



Office of City Attorney Budget Overview

Presentation of the 2027 Mayor's Recommended Budget for the City Attorney Office (CAO) to the City of Minneapolis Budget Committee, September 14, 2026

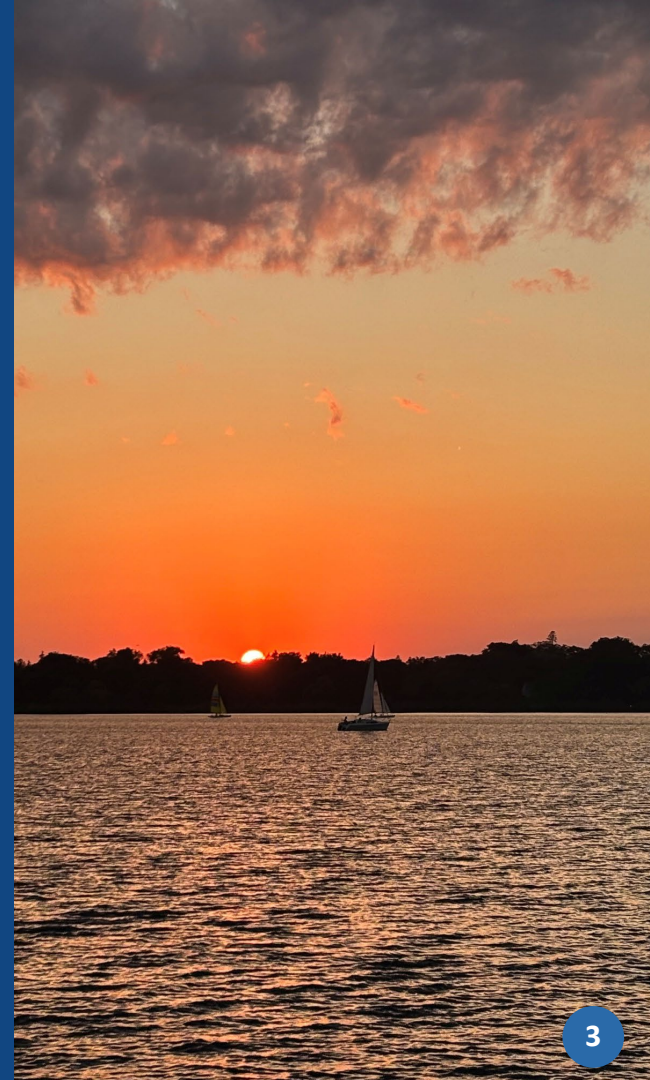




Agenda

1. Department and budget overview
2. Program and division updates

Department and budget overview





City Attorney Office

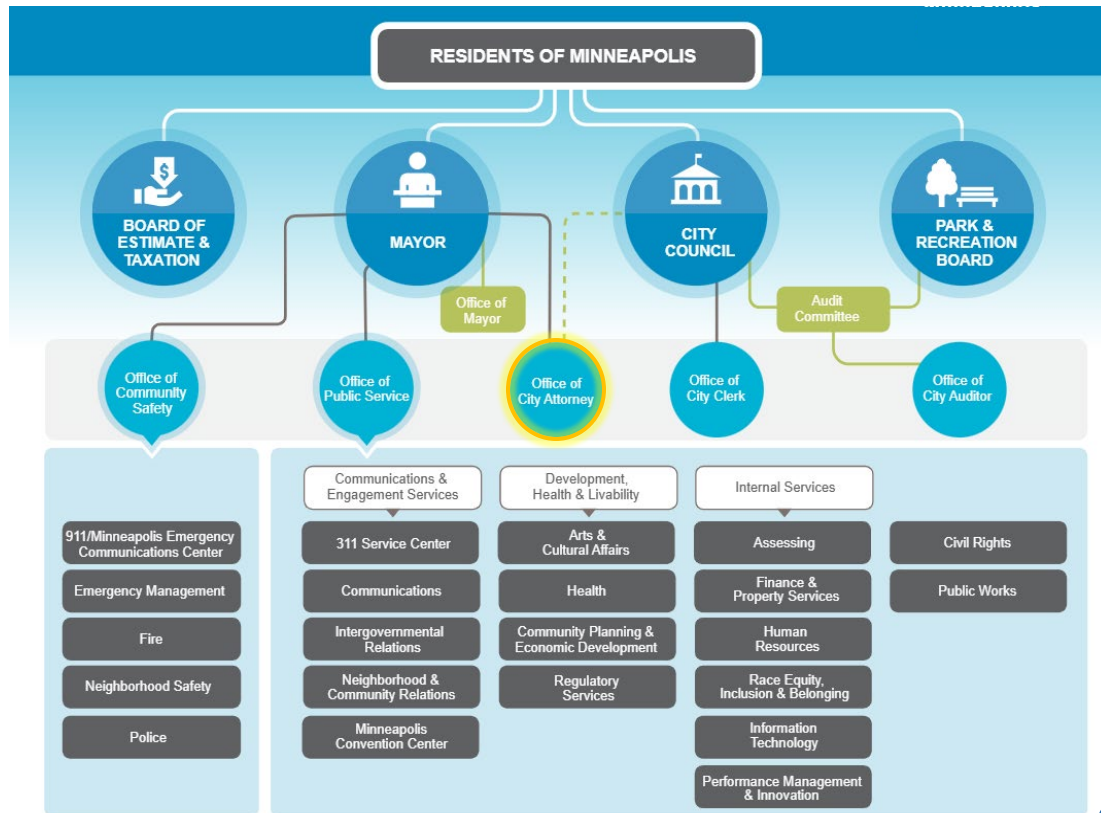
City Attorney: Kristyn Anderson

Divisions: 2

Current 2026 FTE Count: 111

2026 Adopted Budget: \$22.9M

2027 Proposed Budget: \$24.5M





City Attorney Office: organization



