

LEGAL / CITY ATTORNEY

| RESOURCES | ACTUAL FY03 | ACTUAL FY04 | BUDGET FY05 | PROJECTED FY05 | RECOMMENDED FY06 |
|----------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|-------------------|---------------------|
| Personnel Expenses | \$ 2,609,997 | \$ 2,803,551 | \$ 2,896,448 | \$ 2,894,694 | \$ 3,332,222 |
| Operating Expenses | 118,326 | 117,214 | 287,074 | 287,020 | 228,854 |
| Operating Budget | \$ 2,728,323 | \$ 2,920,765 | \$ 3,183,522 | \$ 3,181,714 | \$ 3,561,076 |
| Capital Outlay | 19,965 | 9,013 | 7,701 | 7,701 | 13,024 |
| Budget Allocation | \$ 2,748,288 | \$ 2,929,778 | \$ 3,191,223 | \$ 3,189,415 | \$ 3,574,100 |
| Authorized Positions | 38 | 38 | 40 | 43 | 43 |

Vision and Mission: The vision of the legal department is to efficiently provide the legal services required by the City of Tampa Charter, and more effectively anticipate legal problems, thereby minimizing city liability, reducing the demand for legal services and advancing justice and good government in Tampa. The mission of the legal department is to implement our vision and maximize our achievement of departmental goals with a net reduction of funding from city revenues.

Goals and Objectives: In executing its mission, the legal department focuses on the following goals and objectives:

- Improve the management and administration of operations. Create clearly defined management structures that facilitate communication and participation in the decision making process and the subsequent communication of those decisions followed by clear monitoring and oversight to insure compliance.
- Increase the collection and enforcement efforts to reduce net cost to the city and insure compliance with the city code and ordinances. The objective is to increase enforcement cases and collect funds pursuant to those enforcement efforts, and ultimately increase compliance with well drafted local laws.
- Effectively defend the city from any lawsuits or claims, and pursue actions or claims the city may have at the least possible cost. The primary objective is to insure that as much litigation as possible is done in-house and by part-time assistant city attorneys, thereby minimizing costly extra contract work.
- Use outside special counsel only in those areas in which the legal department lacks in-house expertise, or in cases sufficiently unique or specialized. The ultimate objective is to develop in-house expertise and use in-house counsel and part-time assistant city attorneys, thereby minimizing costly extra contract work.

Current Operations and Initiatives: The department has made significant progress toward a stable and improved organizational structure that will foster an environment of productivity as well as the efficient delivery of legal services throughout the city. The department now has two chief assistant city attorneys essentially heading up the divisions of (a) administration, zoning, land use and real estate; and (b) litigation. Attendant to the new division approach to organization is a more effective chain of communication and command. Junior attorneys and staff will have an opportunity for direct access and additional mentoring. The increased monitoring and supervision will enhance quality control and facilitate a more equitable workload distribution.

The department has continued to increase its collection and enforcement efforts, which will reduce the net costs to the city and increase compliance with city codes and ordinances. The legal department continues to effectively defend the city against lawsuits and it is instituting measures that will allow it to effectively pursue actions or claims the city may have, and to do so with the least possible cost to the city.