:** Curtailment of \$0.7 million and the elimination of 7 budgeted positions that will impact land use regulations and current and advance planning.

As we struggle collectively to get our economy back on track, we will continue to carefully track the County budget and the economic climate, working with CEO Fujioka and our departments as needed to help resolve problems as they arise.

Timetable

- Board Adopts Proposed Budget..... **April 21**
- Public Hearings Begin **May 13**
- Final Budget Deliberations Start..... **June 22**

