

2025 Adopted Budget: City Council

Department Mission: The City Council makes legislative, policy, budget approval, and performance auditing decisions for the City of Saint Paul. The seven Councilmembers also serve as the Housing and Redevelopment Authority, the Board of Health, and the Library Board.

Learn More: stpaul.gov/city-council

Department Facts

- **Total General Fund Budget:** \$4,835,575
- **Total Special Fund Budget:** \$250,000
- **Total FTEs:** 31.50
- There are seven part-time Councilmembers representing the seven wards of the city.
- Councilmembers are elected to serve four-year terms.
- The current term ends on December 31, 2028.

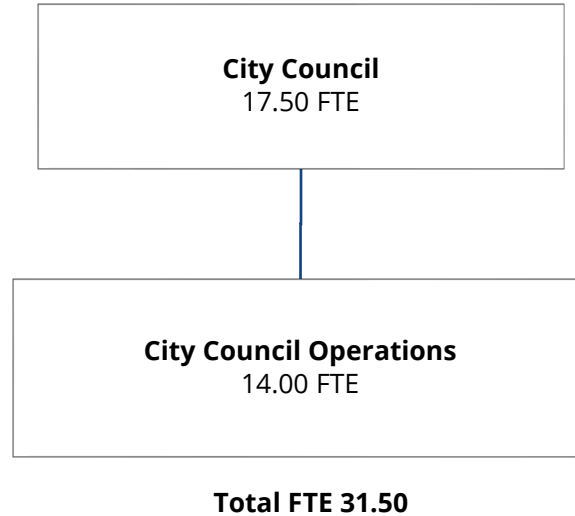
Department Goals

- Ensuring equitable and responsible use of city resources.
- Improving neighborhood safety and eliminating gun violence.
- Supporting economic growth and development.
- Expanding and preserving affordable housing.
- Integrating climate action resilience strategies.
- Providing excellence in city and constituent service.

Recent Accomplishments

- Considered over 2,300 legislative items annually as part of the weekly City Council meetings.
- Legislative hearing officers conducted hearings on approximately 1,100 matters, including assessments, license applications, nuisance issues, water services, rent stabilization, and organized garbage collection appeals.
- District Council Coordinator provided project management and technical assistance support to the 17 district council organizations funded through the City's community engagement program.
- Audit Committee contracted with Cultivate Strategy to study constituent service.
- Held community engagement outreach related to the City budget, reparations, developments, and other critical city projects.
- Completed multi-year project to modernize document retention.
- Council returned to in-person meetings and office hours beginning January 2022.
- Developed the Early Learning Committee and the Reparations Committee.
- Established the Saint Paul Recovery Act Community Reparations Commission.

City Council Organizational Chart



Department Division Descriptions

The City Council is elected by constituents. It includes the following divisions:

- **City Council:** The City Council is responsible for setting City policy through ordinances and resolutions. The Council also has sole responsibility for adopting the City's budget. The Council legislates by passing Ordinances which become City laws.
- **City Council Operations:** The operations staff conducts research and policy development, provides council support, and organizes legislative hearings and community engagement. This team includes the City Clerk and elections operations staff.

**2025 Adopted Budget
CITY COUNCIL**

Fiscal Summary

	FY 2022 Actuals	FY 2023 Adopted Budget	FY 2024 Adopted Budget	FY 2025 Adopted Budget	Change From Prior Year	FY 2024 Adopted Budget FTE	FY 2025 Adopted Budget FTE
Spending							
100: CITY GENERAL FUND	3,679,765	4,185,903	4,595,666	4,835,575	239,909	31.50	31.50
211: GENERAL GOVT SPECIAL PROJECTS	-	-	50,000	250,000	200,000	-	-
Total	3,679,765	4,185,903	4,645,666	5,085,575	439,909	31.50	31.50
Financing							
100: CITY GENERAL FUND	408,781	375,555	403,281	405,271	1,990		
211: GENERAL GOVT SPECIAL PROJECTS	-	-	50,000	250,000	200,000		
Total	408,781	375,555	453,281	655,271	201,990		

Budget Changes Summary

The 2025 budget for the City Council removes several one-time items from the 2024 budget, including an Early Learning Consultant, a transfer to the Council's special projects fund for an Audit Committee, and a one-time attrition budget decrease. Other changes in the 2025 budget reflect current service level adjustments for salaries and benefits and internal charges. There was also an increase in anticipated regulatory fee revenue. During the Council phase of the budget process an attrition adjustment was added, as well as a one-time transfer to a special fund for the establishment of a City Council Reparations Committee.

