# OFFICE OF THE TREASURER-TAX COLLECTOR



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To: Frank Kim, Director

From: Paul Gorman, Chief Assistant Treasurer-Tax Collector

Re: 2009 Performance Measure Update for 2008/2009 Business Plan

We have attached an update of our 2008/2009 Business Plan Performance Measures based on our Business Plan submitted in 2008.

The Treasurer-Tax Collector (TTC) is currently implementing Accentuate, the County selected software for reporting Balanced Scorecard performance measures. Our 2008 Business Plan was a transition year between reporting our traditional performance measures as reported in previous Business Plans and full implementation of Balanced Scorecard using the Actuate Software. As such, some of the performance measures and strategic goals do not meet the criteria set forth in the Business Plan Instructions.

Our progress in implementing Balanced Scorecard using Accentuate is highlighted in the performance measure for Strategic Goal 5 on page of the attached Performance Measure Update.

The TTC has utilized its new Business Process Improvement unit to focus on maximizing cost recovery and revenues. Many fees and cost studies have been reviewed and revised to ensure the County and the TTC is appropriately charging for services and recovering costs. The decrease in our budgeted Net County Cost as highlighted in Strategic Goal 4 on page 4 reflects our significant and productive efforts in this area. In addition the TTC is actively seeking County agencies in need of remittance processing and imaging services. Our successful partnership with Animal Care is one example where the TTC is able to recover labor and overhead costs during non-peak periods and utilize the available capacity of our high speed remittance processing and imaging equipment.

The TTC is also shifting staff resources to collection and revenue generating activities in non-peak periods. The recent loss of AB 589 grant monies forced us to reduce labor for the tax collection function however we continue to use skip tracing and other tools to improve the efficient use of our collection officer's time to collect delinquent taxes and the related fees.

In a very difficult economic environment the TTC remains focused on reducing our NCC and increasing revenues and tax collections for the benefit of the County and its stakeholders.

# ACTION PLAN and PERFORMANCE MEASURE UPDATE Reported by Core Service Areas

### **COLLECTION:**

**Strategic Goal #1:** Cost-effectively improve customer services and streamline tax collection processes

### Strategies to meet Goal # 1:

- Expand the number and variety of payment options
- Cross-train more staff
- Strategically assign trained staff to high customer need areas during the peak payment periods

#### Performance Measure for Goal # 1:

• To remain in the top third of performers statewide.

PERFORMANCE MEASURE: Remain in top third of counties for collections					
WHAT: Current year secured and unsecured taxes					
WHY: maintain or increase collections for benefit of all property tax beneficiaries					

FY 07-08	FY 08-09	FY 08-09 Anticipated	FY 09-10 Plan *	How are we doing?
Results *	Plan *	Results *		
13 <sup>th</sup> out of	Remain	After the first	Remain in top	Collections keeping pace with
58 counties	in top	installment secured	third	prior year.
in Secured	third	collections are at 89%		
(96.5%) and		vs. 88.2% in 07/08.		
Unsecured				
(98%)				
collections				

### **INVESTMENT:**

**Strategic Goal #2:** Upgrade the Treasury Management System to the most current version available.

# Strategies to meet Goal # 2:

- Upgrade SunGard Quantum and SunGard Risk (components)
- Coordinate the upgrade with SunGard professionals.
- Collaborate with SunGard to prepare a project implementation plan and budget
- Perform strategic testing in each area involved in the upgrade to
- identify and eliminate any plan discrepancies
- Troubleshoot all revealed problems and obtain solutions from SunGard professionals
- Implement the necessary changes, implement the upgrade
- Run parallel systems for the designated period, and given acceptable performance, move the new version into production

#### Performance Measure for Goal #2:

• Successful implementation within the established budget and time frame.

PERFORMANCE MEASURE:	Successful	Implementation	of	SunGard	Quantum	and	Risk
Upgrade							
WHAT: Upgrade to current version and new functionality							
WHY: Processing efficiencies and decreased manual processes.							

FY 07-08	FY 08-09	FY 08-09	FY 09-10 Plan *	How are we doing?
Results *	Plan *	Anticipated Results		
		*		
Prepared project	Successful	Successful	Upgrade will be	Upgrade completed in
implementation	implement-	implementtation by	completed by	March 2009 within budget.
plan and	tation by	March 2009	June 2009	
obtained BOS	March			
approval.	2009			

### **BANKING:**

**Strategic Goal #3:** Begin the test phase of the new Financial Accounting System (FAS) Pilot Project.

# Strategies to meet Goal #3:

- Obtain the authorization to proceed with this phase from the IT department on the FAS application program
- Coordinate with internal staff on the preparation of a test plan
- Communicate all problems/suggestions to the IT department for resolution
- Retest areas of the application where changes were made
- Collaborate with the IT department on the implementation process after all testing is complete

### **Performance Measure for Goal #3:**

• Increased operating efficiencies due to improved, more "user friendly" interface

PERFORMANCE MEASURE: FAS upgrade efficiencies	
WHAT: rewrite of treasury fund Accounting System	
WHY: Get off main frame and a pilot for PTMS	