Activities and service delivery overview

Mission Statement

To equitably seek justice, embrace accountability, and protect the interests of the Minneapolis Community.

Objectives

Provide the highest quality of legal services to serve the Minneapolis Community.

Key Activities:

Advising the entire City enterprise including the City Council and the Administration on legal matters.

- Drafting ordinances.

- Protecting the City's legal interests in civil litigation including litigation against the federal government.

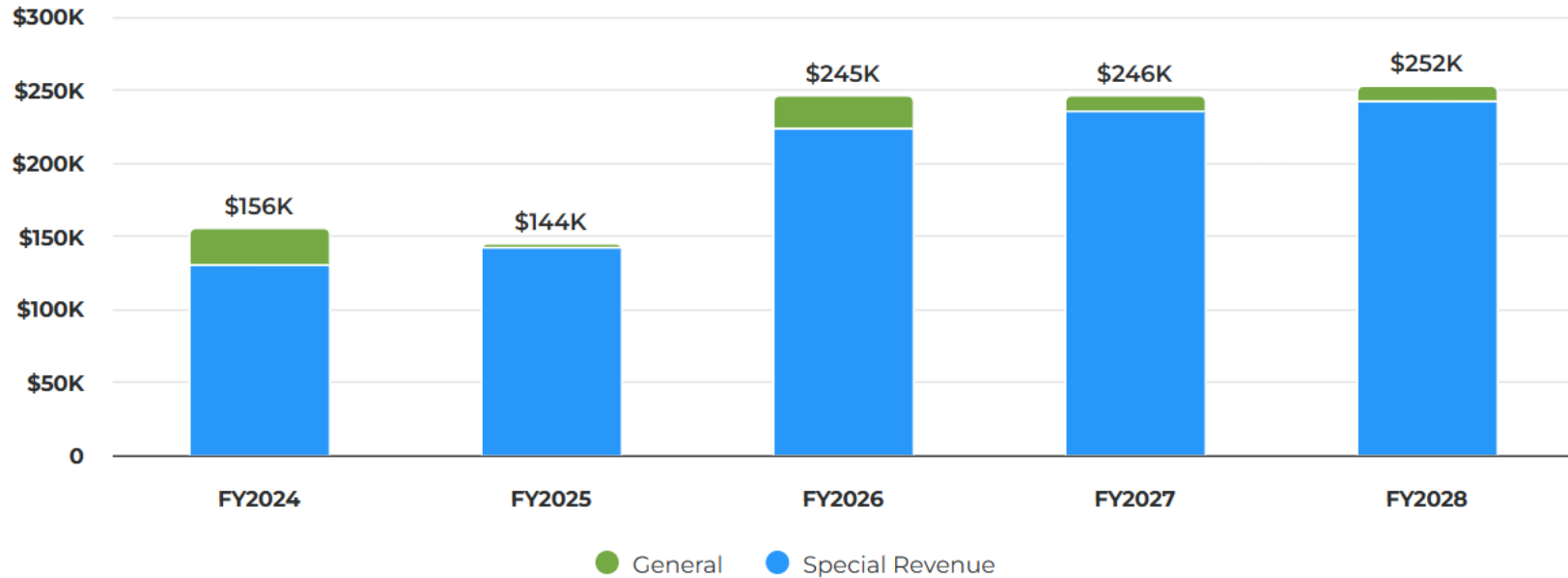
- Advising on compliance with MDHR Settlement Agreement.

