

2017



Legislative Reference Bureau

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ELECTION COMMISSION

2017 Proposed Plan and Executive Budget Review

Prepared by: La-Wanda Fletcher, Legislative Fiscal Analyst
Budget Hearing: 1:30 pm on Thursday, October 6, 2016
Last Updated: October 4, 2016

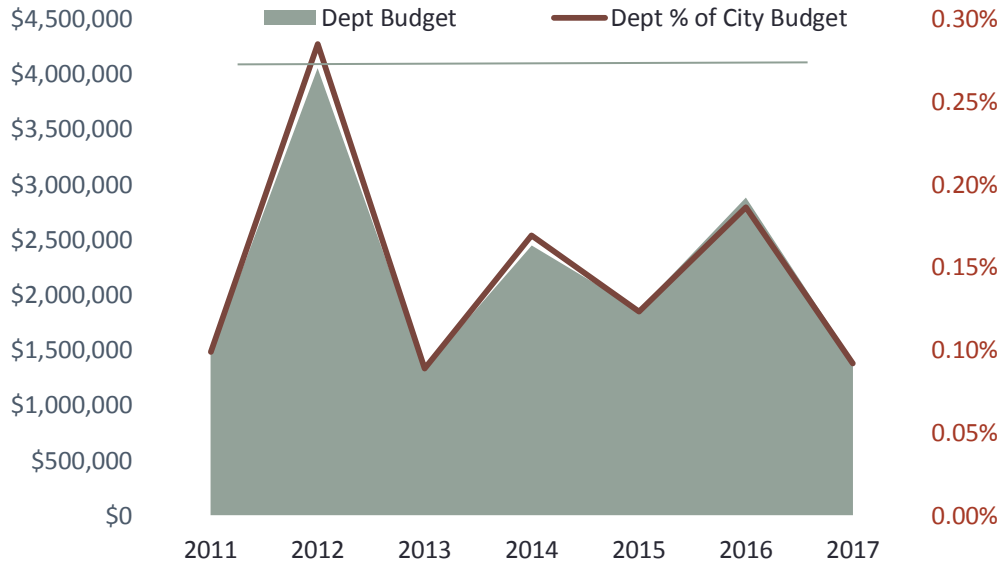
Final Version



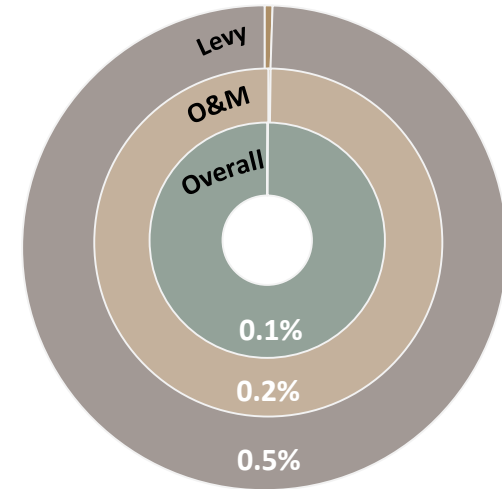
\$1,397,836
Proposed 2017 Budget

\$1,480,883
Change in Proposed Budget

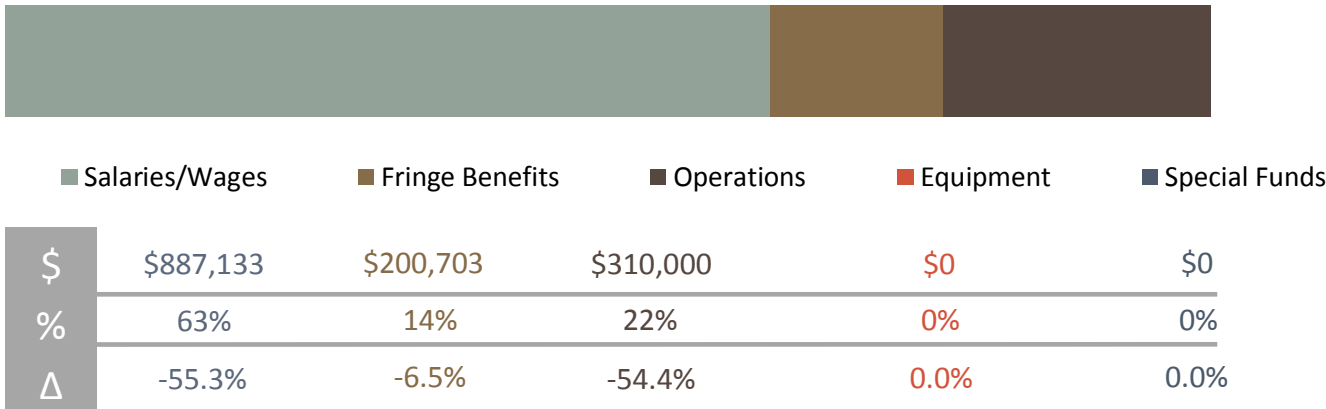
51.4%
% Change in Proposed Budget



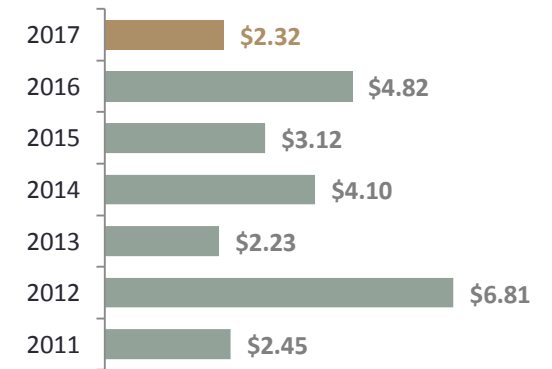
Departmental Budget Impact



Departmental Budget Appropriation Category



Budget per Capita



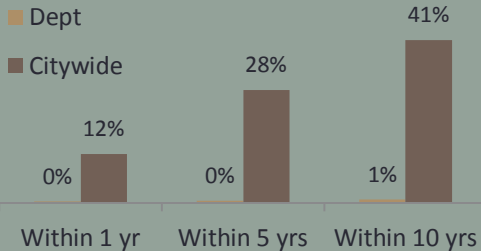
-\$1,097,696

