

2022



Legislative Reference Bureau

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# ELECTION COMMISSION

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## 2022 Proposed Plan and Executive Budget Review

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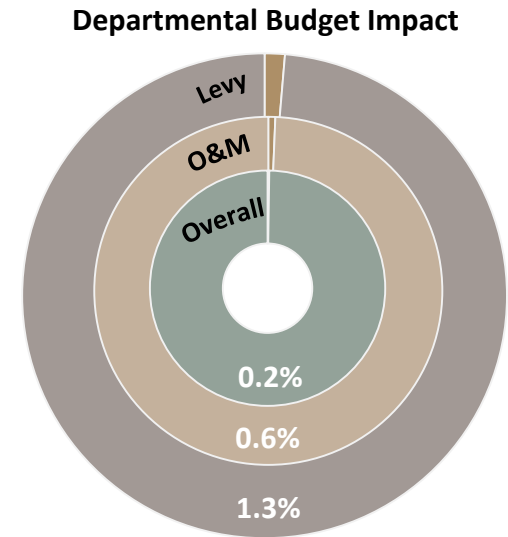
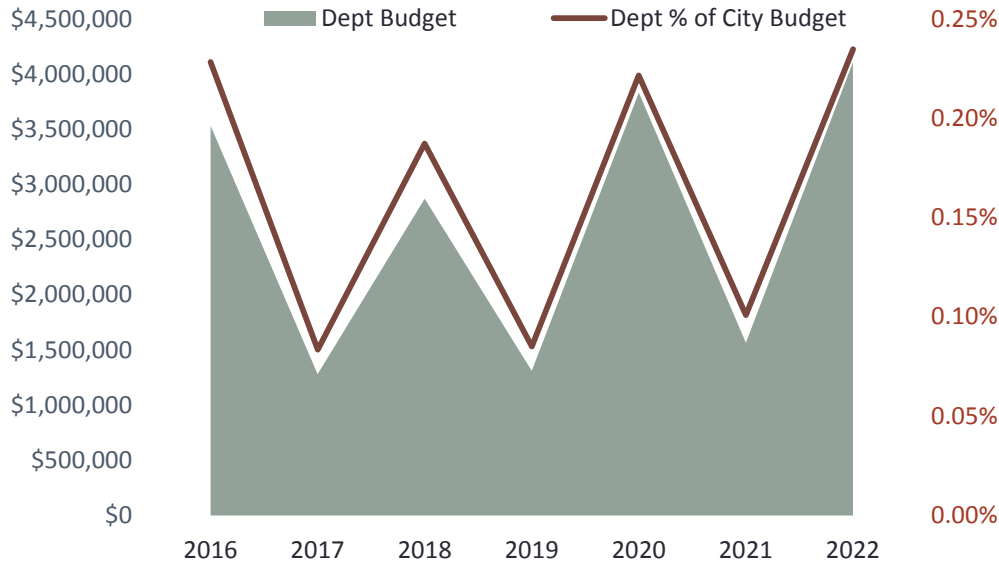
Budget Hearing: 9:00 am on Monday, October 4, 2021



**\$4,109,350**  
Proposed 2022 Budget

**\$2,543,356**  
Change in Proposed Budget

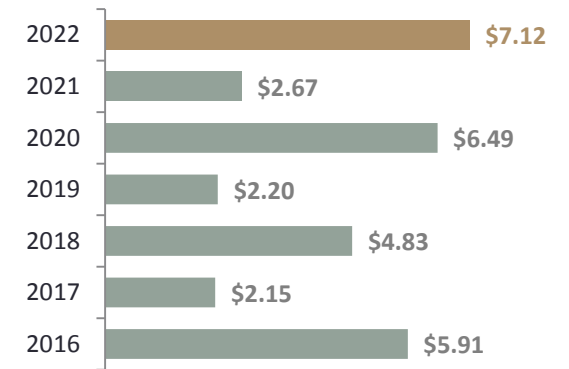
**162.4%**  
% Change in Proposed Budget



**Departmental Budget Appropriation Category**

	Salaries/Wages	Fringe Benefits	Operations	Equipment	Special Funds
\$	\$3,271,743	\$242,304	\$595,303	\$0	\$0
%	80%	6%	14%	0%	0%
Δ	211.3%	52.3%	67.2%	0.0%	0.0%

**Budget per Capita**



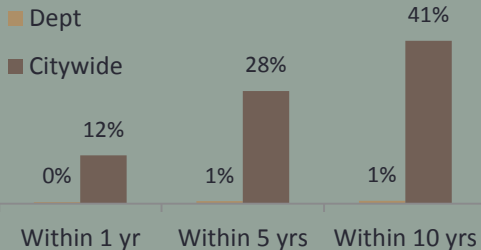
**300,000**

Number of registered voters in the city.

