

2023



Legislative Reference Bureau

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ELECTION COMMISSION

2023 Proposed Plan and Executive Budget Review

Prepared by: Teodros W. Medhin, Ph.D., Legislative Research Supervisor
Budget Hearing: 9:00 am on Monday, October 3, 2022



\$1,980,569

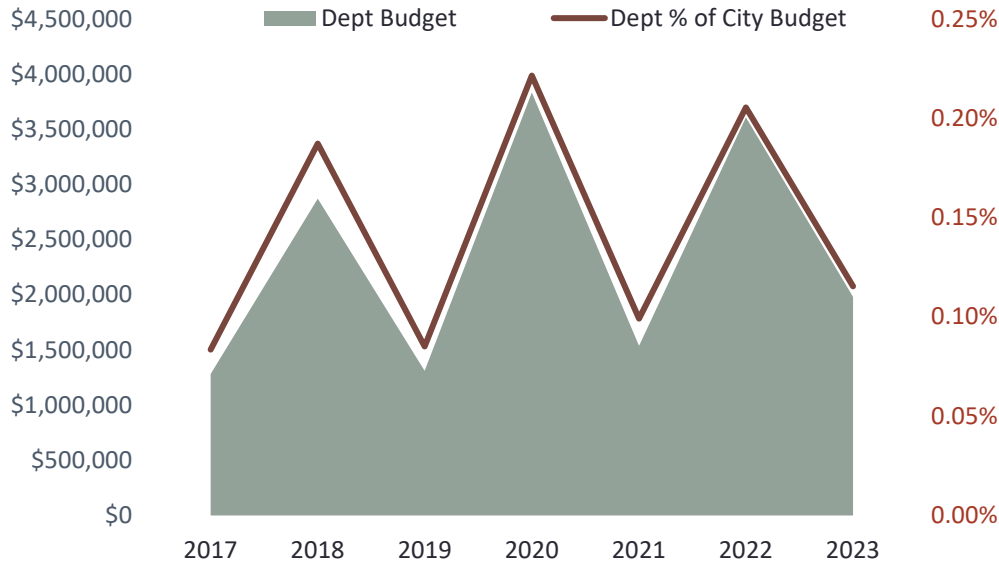
Proposed 2023 Budget

-\$1,628,781

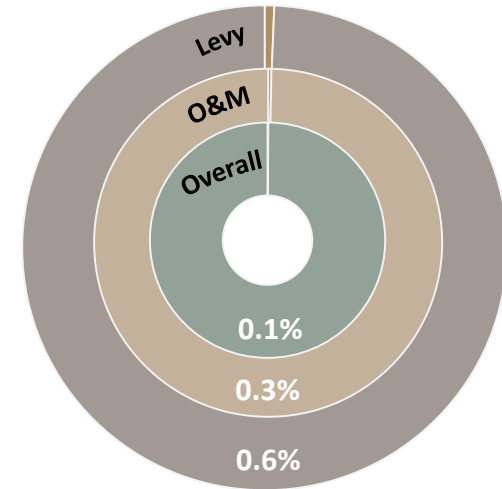
Change in Proposed Budget

-45.1%

% Change in Proposed Budget



Departmental Budget Impact



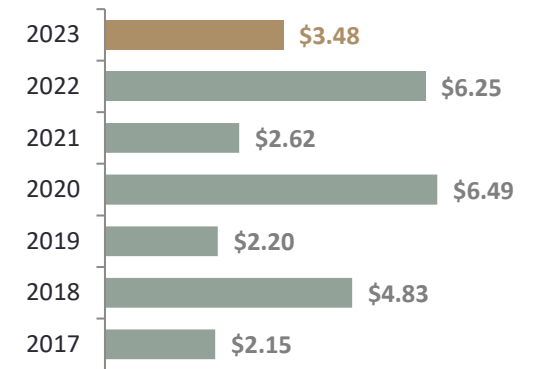
Departmental Budget Appropriation Category



