

2019



Legislative Reference Bureau

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# MUNICIPAL COURT



## 2019 Proposed Plan and Executive Budget Review

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Budget Hearing: 1:30 pm on Wednesday, October 10, 2018  
Last Updated: October 5, 2018

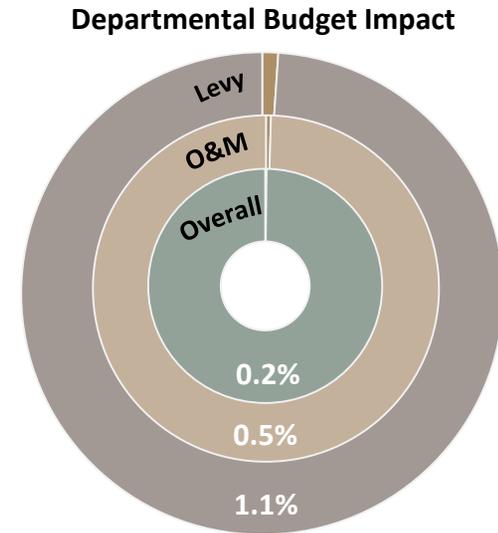
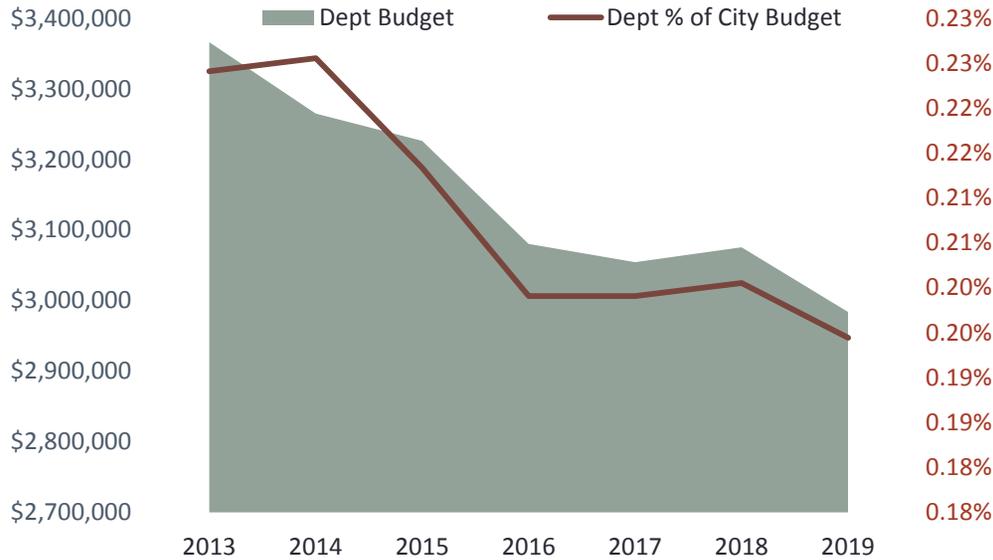
Version 1.0



