



Response to Questions on the FY 2010 County's Line of Business & Schools Program Review Processes Fall 2008

Request By: Supervisor McKay

Question: Which programs are impacted by the Department of Housing and Community Development's (HCD) reduction to contract funding for language translation services?

Response: The FY 2010 budget for language translation services in HCD is \$100,000, and the reduction of \$73,725 is funding that was provided in the General Fund for overall agency translation needs. Funds to be eliminated were intended to provide contract services for the translation of HCD web-based application process and program brochures to multiple languages; these plans have been deferred.

The remaining budget of \$26,275 is consistent with FY 2008 actual expenditures for language translation services. In general, the provision of client-based and face-to-face translation is accomplished by volunteer staff within the agency and in some cases, through the usage of County contracted vendors. In FY 2008, the agency spent \$31,262 in language translation services, which included sign language translation, document and phone interpretation and face-to-face interpretation services. These expenditures were charged to the appropriate FCRHA fund since they were program and/or client based in nature. Therefore, the elimination of a portion of the translation services contract funding in the General Fund will not impact HCD's ability to provide language translation services to clients, as HCD will continue to utilize the existing model of staff volunteers supplemented by contract services.