■ Salaries/Wages ■ Fringe Benefits ■ Operations ■ Equipment ■ Special Funds

	Salaries/Wages	Fringe Benefits	Operations	Equipment	Special Funds
\$	\$1,369,920	\$247,499	\$363,150	\$0	\$0
%	69%	12%	18%	0%	0%
Δ	-50.6%	2.1%	-39.0%	0.0%	0.0%

Budget per Capita



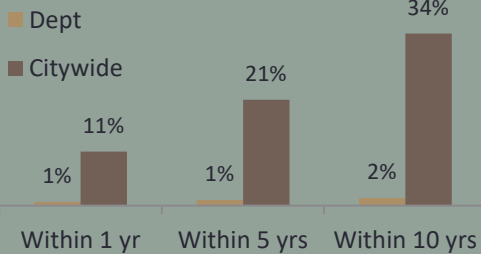
\$2,173,133

Requested Budget,
nearly 9% more than Proposed
Budget.

180

Number of polling locations
in Milwaukee.

Retirement Eligible



-1,215

Change in Positions

-53.7%

% Change in Positions

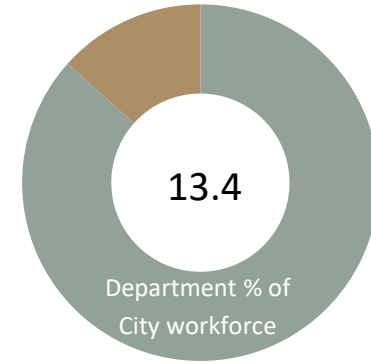
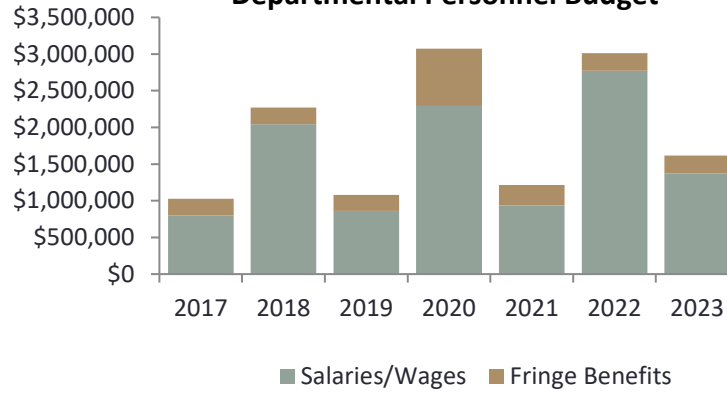
0

Current Vacancies

0

Voluntary Separations

Departmental Personnel Budget

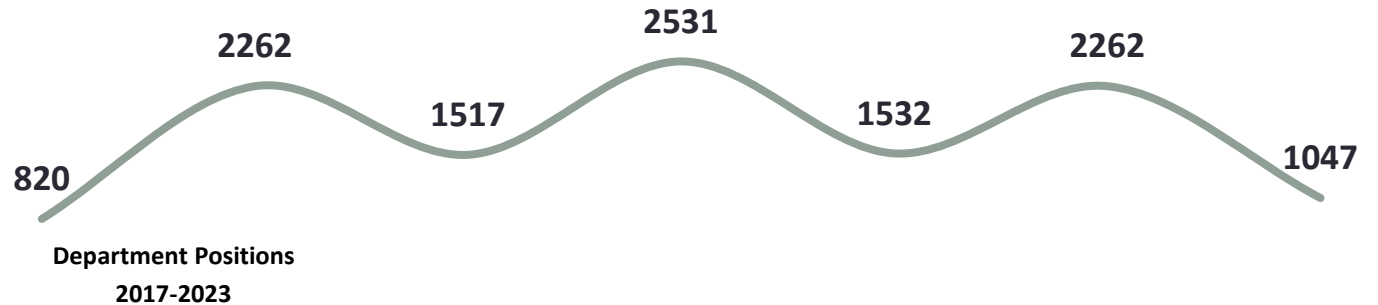


Staffing - Vacancies

Currently, the Election Commission has no vacancies.

Staffing - Authorized Positions

The number of authorized positions declines from 2,262 in 2022 to 1,047 in 2023 due to the decreased number of elections in odd-numbered years.



