



DATE: May 2, 2007

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County 2008 Budget Information Goes Online

*Site provides answers to frequently asked questions about tax reform
and County's new budget process*

Broward County has launched a new web site on the 2008 budget process at www.broward.org. The site was created in response to Broward County Board of County Commissioner concerns that residents have easy access to information on how the Florida Legislature's tax reform debate will impact County government services in the next fiscal year.

The site contains a vast array of information on Broward County's new budget process. It explores how tax revenues are collected, how they are spent, and identifies portions of the budget (61 percent) not under the jurisdiction of the County Commission.

Three "Did You Know" segments provide details on the role property tax dollars play in funding government services, the County's role as tax collector for more than 80 taxing authorities, and the impact of state and federal unfunded mandates, which account for more than \$63.6 million of annual expenditures. Unfunded mandates are requirements imposed by the Federal and State governments that must be paid for with local county tax dollars.

Highlights of the web site include:

- County Budget Basics
- Budget Glossary
- Understanding Your Tax Bill
- List of Taxing Authorities
- 2007 County Budget
- Broward County Commission
- Broward County Budget Office
- Property Tax Reform: Questions and Answers
- Your Tax Dollars-A Day in Broward County
- Where Does the Money Come From ~ Where Does the Money Go?

Also included on the web site are links to the Federal and State government, Governor's Office, Broward League of Cities, Florida Association of Counties, National Association of Counties, Broward County's 2007 Federal and State Legislative Program and State Legislative updates.

Broward County encourages all residents to actively participate in the budget process. The site identifies opportunities for public involvement in a series of budget workshops on May 15, May 22, June 19 and August 21, and two budget hearings on September 11 and September 27.

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