



QUARTERLY NEWS & UPDATES

FROM YOUR OAKLAND COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Fall/Winter, 2009

1200 N. Telegraph Road • Pontiac, MI 48341-0470 • Tel: 248-858-0100

1st Ever Triennial Budget Passes; AAA Bond Rating Retained

We are proud to announce that Oakland is the first County in America to approve a triennial (three-year) line-item budget, and is one of the few Michigan county governments to balance its books without layoffs. The Oakland County Board of Commissioners approved budgets of \$819.5 million for 2010, \$788.1 million for 2011 and \$774 million for 2012. County employees will keep their jobs, but will take a 2.5% pay cut in 2010 and 2011, which will save the county about \$5.5 million the first year and \$11 million the second. County commissioners also approved a voluntary 2.5 percent salary cut for themselves. The budget shortfalls are due in large part to plummeting property values in the county, which fell \$13.3 million, from \$149 million to \$135.7 million. Data collected for 2010 suggest a further decline of nearly double that amount.

The advantage of fiscal planning for a period of three years, instead of two years, is that it gives everyone in Oakland County – businesses, industries, citizens, and even members of the government an idea of what kind of financial adjustments may be needed in the future to keep Oakland County solvent. This enables everyone to plan ahead, with the knowledge of what is coming. Fear of the unknown makes businesses reluctant to expand, make capital purchases, or hire new workers. By knowing what to expect from government, businesses can expand and hire without fear of surprises.

In addition, Oakland County has retained its AAA Bond rating for 2010. The higher the bond rating, the less interest governments must pay to borrow money. Our AAA bond rating means county taxpayers save \$2 to \$3 million annually in interest payments on capital improvements, including drain projects, facilities and equipment upgrades, and the like.

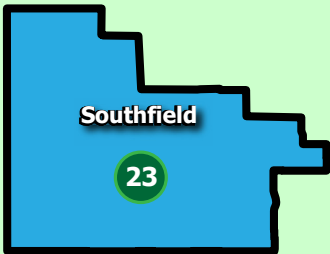


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STAY HEALTHY – GET YOUR FLU SHOT

Get your shot when the flu vaccine arrives at an Oakland County Health Clinic near you. The first H1N1 flu shots were given to the public at two locations – Clarkston and Farmington Hills – on October 24.

Oakland County Health Division served more than 12,000 people on that day. Estimates are that a nurse gave an H1N1 vaccine dose every five seconds at each location. Get your dose ASAP.

Oakland County will continue school-based clinics when the Centers for Disease Control release more vaccine to the Health Division. For further updates on future H1N1 vaccination clinics near you, keep checking the Health Division website: <http://www.oakgov.com/health>.

Commissioner Coleman Welcomes Dave Bing



Oakland County Board of Commissioners Chairman Bill Bullard and Commissioner Eric Coleman welcomed Detroit Mayor Dave Bing, who spoke at a Commission meeting in September.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Nurses on Call

Nurses offer information about health and related resources and referrals to health-related resources. Call 248-858-1406.



Watch the Birdie!

December 5, 8:30am-10:00am, Independent Oaks Park. Learn about important chances to help and enjoy birds this winter through citizen scientist programs. Info: www.destinationoakland.com

Oakland County Business Workshops

Start a Business, Dec. 3, 6 pm – 9 pm

Pre-Business Research, Dec. 8, 6 pm–9:30 pm.

How to Increase Sales & Grow Your Business, Dec. 9, 9 am – 12 pm

Write a Business Plan, Dec. 10, 6 pm – 9 pm

Go to: oakgov.com/peds/calendar/index.html or call 248-858-0783 for more information.

Oakland County Business Workshops are held at 2100 Pontiac Lake Road in Waterford at the Executive Office Building Conference Center.

For other county activities and events, check: <http://community.oakgov.com/blogs/at/>

Dear Neighbors,

Oakland County is a great place to live, work and play.

This newsletter shares just a few of the great services that your county government provides.

As your commissioner, I value your input on how to make the county better.

Please contact me with any of your suggestions.

Best Wishes,

Eric Coleman
Commissioner

Oakland County Commissioner Eric Coleman serves District #23 – The City of Southfield