



DIGEST

Board of Supervisors Adopts Chief Administrative Officer's Recommended Budget

On April 23, 1985 the Board of Supervisors adopted the proposed 1985-86 County budget based on the recommendations of the Chief Administrative Officer.

Public budget hearings are scheduled to begin June 7 and conclude June 14. Final budget deliberations by the Board of Supervisors are scheduled to begin July 8. The County Code and State law require that the final budget be adopted on or before August 1.

Although California cities and the State as a whole are experiencing economic expansion and are building reserves, Los Angeles County does not benefit proportionally in the economic upturn. Its principal revenue source, the property tax, is limited by constitutional amendment.

Inflation-sensitive revenue sources such as the sales tax are only minimally available to the County because most areas in the County that generate sales tax are incorporated or are quickly annexed.

Notwithstanding the fact that the County does not share in the general prosperity, the County is required to respond to increasing human needs and social problems. State-mandated local costs for open-ended, caseload-driven programs such as welfare, health care, jails and the courts are disproportionate

compared to other areas in the State and have been escalating at a far higher rate than County discretionary revenues.

The County has no independent revenue source to fund its unique needs. Unlike cities, counties cannot impose taxes or charges in excess of costs. Essentially, the County has a fixed revenue base and must trim other critical County services to fit whatever revenue is left after State-mandated services have been provided.

To assure the continued provision of critical mandated and non-mandated County services, additional discretionary revenue (either through independent authority, increased subventions, State assumption of costs, or reduced mandates) must be provided.

Following are fiscal and program highlights of the Recommended Budget:

FISCAL HIGHLIGHTS

- **Total Requirements** have increased by \$196.7 million or 3.2% over 1984-85.
- **Virtually all of the increase** (\$193.6 million or 98.4%) is for State-mandated and workload-driven expenditures that cannot be reduced or limited by the Board of Supervisors. These costs are partially subvned by federal and state funds with a required County match (i.e., AFDC, health services), or are solely a County responsibility (i.e., jails, General Relief, and most court costs). Due to restrictions on County revenues, only \$3.1 million or 1.6% of new funds has been programmed for the Board's local use.
- **Additional potential new costs/revenue losses of \$408.6 million have not been financed**

in this budget. Depending upon the outcome of various circumstances at the federal, state, and local levels, the possibility exists that up to \$100 million of these requirements will come due in the next two years. Absent additional funding or independent revenue authority, this would mean a 10% across-the-board curtailment in various County services and elimination of 3,756 budgeted positions. Since 75% of the budget is devoted to justice, health and welfare, these programs would be hard hit.

- **No funding for pay raises** for County employees. This marks the second zero pay raise for County employees in three years.
- **\$6.9 million savings** as a result of economies and efficiencies such as contracting, departmental consolidation and productivity improvements.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

Sheriff

- \$11.5 million increase to provide for the rapidly expanding jail population and for operating the new Mira Loma Women's facility, scheduled to open in April 1986. The jail is 5,342 inmates over capacity.

Probation

- \$4.2 million increase to continue current services, to house the increased detention population, and to provide for field service caseload increases. The juvenile halls are 400 wards over capacity.

Courts

- \$15.1 million increase for appoint-

(Continued on page 3)

**MAY 1
1985**

Volume 20 Number 8

1985 Volunteer of the Year Recognition Awards Program held

The third annual Los Angeles County Volunteer of the Year Recognition Awards Ceremonies and Luncheon Program was held on April 22, 1985 in the Grand Hall of the Music Center's Dorothy Chandler Pavilion. The event honored Mrs. Dorothy Emily Krebsbach as the 1985 Los Angeles County Volunteer of the Year for her continuing provision of positive educational experiences for the children of MacLaren Children's Center School.

In November of 1983, Mrs. Krebsbach joined the volunteer program at MacLaren Children's Center after responding to an "Involvement Opportunity" notice in the Los Angeles Times. In fourteen short months she literally developed a library and learning center at MacLaren's Children's Center School "from scratch" to meet the special needs of the educationally disadvantaged children.

Many of the child abuse victims detained for protective shelter care in MacLaren Children's Center have histories of educational neglect and deprivation. While the School attempts to provide an individualized program for each child, the school administration and faculty had long envisioned developing a multi-purpose learning



Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich presents scroll to County Volunteer of the Year Dorothy Krebsbach at Awards Ceremony held in the Music Center on April 22.

center within the school, where a wide range of educational resources would be available, above and beyond those available in the various classrooms. And, while the teacher-child ratio at MacLaren School is only 1-to-12, it was envisioned that a more intensive, one-to-one involvement could be provided in a library/resource center setting, utilizing volunteer librarians and library aides to work with children who were non-readers and estranged from the world of books.

Mrs. Krebsbach has had to face numerous challenges in her drive to develop the library. The County was able to provide her with the title "Volunteer Librarian," but little else. Initially, she mobilized a core of three volunteers, including herself, to get rid of unwanted books, via a book sale at a local shopping mall, the proceeds of which were used to obtain wanted books. Since the County could contribute only a minimal amount of supplies, she had to rely upon private donors and community support to build her resource center.

