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## CEO UpDate: Defeat the Deficit



**Imagine this!** "Our idea to cut costs and increase efficiencies helped reduce the structural deficit!" [Photo credit](#)

## FY10 Forecast Deficit : \$115.7 million

### Employee's ideas to 'defeat the deficit': Priceless

- Keep up the momentum: Submit ideas to [defeatTheDeficit@metro.net](mailto:defeatTheDeficit@metro.net)



#### CEO Roger Snoble:

"Thanks to all our employees who came back to help defeat the deficit."

#### Credit Roll:

Anne Adelman  
Alberto Alva  
Sasha Alvarenga  
Gayle Anderson  
Matthew Barrett  
Kenny Bass

By Roger Snoble

(January 29, 2009) More than 200 ideas submitted by employees to the "Defeat the Deficit" campaign generated a sizeable list of potential savings in the range of several hundred thousand dollars to priceless.

In light of the 10-year financial forecast that puts the Metro operating shortfall at \$2.2 billion, I challenged everyone to tap into our collective creative energy and come up with ways to save money, cut costs, and boost production in new, efficient ways.

I was impressed by the suggestions and recommendations you made. As a matter of fact, I asked the Strategic Business Unit chiefs to implement some of your great ideas as soon as possible. We have some very good recommendations that will initially contribute \$3 to \$4 million in savings.

In a budget discussion at the Jan. 22 Board meeting, I also praised employees for responding to the call to action and reported that many of your

Darlene Blake  
Salvatore Bottancino  
Jino Canizares  
Stefan Chasnov  
David Coffey  
Mario Del Rosario  
Narendra Desai  
Gwynneth Doyle  
David Ebling  
Frank Estrada  
Hassan Fakhro  
Paula Faust  
Javier Figueroa  
Donna Finn  
Bruce Fitzgerald  
Stephen Fox  
Elizabeth Garcia  
Anthony Gilliam  
Jess Godinez  
Sonia Gurrola  
Jon Harting  
Gail Harvey  
Larry Haynes  
Edward Hernandez  
Russell Homan  
Frank Hooks  
Jennifer Hopkins  
Hugo Con  
Steve Jaffee  
Anne Karna  
Laura Kloth  
Ram Krishna  
Edward LaMotte  
Emmanuel Liban  
Michelle Littleton  
Tom Lujan  
Joselito Mejia  
Mark Miller  
Donna Mills  
Evans Muhammad  
Tuan Nguyen  
Margarita Ortiz  
Joshua Ott  
David Palm  
Sylvia Pantoja  
Rodel Pareja  
Linda Perryman  
Albert Ramirez  
Diego Ramirez  
Jerry Ramos  
Sayed Rasoul  
Doreatha Roberts  
Roy Pitts  
Moni Rubisa  
Anthony Salcido  
Sandra Sandoval  
Sande Scott  
DonCosta Seawell  
Ray Shaffer  
Gary Spivack

ideas are being put in place immediately.

It's a very positive set of solutions. I am impressed that so many of you took this challenge very seriously and came up with ideas that are practical, solid and worthy of implementation. Your active involvement in this campaign inspired more ideas from Strategic Business Unit (SBU) chiefs.

All of the initial responses we received from you before Jan. 5 were returned to SBU chiefs for cost analysis and a feasibility check. Some of the ideas can be implemented now; others may need further development. Some may require Board approval, such as projects that need an initial investment, but all will result in savings or generate revenue for the agency.

The buck starts here!

No idea is too small. It all adds up. For example, we can reduce the utility bills immediately by doing these simple steps now:

- Turn off your computer, monitor, and all your other peripherals at the end of each workday. Projected savings: Utilities and equipment.
- Use the copier and/or the copy center for copies. This saves on expensive toner used in printers. Projected savings: Copier toner cheaper than print toner.
- Print your documents double-sided and forget the color. Projected savings: Paper and toner.
- Don't throw food waste in the bin meant for paper. Paper that is contaminated with food and other items can't be recycled. Projected savings: Lower trash collection bill with recycling credits.

Together we can make a difference in the structural deficit. I encourage you to continue looking around your department and think about ways that we can increase our efficiency by working smarter and greener to save our precious resources. It's crucial to continue the momentum generated by this campaign.

I encourage you to continue sending your ideas to [defeatTheDeficit@metro.net](mailto:defeatTheDeficit@metro.net).

And, thank you. I'm convinced that your creative cost-saving ideas will help to defeat the deficit.

- *Photo of Equipment Maintenance Specialists Toshi Manaka, Ronnie Burt and Eric Czintos used in this illustration was taken by photographer Deniz Durmus after the Metro Rail team took first place at the 2007 APTA International competition in Toronto.*

- Paul Squires
- Elizabeth Streegan
- Steve Strilecki
- Kathleen Sweet
- Inez Tarver
- Alice Tran
- Cop V. Tran
- Ron Timble
- Carlos Valdez
- Diana Valdez
- Angela Watkins
- Jagath Wijegunawardena
- Brandon Wong
- Michael Wu
- Behzad Yassan