



Hamilton County Administrator's Office

Interdepartmental Memorandum

To: Board of County Commissioners

From: Patrick Thompson, County Administrator

CC: Jeff Aluotto, Eric Stuckey, Christian Sigman, Moira Weir

Date: March 10, 2008

Re: 2008 Management Work Plan – January / February Progress Report

Please find attached the January / February report for the 2008 Management Work Plan which provides a progress report on 76 specific projects and action items within the Commission's priority areas:

- Fiscal Stewardship;
- Criminal Justice Reform & Public Safety; and
- Quality of Life.

Fiscal Stewardship. Several 2008 revenue initiatives are well underway including the sale of real property tax liens, the pay-to-stay program in the jail, and charging municipalities for jail costs for municipal only charges. The 2007 year-end report was briefed to the Commission. The 2008 commodity analysis was defined and begun. The general fund 5-year plan was updated and included in the draft Moody's presentation. County Administration will continue to provide weekly budget briefings to the Commission.

Banks Riverfront Development. A ground breaking date of April 2, 2008 has been scheduled. The developer has submitted its private financing commitments of \$74 million for Phase 1A of the project. Multiple City/County project implementation teams have been identified. The overall permanent project oversight/management structure is still to be determined. The economic inclusion consultant has been recommended and contract negotiations are underway.

Job Creation/Retention. Through the first two months of 2008, the Hamilton County Development Company (HCDC) has been involved directly in the creation of 17 new jobs and retention of 164 jobs. Currently, there are projects in process which could eventually account for 156 new jobs and the retention of 1,561 jobs. We expect to complete these projects by the end of the year (some within the next few weeks).

Sale of County Properties. County Administration continues to reach out to potential stakeholders to explore the sale of the Memorial Hall facility. A potential risk includes the possibility that lack of interest in the facility will yield sale revenues less than included in the 2008 budget. The Administration has a mid-year target for concluding discussions with stakeholders before attempting sale via sealed bid.

Shared Services. County Administration is exploring multiple shared services possibilities including enhanced cooperation with Silverton (Building Inspections/Purchasing) and Amberley Village (Purchasing). We have also asked department heads to explore opportunities with the City of Cincinnati including Architectural and Engineering Services, Landscaping/Groundskeeping services and consolidated informational call center opportunities. I will be meeting with City Manager Milton Dahoney to discuss opportunities for sharing services based upon the recommendations of a joint discussion of City/County staff.

Review of County Development Process. The County is currently in the midst of a review of its development procedures; targeting those procedures applicable to commercial re-development. This review should be completed by mid-year and will result in the creation of a process which is both more conducive to the completion of quality work and easier for developers to navigate.

Carbon Footprint Reduction. The Administration, working in conjunction with the Department of Environmental Services, is completing the process of conducting a carbon emissions inventory for both county operations and the county geographical area. A county team will be convened following the creation of this inventory to develop action plans for reducing the county's carbon footprint per the Board's signing of the Cool Counties Declaration in January of 2008. Additional actions, developed through work with the Green Partnership for Greater Cincinnati, will be incorporated into these action plans.

Statewide Automated Child Welfare Information System (SACWIS) Implementation. The tentative implementation date for Hamilton County was established as March 10, 2008. The criteria established to determine the readiness to go-live were reviewed in late February. It was jointly agreed by ODJFS and HCJFS that the criteria were not met and the decision was made to not attempt an implementation of SACWIS until critical issues were resolved. A new go-live date of 4/28/08 has been established.

Foster Care Recruitment Campaign. The launch of the campaign on January 30th received coverage in The Cincinnati Enquirer, Cincinnati Business Courier, on WXIX, WCPO, WKRC and WLWT and on WLW and WNKU. The launch was also covered by the Associated Press, with appearances in various newspapers around the state (Akron Beacon Journal, Canton Repository, Wilmington News, etc.). To date, JFS has raised \$135,000 towards our \$750,000 campaign goal. JFS held four foster parent recruitment presentations in February. These initial presentations will serve as a model for other organizations to recreate. There are seven more presentations on the calendar for March and JFS will be proactively scheduling more of these sessions in the coming months. Through March 6, JFS received 120 calls from interested individuals. Each of these referrals is being contacted by one of the eight private foster care providers. JFS expects these numbers to increase once the commercials begin airing on primetime and more recruitment presentations are scheduled.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you need additional information about the items described above or included in the Management Work Plan.