Dear Citizen:

The county’s new fiscal year began Oct. 1 and reaching agreement on a budget for FY 2012-13 was a tremendous challenge. While this has been said with every budget for the past several years, this one seemed especially difficult, as we continued to balance the services the county provides against revenues that continue to shrink.

The Wayne County Commission and county administration have had to make difficult choices between programs that are worthwhile and services that must be provided as core functions of county government.

While certain financial practices and criminal investigations involving former county appointees help neither the county’s budget nor its image, the primary culprit in our budget shortfalls continues to be a crash in tax revenues due to depressed property values.

This tells it all: In 2007, the county took in $380 million from property taxes. This year, it’s $270 million. All governments from counties to cities and beyond are being squeezed by the drop in property values.

Sincerely,

Irma Clark-Coleman
Wayne County Commission

Wayne County Budget -- Comparison of Expenditures

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>(In Millions)</th>
<th>2012 Adopted Budget</th>
<th>2013 Adopted Budget</th>
<th>Inc/Dec 2012 to 2013</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sheriff</td>
<td>$131.38</td>
<td>$139.48</td>
<td>6.17%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prosecutor</td>
<td>46.79</td>
<td>40.70</td>
<td>-13.02%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd Circuit Court</td>
<td>182.99</td>
<td>225.95</td>
<td>23.48%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>County Clerk</td>
<td>20.71</td>
<td>23.78</td>
<td>14.82%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CEO Depts</td>
<td>1,257.78</td>
<td>1,292.76</td>
<td>2.78%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commission</td>
<td>9.17</td>
<td>9.63</td>
<td>5.02%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Treasurer</td>
<td>40.43</td>
<td>44.11</td>
<td>9.10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Register of Deeds</td>
<td>8.79</td>
<td>9.17</td>
<td>4.32%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children &amp; Family Services</td>
<td>197.45</td>
<td>187.03</td>
<td>-5.28%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Probate Court</td>
<td>15.62</td>
<td>13.89</td>
<td>-11.08%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retirement</td>
<td>7.50</td>
<td>8.00</td>
<td>6.67%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-Departmental [1]</td>
<td>164.03</td>
<td>157.33</td>
<td>-4.08%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total All Funds</td>
<td>$2,082.64</td>
<td>$2,151.83</td>
<td>0.05%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

[1] Transfers represent inter-fund transfers to other funds to support programs.
Population shift changes district boundaries

Wayne County
Commission
District 5
boundaries --
effective 1/1/13 to 12/31/22.

Commissioner to chair new special panel

Wayne County Commissioner Irma Clark-Coleman has been appointed chair of the Commission’s Special Committee on Senior Citizens & Veterans Affairs.

This panel will look at improving the quality of life for Wayne County seniors and veterans.

“I am very pleased that I have been named to lead this special committee,” she said.

The commissioner noted that the special committee will consider matters relating to health, nutrition, housing, social security, personal safety, mental health and recreation for seniors and veterans.

The special committee is tentatively scheduled to meet the third Thursday of each month at the Commission offices in the Guardian Building at 12 noon or immediately following the commission’s board meeting. Please call 313-224-0942 to confirm the meeting date and time.

Commissioner Clark-Coleman teams up to distribute back-packs for school students

More than 6,000 students in Detroit started the school year off in grand fashion with brand new backpacks filled with school supplies.

Commissioner Irma Clark-Coleman was pleased to team up with Office Depot to give the students these gifts.

For the past eight years, the store has given the backpacks to children who might not otherwise have the proper tools for success.

“As a former Detroit Public School board member, I know first-hand how important it is for children to start the school year with brand new supplies,” said Commissioner Clark-Coleman. “I salute Office Depot for its generosity.”
New County health clinic opens in Hamtramck

The Wayne County “Healthy Communities” Health Center is now open for business and accepting patients.

Located at 11447 Joseph Campau, in Hamtramck, the center opened its doors in February to provide health services to patients regardless of their insurance status or ability to pay. Accepted are all types of insurance, and those individuals who are uninsured are welcome as well. Fees are based on a sliding scale.

“We are grateful to have a facility like the Hamtramck Health Center available so area families can receive quality health care regardless of their health insurance status,” Commissioner Irma Clark-Coleman said. “Patients now can be treated by a primary care physician right in their own neighborhood instead of frequenting costly hospital emergency rooms.”

Visiting patients will receive service in primary care, pediatrics, adult medicine, behavioral health services, prenatal care, pediatric dentistry and Women, Infant and Children (WIC) services.

The facility features a compassionate and caring medical staff, state-of-the-art technology, six examination rooms and two on-site laboratories. There is also a private room for nursing mothers and infants.

Appointments are available and walk-ins are accepted. Convenient evening hours are also available. For more information, please call (313) 365-1362.

Commissioner Irma Clark-Coleman at the new county health clinic in Hamtramck

Commissioner Clark-Coleman, local church brighten holiday for families

Some 250 Detroit families received a complete Thanksgiving Dinner from Wayne County Commissioner Irma Clark-Coleman and God Land Unity Church.

The families had previously registered for the dinner baskets through Commissioner Clark-Coleman’s office and the church.

Each basket contained a frozen turkey, canned vegetables, mashed potatoes, other fixings and a cake and frosting mix.

“We always wish we could do more for families in our community,” Commissioner Clark-Coleman said. “But we are thankful to be able to assist the ones we can at this time of year. It is the season of giving thanks and we are grateful for the assistance of our many corporate sponsors for helping us make it all happen.”