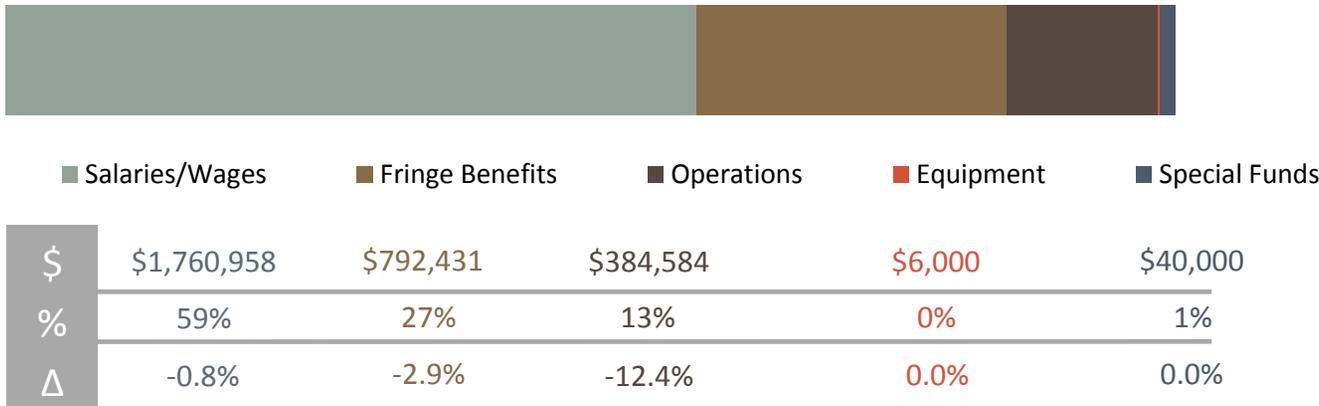
**\$2,983,973**  
Proposed 2019 Budget

**-\$91,629**  
Change in Proposed Budget

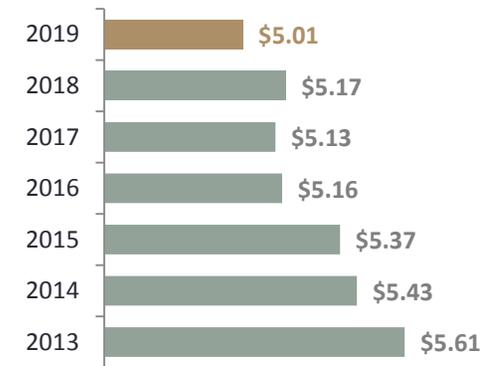
**-3.0%**  
% Change in Proposed Budget



**Departmental Budget Appropriation Category**



**Budget per Capita**



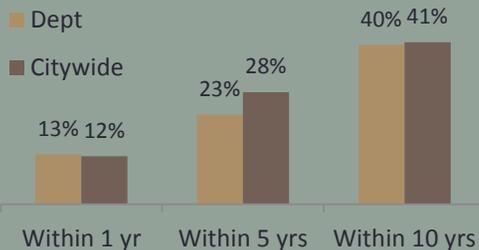
**-\$35,000**

Savings anticipated in 2019 from switching to City Records's document imaging system from a separate system.

**-\$350,000**

Annual recurring savings in 2019 from the Court's investment in electronic case management, on-line services and automation of court services.

**Retirement Eligible**



**0**

Change in Positions

**0.0%**

% Change in Positions

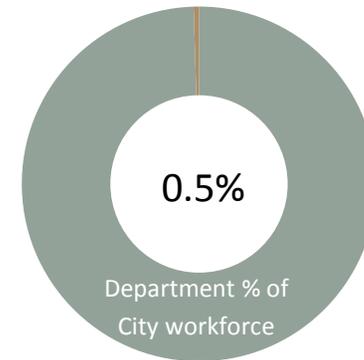
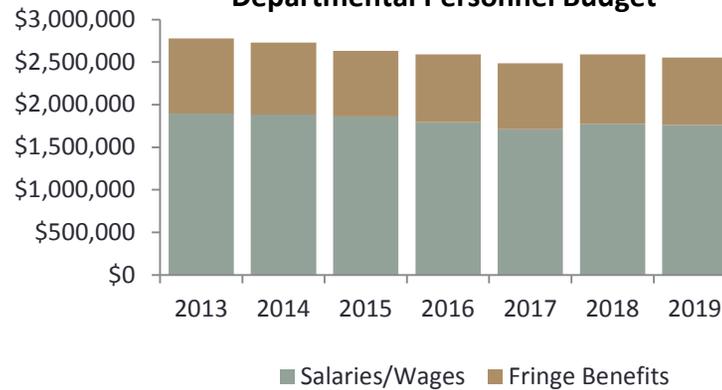
**1**