FY 07-08	FY 08-09	FY 08-09	FY 09-10 Plan *	How are we doing?
Results *	Plan *	Anticipated		
		Results *		
Pilot project	Engage ACS to	Auditor-	Develop	Due to transfer from ACS to
begins user	complete	Controller IT will	electronic	Auditor-Controller IT the
acceptance	program	complete	interface with	implementation has been delayed
testing	modifications to	modifications.	the Department	but we expect to implement the
	prepare to run	User	of Education to	production version of the program
	parallel and go	acceptance	reduce manual	by June 30, 2009
	live	testing, parallel	postings	
		and live by June		
		30		

### **RESOURCES:**

Strategic Goal #4: Increase revenues and reduce operating costs throughout the Department

### Strategies to meet Goal # 4:

- Redesign Tax Bills and Notices
- Streamline the production process
- Reduce over payments and the number of payments received on the wrong properties.
- Maximize cost recovery for client services rendered to taxpayers as allowed by the State of California
- Initiate a new Business Process Improvement unit; assign senior staff member to lead effort
- Identify grants that would qualify for funding
- Research the Revenue and Taxation code to identify opportunities to increase service fees
- Conduct studies on other counties to identify revenue opportunities and fee structures
- Conduct department cost analysis and efficiency improvement studies
- Expand the number and type of services for which fixed costs can be shared by bringing in partners

#### Performance Measure for Goal #4:

• Meet or reduce budgeted Net County Cost

PERFORMANCE MEASURE: Reduction in Net County Cost (NCC)
WHAT: meet or reduce NCC
WHY: Reduce Costs to County General fund by fully recovering costs an operating efficiencies

FY 07-08	FY 08-09	FY 08-09 Anticipated	FY 09-10 Plan *	How are we doing?
Results *	Plan *	Results *		
60%	20%	20% reduction in	Continue to	The new Business Process
reduction	reduction in	Budgeted NCC	meet or reduce	Improvement Unit is reviewing all
in	Budgeted		NCC	fees and cost studies to maximize
Budgeted	NCC			cost recovery. This combined with
NCC				a focus on increasing collections
				is resulting in increases cost
				recovery for the TTC. Secured
				and Unsecured tax bills have
				been redesigned. The TTC is also
				actively looking to utilize existing
				capacity in remittance processing
				and imaging equipment by taking
				on work for other County
				agencies (eg. Animal Care)

### **RESOURCES: (Continued)**

**Strategic Goal #5:** Continue implementation of the Balanced Scorecard (BSC) program as County pilot department.

### Strategies to meet Goal #5:

- Participate in RFP review for selecting the BSC software vendor
- Validate adequacy of initial measures and results; adjust as necessary

### **Performance Measure for Goal #5:**

- Implement collection of Phase I metrics and performance measures
- Implement Phase II by creating and applying diagnostic tools and techniques to assess operational performance, and conduct simultaneous analysis at multiple levels within the Treasurer-Tax Collector.

PERFORMANCE MEASURE: Implement Balanced Scorecard reporting for performance measures

WHAT: Implement Actuate software to report on performance measures

**WHY**: Tool for management to monitor the effect of strategic changes in operations and provide meaningful reporting to stakeholders .

FY 07-08	FY 08-09	FY 08-09	FY 09-10 Plan *	How are we doing?
Results *	Plan *	Anticipated		
		Results *		
Worked	Utilize County	In final stages of	Full	We participated in the Software
with	selected BSC	Phase II entering	implementation	selection process, culminating in the selection of the Actuate
outside	software to	measure data into	of BSC software	Software. We have defined the
vendor on	report on key	Actuate Software.	and monthly	critical business processes and establish the first specific set of
Phase I	performance	Roll out desktop	reporting of TTC	measures to track the ultimate
	measures	access for	performance	output or result of each For each measure we defined specific
	within TTC	managers and	measures	qualitative or quantitative targets,
		executive		defined the data collection process, the appropriate
		management by		measurement interval
		first quarter of 09-		(frequency), baseline percentage (starting point), and developed
		10.		the ranges associated with a
				range rating of green, yellow or red.
				100.

# **RESOURCES: (Continued)**

**Strategic Goal #6:** Ensure the business continuity plan is current and complete.

### Strategies to meet Goal #6:

- Create "shadow" or second boxes for each position/staff member identified as critical on organization chart
- Identify backup for each by person in shadow box
- Assess the impact of personnel changes as each occurs
- Identify a replacement and/or backup for each critical position within defined period of time (TBD)
- Create and implement a state-of-the-art emergency system operation in the event of a major catastrophe

### **Performance Measure for Goal #6:**

Update and complete Business Continuity Plan.

PERFORMANCE	MEASURE: Update and complete Business Continuity Plan
WHAT:	
WHY:	

FY 07-08	FY 08-09	FY 08-09	FY 09-10 Plan *	How are we doing?
Results *	Plan *	Anticipated		
		Results *		
Participated in	Update	This goal has	Reevaluate this	.TTC management will reevaluate
County wide	Business	been deferred.	goal and	this goal in light of budget
Business	Continuity		determine an	constraints and hiring freezes
Interruption	Plan		appropriate	
planning by			timeline for	
working with			implementation.	
County vendor				