Due to changes in the American Rescue Plan (ARP) State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds guidance around obligating funds, the City made the decision in 2024 to change the funding source for several projects formerly supported with ARP. To ensure that the projects and initiatives included in the Global Agreement between the Mayor and Council on the use of ARP funds are completed as planned, the City created a new special fund for each former ARP project included in this change. These funds will continue to be spent according to the uses that were included in the Global Agreement, and all funds must be spent by 2026 in alignment with the original ARP guidelines. City staff will continue to collect quarterly and annual reporting from each project and provide corresponding reports to Council. The Council Office Redesign Project included in the proposed budget was removed the in the adopted budget by Mayoral veto.

Other changes in the special fund reflect the removal of a 2024 one-time general fund transfer to support the work of the City Council Audit Committee. Lastly, one-time funding for the creation of a City Council Reparations Committee was added.

100: General Fund

City Council

Current Service Level Adjustments

Current service level adjustments include inflationary increases due to salary and benefit costs and an increase in regulatory fee revenue. In addition, several one-time spending budgets from the 2024 budget were removed.

	Change from 2024 Adopted		FTE
	Spending	Financing	
Current service level adjustments	181,378	1,990	-
Remove one-time transfer to Audit Committee	(50,000)	-	-
Remove one-time spending for Early Learning Consultant	(80,000)	-	-
Remove one-time attrition savings	35,000	-	-
Subtotal:	86,378	1,990	-

Adopted Changes

Reparations Committee

The City Council added one-time funding for the creation of a City Council Reparations Committee. This funding is transferred from the General Fund to Fund 211: General Government Special Projects.

	Change from 2024 Adopted		FTE
	Spending	Financing	
Transfer to Special Fund for Reparations Committee	250,000	-	-
Subtotal:	250,000	-	-

Attrition Adjustment

The 2025 budget includes an attrition adjustment to account for yearly vacancy savings that occur due to standard staff turnover.

Attrition adjustment	(96,469)	-	-
Subtotal:	(96,469)	-	-

Mayoral Vetos

The City Council added three items during the budget process: a one-time boost in funding for the events and festivals grant program added in the proposed budget, an increase to reflect the City's contribution to the Saint Paul Children's Collaborative, and funding for an audit committee. These additions were subsequently vetoed by the Mayor and therefore not reflected in the 2025 adopted budget.

One-time funding for events and festivals	160,000	-	-
Mayoral veto: one-time funding for events and festivals	(160,000)	-	-
Local youth support organization	15,000	-	-
Mayoral veto: Local youth support organization	(15,000)	-	-
Audit Committee	50,000	-	-
Mayoral Veto: Audit Committee	(50,000)	-	-
Subtotal:	-	-	-

Fund 100 Budget Changes Total

239,909

1,990

-

211: General Government Special Projects

City Council

The City Council administers an audit committee and is home to the Council Office Redesign Project.

Current Service Level Adjustments

City Council Audit Committee

Current service level adjustments include the removal of a one-time \$50,000 transfer from the General Fund for the City Council Audit Committee.

Remove one-time spending and revenue for Audit Committee

Subtotal:

Change from 2024 Adopted			FTE
Spending	Financing		

(50,000)	(50,000)		-
(50,000)	(50,000)		-

Mayor's Proposed Changes

Office Redesign Project

Due to changes in the American Rescue Plan State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds guidance around obligating funds, the City made the decision in 2024 to change the funding source for several projects formerly supported with ARP. To ensure that the projects and initiatives included in the Global Agreement between the Mayor and Council on the use of ARP funds are completed as planned, the City created a new Special Fund for each former ARP project included in this change. These funds will continue to be spent according to the uses that were included in the Global Agreement, and all funds must be spent by 2026 in alignment with the original ARP guidelines. City staff will continue to collect quarterly and annual reporting from each project and provide corresponding reports to Council. The City Council special fund budget includes the Council Office Redesign Project. This funding was eliminated in the adopted budget.

