



HARRIS COUNTY, TEXAS

COMMISSIONERS COURT

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Robert Eckels
County Judge

El Franco Lee
Commissioner, Precinct 1

Sylvia R. Garcia
Commissioner, Precinct 2

Steve Radack
Commissioner, Precinct 3

Jerry Eversole
Commissioner, Precinct 4

March 3, 2006

To: County Judge Eckels and
Commissioners Lee, Garcia,
Radack and Eversole

Re. **FY 2006-07 Budgets**

Enclosed are schedules and materials for the FY 2006-07 budgets which will be effective for the period of March 1, 2006 through February 28, 2007.

The county's general fund expenditures for the year ending February 28, 2005 are projected to be \$1,028,898,458, an increase of 3.8% compared to the previous year's expenditures of \$991,539,681.

The available cash balance in the general fund at February 28 is projected at \$184.7 million with \$38.1 million encumbered and \$146.6 million, or 14.3% of expenditures, unreserved. The Auditor's Office will provide any final adjustments that may be necessary.

The estimate by the Auditor of available resources for FY 2006-07, including the above balance, is \$1,228,100,653, which is 5% more than the previous year's adjusted estimate of \$1,169,259,795, and .58% less than the estimated actual for FY 2005-06 of \$1,235,260,125.

The following table shows the general fund resources by category based on the Auditor's estimates.

| <u>General Fund</u> (\$ millions) | FY 2005-06 Adjusted Estimate | FY 2005-06 Estimate Actual | FY 2006-07 Revenue Estimate |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Beginning Cash | \$ 234.9 | \$ 240.2 | \$ 184.7 |
| Taxes | 644.9 | 683.2 | 735.4 |
| Intergovernmental | 30.1 | 32.8 | 29.8 |
| Service Charges | 180.2 | 187.1 | 192.8 |
| Fines | 23.3 | 23.3 | 23.5 |
| Rentals/Parks | 3.9 | 4.5 | 3.9 |
| Reimbursements | 20.8 | 20.2 | 21.1 |
| Interest | 6.5 | 7.1 | 7.0 |
| Miscellaneous | 4.5 | 15.6 | 9.8 |
| Transfers | 20.1 | 21.2 | 20.0 |
| Revenues & Transfers | \$ 934.3 | \$ 995.0 | \$ 1,043.4 |
| Total Resources | \$ 1,169.2 | \$ 1,235.2 | \$ 1,228.1 |

Flood Control

The estimate for the Flood Control operations and maintenance budget for FY 2006-07 is \$136.5 million, an increase of \$11.3 million compared to last year's adjusted estimate, and \$4.9 million over last year's estimated actual revenue.

Debt Service

Funds will be available for debt service expenditures for the fiscal year in the amount of \$128.6 million for the county, \$165.3 million for the Toll Road Authority, \$35.1 million for Flood Control, and \$35.7 million for the Port of Houston.

Departments and Policy Issues

The tables that follow show a listing of proposed budget amounts for departments. The total of the proposed budget is balanced against the Auditor's estimate of available resources. A list of policy issues follows the budget materials. Adjustments will be made as necessary in accordance with the court's decisions March 7. A more detailed summary will be prepared for your reference as part of the annual budget book that will be printed for the fiscal year.

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