The amount of decrease in funds proposed for 2017 salaries and wages.

820

This number reflects the total positions authorized for 2017.

Retirement Eligible



-1653

Change in Positions

0

Current Vacancies

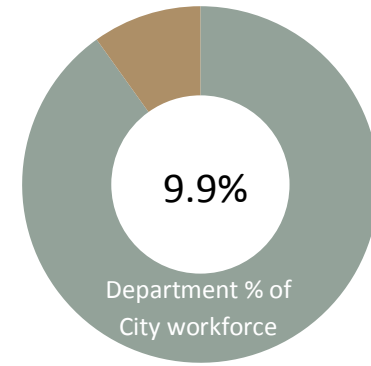
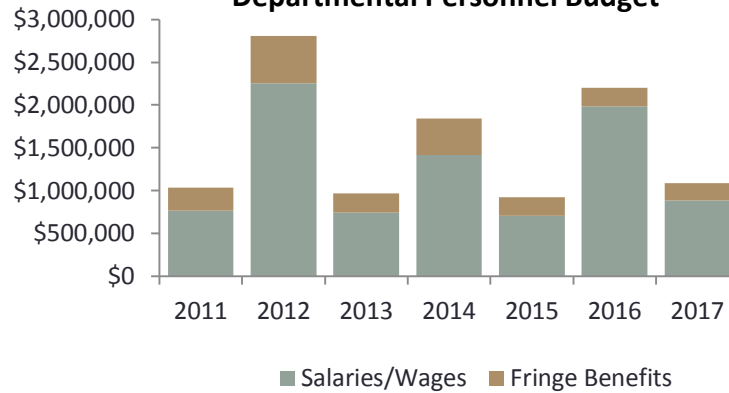
-66.8%

% Change in Positions

0

Voluntary Separations

Departmental Personnel Budget

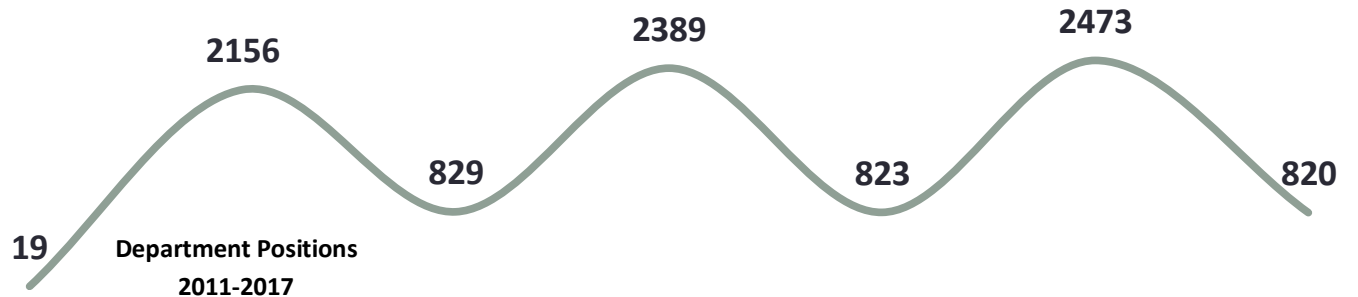


Staffing Update

The reduction in authorized positions and salaries and wages from the 2016 Adopted Budget to the 2017 Proposed Budget, is primarily attributed to the decrease in the number of scheduled elections for 2017.

Staffing Update

- 2 employees are eligible for retirement in 2017.
- There are no current vacancies in the department.