NEWS BRIEFS:

Left: Commissioner Irma Clark-Coleman is pleased to announce the publication of a new citizen’s guide to Wayne County Government. The 24-page guide provides citizens with a quick overview of how their Wayne County government operates. If you would like to receive a copy, please contact the commissioner’s office.

Right: Long-time county employee Joseph Howard retired in March. He served as the dedicated director of the county’s division on veterans’ services.
Voters OK amendments to charter

Wayne County voters on Nov. 6th approved two amendments to the Wayne County charter, and rejected three other amendments that were proposed.

The Wayne County Home Rule Charter is the framework for Wayne County government. In many ways like the county’s own Constitution, the charter was adopted by voters in 1981 and can only be amended by a vote of the people.

The amendment with the most immediate impact gives the Wayne County Commission the authority to determine the format of the budget submitted by the county executive. This was approved with 342,458 voting yes and 312,843 saying no.

In accordance with the charter amendment, the commission subsequently adopted a resolution requiring the budget be submitted in line-item format, as opposed to lump-sum by departments. Line-item budgeting provides greater detail on how money is spent.

The other amendment approved by voters was a proposal to give the governor authority to remove an elected county executive with due process and for cause, as a governor already can do for all other countywide elected officials, such as the sheriff, clerk, treasurer, prosecutor and register of deeds.

That amendment passed with 58 percent of the vote, with 380,450 saying yes and 272,074 voting no. However, it is likely a change in state law would also be required before any action could be taken using this charter amendment.

Voters narrowly rejected proposed amendments that would change the membership of the board that governs the retirement system; change the limits on how long an auditing firm can do the county’s external audit; and give the county commission authority to set all compensation for county employees.

County sets hazardous waste collection dates

Wayne County has scheduled four countywide household hazardous waste collection dates this spring and summer.

The collection days are designed to accept unwanted household chemicals for proper disposal.

Items that will be accepted include household paints, stains, floor care items, furniture polish, bathroom cleaners, lawn and garden chemicals, antifreeze, fluorescent and compact fluorescent light bulbs, old computers and TVs.

All waste must be from residential sources.

Each collection date runs from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. and are open to Wayne County residents only.

The four collection dates and locations are:

**Saturday, April 13, 2013**
Redford Public Services
12200 Beech-Daly
Redford Township
(South of I-96)

**Saturday, June 22, 2013**
5101 Evergreen Rd.
Dearborn
(Just south of Ford Rd.)

**Saturday, August 24, 2013**
Westland Shopping Ctr.
Enter off Nankin Blvd. from Central City Pkwy.
Westland

**Saturday, October 13, 2013**
Southland Shopping Ctr.
Eureka Rd. & Pardee
Taylor
County helps bring new life to iconic building

For generations, its bold and unforgettable Yellow Pages sign served as a dramatic landmark on Detroit’s landscape.

Now the former Michigan Bell Building on Oakman Boulevard has found new life as the new NSO Bell Building, a groundbreaking effort that provides permanent, supportive housing for homeless adults and much needed support services to help them stabilize and turn their lives around.

The project is managed by the Neighborhood Services Organization (NSO).

Wayne County’s economic development department, along with the Michigan State Housing Development Authority, the City of Detroit, The Kresge Foundation, the McGregor Fund, The National Trust Community Investment Corporation, Bank of America, and others to provide equity financing, tax credits, loans and grants.

The $50 million community investment provides 155 safe, fully furnished, one-bedroom apartments for formerly homeless adults.

NSO provides mental health, addiction treatment, intensive case management, financial literacy, nutrition classes and other on-site support in one location to better help residents restore their lives.

“It’s terrific that Wayne County was able to partner with so many wonderful organizations to put this beautiful building back to productive use,” said Commissioner Irma Clark-Coleman.

Wayne County introduces “Health on Wheels”

Wayne County’s “Health on Wheels” may be coming soon to your neighborhood!

The mobile health convoy provides free health and dental screenings and health education to Wayne County families during 2013.

Screenings are for residents of all ages, and include testing for diabetes, blood pressure, cholesterol, body mass index, HIV and chronic diseases, among others. Some immunizations will be offered at certain locations. Referrals will be provided to individuals in need of follow-up services and testing.

The initiative features mobile health units from Wayne County, the City of Detroit, the Institute for Population Health, Garden City Hospital, and other local health and community service providers. Partnering dental organizations include the University of Detroit Mercy School of Dentistry and Golden Dental.

The “Health on Wheels” convoy will travel “cross county” twice monthly to deliver free dental and health screenings, services and referrals to a Wayne County neighborhood near you in 2013.

To find out when the unit may be visiting your neighborhood, please contact Commissioner Clark-Coleman’s office at 313-224-0942.
Sign-up for the District 5 E-newsletter

Due to budget constraints at the Wayne County Commission, my office will only be able to publish and mail a limited number of newsletters to the citizens of District 5. However, I still intend to keep citizens informed of important county news through E-mail. I encourage all citizens to sign-up for my E-newsletter that I will begin publishing this summer. Please complete the following information and return to my office at the address listed below, and we will add your name to our E-mail list. Thank you!

Name: ____________________________________________________________

Address: __________________________________________________________

City, State, Zip: _____________________________________________________

Email address: _____________________________________________________

Please mail the completed form to: Irma Clark-Coleman, Wayne County Commissioner, 500 Griswold, 7th Floor, Detroit, MI 48226. Thank you!