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Subject: Public Comment - Board of Supervisors meeting 9June2026
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I am an employee of the county and a member of Local 39, as well as a voter and taxpayer within Yolo County. I am writing to express my concern over the proposed layoffs that have been discussed for the past several weeks.

Recently, the new mayor of New York City made the news by closing a \$12 billion budget issue without making cuts to the social services that are targeted to help the most in need in that city or dipping into "rainy day" funds. The options to make budget adjustments may be notably different between one of the world's largest cities and a small California county. However, the recent New York news proves beyond any doubt that elected officials don't have to resort to austerity and balance the budget on the poorest in the county and those who work on their behalf to make required changes to the budget. Budgets, particularly those of the public sector, speak to the goals and morals of a people in a way that few other things do, and balancing the budget on the backs of those who can least afford it is a fundamental failure of the leadership this moment requires. It is predominantly those at the upper end of the organizational charts that are responsible for budgets, and having the other half of the organization bear the weight of the sin of mismanagement that has brought us to this point is a reprehensible tactic.

From my limited vantage point, the support given to the rank-and-file staff of HHSA has been lackluster at its best moments, and anytime the tensions rise, whether it is something like COVID, which impacted the entire planet, or this more recent budget concern, it's been the rank-and-file staff that has kept the gears turning and the processes continuing forward. Often, that progress is made despite rather than because of the leadership of these departments, and it's time that the commitment to the rank-and-file employees of this county reflects that.

It's time to go back to the drawing board and use the efforts of New York City as a framework for what's possible in terms of a commitment to those who call Yolo County home. Anything less than that, and no one currently on the board should seek or expect another term in that office. The county and the country have serious issues to address, and if taking the cowardly approach of balancing the budget predominantly on the lowest ranks is how you seek to fix it, you'll run out of people to take advantage of and be left processing all that paperwork yourselves.

Most sincerely,

Brent A Crawford