-\$294,265

Total amount of decrease in funds for the Other Operating Services line item in the 2017 Proposed Budget.

-\$67,000

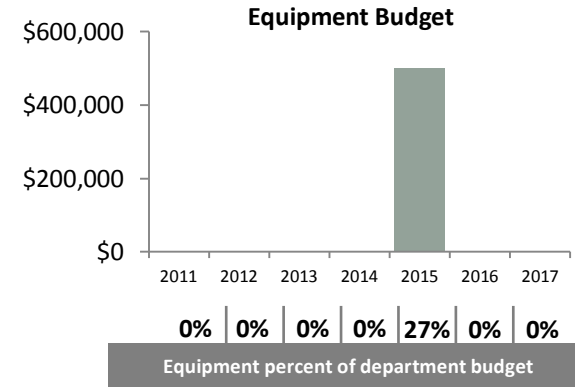
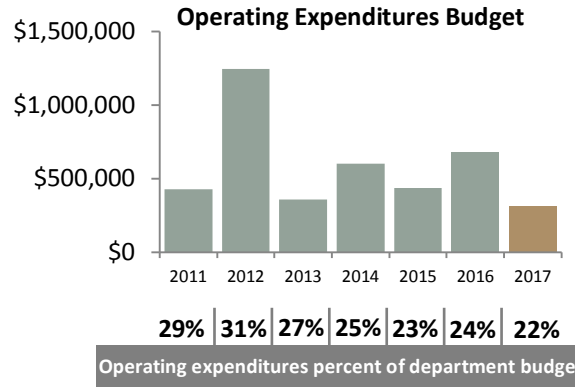
Total amount of decrease in funds for the Facility Rental line item in the 2017 Proposed Budget.

-\$41,000

Total amount of decrease in funds for the General Office Expense line item in the 2017 Proposed Budget.

-\$35,000

Total amount of decrease in funds for the Professional Services line item in the 2017 Proposed Budget.



Revenue
This department has no revenue accounts.

Special Purpose Accounts
This department has no special purpose accounts.

Grants
This department receives no grants.

Capital Requests
This department has no capital requests.

329,542

The total number of registered voters for the August 2016 Partisan Primary Election.

59,541

The total number of ballots cast in the August 2016 Partisan Primary Election.

319,629

The total number of registered voters for the April 2016 Spring Election and Presidential Preference Vote.

167,765

The total number of ballots cast in the April 2016 Spring Election and Presidential Preference Vote.

Election Dates and Deadlines

Spring Primary

Tuesday, February 21, 2017

- February 1st - Last day to register to vote by mail.*
- February 6th - First day for In-Person Absentee Voting (City Hall, Room 501).
- February 16th – Last day to request absentee ballots by mail.

*Special Registration Deputy

Spring Election

Tuesday, April 4, 2017

- March 15th - Last day to register to vote by mail.*
- March 20th - First day for In-Person Absentee Voting (City Hall, Room 501).
- March 30th – Last day to request absentee ballots by mail.

*Special Registration Deputy

Department's Accomplishments by Year-end

- The department ran an on-going public education campaign relating to the changes in election law, most notably the photo ID requirement.
- The department will have entered or updated over 100,000 voter registrations.
- The department received 25,000 requests for “by-mail” absentee ballots.
- The department will have facilitated voting for approximately 75,000 “in-person” absentee voters.
- The department will have administered voting at over a dozen residential care facilities.
- The department will have trained over 3,000 election workers.
- The department will have managed all logistics related to the election day operations of nearly 200 voting sites.
- The department served as the filing agent for 67 candidates running for office and provided oversight of the campaign finance reporting requirements for nearly 90 filers.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The following information provides an update on important factors relating to the Election Commission:

Wisconsin Senate Bill 295

Senate Bill 295, enacted February 9, 2016, permits a qualified elector to register to vote electronically, eliminates the position and responsibilities of special registration deputies, and requires the Government Accountability Board (GAB) to enter into agreements with other state election administrators to share information related to the registration and voting of qualified electors.

Special Registration Deputy Program

The Special Registration Deputy Program will be eliminated in 2017. The program achieved approximately 1,600 sworn Special Registration Deputies (SRDs) for the 2015-2016 term. SRDs support the department's efforts to register people without internet access, students, seniors, people living in poverty and first-time voters. SRDs conduct door-to-door registration, staff tables at festivals and street fairs, and work collaboratively in high schools, colleges, universities and nursing homes to register voters.

Electronic Voter Registration

A qualified elector who has a current valid driver's license or identification card issued by the Department of Transportation may register to vote in an election electronically on a secure Internet site maintained by GAB. A qualified elector enters the same information that appears on the current registration form and authorizes DOT to forward a copy of his or her electronic signature to GAB. The authorization affirms that all information provided by the elector is correct and has the same effect as if the elector signed the form personally. The electronic registration must be completed no later than the 20th day before election in order to be valid for that election.