



Brandon M. Scott  
Mayor

# Fiscal 2024 Recommended Budget

Law Department

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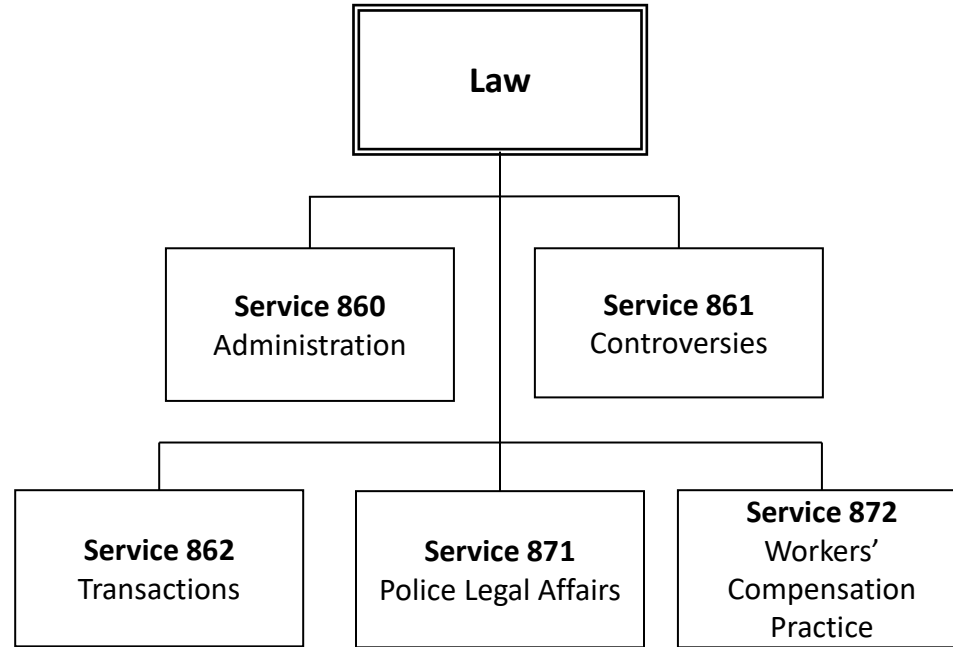
# Fiscal 2024 Agency Overview

## Agency Mission

- To provide sound legal advice and counsel to its client, the Mayor, and City Council. In doing so, the Law Department provides vigorous and successful advocacy of the interests of the Mayor and City Council in negotiation and consummation of contractual, financial, and real estate transactions; aggressively defends the Mayor and City Council in liability cases, and furthers the collection efforts of the Mayor and City Council.

## Fiscal 2024 Goals

- Assist in reduction of public health disparities across the City through effective litigation that remediates violators of local, state and federal public health law
- Use additional attorney personnel to pursue legal ownership of vacant property and hold delinquent owners accountable through code enforcement, demolition, etc.



# Administration - Law

**Pillar:** Responsible Stewardship of City Resources

**Service Number:** 860

**FY24 Rec. Budget:** \$1,634,081

**Service Description:** This service provides overall direction and control of the Law Department. Key activities include: defending lawsuits against the City; advocating for the City's interest before State and Federal public bodies; drafting, negotiating and reviewing contracts and proposed laws; and advising all City government actors.

## Major Budget Items

The recommended budget removes \$74,100 in one-time funding for temporary staff to support the initial implementation of the Administrative Procedures Act (APA). The APA established a new process for the notice, publication, and adoption of regulations in the City. This process requires all new and legacy regulations be reviewed by the Law Department and the Department of Legislative Reference.

# Controversies

**Pillar:** Responsible Stewardship of City Resources

**Service Number:** 861

**FY24 Rec. Budget:** \$8,610,571

**Service Description:** This service provides the general litigation, labor and employment, land use, collections, and pre-litigation claims investigation services for the City. This service aims to steadily increase City revenue streams while avoiding or limiting liability payouts.

## Major Budget Items

The budget creates two new positions, an Assistant Solicitor and Paralegal, to support the Vacants Workgroup efforts.

## Performance Measures

Type	Performance Measure	FY19 Actual	FY20 Actual	FY21 Actual	FY22 Target	FY22 Actual	FY23 Target	FY24 Target
Effectiveness	% of repayment versus amount negotiated for collections cases	113%	76%	90%	98%	99%	103%	97%
Effectiveness	% of payout damages claimed	1.6%	2.0%	10.0%	2.0%	7.0%	2.0%	2.0%

# Transactions

**Pillar:** Responsible Stewardship of City Resources

**Service Number:** 862

**FY24 Rec. Budget:** \$2,525,666

**Service Description:** This service provides Charter mandated legal services essential for City operations and governance. This service negotiates, drafts, and reviews all City contracts, and advises the Mayor's Office, the City Council, and all City agencies, boards and commissions on the entire range of legal issues facing the City.

## Major Budget Items

The budget creates an Attorney position to support the Advice and Opinions group.

## Performance Measures

Type	Performance Measure	FY19 Actual	FY20 Actual	FY21 Actual	FY22 Target	FY22 Actual	FY23 Target	FY24 Target
Effectiveness	% of bill reports submitted on time	100%	100%	100%	95%	100%	100%	95%
Effectiveness	% of clients rating services good or excellent	89%	91%	96%	95%	97%	100%	95%

# Police Legal Affairs

**Pillar:** Building Public Safety

**Service Number:** 871

**FY24 Rec. Budget:** \$2,445,917

**Service Description:** This service provides legal advice and counsel, and also handles all legal matters for BPD. This unit defends BPD in any civil litigation in federal and state courts; represents BPD in all labor issues; and provides legal guidance and advice to BPD on any issues related to the federal Consent Decree.

## Major Budget Items

The recommended budget maintains the current level of service.

## Performance Measures

Type	Performance Measure	FY19 Actual	FY20 Actual	FY21 Actual	FY22 Target	FY22 Actual	FY23 Target	FY24 Target
<b>Output</b>	# of misconduct cases resolved	84	171	205	180	265	180	200
<b>Effectiveness</b>	% of cases resolved prior to hearing	76%	90%	97%	90%	95%	90%	90%

# Workers' Compensation Practice

**Pillar:** Responsible Stewardship of City Resources

**Service Number:** 872

**FY24 Rec. Budget:** \$6,189,009

**Service Description:** This service represents the Mayor and City Council in workers' compensation litigation.

## Major Budget Items

The recommended budget maintains the current level of service.

## Performance Measures

Type	Performance Measure	FY19 Actual	FY20 Actual	FY21 Actual	FY22 Target	FY22 Actual	FY23 Target	FY24 Target
Output	# of claims handled each year	4,267	3,321	2,805	3,500	3,553	3,500	3,500
Effectiveness	% of "Yes/No" issues tried and won	N/A	42%	39%	15%	37%	15%	20%