Office Redesign Project

Subtotal:

Change from 2024 Adopted			FTE
Spending	Financing		

1,894,000	1,894,000		-
1,894,000	1,894,000		-

Adopted Changes

Office Redesign Project

The 2025 Mayor's Proposed Budget included funding for a redesign of the City Council's offices. This funding was removed in the 2025 adopted budget via mayoral veto.

Office Redesign Project

Subtotal:

Change from 2024 Adopted			FTE
Spending	Financing		

(1,894,000)	(1,894,000)		-
(1,894,000)	(1,894,000)		-

Reparations Committee

The City Council added one-time funding for the establishment of a City Council Reparations Committee. This funding is transferred from the General Fund to Fund 211: General Government Special Projects.

Reparations Committee

Subtotal:

250,000	250,000		-
250,000	250,000		-

Fund 211 Budget Changes Total

200,000	200,000		-
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City Council Spending Reports

CITY OF SAINT PAUL
Spending Plan by Department

Department: CITY COUNCIL
Fund: CITY GENERAL FUND

Budget Year: 2025

	FY 2022 Actuals	FY 2023 Adopted Budget	FY 2024 Adopted Budget	FY 2025 Adopted Budget	Change From Prior Year
Spending by Major Account					
EMPLOYEE EXPENSE	3,465,494	3,957,861	4,200,624	4,320,533	119,909
SERVICES	85,770	159,048	276,048	196,048	(80,000)
MATERIALS AND SUPPLIES	33,800	68,294	68,294	68,294	-
ADDITIONAL EXPENSES	9,700	700	700	700	-
OTHER FINANCING USES	85,000	-	50,000	250,000	200,000
Total Spending by Major Account	3,679,765	4,185,903	4,595,666	4,835,575	239,909
Spending by Accounting Unit					
10010100 - CITY COUNCIL LEGISLATIVE	3,514,690	3,951,874	4,435,222	4,835,575	400,353
10010105 - RECORDS MANAGEMENT	165,075	234,029	160,443	-	(160,443)
Total Spending by Accounting Unit	3,679,765	4,185,903	4,595,666	4,835,575	239,909

**CITY OF SAINT PAUL
Spending Plan by Department**

Department: CITY COUNCIL

Fund: GENERAL GOVT SPECIAL PROJECTS

Budget Year: 2025

	FY 2022 Actuals	FY 2023 Adopted Budget	FY 2024 Adopted Budget	FY 2025 Adopted Budget	Change From Prior Year
Spending by Major Account					
SERVICES	-	-	50,000	250,000	200,000
Total Spending by Major Account	-	-	50,000	250,000	200,000
Spending by Accounting Unit					
21110225 - COUNCIL SPECIAL PROJECTS	-	-	50,000	250,000	200,000
Total Spending by Accounting Unit	-	-	50,000	250,000	200,000

City Council Financing Reports

CITY OF SAINT PAUL
Financing Plan by Department

Department: CITY COUNCIL
Fund: CITY GENERAL FUND

Budget Year: 2025

	FY 2022 Actuals	FY 2023 Adopted Budget	FY 2024 Adopted Budget	FY 2025 Adopted Budget	Change From Prior Year
Financing by Major Account					
LICENSE AND PERMIT	980	-	-	-	-
CHARGES FOR SERVICES	122,796	108,000	135,726	137,716	1,990
MISCELLANEOUS REVENUE	17,450	-	-	-	-
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES	267,555	267,555	267,555	267,555	-
Total Financing by Major Account	408,781	375,555	403,281	405,271	1,990
Financing by Accounting Unit					
10010100 - CITY COUNCIL LEGISLATIVE	408,781	375,555	403,281	405,271	1,990
Total Financing by Accounting Unit	408,781	375,555	403,281	405,271	1,990

**CITY OF SAINT PAUL
Financing Plan by Department**

**Department: CITY COUNCIL
Fund: GENERAL GOVT SPECIAL PROJECTS**

Budget Year: 2025

	FY 2022 Actuals	FY 2023 Adopted Budget	FY 2024 Adopted Budget	FY 2025 Adopted Budget	Change From Prior Year
Financing by Major Account					
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES	-	-	50,000	250,000	200,000
Total Financing by Major Account	-	-	50,000	250,000	200,000
Financing by Accounting Unit					
21110225 - COUNCIL SPECIAL PROJECTS	-	-	50,000	250,000	200,000
Total Financing by Accounting Unit	-	-	50,000	250,000	200,000