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Media contact: Warren Richardson, 941-232-5388; wrichardson@scgov.net

Project contacts: Jeff Seward, 941-861-7284; jseward@scgov.net

Shelia Roberson, 941-861-5438; sroberson@scgov.net

Citizens Budget Task Force to meet July 1

The Citizens Budget Task Force, which held its introductory meeting June 15, will meet at 6 p.m. Wednesday, July 1, in the Think Tank on the third floor of the Sarasota County Administration Center, 1660 Ringling Blvd., Sarasota.

Sarasota County commissioners appointed the 10-member task force to review the county's proposed fiscal year 2010 budget and make recommendations about priorities. Wednesday's session will focus on community information and education (libraries, the Cooperative Extension Service and the History Center), Parks and Recreation and Facilities.

The meeting is public and will be aired live over Access Sarasota TV on Comcast channel 19 and Verizon channel 32, and webcast over www.scgov.net.

Residents can also provide feedback about county budget priorities through an online budget tool at www.scgov.net/CommunityConnections. This web-based survey allows property owners to enter their assessed property value and shows the amount of their property tax bill that pays for services such as fire and emergency medical service, libraries and parks. Property owners can select different levels of service for these areas and see how changing the level of service affects their property tax bill.

For additional information on the Citizens Budget Task Force, contact the Sarasota County Call Center at 941-861-5000 or visit the county's Web site at www.scgov.net.