Current Vacancies

**6**

Voluntary Separations

**Departmental Personnel Budget**



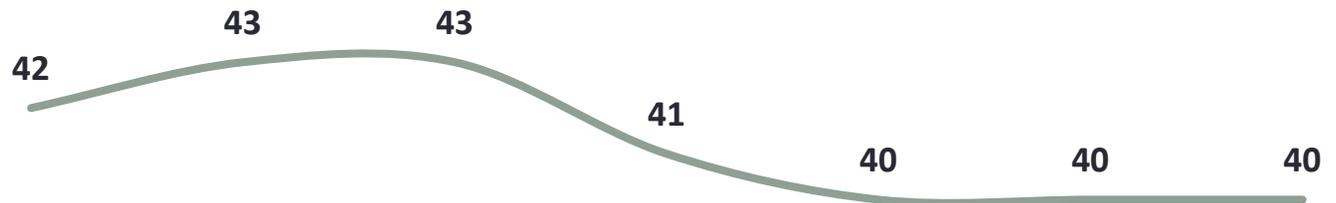
**Staffing Vacancies**

- Municipal Court Clerk I

Two additional Municipal Court Clerk I's and a Legal Office Assistant IV are being held vacant while the Court operates on a leaner staffing model.

**Staffing Update**

- 5 positions are retirement eligible by the end of 2019.
- Elections will be held in April 2019 for Branches 2 and 3 (currently held by Judge Mosley and Judge Chavez).



**Department Positions  
2013-2019**

**\$1,482,000**

Estimated 2019 revenue from court fees. This is an increase of 64% from 2018.

**\$3,251,000**

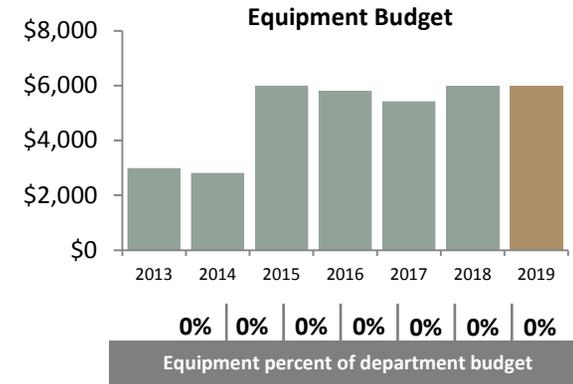
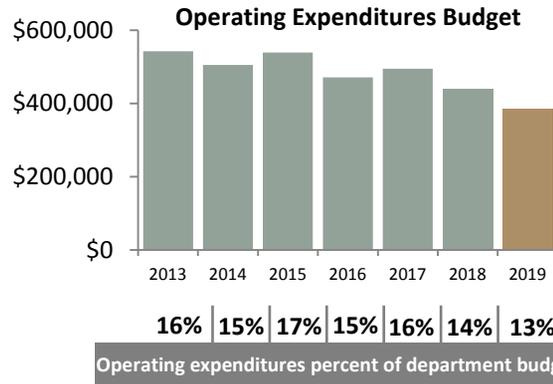
Estimated 2019 revenue from fines and forfeitures. This is an increase of 8.3% from 2018.

**59%**

Percent of individuals performing community service (in lieu of payment) who complete the program and reduce their debt to the City.

**483**

Number of MPS students who have received driver's education classes with City support from 2016-2018.



**Revenue**

Largest revenue sources:

- Fines and Forfeitures \$3,251,000
- Court Clerk Fees (included with fine amounts) \$1,400,000
- Court Processing Fees \$88,000

**Grants**

This department receives no grant funding.

**Special Purpose Accounts**

- City Collection Contract \$500,000
- Municipal Court Intervention Prg. \$487,000
- MPS Driver's Education \$ 50,000
- Care of Prisoners Fund \$ 10,000

The City Collection Contract was previously administered by the City Attorney.