- Prosecution of misdemeanor and gross misdemeanor crimes to protect public safety; offering diversion programs when appropriate as an alternative to charges or conviction.





2027-28 revenue forecast, all funds

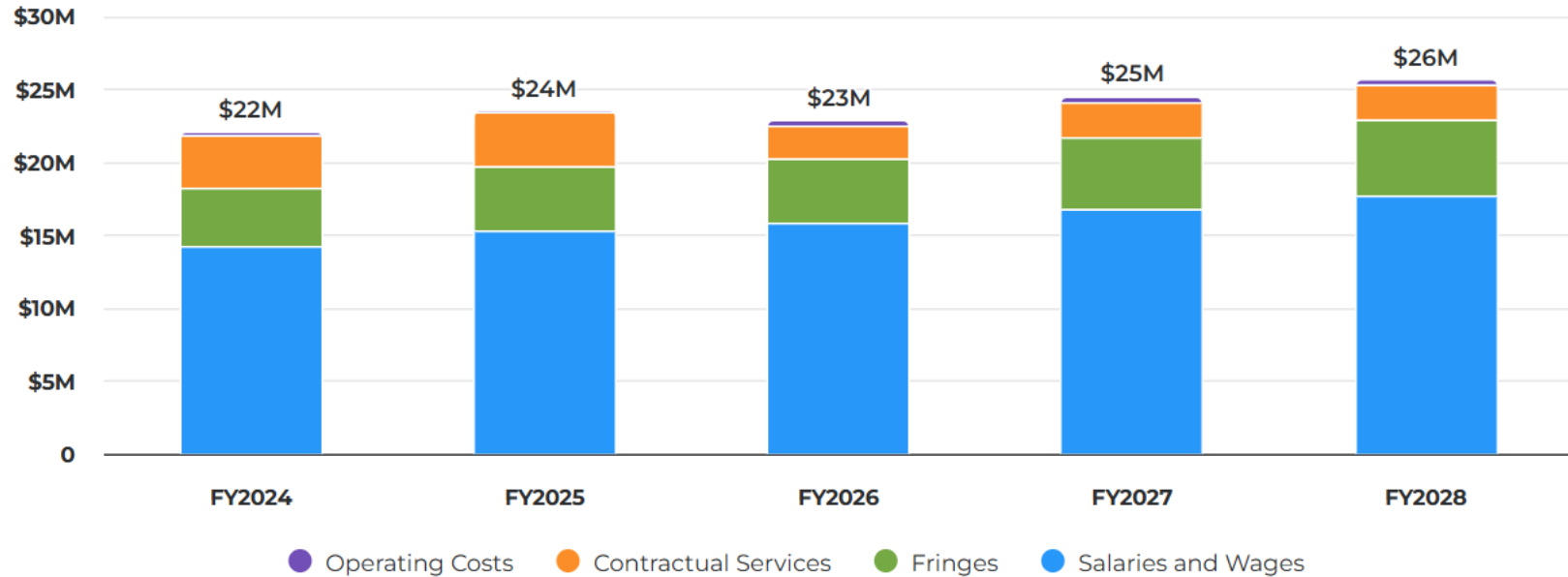


2026 to 2027 Forecasted Change

+\$1K



2027-28 Mayor's Recommended Budget expenses, all funds



2026 to 2027 Proposed Change

+\$1.6M

+ Major Investments

- None; Most increase due to changes in CSL

- Major Divestments

- -\$139K (1 FTE) Reduction



2027-28 Mayor's Recommended Budget Expenses, all funds details

Expense Category	FY2024	FY2025	FY2026	FY2027	FY26 to FY27 Change
Salaries and Wages	\$14,154,177	\$15,287,732	\$15,810,999	\$16,792,113	\$981,114/6%
Fringes	\$4,100,544	\$4,364,336	\$4,432,511	\$4,939,244	\$506,734/11%
Contractual Services	\$3,528,266	\$3,684,415	\$2,275,318	\$2,376,137	\$100,819/4%
Operating Costs	\$262,643	\$206,698	\$381,709	\$404,986	\$23,277/6%
TOTAL	\$22,045,629	\$23,543,181	\$22,900,537	\$24,512,480	\$1,611,944/7%



2027-28 Mayor's Recommended Budget overview, all funds details

Recommended Expenditures, All Funds

Category	FY 2024 Actual	FY 2025 Actual	FY 2026 Adopted Budget	FY 2027 Recommended Budget	FY 2028 Planned Budget
Governmental					
General	\$21,845,470	\$23,289,229	\$22,677,111	\$24,256,939	\$25,374,859
Special Revenue	\$200,159	\$253,952	\$223,427	\$255,541	\$262,063
Total Governmental	\$22,045,629	\$23,543,181	\$22,900,537	\$24,512,480	\$25,636,922
Total Expenditures	\$22,045,629	\$23,543,181	\$22,900,537	\$24,512,480	\$25,636,922

Recommended Positions, All Funds

