

March 17, 2008

Sarasota County prepares for mid-year budget reduction

In preparation for a \$7 million mid-year budget reduction Wednesday, March 19, Sarasota County today eliminated 40.5 positions, which included 31 filled positions, within county government. Affected areas included Planning and Development Services, Public Works, Community Services, Office of Financial Planning, Public Communications and Environmental Services.

The layoffs within the Development Services unit, which is funded by inspection and permitting fees, were directly related to the statewide downturn in the construction industry. Other position eliminations made today for the budget reduction are due to the decline in sales tax revenues that go to the general fund.

“This reduction in force is a necessary component of our business planning,” said County Administrator Jim Ley. “Today’s action shows our continuing commitment to deliver services in an efficient, cost-effective manner as stewards of public tax dollars.”