



Ask the CEO



Strategic Financial Plan Moves Ahead

You and your spouse just made a commitment to send your eight-year-old to a prestigious university after high school graduation.

When you financed your home mortgage a few years ago, that balloon payment looked like a good way to reduce your monthly payment. It also looked a long way off.

“Just as each of us has to plan ahead for large obligations in our family budgets, the County has to look down the road and construct a larger version of the family budget,” said Ed Corser, County Financial Officer. “The County’s budget just has a few more zeroes.”

The Strategic Financial Plan is an

innovative, long-range financial planning model and represents one of the first strategic financial plans in the state. As a blueprint for how to proceed for the next five years, the County’s Strategic Financial Plan is developed with input from department heads and the CEO.

“It’s important that we start at the department level to develop the County-wide budget priorities – not top-down,” said CEO Tom Mauk. “Input from department heads helps us to make decisions with our eyes wide open.”

The presentation of the Strategic Financial Plan to the Board of Supervisors will be on

Q. I have been employed with the County of Orange since 1993. Since then, the dress code has changed so much. There were certain items an employee couldn’t wear. Now, the County is so casual, and some agencies are more casual than others. Why has the County allowed this?

A. The County does not have a countywide dress code policy. Some agencies and departments have adopted general guidelines for appropriate dress in the workplace. Many observe “Casual Friday,” and other departments include small or large groups of uniformed employees.

The general expectation is that employees represent the County professionally in their choices of workplace attire. If an employee is dressed inappropriately for the work environment, a supervisor may address the situation individually with the employee. For further information about dress codes and policies, employees should contact the Human Resources section of their agency or department.



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December 13 in the Board hearing room at 9 a.m. Once approved in concept by the Board of Supervisors, then we begin building the budget in January.

Significant factors that will impact the plan include:

- Governor's proposed budget and May revise
- Proposed budgets from departments in March
- Revised retirement cost will be \$82 million instead of a projected \$129 million
- Harbor Patrol Funding

Operation Santa Claus Launches Annual Toy and Gift Drive

During the holiday season, you have an opportunity to bring holiday wishes to needy children, the frail elderly and disabled adults served by Social Services Agency, Health Care Agency, Probation Department, Child Support Services and Housing and Community Services. Last year more than 45,000 toys were distributed to underprivileged youth and 1,518 gifts were provided to elderly and disabled adults.

County employees are encouraged to donate items and volunteer to help in the holiday store. Employees can participate in three different ways including cash donations, giving new, wrapped gifts or filling angel tag opportunities.

Operation Santa Claus/Senior Santa & Friends annual toy and gift drive begins November 29 and runs through December 23. Look for the Operation Santa Claus/Senior Santa & Friends drop-off boxes in all County libraries and Fire Authority stations. Donations may also be dropped off at the Holiday Store located at 1505 East Warner Avenue, Santa Ana, 92705, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, beginning December 1. To donate money, send your check or gift certificates to Operation Santa Claus, PO Box 22006, Santa Ana, CA 92702. If you wish to volunteer your time, please email Jane.Dawson@ocgov.com or call (714) 834-7440.

Angel Tags provide gift suggestions for a child, teen or senior in need of a holiday gift. If you would like to coordinate an Angel Tree, please call (714) 825-3159 for more information.



HR Wins NEOGOV Award

The Human Resources Department was recently awarded the first-ever NEOGOV Customer Award for Innovation in recognition of their innovative recruitment practices.

Criteria used in selecting OC for the award included: most organized, structured and innovative approach to a rollout; the widest rollout of any agency conducted in the shortest amount of time and innovative deployment/user adoption program combined with effective internal communication and promotion of new services available to departments.

"We are extremely proud of our recruiting practices in providing top caliber employees for the County," said Dianna Garcia, Director of Human Resources. "This award is the result of a tremendous amount of work and dedication by our HR team."

Registrar of Voters Sets New Standards for Election Management

The Registrar of Voters (ROV) successfully implemented a new approach to election management for the November 8, 2005 Special Statewide Election. The successful use of state of the art technology brought positive reviews from the media, election officials, and political entities alike.

Key enhancements to Election Day procedures, such as the use of Rapid Deployment Teams with GPS tracking, enabled the ROV to have a faster response time to polling places needing supplies or assistance.

The County's new, first of a kind

Election Night Web Enhancements (at <http://www.ocvote.com>) provided a new level of transparency and continuous updates throughout the night. The new services enabled the County of Orange to be the first large California County to vpost final unofficial results to the Secretary of State on Election Night and Orange County was second among all counties in completing the canvassing process. ROV counted more than 650,000 ballots including 292,000 absentee and 14,000 provisional.

ROV has already certified the 48th Congressional General Election which was held on Tuesday,

December 6th. Increased efficiency combined with a dedicated staff allowed them to certify this election in record time. ROV will be going to the Board of Supervisors on Tuesday, December 13th to submit the final certified results.



Flood Gates Opened to the World Wide Web

Through the new website www.ocflood.com recently launched by RDMD's Flood Control Division residents of Orange County can find out if they live in a high risk flood zone, and learn ways to prepare for a flood, such as learning how to properly fill and place sandbags through detailed instruction and photo demonstrations. The site also provides answers to commonly asked questions about flood control channels, what to do in situations involving rising flood waters, and includes a number of materials to assist contractors in doing business with the department.

"Our predecessors, current team, and future employees have and will continue to work tirelessly to accomplish our mission of protecting our citizens from the threat of floods while improving our environment," says Nadeem Majaj, Flood Control Division manager. "The launch of this website serves as a conduit for creating awareness of our organization and our purpose in addition to being a vital resource the public can use to locate information and needed documentation," Majaj said.



Now Carrying: *Precious Cargo*

The Old Courthouse Museum is displaying *Precious Cargo: California Indian Cradle Baskets and Childbirth Traditions*, now through January 9, 2006. The exhibit honors the time tested and perfected practice of the use of cradle baskets, primarily used to transport babies by California's indigenous population.

Precious Cargo features specially-commissioned cradle baskets from over 20 California tribes and examines California's indigenous childbirth and childrearing traditions.

The Old Courthouse Museum is located at 211 W. Santa Ana Blvd and is open Monday through Friday, 9 1.m. to 5 p.m. Admission is free.



35 Years

Tracey Sletta
Social Services Agency

30 Years

Richard Acker
Integrated Waste
Management Department

Yolanda Garcia
Probation

Terresia Lambert
Social Services Agency

John Mac Willie
Sheriff-Coroner

Lynn Nehring
Sheriff-Coroner

William Price
Assessor

Jaime Saldana
Social Services Agency

Trudy San Paolo
Social Services Agency

Rosalinda Sanchez
Social Services Agency

25 Years

Helen Brennan
Social Services Agency

Alfred Campos
Integrated Waste
Management Department

Dana Cardi
Social Services Agency

Joan Daugherty
Auditor Controller

Laura Feiner
Health Care Agency

Brian Fredenburg
Social Service Agency

Phillip Jun
Health Care Agency

Diana Jung
District Attorney

Roger Kuhaupt
Resources & Development
Management Department

Cheryl Manatt
Social Services Agency

Trinh-Nghia Nguyen
Social Services Agency

Ruth Rodriguez
Social Services Agency

Sandra Rubalcava
Public Defender

Muriel Soden
Probation

Jennifer Tran
Social Services Agency

Cong Troung
Social Services Agency

David Unger
Resources & Development
Management Department

Kesse Valdez
Sheriff-Coroner

Julia Woodward
Public Defender

Sharon Zepel
Social Services Agency

