



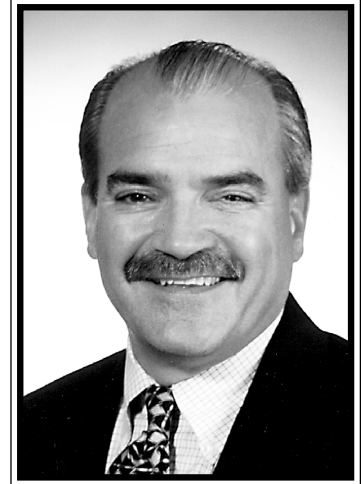
December 17, 1999

To the Citizens, Chair, and Board of County Commissioners
Broward County, Florida

Ladies and Gentlemen:

I am pleased to forward to you the following Broward County Comprehensive Annual Financial Report for the fiscal year ended September 30, 1999. You can be assured that the financial position of Broward County remains sound and strong.

During the year, the Board refined its five overall goals established in fiscal 1998, and much work was accomplished toward achieving those goals during the year. Operationally, culture change was promoted by improving communications with all interested groups, and by developing new ways of doing business that are more responsive to the needs of our customers. A plan to improve mass transit was adopted and incorporated into the Fiscal Year 2000 operating budget with your approval of a one cent gas tax increase. A Library Bond Issue was overwhelmingly approved by voters, and expansion of that system began immediately. Major expansions to meet the growing demands of their customers continued at Port Everglades and the Airport, and both entities continued to work together to improve the economic backbone of this transportation hub.



Fiscally, your policy direction and our conservative management approach resulted in no increase in the millage rate for the Fiscal Year 2000. In part, this resulted from our efforts to increase efficiency and eliminate duplication in our services. We will continue to take this fiscally conservative approach to evaluating our services and programs, as well as seek appropriate partners for future initiatives, so the tax burden on our residents is minimized. There are significant challenges ahead and it is imperative that we continue to take a multi-year approach to continued financial success as we phase in the costs of major initiatives such as the operating costs of the bond issue libraries and the next jail.

Finally, we continued our efforts during the year to insure that all the County's critical business systems will be Year 2000 compliant, and we expect no significant problems with the County's systems in the new year.

It has been my privilege to serve you through this very successful year. I appreciate your support and direction and look forward to another successful year for the County in the new century.

Respectfully submitted,

Roger J. Desjarlais
County Administrator