



Department of Planning & Community & Economic Development
Economic & Community Development Division
Office of Community Services

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Enis Ragland - Interim Supervisor

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Dear Purchase of Service Agencies:

I am writing to inform you of several decisions the Mayor made with regard to the Office of Community Services budget. His Executive Operating Budget was introduced to the Common Council on Tuesday, October 7.

Because of the extremely difficult budget conditions that exist for 2009, The Mayor was unable to include the 3% cost of living adjustment included in the requested adjustment base. The overall funding for all contracted services is maintained at the 2008 amount.

Furthermore, with the creation of the Community Development Division Director position, the Mayor decided to consolidate supervisory duties. This results in the elimination of the Office of Community Services Supervisor position as of April 1, 2009. The new Division Director will be working during the next several months to identify any alternative positions that might enhance the efficacy and efficiency of the Division.

Finally, unlike prior years when the Commission's slate of funding recommendations are included as part of the budget itself, his Executive Operating Budget includes only one aggregate dollar amount for all Community Services contracts. He respects the commitment, effort and authority of the Community Services Commission, and believes it is inefficient to ask the Commission to make funding recommendations and establish contingent priorities without knowing the actual amount of funding available for allocation. After the budget has been acted on by the Common Council, the Office of Community Services budget will be sent to the Commission for final allocations. The Common Council will then have the chance to review the specific allocations in an omnibus authorization resolution in December or January.

Again, I thank you for your service to our community. Please feel free to contact my office if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Enis T. Ragland
Community Services Supervisor