

Fellow Milwaukee County Resident,

We are reaching out to different parts of Milwaukee County to get the word out about the 2007 county budget that I presented on September 28th. You can find a brief overview of our budget on the back of this letter.

Overall, we had a tough budget to balance this year. High costs from pension and retirement benefits, health care coverage and state mandates gave the county an \$89.9 million shortfall.

The good news is that we balanced the budget for 2007 – and we did it without a property tax levy increase!

With this budget, I hope to tear down the problems of the past and build up a new vision of hope for Milwaukee County. Since the start of the year, I warned anyone who would listen about the financial crisis facing the county.

Our 2007 county budget is the first step in tackling our long-term budget challenges. Now, we need to work together to