**Capital Requests**

There are no capital funds for the department in the 2019 Budget.

An ongoing capital project to upgrade the Court's automated tracking system and website received a total of \$888,000 in funding in 2015 and 2017. The upgrade is projected for completion in 2019.

**236,524**

Cases processed through Municipal Court in 2017 (individual cases may be processed multiple times).

**95%**

Increase in case volume from 2017, as of July 2018. In 2017, 75,320 cases were filed. The Court's 2019 Budget is based on an estimated 100,000 cases.

**71,220**

Number of courtroom appearances in 2017; approximately 80,000 courtroom appearances are estimated for 2019.

**18,642**

Number of enforced driver's license suspensions lifted in 2017, for 9,808 individuals.

**Warrant Withdrawal Wednesdays**

During these events, judges provide assistance in setting payment plans, payment extensions and alternative options to payment, while removing employment barriers like outstanding warrants and driver's license suspensions.

2 WWW were held in 2017, during which 339 individuals appeared before the court to address 2,033 cases. Approximately 67% of registrants appeared.

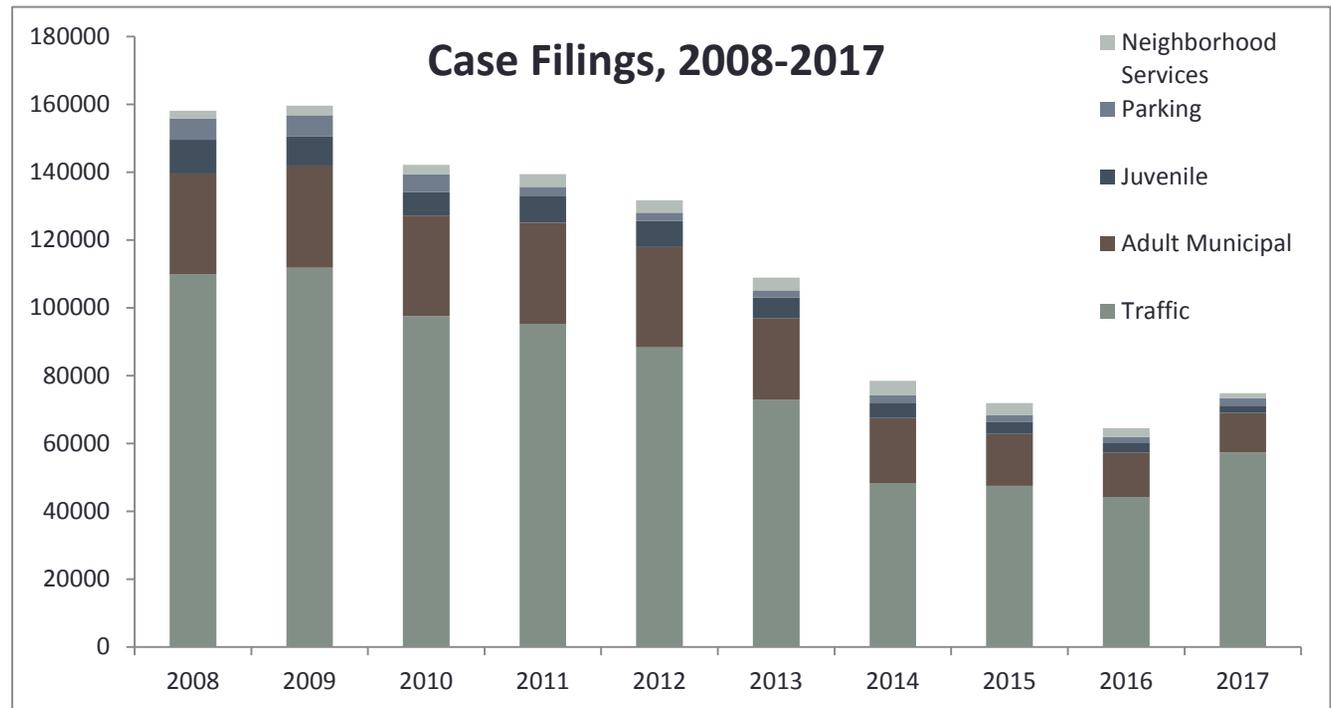
One WWW has been held in 2018, with another scheduled for November.