**180**

Number of polling locations in Milwaukee.

**Retirement Eligible**



**730**

Change in Positions

Current Vacancies

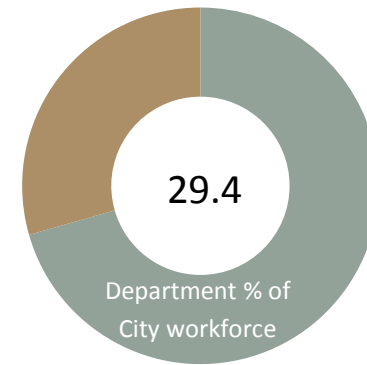
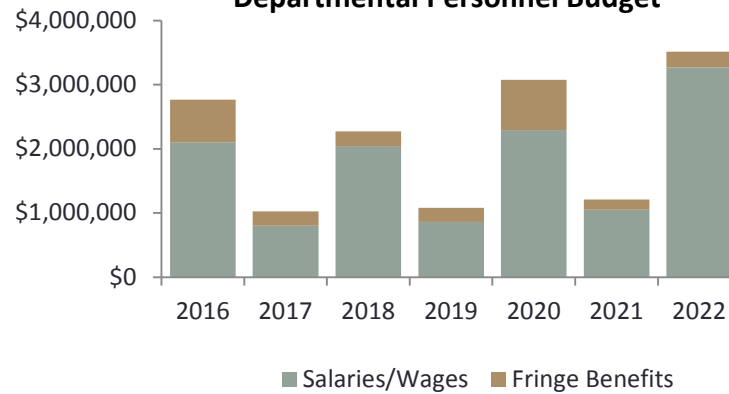
**47.7%**

% Change in Positions

**1**

Voluntary Separations

**Departmental Personnel Budget**

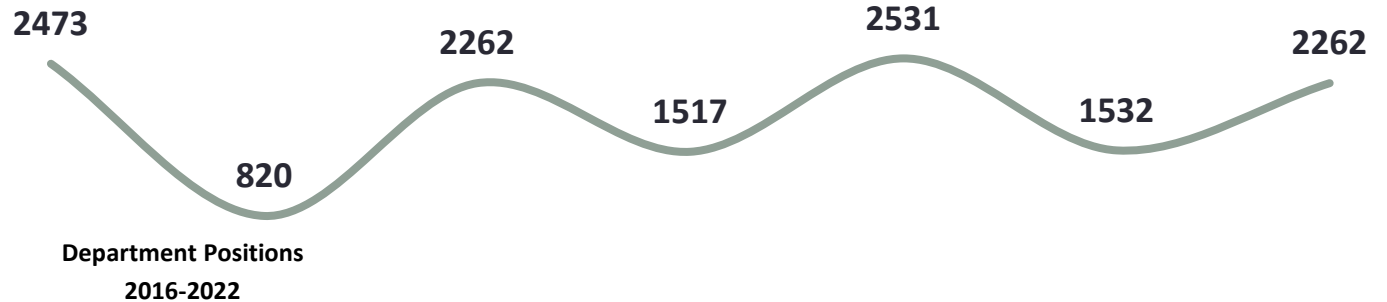


**Staffing - Vacancies**

The department's Election Services Administrator position is currently vacant. The position is expected to be filled at the end of this year.

**Staffing - Authorized Positions**

The number of authorized positions rises from 1,532 to 2,262 due to the increased number of elections in even-numbered years.



