



BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

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TO: Al Robinson, Chair, Ways and Means Committee

FROM: Vivienne Armentrout, Chair, Board Working Session

DATE: May 7, 1999

SUBJECT: Revised Board priorities

The attached revision of the Board of Commissioners Priorities for 1997-98 was prepared according to the discussion at Working Session on April 15, 1999.

I am forwarding it to you with the request that it be placed on the Ways and Means agenda for May 19, along with any appropriate resolution, for adoption by the Board for the 2000-2001 budget cycle.

Thank you.

**A RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE WASHTENAW COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
PRIORITIES FOR THE 2000-2001 BUDGET PROCESS & GUIDELINES**

WASHTENAW COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

June 9, 1999

WHEREAS, the Washtenaw County Board of Commissioners reviewed their priorities at the April 15, 1999 Board Working Session; and

WHEREAS, the Washtenaw County Board of Commissioners updated their priorities to assist in the development of the biennial budget process for the year 2000 and 2001; and

WHEREAS, the Washtenaw County Board of Commissioners is responsible for all County services; and

WHEREAS, the Washtenaw County Board of Commissioners continues to support the County's Guiding Principles, Business Improvement Process and Professional Development Program; and

WHEREAS, the Washtenaw County Board of Commissioners priorities include: Financial & Fiscal Integrity, Children's Well Being, Public Safety & Justice, Sustainable Development, Homelessness & Housing, Health and Quality County Service; and

WHEREAS, this matter has been reviewed by the Board Working Session, the County's Administrator's Office, Corporation Counsel and the Ways & Means Committee

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Washtenaw County Board of Commissioners hereby adopts the Board Priorities for the 2000 & 2001 Budget Process & Guidelines, as attached hereto and made a part hereof.

Board of Commissioner Priorities

Revised as per April 15, 1999 Working Session

Financial and Fiscal Integrity:

The Washtenaw County Board of Commissioners will use long-term financial planning *in its decision-making process*. The Board of Commissioners will also have while having an in-depth understanding of the County financial and fiscal issues and the County's policy choices. Programs and services will be based on the needs of County residents, available resources, and demonstrable outcomes for services provided by the County or by partner agencies. The County will pursue new sources of revenues, will continue recapturing the direct cost of services through fees, and will advocate full funding by the federal and state government for the functions or services the County provides on their behalf.

Children's Well-being:

Washtenaw County will provide leadership in promoting and coordinating services for children's well-being, and greater and easier access to physical and mental health services. Special emphasis will be placed on poor, disabled, pre-school age and other special needs children. The County, as part of this leadership role, will develop and help implement a community-wide plan to provide for the well-being of children, including a safe and secure family environment *and neighborhood*.

Public Safety and Justice:

Washtenaw County will strive to be a safe, secure and just place. Emphasis will be placed on prevention of crime and efficient public safety collaboration across governmental jurisdictions. The County will work toward equality and justice by supporting the efficient organization of the courts and other necessary infrastructure. The Board of Commissioners will support programs which result in successful reintegration of persons who have come through the criminal justice system. A basic level of services will be maintained.

Economic Development, Environment and Planning *Sustainable Development:*

Washtenaw County will collaborate with other governmental units and provide leadership for long-term county-wide sustainable development and redevelopment incorporating a diversified economy, environmental protection, *workforce development* and social needs. *Through comprehensive and regional planning, the County will promote good land use practices.* The Board of Commissioners is committed to a county free of environmental and economic discrimination. The County will assist the educational and business community to help prepare people for jobs that provide solid futures. The County will encourage the use of community resources and technology developed by educational institutions to help businesses be more successful.

Homelessness and Housing:

Washtenaw County will promote a wide range of affordable housing opportunities to meet the housing needs of all residents of the County, with emphasis on people with mental illness and others who have few options for shelter. The County will assist with the infrastructure and services necessary to help the homeless make the transition to permanent affordable housing.

Health:

Washtenaw County will promote a physically, mentally and socially healthy population by assisting health services and the engagement of the local health infrastructure. The County will place emphasis on providing access to quality physical, mental and community health services for the poor (including the working poor), the uninsured or underinsured, and those with special needs. *The County will strive to ensure a physical environment that promotes good health.*

Quality County Services:

Washtenaw County strives to provide a level of services which is high-quality, effective, and efficient. The Board of Commissioners endorses the Guiding Principles, the Business Improvement Process, and Professional Development as management tools to accomplish this objective.

