



# QUARTERLY NEWS & UPDATES

FROM YOUR OAKLAND COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Summer-Fall, 2011

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

## BALANCED 2012-2014 BUDGET GOES TO FULL BOARD FOR VOTE

The Oakland Board of Commissioners' Finance Committee has completed hearings into the 2012-2014 county budget presented by County Executive L. Brooks Patterson in July. General Fund spending will rise to \$412 million in 2012, up from \$410 million in 2011. The revised, recommended budget is balanced for the next three years – the only triennial government budget in the country.

County Commissioners and the County Executive credit advanced, well-designed, in-depth budget planning with adjustments for declining revenues and cooperation of all departments as being instrumental in maintaining the county's AAA bond rating, even as property tax revenues continue to decline.

The county avoided cutting employee salaries and mass layoffs. There are no raises or hiring, and every time someone leaves county employment the position remains vacant. There have been only ten involuntary layoffs since 2008. View the budget here: [http://www.oakgov.com/mgtbud/info\\_pub/triennial\\_budget.html](http://www.oakgov.com/mgtbud/info_pub/triennial_budget.html)

The Oakland County Commission's Finance Committee concluded budget hearings in August, and the whole Board is slated to vote on the Finance Committee's recommendations in September. No tax increases are included. The Board of Commissioners has lowered, but has never raised property taxes since it was created to succeed the County Board of Supervisors almost a half-century ago.

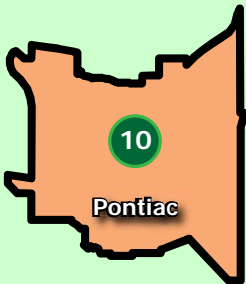


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Dear Neighbors,

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,

*Mattie Hatchett*

Mattie McKinney Hatchett  
Commissioner

## COUNTY UPGRADES FINANCIAL TRANSPARENCY

Residents of Oakland County can now access online monthly reports that update how taxpayers' money is being spent. The county has upgraded its financial transparency website to include reports revised every month, instead of once every year as it has been in the past.

The newly improved site allows residents to sign up to be automatically notified by e-mail when new information and new reports become available.

The reports are primarily used by budget managers to help monitor revenues and expenses against their authorized annual budgets. The site includes audited reports that date back as far as fiscal year 2002. Also included are unaudited budgets for departments such as the Board of Commissioners, the Courts, and the Sheriff. Visit the site at the link below.

[http://www.oakgov.com/fiscal/info\\_pub/monthlyreports.html](http://www.oakgov.com/fiscal/info_pub/monthlyreports.html)

## RECREATION GRANTS AVAILABLE THROUGH DECEMBER 2011

\$150,000 in grants is made possible by the Oakland County Parks and Recreation Commission and will assist the Recreation Assistance Partnership Program in providing community collaboration efforts, transportation, day camp and many other recreational opportunities. Schools, communities, downtown authorities, community organizations, as well as community parks and recreation departments can apply for grants.



To apply for the Recreation Assistance Partnership Program, submit requests on your organization's letterhead to [DestinationOakland.com](http://DestinationOakland.com) for application details and click on the Recreation program menu bar. For more information, contact Recreation Supervisor-Outdoor Adventures and Mobile Recreation's Derenda LeFevre at [lefevred@oakgov.com](mailto:lefevred@oakgov.com) or call 248-858-1486.

Submit requests four weeks before your event or program. Grants will be provided on a first-come, first-serve basis and must be used by December 31, 2011.

## Commissioners Celebrate "Women's Equality Day"



August 26th is the date set aside to commemorate the passage of the 20th Amendment to the United States Constitution, the amendment that gave women the right to vote. The Oakland County Board of Commissioners proclaimed August 26th, 2011, as "Women's Equality Day," and presented the proclamation to the distaff members of the Commission, as well as to Corporation Counsel Judy Cunningham, who represented all of the female employees in the County.

Picture from left to right are: Commissioners Janet Jackson, Helaine Zack, and Nancy Quarles; Corporation Counsel Judy Cunningham; Commissioners Marcia Gershenson and Board Chairman Michael Gingell; and Commissioners Beth Nuccio, Christine Long, Shelley Goodman Taub, Kathy Crawford and Mattie McKinney Hatchett.

Oakland County Commissioner Mattie McKinney Hatchett serves District #10 representing the City of Pontiac.