**\$2,220,840**

Increase in salaries and wages for the department, 211.3%

**\$239,303**

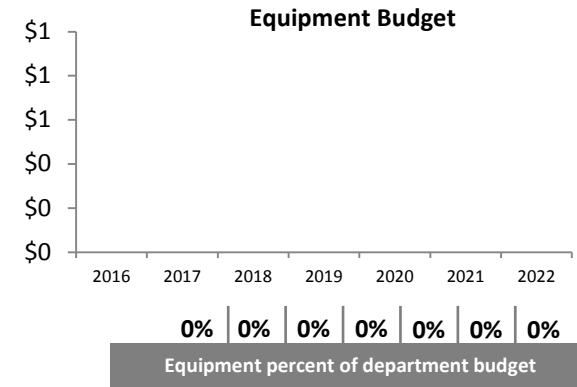
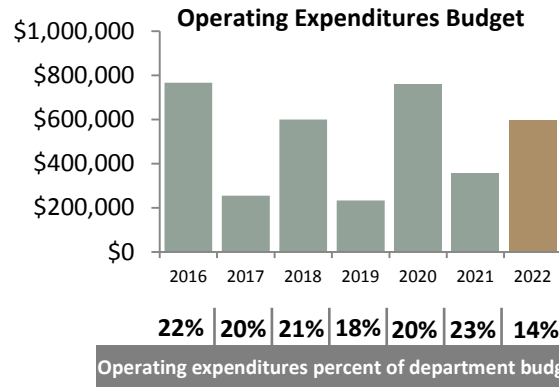
Increase in Operating Expenditures, up 67.2%.

**\$83,213**

Increase in fringe benefits.

**500**

Estimated number of voters unable to vote at polling stations due to lack of IDs during a General Election



**2022 ELECTION DATES AND PROJECTED TURNOUTS**

- February 15 Spring Primary - 25,000
- April 6 Spring Election 50,000
- August 9 Fall Primary 100,000
- November 8 Fall General Election 225,000

**Special Purpose Accounts**

The department has no special purpose accounts.

**Grants**

The department has no grant funding.

**Capital Requests**

There are no proposed capital programs or projects.

**\$2,543,000**

Increase in department's budget.

**2,262**

Number of positions authorized for 2022.

**4**

Number of elections scheduled for 2022

**300%**

Increase in requests already received by the Commission for absentee ballots for 2022.

**I. Recent Voter Registration Efforts**

The Election Commission is working with ITMD to create a voter registration “curtain” that could be integrated into every City website. The curtain will drop down and ask if a citizen wishes to check his or her voter registration. The voter will input name and date of birth, which will pull up the person’s current voter registration information. The citizen will then be able to update his or her registration via the MyVote site or be redirected to the Election Commission’s website for current election information. The Commission believes this tool will be an excellent way to engage with voters before elections when they may not have been thinking about their registration status, but are reminded when paying a water bill, searching for library books, or looking for a service within a DPW page.

The Commission continues to partner with community organizations to register underrepresented communities, especially communities that may face obstacles relating to voter ID or proof of residence requirements. The Commission has created bilingual education materials that cover voter registration, voter ID, and election security FAQs.

**II. Recruitment of Poll Workers.**

The Election Commission uses a variety of strategies to recruit poll workers. It has partnered with outside organizations such as the SEIU to hold recruitment phone calls, worked with voting organizations to conduct community outreach, and collaborated with universities to advertise the opportunity. Additionally, the Commission has created quarterly newsletters to stay connected and engaged with its existing poll workers. It also continues to recruit community-based organizations and membership organizations to adopt polling places and provide workers. The Commission also believes that making the increased stipend permanent will allow it to continue to recruit poll workers from all socio-economic and demographic categories. The stipend is enough to justify someone asking for a day off work at their normal jobs, as well as to entice those who are unemployed to show up on Election Day.

**III. Initiatives for 2022.**

The Election Commission believes that having a dedicated position for voter education and outreach will strengthen its relationship with community organizations and expand community reach. The department has created catchy, easy-to-read materials that facilitate the voting process. The Commission plans to offer these materials to community organizations and churches across the city. Additionally, this person will be able to attend community meetings and events to distribute information, register voters, and recruit poll workers.

The Commission is committed to providing equity and inclusion, especially when it comes to voting access. The Commission has partnered with the Milwaukee Public Library to offer “early” in-person absentee voting at 3 branch libraries during every election. These sites will complement the usual municipal building location. The libraries will be Good Hope, Washington Park and Zablocki.