

Aug. 18, 2009

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

Budget Task Force to meet Friday, Aug. 21

Members of the Budget Task Force will continue work this week on their report to the county commission. Task force members will meet at 10 a.m. Friday, Aug. 21, in the first floor Press Room of the County Administration Center, 1660 Ringling Blvd., Sarasota.

During a meeting July 31, task force members began drafting their report regarding the county budget, which they will deliver to the county commission on Sept. 8. During Friday's meeting, task force members will review that draft and discuss any changes.

The meeting is public, but it will not be aired over Access Sarasota TV on Comcast channel 19 and Verizon channel 32, or webcast over www.scgov.net.

Sarasota County commissioners appointed the 10-member task force to review the county's proposed fiscal year 2010 budget and make recommendations about priorities.

Residents can 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 see 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.

-end-