

2020



Legislative Reference Bureau

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MUNICIPAL COURT



CITY OF MILWAUKEE
MUNICIPAL COURT

2020 Proposed Plan and Executive Budget Review

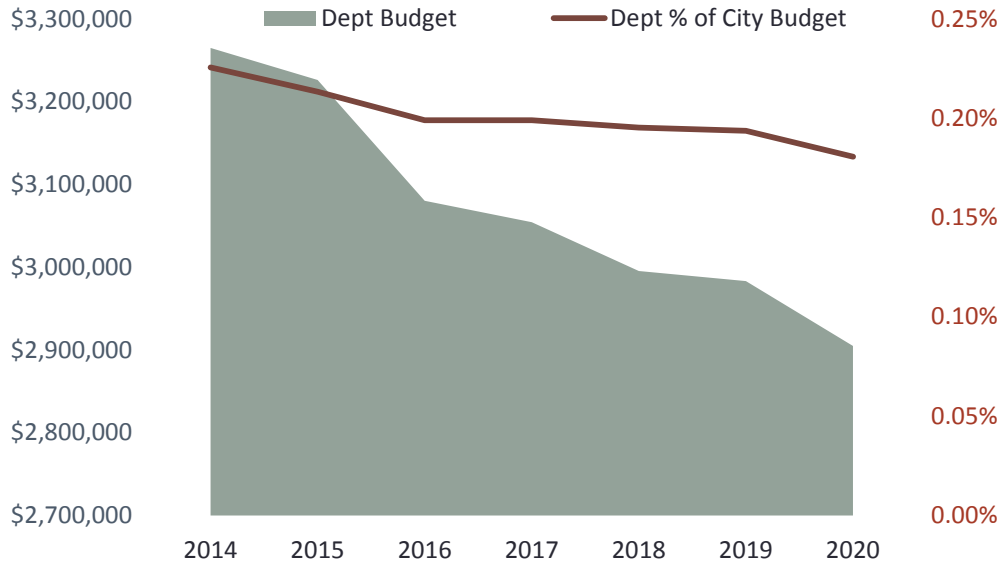
Prepared by: Dana Zelazny, Fiscal Planning Specialist
Budget Hearing: 1:30 pm on Wednesday, October 9, 2019



