

## Riverside Bargaining Update (July 23)

This week's meeting with the County was not so much a bargaining session as it was a brainstorming session of what a potential deal might look like.

As I said last week, we have rejected the idea of a three year deal with no new money, and the County seems to have backed off of this. The County is still wanting the next contract to be "revenue neutral," but are now talking about a shorter deal. As I've also said before, revenue neutrality, no matter the length of the deal, just is not possible from our perspective. Providing services to the public costs money, and as with most other things, those costs are not going to decrease.

I have not given up on the idea of a longer term deal that provides the County relief up front, but that also makes sense for us on the back end. At next weeks membership meetings I will be discussing some ideas I have in this regard, and will use your feedback as we move toward crafting a deal.

As always I appreciate your patience and support. I look forward to seeing you at our meetings next week where we will have a much more detailed discussion of these matters.

In Solidarity,  
Stephen Switzer, Business Manager