Category	FY 2025 Budgeted	FY 2026 Budgeted	FY 2027 Budgeted	FY 2028 Budgeted
Office of City Attorney	115.3	111.0	109.0	109.0
General	114.3	110.0	108.0	108.0
Special Revenue	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
Total Authorized FTEs	115.3	111.0	109.0	109.0



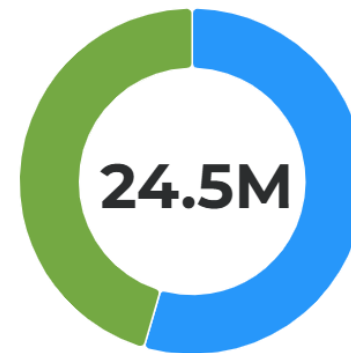
2027 Mayor's Recommended Budget breakdown, all funds

2027 Budget by Expense Category



Salaries and Wages	\$16,792,113	68.50%
Fringes	\$4,939,244	20.15%
Contractual Services	\$2,376,137	9.69%
Operating Costs	\$404,986	1.65%

2027 Budget by Division



Criminal Division	\$13,366,009	54.53%
Civil Division	\$11,146,471	45.47%



Examples major budget contracts

Contract Requirement	Vendor	Fund	2027 Budget	Contract Type	Overview
Work House	Hennepin County	General Fund	\$218,000	Detention	The department is obligated to fund the Hennepin County Corrections Work House costs incurred for Minneapolis misdemeanor/gross misdemeanor offenders. 2026 reduced this budget line to actual costs. Projected spending will be \$190,000
Diversion Programs	Several non profit providers	General Fund	\$545,000	Diversion	The criminal division maintains contracts with nonprofit providers to offer alternatives to charges/conviction to eligible offenders
Social Worker/Domestic Violence Victim Services	Hennepin County	General Fund	\$355,000	Advocacy	The criminal division supports 1 JPA Sr. Social Worker and 1 DASC advocate.
Legal Services Technology and Support	Several Vendors	General Fund	\$394,000	Technology	Covers technology annual charges and subscription costs.