Dorothy and her small team of recruits worked diligently, behind the scene, to obtain such basic library

equipment as shelving, card files, magazine racks, etc. Nine months of tedious unglamorous preparation preceded the opening of the library.

In the six months the library has been open, hundreds of children have been given an opportunity to educationally "feast" on a variety of experiences. Non-readers have received individual tutoring, and have been given their first book to keep and call their own. Those unable to relate to books have been exposed to story records, educational puzzles, games, and arts and crafts. Younger children have enjoyed storytelling and puppet shows.

Colorful posters, bulletin boards, motivational sayings, etc., surround each of the respective learning areas. Children are provided with incentives (e.g., posters, bookmarks, paperback books) for participation in reading and non-reading activities. She has even been able to get some children to write a book report for the very first time.

Mrs. Krebsbach is determined to keep the library a dynamic, evolving place where each child in grades Kindergarten through twelve might find something of interest. She is constantly using a variety of strategies to reach the hard-to-reach. She is working with Care and Treatment staff to expand their interface with the library and its potential. Within a short time, she has plans to publish a quarterly newspaper for the MacLaren Children's Center library, "The Eye Opener."

All of the teachers now are scheduling their classes for the library on a regular basis. Resources have been made available to teachers in the MacLaren Head Start Program, and to Residential Care staff in the Nursery.

Volunteerism has been a way of life for Mrs. Krebsbach, as a teacher of religion and as a library volunteer in private parochial schools. From 1976 to 1980, she established and operated an elementary school library at St. John of God School in Norwalk. Other library involvements include service at Stella

(Continued on page 3)

County of Los Angeles

DIGEST

EDITORIAL BOARD

JAMES C. HANKLA
Chief Administrative Officer
Director of Personnel

CHARLES R. STEAKLEY
Editor

EDITORIAL OFFICE

Room 783, Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Telephone: 974-1785

Volunteer of the Year . . .

(Continued from page 2)

Maris Academy in La Jolla and St. Lines School in Norwalk. For the past fifteen years, Dorothy has been a member of the Catholic Volunteers of America (C.V.O.A.) and the American Library Associates (A.L.A.).

The Awards Program was sponsored by the Board of Supervisors, who declared the week of April 22-28, 1985, Volunteer Recognition Week in Los Angeles County in conjunction with National Volunteer Week. The special categorical award recipients were named as follows:

DISTINGUISHED VOLUNTEERS (5):

Nancy Dunn, Arborea and Botanic Gardens; Donald Hilston, Forester and Fire Warden; Rhoda Pike, Public Administrator-Public Guardian; William B. Temple, Public Works; Charlotte Pinsky, Rancho Los Amigos Medical Center.

ARTS AND HUMANITIES: Catherine Fugitt, Los Angeles County Public Library.

ENVIRONMENT: Leigh Rae Platte, Animal Care and Control.

HEALTH: Marie J. Griffith, High Desert Hospital.

HUMAN SERVICES: Sylvia Ines Larson, Public Social Services.

HUMANITARIAN: Carrita Nelson, General Hospital, LAC-USC Medical Center.

PUBLIC SAFETY: Franklin A. Bereny, County Clerk and Executive Office of the Superior Court.

YOUTH: Deborah Goldman, Parks and Recreation.

Also honored at the festivities were 37 departmental volunteers of the year and eleven departmental youth volunteers of the year.

Supervisors Deane Dana and Michael D. Antonovich shared in the presentation of award scrolls to each of these volunteers. The departmental volunteers of the year were selected by

departmental selection committees to be nominees for the County Volunteer of the Year Award. Two selection committees met on March 13 and 14, 1985 to carefully consider each nomination and to select the recipient for these recognition awards.

Nobiyuki Pat Morita, Academy Award nominee for his role in the "Karate Kid," was the Master of Ceremonies. He has made many volunteer contributions of his own to a variety of community fund-raising activities. He was presented a scroll for his years of exemplary service as a humanitarian and a friend to all people. The presentation was made by Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich.

Mr. Morita has provided leadership and support for various minority community groups such as the East West Players, Inner City Cultural Center, and the Japanese American Museum. His other fund-raising activities include being a member of the Happy Days Softball Team, which supports various community groups, the March of Dimes Campaign, Cancer in Hawaii, Nashville Arthritis Telethon, and the Children's Special Arts Festival for the Handicapped.

In his welcoming speech, James C. Hankla, Chief Administrative Officer, said that each Departmental Volunteer of the Year was specially chosen by a Department Head as the outstanding volunteer in that department. He added that these honored volunteers are a symbol of all the thousands of other volunteers who willingly and freely give their time and talents to provide worthwhile services to the public. Mr. Hankla noted that volunteer hours donated to the County and its citizenry have increased by over one million hours in the past two fiscal years, representing an increase of 52.2% over fiscal year 1981-82. He extended his personal gratitude to the volunteers for their generous contributions and to the Volunteer Directors, coordinators and management staff who administer the volunteer program. Thirty-seven persons were awarded scrolls in recognition of their being chosen Departmental Volunteer of the Year. They are:

(Continued on page 4)

CAO Recommended Budget . . .

