

Mission

The Mission of the City Attorney's Office is to provide timely, cost-efficient, quality services and advice to support the City Council, the City Manager, and the City departments, boards and agencies in fulfilling their missions and goals: and to advance, advocate and safeguard the interests of the City within the bounds of the law.

Program Description

The City Attorney's Office provides timely, cost-efficient, quality services and advice to support the City Council, the City Manager, and all City departments, boards and agencies in fulfilling their missions and goals; and advances, advocates and safeguards the interests of the City within the bounds of the law.

- ❖ **Litigation** – Handles the defense of lawsuits against the City and the prosecution of City lawsuits against others. Also included in this function are matters involving land use/zoning, code violations, employee issues and civil forfeitures.
- ❖ **Transactional** – Assists departments in drafting or reviewing agreements and contracts, real estate transactions, and purchasing issues and procedures.
- ❖ **Legislation** – Drafts or assists City staff in drafting ordinances and resolutions and performs any research associated therewith.
- ❖ **Legal Advice** – Advises City staff on all legal issues including city code and state statute interpretation, employee matters, police advice and training, and general legal questions.

DEPARTMENT SUMMARY					
	Actual 2003/04	Actual 2004/05	Budget 2005/06	Budget 2006/07	% Change
Personnel	910,296	959,434	998,690	1,065,700	6.7%
Operating	120,906	236,665	378,420	412,200	8.9%
Internal Services	112,212	106,585	113,690	123,470	8.6%
Capital	13,058	13,540	15,000	15,000	0.0%
Total City Attorney's Office	1,156,472	1,316,224	1,505,800	1,616,370	7.3%

CITY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

DEPARTMENT FULL TIME EQUIVALENT POSITIONS				
	Actual 2003/04	Actual 2004/05	Budget 2005/06	Budget 2006/07
City Attorney's Office	11.7	11.7	12.0	12.0
Total City Attorney's Office	11.7	11.7	12.0	12.0

Program Highlights

- ❖ The City Attorney's Office is supported by twelve (12) full time equivalent (FTE) positions, the same as the 2005/06 budget.
- ❖ Internal Services increased 8.6% primarily due to increased costs for Information Technology support for the City Law software. Also contributing to this increase is an additional \$3,800 in Building & Maintenance Variable costs to provide funding for the purchase of removable Plexiglas window protectors during hurricane season.
- ❖ The 6.7% increase in personal services is due to general wage increases as well as a higher contribution to the employees' pension plan.
- ❖ Funding for the support of Capital expenditures for books and publications remains at \$15,000, the same level of funding as 2005/06.
- ❖ Operating costs increased 8.9% primarily due to an increase in outside professional services. Outside professional services, in the amount of \$290,000, reflect an increase of \$15,000 in funding over the 2005/06 budget. A new item also budgeted in professional services this year is \$25,000 for the Community Development Board counsel.
- ❖ There have been no other significant changes in the City Attorney's Office in this fiscal year. The City Attorney's Office 2006/07 budget reflects a net increase of 7.3% from the previous year's budget.