

## **WEEKLY BUDGET UPDATE**

### **April 3, 2009**

The budget update for this week focuses on possible opportunities to benefit from the Federal Stimulus Package funding, an overview of the two primary measures for the May 19 ballot and the fiscal impact they will have on education/ROPs if they do not pass and finally the progress to date on determining course offerings for the fall semester of 2009-10.

Before I address the first topic, I want to let you know the best news all week was not having received notification from the state that funding for ROPs had been revised. This marks the first week since the budget was passed in late February that the calculations for ROP funding has not changed. We hope this is a trend that will continue so we have firm financial figures and we can accurately address the severe budget cuts imposed upon us.

#### **Potential to benefit from soon to be released Federal Stimulus funding**

Baldy View ROP staff has been exploring numerous revenue sources to maintain the level of services our communities have come to expect and rely upon for career preparation course offerings. One such lead we have been pursuing is with the Department of Workforce Development personnel from the County of San Bernardino. The county has received in excess of \$9 million for adult work readiness training from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) package. ARRA is designed to stimulate the economy in the short-term and to invest in education and other public services to ensure the long-term economic prosperity of our communities.

We have been invited, in conjunction with Colton-Redlands-Yucaipa and San Bernardino ROPs, to present a proposal for course offerings to provide work readiness services to Workforce Investment Act (WIA) clients. This opportunity would allow Baldy View ROP to provide the necessary service and generate revenue for Baldy View at the same time.

I will keep you informed of future developments as they occur.

#### **May 19 ballot measures and their potential impact on Baldy View ROP**

Two measures will appear on the May 19 ballot that could have tremendous negative impact on ROPs. The measures and impact are:

##### **Proposition 1C – Lottery Modernization Act**

It would require the state to maintain ownership of the lottery and borrow against future earnings. If Proposition 1C fails, there will be an additional \$5 billion deficit in the 2008-09 state budget.

## Proposition 1D – Protects Children’s Services Funding

It would redirect some of the unspent tobacco tax funds to children’s health and social services for the next two years which would help to balance the state budget. If Proposition 1D fails, there will be an additional \$600 million deficit in the 2008-09 state budget. It would also result in an additional \$268 million state budget shortfall between the years of 2010-14.

In my opinion, if both measures fail, it will require the state to identify additional reductions in state spending and given that education accounts for the biggest portion of the state budget, it would stand to reason that education, including ROPs would be looked at to sustain added reductions in the current and future years.

### **Baldy View ROP 2009-10 fall and spring course offerings**

The Baldy View ROP Management Team has been meeting regularly to discuss the impact the 2009-10 revenue reductions will have on our fall and spring offering. We fully recognize the need to finalize the schedule as soon as possible since districts are beginning or will begin the student scheduling process. We plan to have a listing of offerings out to the schools within the next two weeks, barring any unforeseen barriers. We ask for your patience and understanding as we work through the numerous issues necessary to ensure we produce a final product that will preserve the quality program offerings that are synonymous with Baldy View ROP.

One additional item we want to share is that staff members from both classified and certificated levels have agreed to provide input on the plan that will address the budget reductions.

I want to once again welcome your recommendations and assure you that we will do all we can to preserve the programs and personnel of Baldy View ROP.