(Continued from page 1)

ed counsel, jury fees and new courts.

Welfare

- Pursuant to the Governor's proposed budget, the County budget provides 5.3% cost-of-living increases in welfare grants (AFDC and Refugees), and a 4% COLA increase for In-Home Supportive Services to the elderly and disabled.
- \$3.9 million increase for General Relief to reflect increases in average case costs, due in part to the homeless population. No provision for a General Relief COLA increase, or for caseload increases beyond 1984-85 levels.

Children's Services

- 342 new positions for:
 - increased staffing at MacLaren Children's Center
 - child protective services caseloads
 - adoptions
 - foster care recruitment and licensing

Health Services

- 159.7 new positions for operating the new Olive View replacement facility, scheduled to open January 1986.
- Due to the inadequate state allocation for the Medically Indigent Adult (MIA) program, the budget provides for elimination of 109 positions in hospitals/health centers, reflecting a reduction in some MIA non-emergency services; and a \$2.2 million fee increase for non-emergency health services. The resulting savings will be used to maintain higher priority services for the increasing indigent caseload.

Mental Health

- \$17.8 million expansion in Mental Health services as a result of increased state support. These funds will be used to expand critical mental health services to children, adolescents and homeless mentally ill.

Volunteer of the Year . . .

(Continued from page 5)

General Hospital - LAC-USC Medical Center.

Mrs. Nelson has dedicated much of her life to voluntarily serving the ill and infirm. She has been a volunteer at General Hospital for 33 years, donating over 15,000 hours of service. She is currently serving in the Outpatient Endocrinology Clinic every Tuesday, where due to her organizational skills and her loving nature, the clinic runs more smoothly.

Public Safety: FRANKLIN A. BERENY, County Clerk and Executive Office of the Superior Court.

Mr. Bereny has been during the past three years, a dedicated and enthusiastic advocate for abused children in Dependency Court. His efforts in implementing the Children's Court Assistant Program have greatly increased the supportive services now available to abused children. As a Guardian ad litem he has done outstanding work with individual children on a long term basis, ensuring that the Court's decisions are in the best interest of the child.

Youth: DEBORAH GOLDMAN, Parks and Recreation.

Deborah Goldman has built the Placerita Canyon Student Naturalist group into a strong community youth activity which provides educational and recreational opportunities to children 6 to 18 years of age. She has conducted fund-raisers, assisted in public events, trained other youths to give programs and presented nature experiences to mentally retarded teens. Deborah has donated over 1,000 hours as a young volunteer.

**THANK
YOU
FOR
CARING
GIVE BLOOD**



American Red Cross

New Election for Second Member, Retirement Board of Investments, Scheduled

On March 26, 1985, the Superior Court heard arguments in the lawsuit which challenged the new election for the Second Member, Board of Investments. The Court concluded that the Board of Supervisors was legally empowered to invalidate the December 11, 1984 election. However, the Court also found that the change in the date which determined voter eligibility for the new election disenfranchised General Members of the Los Angeles County Employees Retirement Association (LACERA) retired, or who left County service and elected to take a deferred retirement allowance, between September 28, 1984 and January 31, 1985. To correct this situation, the Court directed the Board of Supervisors to issue ballots to these members.

A new election will be held on Tuesday, July 30, 1985. New ballots will be issued listing the same candidates as they appeared on the December 11, 1984 election ballot. Ballots will be issued to all employees who were members of LACERA as of September 28, 1984 and who were eligible to vote in the December 11, 1984 election.

Ballots will be distributed by your departmental election coordinator to all eligible employees on or before Friday, June 28, 1985. Voting will close Tuesday, July 30, 1985. Please fill out your ballot and return it to the Registrar-Recorder by 5:00 p.m., Tuesday, July 30, 1985. Under the procedures of this election the Registrar-Recorder must actually **receive** your ballot by that date.

If you do not receive a ballot by Friday, June 28, 1985, you may request a duplicate ballot through your departmental election coordinator. Please be advised that if you transferred to another County department after January 31, 1985, it is your responsibility to make arrangements with your **former** departmental election coordinator to obtain your ballot.

For further information, a copy of the election procedures may be obtained from your personnel office; from the Registrar-Recorder, 5557 Ferguson Drive, Los Angeles; or from the Executive Office, Board of Supervisors, 500 West Temple Street, Los Angeles 90012.

Victims-Witness Rights

(Continued from page 4)

the CAO.

Ms. Nelson was instrumental in developing and implementing one of the largest and most complex victims' assistance programs in the nation. Under her supervision the program grew from a small pilot project with five staff members to a comprehensive program extending services to all nine County District Attorney branch offices, with 68 full-time staff members and 60 volunteers. She is a member of the Victim Compensation Forms Committee, and Vice-Chairperson of the Southern California Victim/Witness Coordinating Council. The citation concluded that "Lori Nelson has provided many years of faithful service to this state, the citizens of Los Angeles County, and to the victims of crime."



INTO PIGGY BANKS?

Fine. But when nickles and dimes won't do, join the payroll savings plan.

Save big money the EEasy way with variable rate U.S. Savings Bonds.