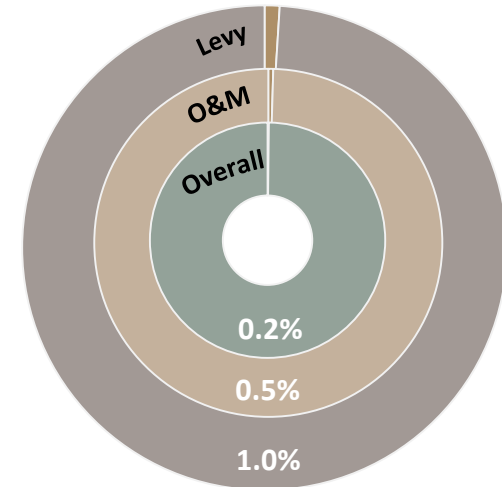
\$2,904,925
Proposed 2020 Budget

-\$78,375
Change in Proposed Budget

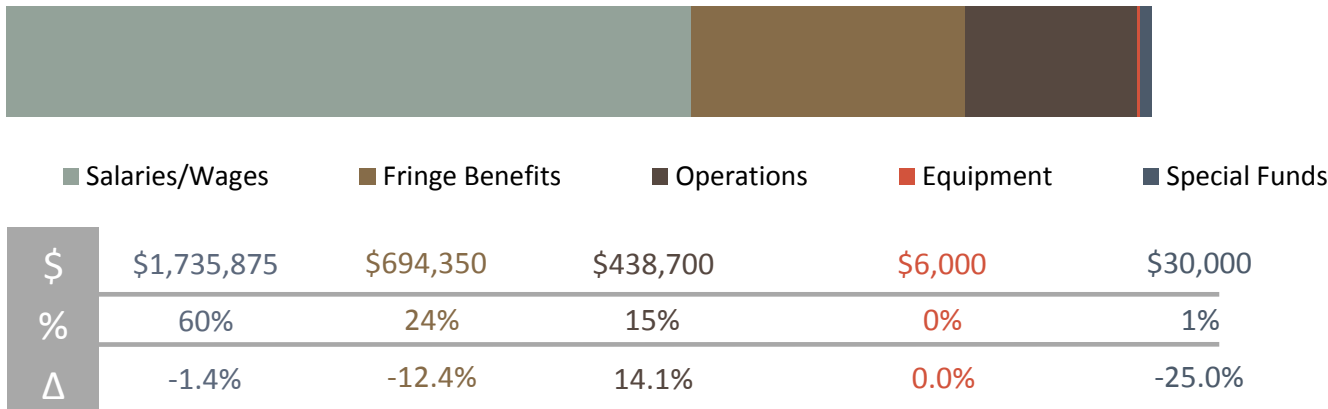
-2.6%
% Change in Proposed Budget



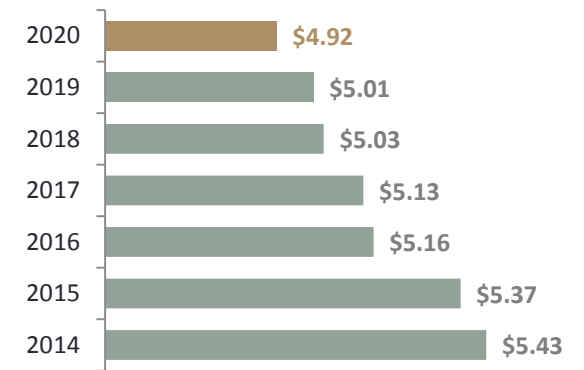
Departmental Budget Impact



Departmental Budget Appropriation Category



Budget per Capita



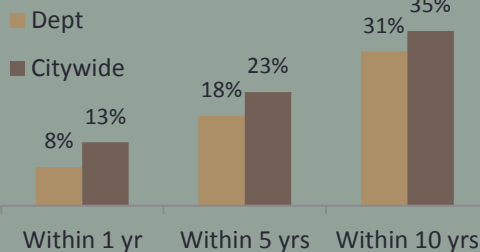
14%

Reduction in staffing budget since investment in electronic case management, on-line services and automation of court services in 2010.

-\$700,000

Projected savings in 2020 from the Court's investment in electronic case management, on-line services and automation of court services.

Retirement Eligible



-1

Change in Positions

6

Current Vacancies

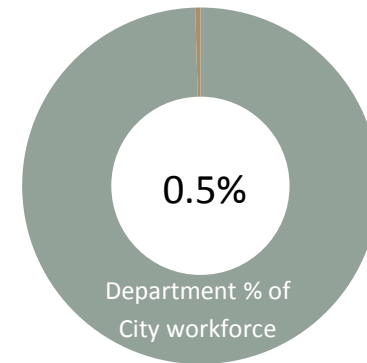
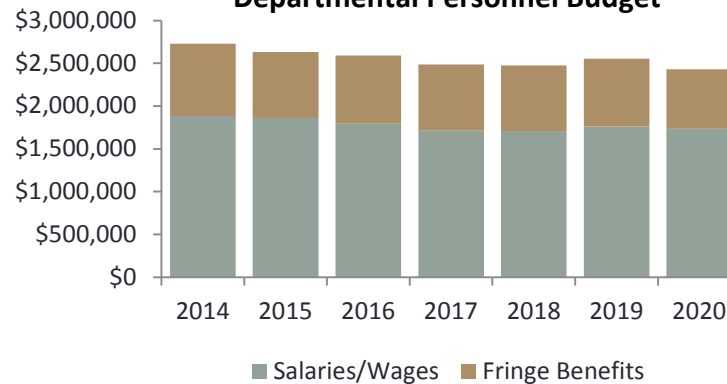
-2.5%

% Change in Positions

3

Voluntary Separations

Departmental Personnel Budget

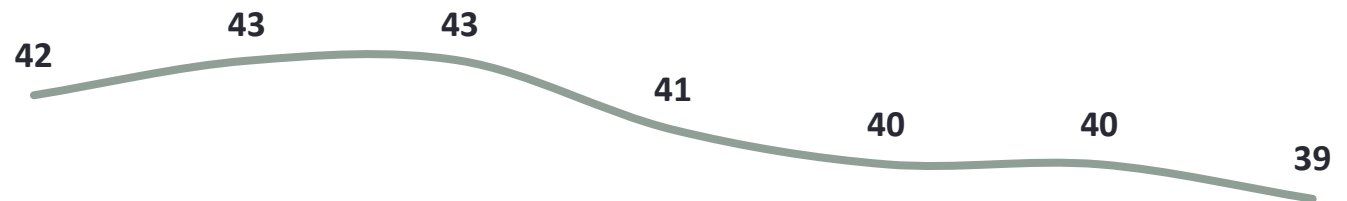


Staffing Vacancies

- 2 of 6 positions of Court Services Assistant III
- 1 of 4 positions of Accounting Assistant II
- 1 of 6 positions of Court Clerk I
- Customer Services Representative III (English-Spanish interpreter skills)
- IT Support Services Supervisor
- 16% of the department's funded positions are vacant.

