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John P. Daley
Chairman
Committee on Finance

Commissioner - 11th District
Cook County Board of Commissioners

October 27, 2017

Honorable Joseph Berrios
Cook County Assessor – Office of the County Assessor
118 N Clark Street
Chicago, Illinois 60602

Dear Assessor Berrios:

On Thursday, October 5, 2017, Board item #17-5572 (Executive Budget Recommendation FY18) was referred to the Committee on Finance for consideration. To assist in the consideration of your FY18 budget requires that your office submit to the Finance Committee a plan for budget reductions totaling 10% of the President's FY18 Executive Budget Recommendation for your office. This target is comparable to the reductions target the Department of Budget and Management Services (DBMS) provided your office in July in the event that the Sweetened Beverage Tax could not be collected. As you know, the Sweetened Beverage Tax was repealed by a vote of 15-2 with no independently elected County official coming out in support of the tax. . **The plan your office has submitted for reductions did not meet the required 10% reduction or requires more detail to be properly evaluated. Accordingly, please provide the Board of Commissioners and the Director of the Department of Budget and Management Services with an updated plan that decreases your budget by 10% for FY18. The members of the Board seek to work cooperatively with your office during this process with the understanding that your knowledge and experience is critical in minimizing the impact of reductions to your office.**

We are well aware that this will be a difficult process and believe that the submission of spending reductions is a necessary step in the process of reaching a balanced budget for the County.

Please provide a plan for your reductions to the entire Board of Commissioners and a copy to the Director of the Department of Budget and Management Services by Friday, November 3, 2017 at 12:00 p.m. to ensure Board members have adequate time to review your submission. Failure to comply with this request made on behalf of the entire Board of Commissioners will result in reductions to your office budget by the Board of Commissioners during the amendment process.

Sincerely,

John P. Daley
Chairman, Finance Committee

cc: Toni Preckwinkle, President
Board of Commissioners
Ammar Rizki, Chief Financial Officer
Tanya Anthony, Director, Budget and Management

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