

County Executive
Terry Schutten



County of Sacramento

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Contact: Zeke Holst, Communication and Media Officer (916) 874-2691

SACRAMENTO COUNTY PREPARES FOR ECONOMIC CHALLENGES

Sacramento, CA- On Monday, November 24, 2008, Terry Schutten, County Executive, announced several cost-saving measures to reduce the impact of current and future economic challenges. The measures are to be implemented immediately. This action is being taken because of recent changes in the economy as a whole and in the state budget outlook. These changes could have repercussions, as yet unknown, to the County's budget for this fiscal year and beyond.

"I am announcing today the execution of several measures to reduce our expenditures. We will be cutting costs as we contend with this current economic cycle," stated Schutten. "Our primary function is to provide services to our citizens and our primary resource in service provision is our employees. In order to protect the services the County provides, we all must make prudent efforts to reduce expenditures as preventative measures while we continue to evaluate the effects of these events," concluded Schutten.

Expenditure reductions to be implemented immediately will include but not be limited to the following.

- All county departments are prohibited from purchasing new workstations, laptops, software, copiers, printers, new phones and phone systems, cell phones, pagers and all other peripheral devices and similar electronic devices.
- All printing or copying should be done double-sided instead of single-sided. Printers and copiers will be adjusted to perform this function.
- Departments are prohibited from entering into new real estate leases.
- Facility improvements will be delayed indefinitely. However, those projects in mid construction may be completed.
- The purchase of new office furniture will be delayed indefinitely. Departments are allowed to pay for items that have been ordered or are required for health and safety accommodations.

Additionally, throughout all county facilities, heating and cooling thermostats will be seasonally adjusted. County winter daytime heating temperatures will be lowered by two degrees to 66 degrees. Heating and cooling systems will start no earlier than one hour before normal business hours and will stop at the normal close of business. Exceptions to these changes will be those locations where existing laws or regulations prohibit these actions.

Each department is also being asked to look for other opportunities to curtail costs. The cost-saving measures will be in force until further notice.

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