Department contract budget lines have decreased to meet prior reduction expectations:

14% (\$285,262) in 2025 and 26% (\$445,710) in 2026 = **37% (\$730,972) Total**



2026 to 2027 Mayor's Recommended investments overview

Investment Title	Fund	2027 Investment		Impacted Division(s)	Investment Rationale/Service Impact
		FTE	Amount		
Traffic Safety Camera Pilot	Special Revenue	0	\$20,000	Criminal	Supports the Traffic Safety Pilot launched in 2025.
+ Total Recommended Investments		0	\$20,000		



2026 to 2027 Mayor's Recommended divestments overview

Divestment Title	Fund	2027 Divestment		Anticipated Service Impacts
		Est. FTE	Amount	
Budgeted Position Adjustment	Internal Service Fund	-1	\$139,118	Position review in process. Work will be distributed among fewer positions, increasing workload and reducing capacity.
Non-personnel reduction; Reduction in contractual services for training	General Fund	0	\$10,586	Attorneys will depend on free CLE offerings.
— Total Recommended Divestments		-1	\$149,704	

Program and division updates





Civil Division

2027 Proposed Budget: \$11.2M, 100% General Fund

2027 Planned FTEs: 50

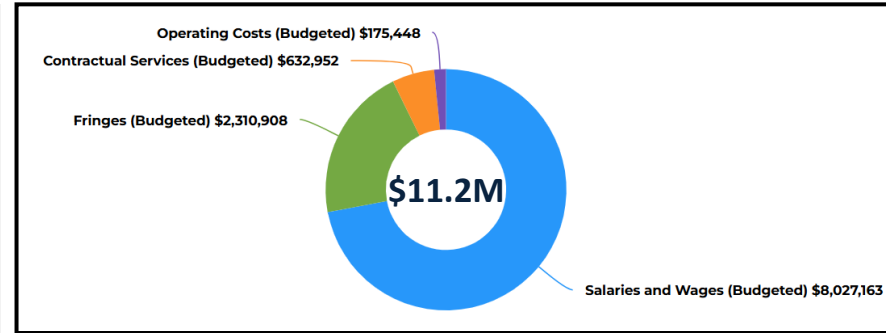
Current Vacancies: 1 litigation attorney position currently posted

Objectives:

Provide counsel on the creation of laws that support the City and protect the City's civil legal interests. Minimize the City's liability and enhance the City's ability to uphold progressive policies in civil litigation.

2026 Highlights:

- Significant new litigation v. federal government
- Client Services –Over 150 hours spent staffing Council, Committee, and ABC meetings
- Advised on 49 Ordinance Introductions
- Implementation Team – 47 Documents submitted; 60 recurring meetings; and 17 approval submissions.



2026 to 2027 Budget Change: +\$977K

Change Drivers:

- CSL cost increases



Criminal Division

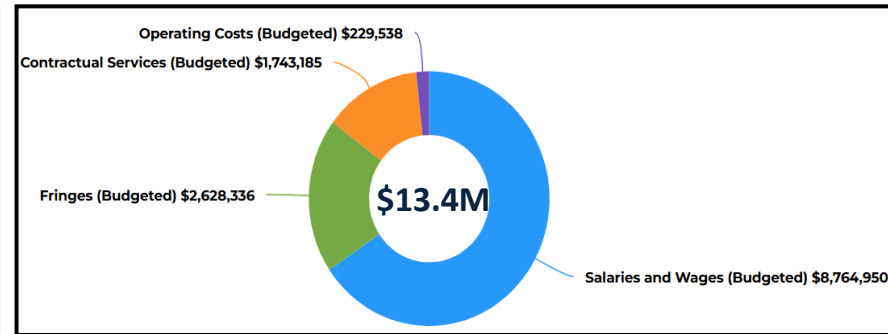
2027 Proposed Budget: \$13.4M, 99% General Fund

2027 Planned FTEs: 59 **Current Vacancies:** 0

Objective: ***Prioritize prosecution of offenses that impact public safety while using the tools available in the criminal justice system to promote equitable outcomes for both victims and offenders.***

2026 Highlights:

- **Caseload** – Anticipated over 10,000 cases referred in 2026; 679 average caseload per trial attorney, which is approx. 70% above recommended NACJJ standards.
- **Diversion** – 2,093 individuals screened for eligibility with 654 found eligible
- **U Visa** – 100 requests.
- **ERPO** – 32 filed (as of July 31st), with two emergency orders granted and all others granted long-term; CAO is 2nd highest filing agency in the state.
- **Drug Recognition Experts** (as of Sept. 9th) – 275 open cases with over 50 different drugs.



2026 to 2027 Budget Change: +\$1.2M

Change Drivers:

- CSL cost increases

