

NEWS

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County receives national award for effective budgeting

The County of San Bernardino has been honored as having one of the best budget documents in the country.

The county's 2006-07 Fiscal Year Budget received the Distinguished Budget Presentation Award from the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada, the county learned today.

The award represents a significant achievement by the County of San Bernardino and reflects the county's commitment to meeting the highest principles of governmental budgeting. In order to receive the budget award the county had to satisfy nationally recognized guidelines for effective budget presentation. These guidelines are designed to assess how well an entity's budget serves as a policy document, a financial plan, an operations guide, and a communications device.

Budget documents must be rated "proficient" in all four categories to receive the award.

"The Board of Supervisors and county staff work hard each year to create a budget document that not only responsibly allocates the county's assets, but also clearly communicates to the public what we do with their resources," Board of Supervisor Chairman Paul Biane said. "This award shows we have been successful."

The county has added several helpful features to its budget document in recent years. Performance measurements, increased use of charts, a more extensive description of the budget process, and three-year comparisons were all factors in the county winning the national budget award.

The County of San Bernardino's award-winning budget can be viewed on the county's website by going to www.sbcounty.gov and clicking on the "County Budget" link.

The Government Finance Officer's Association is a non-profit professional association serving 16,800 government finance professionals throughout North America. The GFOA's Distinguished Budget Presentation Awards Program is the only national awards program in governmental budgeting.