Staffing Update

- The department plans to reduce the use of temporary staff in 2020 through a larger pool of trained regular employees and improved training materials.
- Rather than use alternate judges in 2020, a branch will be closed when an elected judge is unavailable.



**Department Positions
2014-2020**

\$1,361,000

Projected 2020 revenue from court fees. This is an decrease of 8% from 2019 estimated revenue and a decrease of 18% from 2018 actual revenue.

\$3,276,000

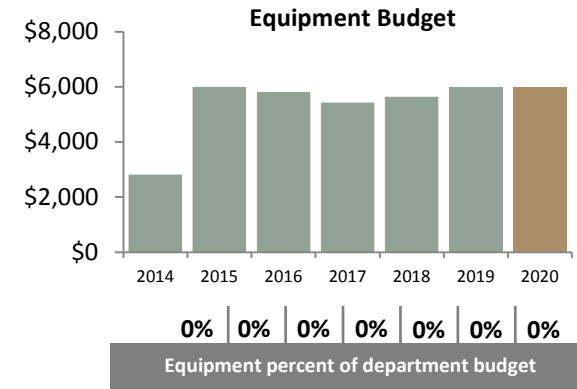
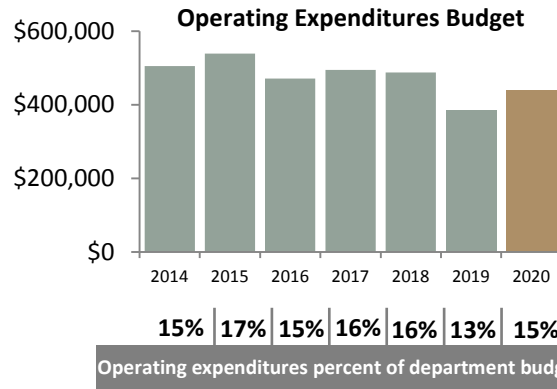
Projected 2020 revenue from fines and forfeitures. This is an increase of 1% from 2019 estimated revenue and a decrease of 1% from 2018 actual revenue.

599

Number of individuals admitted to case management. Successful completion relieves a participant of incarceration and payments.

84,382

Number of Municipal Court cases filed in 2018. 2019 case volume is down 41% as of September, primarily traffic-related. The Court's 2020 budget is based on a projected 65,000 cases.



Revenue

Largest revenue sources:

- Fines and Forfeitures \$3,276,000
- Court Clerk Fees \$1,361,000
- Court Processing Fees \$88,000

Special Purpose Accounts

Municipal Court Intervention Prog.	\$487,000
MPS Driver's Education	\$ 50,000
Care of Prisoners Fund	\$ 7,500

Grants

This department receives no grant funding.

Capital Requests

There are no capital funds for the department in the 2020 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.

401

Number of community service clients served in 2018, completing 6,272 community service hours.

1,402

Number of jail days avoided in 2018 through community service.

161

Number of MPS driver's education students served annually with City appropriation of \$50,000. 5,189 students served program-wide since inception in 2016.

25,482

Number of enforced driver's license suspensions lifted in 2018, for 13,278 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.

Two WWW were held in 2018, during which 325 individuals appeared before the Court to address 2,200 cases.