**Customer Service**

Convenient evening courts were offered on 12 dates in 2017, with 30 sessions scheduled for 484 defendants on 848 cases.

The Municipal Court permits individuals to walk in for unscheduled court appearances.

The Municipal Court also works to ease the burden of fines on financially-distressed individuals. Payments are waived for a first extension and additional 60-90 day extensions may be granted upon partial payments as low as \$20.



**MPS Driver's Education**

The 2019 Proposed Budget includes \$50,000 for the MPS Driver's Education Special Purpose Account, which will fund driver's education for 161 students. Previously, funding for this program was provided by the Common Council through a budget amendment.

During the 2017-18 school year, 1,813 students were served at 12 locations. 99% of the students passed their permit test and 91% have received their temporary permits. Each student must hold a temporary permit for 6 months prior to taking a road test and obtaining a probationary driver's license. To date, 261 students from the 2017-18 school year have received their probationary driver's license.

The classes are offered at Bradley Tech, James Madison Academic Campus, Milwaukee High School of the Arts, Milwaukee Marshall, North Division, Obama SCTE, Pulaski, Riverside, Ronald Reagan, Rufus King, South Division and Washington. MPS plans to add Bay View, Hamilton, Vincent and Milwaukee School of Languages for the 2018-19 school year.

**Community service sites available through JusticePoint:****North**

All Saints Catholic Church  
Brown Deer Unit. Methodist Church  
Da'wa Center  
Feeding America  
Greater Galilee Church  
Greater Philadelphia Church of God  
Holy Temple Firstborn Mission. Bap.  
House of Peace  
Next Door Foundation  
Northcott Neighborhood House  
Project Focal Point  
Reformation Lutheran Church  
Running Rebels  
Scott Christian Youth Center  
Social Development Commission  
St. Marks AME Church  
St. Vincent de Paul-Harambee

**Northwest**

Urban Ecology-Washington Park  
United to Serve Academy  
Five Corners of Faith  
Habitat for Humanity-Restore  
Our Daily Bread Comm. Outreach Ctr.  
Salvation Army  
Showers of Blessing Fellowship Church  
Silver Spring Neighborhood Center  
Temple of the Living Christian Lrn. Ctr.  
Zion Rock Food Pantry-Friedens

**East**

Diverse & Resilient  
Lake Terrace Health and Rehab. Ctr.  
Running Rebels  
Riverwest Food Pantry-St. Casimir  
Urban Ecology-Riverside Park

**South**

Child Development Ctr. St. Joseph's  
Community Warehouse  
Despensa De La Paz Food Pantry  
Hope House-Friedens Food Min.  
Journey House  
La Causa-Crisis Nursery and Respite  
MADACC  
LaCausa-Early Educ. and Care Ctr.  
Milwaukee Christian Center  
Right Turn  
Southside Organizing Center  
St. Vincent de Paul Thrift Store  
St. Vincent de Paul Crossroads Kitch.  
United Community Center

**Downtown**

AIDS Resource Ctr. Of Wis.  
Cath. of St. John-Open Door  
Central City Ch. Outreach  
Dr. MLK Jr. Community Ctr.  
El-Shaddai Church of God  
Coggs Food Pantry-Friedens  
Mama Delta's Lovehouse  
MATC  
Milwaukee Rescue Mission  
Neighborhood House  
St. James Episcopal-Gather.

**West**

Hunger Task Force of Milw.  
Keep Greater Milw. Beautiful