

NEWS

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SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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County budget hearing slated for Thursday afternoon

The Board of Supervisors on Thursday, June 16, will conduct a public hearing on the Recommended Budget for the fiscal year that begins July 1. The hearing will be held at 1 p.m. in the Covington Chambers of the County Government Center, 385 N. Arrowhead Ave., San Bernardino.

The 2011-12 Recommended Budget of \$3.8 billion has been balanced without the use of reserves to meet ongoing expenses. The budget reflects the desire expressed by the Board of Supervisors last year to move the county in a new direction, characterized by taking a hard look at the county's focus, fiscal condition, infrastructure and facility needs, operating systems, personnel, and service delivery.

The budget calls for a 2.3 percent reduction in spending and a 4 percent reduction in staffing to close a \$46.6 million structural deficit. In order to avoid deeper-than-necessary service reductions in public safety and other areas, the County Administrative Office has developed a strategic plan that includes negotiating an end to the funding of health benefit increases, employee compensation reductions, and asking unions to forgo pay increases, among other measures.