\$-1,401,823

Decrease in salaries and wages or 50.6%.

\$-239,303

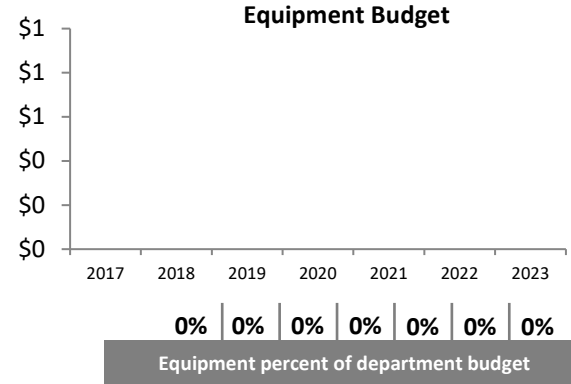
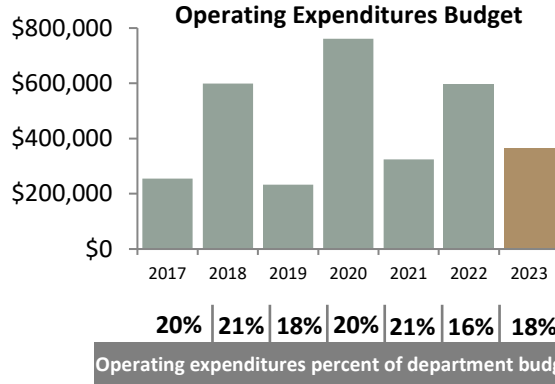
Decrease in Operating Expenditures, down 39 %.

80%

Increase in absentee voting by mail since COVID outbreak.

1,200-1,500

Number of election workers.



2023 ELECTION DATES AND PROJECTED TURNOUTS

- February 21 Spring Primary - 30,000
- April 4 Spring Election - 60,000

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.

\$-1,628,781

Decrease in department's budget.

1,047

Number of positions authorized for 2023, a decrease of 1,215 positions from 2022.

2

Number of elections scheduled for 2023.

\$72,825

Proposed allocation for Information Technology Services.

I. Training of Election Workers

The Election Commission made significant changes to the training curriculum in 2022. It made the decision to return to in-person-only election worker training in order to have hands-on activities and to gauge the engagement level of employees. Furthermore, the Commission has invested in training its trainers, receiving thoughtful feedback from the entire department on Election Day performance deficiencies and also increasing the amount of training available to workers.

Previously, training was only offered to election inspectors for 2 hours once every 2 years. In 2022, the Commission offered voter registration trainings that were separate from "refresher" training and also encouraged chief inspectors to attend both chief training as well as the election inspector training. This has resulted in better-informed and more confident election workers.

In 2020, the Commission recreated its training manual to ensure that it was easy to use, provided photos of absolutely everything, and provided the same information to all workers regardless of whether they are inspectors. The Commission has continued to use this manual and made improvements to it in 2022.

II. Recruitment of Poll Workers.

The Election Commission uses a variety of strategies to recruit poll workers. The Election Commission has had success recruiting poll workers by collaborating with voting groups such as Power the Polls, increasing digital advertisements, and ensuring that the City's Election Day pay policy for City employees encourages civic participation. As a result, the department has seen its highest sign-up rates to date of City employees for the 2022 General Election.

Additionally, the department has brought in temporary staff to place phone calls to applicants who have not completed the hiring process and to make reminder phone calls about training classes.

III. Initiatives for 2023.

In 2023, the Election Commission will begin to use Election Worker and Asset Tracking software that is specifically created for the election industry. This will create improvements to the department for a relatively low cost. Features of the new election worker software include:

- Identifying staff levels and pairing workers who need an assignment with the closest polling places to their homes.
- Allowing election workers to sign up and make changes to their own training classes.
- Allowing election workers to accept their assignments electronically or request different assignments.
- Text messaging capability for routine reminders and Election Day notifications in the case of an emergency.
- Improved processing of training and Election Day attendance, creating a more efficient and accurate post-Election payroll.