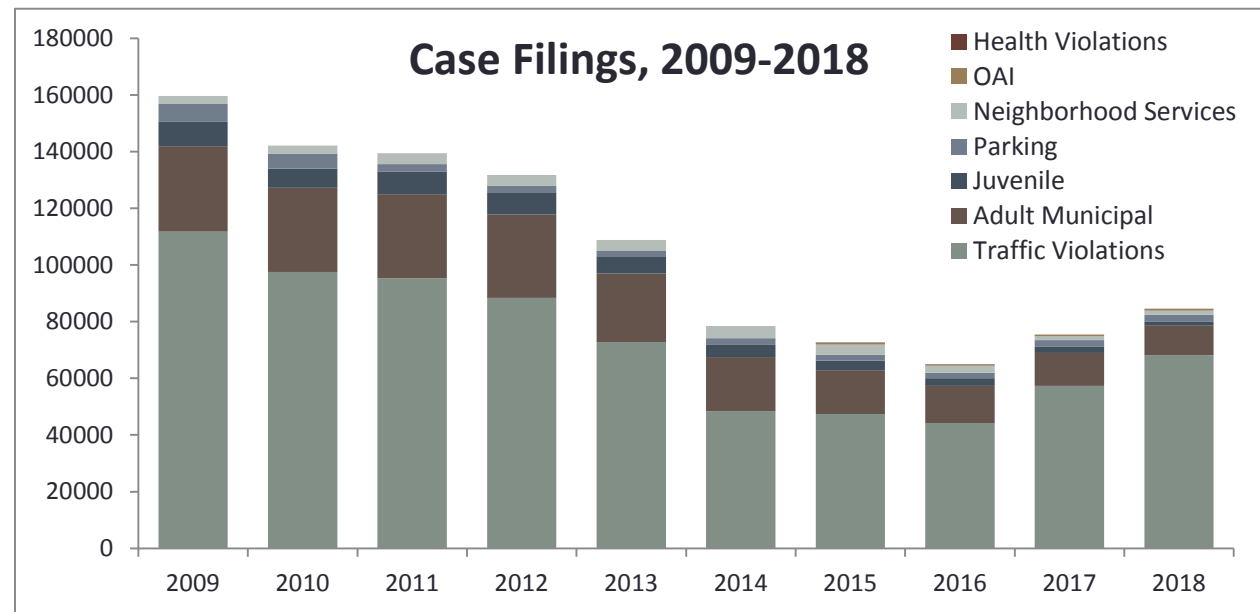
WWWs have been discontinued in 2019 due to questions about long-term efficacy and staffing shortages.

Customer Service

Convenient evening courts were offered on 11 dates in 2018, with 28 sessions scheduled for 490 defendants on 831 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 2020 Proposed Budget includes \$50,000 for the MPS Driver's Education Special Purpose Account, which will fund driver's education for 161 students. During the 2018-19 school year, 1,655 students were served at 16 locations. 100% of the students passed their temporary permit test and 92% 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, 253 students from the 2018-19 school year have received their probationary driver's license. Another 913 participants are not yet eligible to take the road test until their 6 month waiting period expires.

The classes are offered at Bay View, Bradley Tech, Hamilton, James Madison Academic Campus, Milwaukee High School of the Arts, Milwaukee Marshall, Milwaukee School of Languages, North Division, Obama SCTE, Pulaski, Riverside, Ronald Reagan, Rufus King, South Division, Vincent and Washington.

Community Service Sites:

North	Spirit of Peace Lutheran Church	Downtown	South
All Saints Catholic Church	St. Marks AME Church	El-Shaddai Church of God	Child Devel. Ctr. St. Joseph's
Brown Deer Unit. Methodist Church	St. Martin de Porres Food Pantry	Coggs Food Pantry-Friedens	Community Warehouse
Da'wa Center	St. Vincent de Paul-Harambee	Mama Delta's Lovehouse	Despensa De La Paz Food Pantry
Face2Face Comm Svc & Trng Ctr	United to Serve Academy	MATC	Hope House-Friedens Food Min.
Feeding America	Uniting Garden Homes	Milwaukee Rescue Mission	Journey House
Good Shepherd/Trinity Church	Urban Ecology Center-Riverside Park	Neighborhood House	La Causa-Crisis Nurs. and Respite
Greater Galilee Church		St. James Episcopal-Gather.	MADACC
Greater Philadelphia Church of God	Northwest		LaCausa-Early Educ. Care Ctr.
Holy Temple Firstborn Mission. Bap.	Urban Ecology-Washington Park	East	Milwaukee Christian Center
House of Peace	United to Serve Academy	Diverse & Resilient	Right Turn
Next Door Foundation	Five Corners of Faith	Lake Terrace Health and Rehab. Ctr.	St. Vincent de Paul Thrift Store
Northcott Neighborhood House	Habitat for Humanity-Restore	Running Rebels	St. Vincent de Paul Crossroads
Praise Cathedral Church of God	Our Daily Bread Comm. Outreach Ctr.	Riverwest Food Pantry-St. Casimir	United Community Center
Project Focal Point	Salvation Army	Urban Ecology-Riverside Park	Inner Beauty Center
Reformation Lutheran Church	Showers of Blessing Fellowship Church		Project Concern of Cudahy
Running Rebels	Silver Spring Neighborhood Center	West	Victory Christian Academy
Scott Christian Youth Center	Temple of the Living Christian Lrn. Ctr.	Hunger Task Force of Milw.	
Social Development Commission	Zion Rock Food Pantry-Friedens	Keep Greater Milw. Beautiful	
		Waukesha Salvation Army	