



MENDOCINO COUNTY EXECUTIVE OFFICE

# NEWS RELEASE

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TO: MENDOCINO COUNTY NEWS MEDIA  
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## 2007- 2008 FINAL BUDGET AVAILABLE ON AUDITOR-CONTROLLER'S WEB PAGE

The Mendocino County Executive Office is pleased to announce the availability of the 2007-2008 Final Budget on the Auditor-Controller's web page. Members of the public are welcome to access the County's budget information at: <http://www.co.mendocino.ca.us/auditor/budget/07-08/>. The 2007-2008 Final Budget book may be purchased at the Executive Office, 501 Low Gap Road, Room 1010, Ukiah) for \$25.00.

The Final Budget of the County of Mendocino guides all of the activities and programs of County government until June 30, 2008. The Board of Supervisors adopted this document on September 11, 2007. Absent special actions by the Board of Supervisors, expenditures of all County departments are limited to those shown in this document. As adopted in the County's Mission Statement, it is the objective of the Board of Supervisors through their funding opportunities to improve the quality of life in Mendocino County by providing responsive, efficient, and high quality public services that promote self-sufficiency and well being.

The 2007-08 County Budget meets the priorities established by the Board of Supervisors early in the year, as well as a number of added priorities at final budget hearings. The major emphasis for this year was to provide for the newly negotiated employee salary and benefit adjustments, as well as continuing to reduce long-term debt obligations. The budget also provides for public protection, advanced planning needs, transportation, creation of the Health and Human Services Agency, creation of the General Services Agency, and provision for inflationary impacts on the cost of doing everyday business.

The details of the Final Budget contained herein are intended to provide county residents with a better understanding of how economic factors affect the revenue and expenditures of County departments and their corresponding programs.

While this budget was developed on the concept of "status quo" operations, the Board was able to make several major adjustments at the final budget hearing to meet developing concerns. These

adjustments were made due to stronger than anticipated growth in assessed valuation as well as a substantial amount in carry over funds. The carry over was due to good budget management by most departments and speaks well for the County management team.

The items added or approved one time funding by the Board of Supervisors at final budget hearing, included:

- \$600,000 for Contingency Fund (some of which may be for Sheriff allocation if substantiated)
- \$326,000 for fire district workers compensation insurance
- \$200,000 for emergency medical services
- \$126,000 for Library – State reduction amount
- \$108,000 for two code enforcement officers (Planning & Building Services)
- \$ 75,000 for Executive Office economic development
- \$100,000 for Public Access Television
- \$ 40,000 for Resource Conservation District

These additions were in response to public and Board of Supervisors priorities.

To sustain the County in the future, desirable economic development must occur, with a sound decision making process on infrastructure and water resources that will generate the type of growth the community envisions. The Board of Supervisors and their executive management team are committed to positioning the organization toward that reality, including fiscal and programmatic changes, which can generate resource savings and generate added revenue sources. Finally, the need to recruit and retain dedicated and motivated employees remains a prime priority of the Board and the executive team, as was demonstrated by the concluded salary negotiations. Mendocino County remains committed to providing quality programs and services throughout the community, while adapting to changing priorities within the fiscal resources and realities available.

The Executive Office would like to thank the departments for the teamwork that went into preparing the 2007-2008 Final Budget.

For further information and assistance, please contact the Executive Office at 463-4441.

Released by: \_\_\_\_\_  
Tom Mitchell  
Chief Executive Officer

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