

# Legislative Reference Bureau

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# **ASSESSOR'S OFFICE**

# **2016** Proposed Plan and Executive Budget Review

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Budget Hearing: October 8, 2015 Last Updated: October 5, 2015



\$4,840,478

Proposed 2016 Budget

\$422,807

Change in Proposed Budget

0.32%

0.31%

0.31%

0.30%

0.30%

0.29%

0.29%

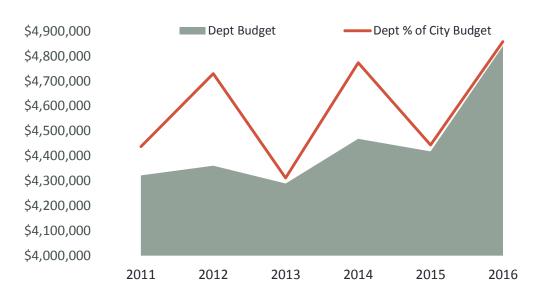
0.28%

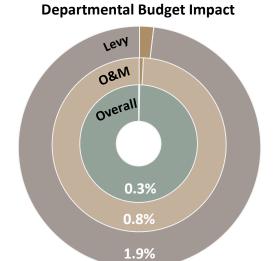
0.28%

0.27%

9.6%

% Change in Proposed Budget



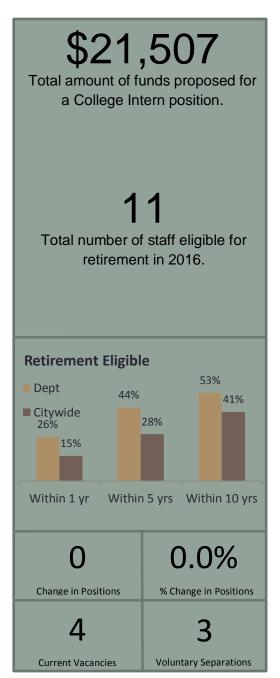


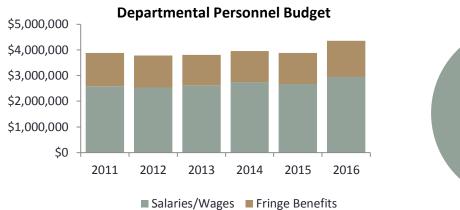
#### **Departmental Budget Appropriation Category**

#### ■ Salaries/Wages ■ Fringe Benefits ■ Special Funds ■ Operations Equipment \$2,940,188 \$0 \$106,000 \$1,411,290 \$383,000 % 29% 8% 0% 2% 61% 9.8% -100.0% 17.1% -2.7% -15.9%

### **Budget per Capita**







#### **Staffing Update**

- The department is adding a College Intern position to support appraisal staff in administrative and other functions.
- The department eliminated the unfunded Accounting Assistant II position.

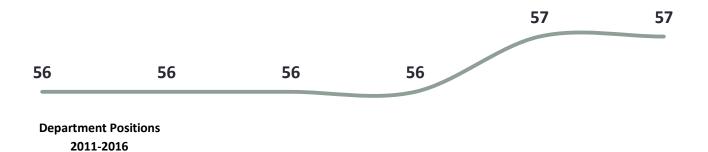
#### **Staffing Update**

Vacancies within the department consist of the following positions:

0.7%

City workforce

- 3 Property Appraisers
- Chief Assessor



\$875,200

The amount of revenue estimated for the 2016 Budget.

\$-850,000

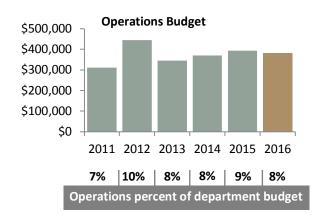
This amount reflects the decrease of funds proposed for the SPA account Remission of Taxes Fund for 2016.

\$556,000

The amount of capital funds proposed for the Assessment Software project in 2016.

\$-63,880

Personnel Cost Adjustment amount for 2016, which reflects a decrease from the 2015 Budget

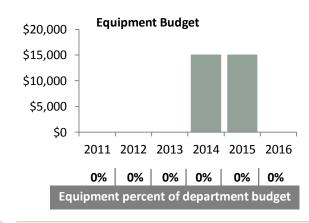


#### Revenue

The department estimates that the Charges for Services account will generate a \$174,700 (25 %) increase from the 2015 Adopted Budget estimate.

#### Grants

This department receives no grant funding.



#### **Special Purpose Accounts**

The 2016 Proposed Budget for the SPA Remission of Taxes Fund reflects a 53% decrease, due to several large settlements being paid by using contingent borrowing.

Remission of Taxes Fund \$750,000

#### **Capital Requests**

The Property Assessment Software capital project is an on-going multi-year project. Additional of \$556,000 is proposed for 2016.

\$-20,000

Total decrease in funds proposed for the Valuation System Maintenance special fund account.

9,846

Total number of exempt parcels in the city.

5,449

Total number of improved exempt parcels.

4,397

Total number of exempt properties that are vacant.

#### **Special Funds**

The department's proposed special funds are:

State Manufacturing Assessment Payment

• \$86,000

Valuation System Maintenance\*

- \$20,000
- \* Part of the cost is included in the Assessment Software capital improvement project.

#### Revaluation

Although total foreclosure activity is decreasing, several neighborhoods throughout the city are still experiencing negative impacts. The department continues to perform revaluations and is expecting the overall city value to increase when the 2016 analysis is complete.

## **Assessment Objections**

Revaluations have continued to help to lower the number of assessment objections. Objections have been trending downward since 2002. Objections for the past 3 years were as follows:

2013: 2,5122014: 2,1792015: 2,005

#### Appeals

The number of assessment repeal cases heard in 2014 was 1068. As a result, 137 property valuation cases were lowered.

#### **Pending Litigation**

The following is an update on the status of litigation cases related to the Assessor's Office:

- Oil Companies The Board of Review has taken action. A trial is scheduled for November 9-20, 2015.
- Valvoline- Great Lakes Quick Lube (AKA Valvoline) Litigation has been resolved.
- Metropolitan Judge's decisions scheduled to be rendered October 7, 2015.
- Hirschberg Pending
- Airport Parking Trial is scheduled for January 5-7, 2016.
- US Bank Conference scheduled for January 14-16, 2016
- Mid Milk Improvements, LLC Board of Review has not acted on this case.
- Wisconsin and Milwaukee Hotel Board of Review is schedule for October 29, 2015.
- 1003s25, LLC et al Trial is scheduled for December 14-16, 2015