



2012 BUDGET DEVELOPMENT PROCESS

Budget Discussion Item

Discussion Item: Departmental Reviews
Agenda Item No.: 27932 18.C.5.

Background / Description:

Due to recent shortfalls in the county budget, the need for an efficient government has become prevalent to deal with the county's current deficit. Departmental reviews would be an essential part of Hidalgo County's future growth potential.

The goal of departmental reviews would be to find inefficiencies within county departments. A Committee, appointed by Commissioners' Court, would conduct operational analysis of county programs and assist departments with performance measures. The Committee would make recommendations based on their observations and analysis of the county department. Performance reports and recommendations would be presented to Commissioners' Court to make final decisions based on the committee's findings.

Budgetary Impact:

By performing departmental reviews the county could determine whether a department is running as efficiently as possible. Increased efficiency could lead to long-term cost savings and growth for the county. Departmental reviews would also reduce any unnecessary or wasteful spending. Currently, Dallas County has implemented department evaluations by allowing the Office of Budget and Evaluation (OBE) to perform operational analysis and establish performance reports based on their reviews of county departments. The OBE department functions as an analytical arm of the Commissioners' Court.