

**OUTSIDE AGENCY FUNDING: FEEDBACK AND DIRECTION
ORANGE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
DECEMBER 2010**

The following elements – taken as a whole or singularly – constitute the basis for why an Outside Agency is selected for Orange County Funding.

The County Manager incorporates all feedback and documentation from participating departments and advisory boards, most notably Financial Services, in preparing recommendations on Outside Agency funding allocations as part of the operating budget presentation to the BOCC in the spring.

First and foremost, benefits Orange County residents.

- It is desirable that the location of service delivery be in Orange County.

Funding the Outside Agency leverages County dollars because the Agency can provide services less expensively by the use of volunteers or other means

Supports the social safety net; i.e., the Outside Agency exists to feed the hungry; house the homeless; address human suffering (example: Housing for New Hope)

Legacy/historical relationship; i.e., the County helped co-create or was among original funding group (example: Dispute Settlement Center)

Performance review/ranking; i.e., the Outside Agency scores a baseline numerical ranking or above on its Application Scorecard (example: Piedmont Health Services)

Unique mission/service; i.e., the Outside Agency meets a specific need not otherwise met for County residents (example: El Hispano)

Financial need; i.e., the Outside Agency fulfills an important mission but requires government assistance to help accomplish its service goals (example: OE Enterprises)

Principal partnership; i.e., the Outside Agency has demonstrated its effectiveness in supplementing and/or supporting County departments in their delivery of service to vulnerable populations (examples: Orange Congregations in Mission and the Inter-Faith Council)

Geographic balance; i.e., the Outside Agency helps ensure opportunity and access to key programs and services are available on both ends of the county (example: Communities in Schools/Middle School After School)

Matching grant; i.e., the Outside Agency specifically needs County dollars to match a unique, desired investment in services to county residents (no examples in FY10-11)

Enables new initiative; i.e., the Outside Agency addresses unmet needs it perceives in the County (example: Bridge II Sports - not funded in FY10-11)

Grounds for Funding Commitments

The BOCC intent is a “zero-base” approach wherein Outside Agencies must annually prove themselves according to pre-set criteria, such as the Outside Agency Application Scorecard or other indices. While Outside Agencies may wish for a fairly consistent and predictable revenue stream, the BOCC makes annual allocation decisions on the basis of policies and provisions as set forth in this document.

Limitations on Funded Amount by Agency or Total Funds Available for all Agencies

Dollar Limit by Single Agency –

- Percentage of its overall budget (**Rule of thumb: No more than 50% of Agency budget should come from County and Town sources**)
- Flat dollar amount
- “Challenge” or “Match” amount
- “Step down” approach – diminishing amount over a period of fiscal years
- Agency has demonstrated a reliable, diverse funding stream of which governmental assistance is a small portion

Dollar Limit to Amount Available for All Outside Agency Funding –

BOCC sets maximum figure available for the upcoming fiscal year.

- Typically, County management has begun with a working figure roughly equivalent to the amount funded in the current fiscal year for the next fiscal year. (The historic figure for working purposes is a target the BOCC may choose to match, increase, or decrease in its final budget decisions).

Other Defining Criteria

- Financial support that brokers a new partnership or collaboration with a County operating department, preferably supportive of the social safety net.

Reduce or eliminate funding for Outside Agencies whose

- Primary mission is not related to the social safety net

- Performance data is historically weak or deteriorating
- Principal programs and services are duplicated within the Outside Agency network of providers

Factor the net value of County facility space provided free of charge to recipient Outside Agencies

- Amend Outside Agency award by net value amount

ADOPTED BY THE BOCC ON DECEMBER 6, 2010