News From
Maggie Brooks
Monroe County Executive

For Immediate Release
Wednesday, October 3, 2007

BROOKS: FIRST F.A.I.R. VIRTUAL TOWN HALL "LARGEST TOWN MEETING IN MONROE COUNTY HISTORY"

Proclaiming her first Virtual Town Tall *"the largest town meeting in Monroe County history",* County Executive Maggie Brooks announced today that 8,225 County residents participated in last evening's community dialogue on her F.A.I.R. plan to end the County's budget crisis. The total participation in this important event was more than double the capacity of Downtown Rochester's world-renowned Eastman Theatre.

"8,225 Monroe County residents chose to ask a question, or listen to our community dialogue last night on my F.A.I.R. Plan to end the budget crisis while cutting the property tax rate with no cuts in quality-of-life services," **Brooks** stated. *"Through this important community dialogue, which will continue over the next two weeks, we will visit every local neighborhood and ensure that our friends and neighbors understand why my F.A.I.R. plan is the best course for our community to achieve true fiscal stability."*

The Virtual Town Hall Meeting is an exciting new technology that was created to allow elected officials to have discussions with large constituencies. Last evening's Virtual Town Hall was the first conducted by Monroe County, and a sound file of the meeting can be accessed by the public by logging on to www.monroecounty.gov

Over the next two weeks, every resident of Monroe County with a publicly available phone number will receive a call from the County Executive and will have an opportunity to join subsequent Virtual Town Hall Meetings. During these live meetings, County Executive Brooks will answer unprompted and uncensored questions from the public for as long as time allows.

Maggie Brooks' **F.A.I.R. Plan** (**F**airness, **A**ccountability, **I**nnovation and **R**esults) solves Monroe County's structural deficit for the long-term, with no fiscal impact to the City of Rochester, towns and villages. The F.A.I.R. Plan cuts the tax rate of every property taxpayer in Monroe County. The F.A.I.R. Plan also preserves important quality of life services for the residents of our community, including neighborhood police protection, road and bridge repair, and public parks, while ensuring a balanced County budget for years to come.

In addition to these Virtual Town Hall Meetings, residents are always encouraged to contact County Executive Brooks at countyexecutive@monroecounty.gov.

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Background on Maggie Brooks' F.A.I.R. Plan:

FAIRNESS
The Plan is **fair to taxpayers**, cutting the Monroe County property tax rate by eleven cents per thousand dollars of assessed value, as a way to reduce the property tax burden. At the same time, the Plan protects and maintains the County's revenue sharing with towns, villages and the City of Rochester at existing "Morin-Ryan" levels.

ACCOUNTABILITY
The Plan allows us to solve the budget crisis, locally. By enacting the Medicaid Swap, enormous Medicaid costs are **permanently eliminated** for Monroe County residents.

INNOVATION
The Plan **changes the way we pay for local services** in Monroe County. Specifically, the Plan will charge-back the local cost of Monroe Community College to local taxpayers based on student residency. The Plan will also adjust the County vehicle registration fee by $10 to fund road and bridge repairs throughout our community. Additionally, the Plan will use record increases in state aid to offset a reduction in County sales tax funding to local schools, so that local school districts continue to get at least the same amount of money.

RESULTS
The Plan **solves** Monroe County's structural budget deficit for the long-term future. The County's projected budget shortfall of $102 million over the next two years, most of which is attributed to burdensome Medicaid costs, is completely eliminated.

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