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SECTION – 6

CITY ATTORNEY

The mission of the Sacramento City Attorney's Office is to provide the highest quality legal services to the City of Sacramento.

DESCRIPTION

The City Attorney serves as the legal advisor to the City Council, City Officers and Department staff, Boards and Commissions as well as the Parking Authority, the Sacramento Public Facilities Financing Corporation, and Sacramento Regional Arts Facilities Financing Authority. The City Attorney's Office provides legal representation in criminal, civil and administrative litigation, renders advice and counsel, and prepares ordinances, resolutions, contracts, opinions and other legal documents for the City and the related entities. The City Attorney's Office is organized into administration and three operational sections:

- Administration: The Administration Section develops and implements office policies and procedures; monitors overall office performance; prepares and administers the office budget; handles all personnel hiring and other personnel matters; assembles and analyzes office productivity data, including production of an annual report; and engages in long-range planning. The administration function of the office is performed under the direction of the City Attorney.
- Transactional/Advisory: The Transactional/Advisory Section provides strategic support to the City Council's policymaking function by providing legal advice to the City Council and Charter Officers, and works closely with City departments and divisions providing ordinance drafting, contract negotiations and strategic legal advice regarding a wide range of City issues, including development, land use, finance, and public safety matters.
- Litigation: The Litigation Section handles almost all lawsuits filed by and against the City of Sacramento.
- Neighborhood Safety and Nuisance Abatement: The Neighborhood Safety and Nuisance Abatement Section works collaboratively with Code Enforcement, Police and other departments regarding City Code enforcement, social nuisance abatement and public safety issues, including training and advising staff on enforcement matters and prosecuting code violations through administrative, civil or criminal proceedings, and social nuisances through civil litigation.

MORE INFORMATION

Please see the following for more information about the City Attorney's Office:

Web site - <http://www.cityofsacramento.org/cityattorney/>

PROGRAMS/SERVICE HIGHLIGHTS

The City Attorney's Office will continue to provide all of the services described in the objectives set out below.

OBJECTIVES FOR FY2009/10

- Zealously and ethically represent the City by devoting the time and resources necessary to assure that each case is investigated, analyzed, researched and prepared for trial or settlement in accordance with the highest legal professional standards.
- Deliver excellent legal advice by continuing to devote the time and resources necessary to assure that requests for opinions, ordinances, contracts and other documents and all other non-litigation matters are completed in a timely and professional manner.
- Work closely, on a continuing basis, with City officers and employees to provide legal advice and training in furtherance of City policies and objectives.
- Provide efficient, cost-effective delivery of legal services, through preparation and implementation of standardized procedures and forms and pursuing additional cost recovery where appropriate.
- Protect the public through vigorous, timely abatement of neighborhood and public nuisances; use appropriate and creative administrative, civil and criminal enforcement methods to obtain compliance with City laws and regulations; work collaboratively with City staff and the community to develop measures that prevent or discourage code violations, especially criminal conduct.

PROPOSED BUDGET/STAFFING CHANGES

Service Level Impacts

The City Attorney's budget will be reduced by \$461,557 including the unfunding of 4.0 FTE positions, which includes two attorney positions. This is in addition to the unfunding of 5.0 FTE positions in FY2008/09 that also included two attorneys. The cumulative reductions, especially of the four total attorney positions, will result in the following service level impacts:

- May necessitate sending litigation cases to outside counsel depending on the number of new litigation cases brought against the City.
- Some degradation in opinion response time is anticipated.
- Decrease in social nuisance abatement (drug house/apartments, problem liquor stores, drug dealers) and code enforcement activities.

FY2009/10 Proposed Budget

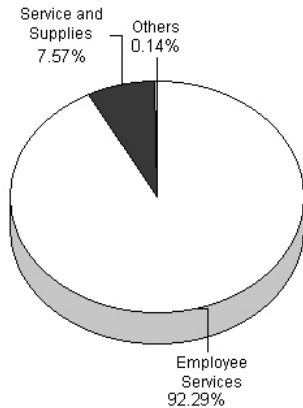
Department Budget Summary

City Attorney Budget Summary	FY 2007/08 Actual	FY 2008/09 Approved	FY 2008/09 Amended	FY 2009/10 Proposed	Change More/(Less) Proposed/Amended
Funded Positions (FTE)	58.00	53.00	53.00	49.00	(4.00)
Budgeted Expenditures					
Employee Services	7,016,338	6,568,796	6,860,266	6,443,585	(416,681)
Interdepartmental Transfers	0	(568,999)	(645,382)	1,480	646,862
Property	31,500	8,500	8,500	8,500	0
Service and Supplies	431,946	529,576	529,576	528,611	(965)
Total:	7,479,784	6,537,873	6,752,960	6,982,176	229,216

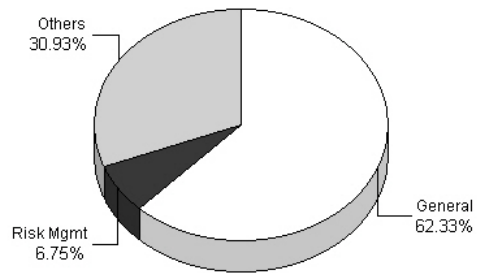
Funding Summary by Fund/Special District

General Fund	5,345,764	4,251,754	4,466,841	4,351,733	(115,108)
Interdepartmental Service Fund	1,480,361	1,635,118	1,635,118	1,972,246	337,128
Risk Management	471,112	471,112	471,112	471,112	0
Water Fund	171,047	179,889	179,889	187,085	7,196
Total:	7,479,784	6,537,873	6,752,960	6,982,176	229,216

Budgeted Expenditures - FY2009/10



Funding Summary - FY2009/10



Division Budget Summary

City Attorney Division Budgets	FY 2007/08 Actual	FY 2008/09 Approved	FY 2008/09 Amended	FY 2009/10 Proposed	Change More/(Less) Proposed/Amended
City Attorney	7,279,784	6,337,873	6,552,960	6,782,176	229,216
Litigation	200,000	200,000	200,000	200,000	0
Total:	7,479,784	6,537,873	6,752,960	6,982,176	229,216

FY2009/10 Proposed Budget

Staffing Levels

City Attorney Division FTEs	FY	FY		FY	Change
	2007/08 Actual	Approved	Amended	2009/10 Proposed	More/(Less) Proposed/Amended
City Attorney	58.00	53.00	53.00	49.00	(4.00)
Total:	58.00	53.00	53.00	49.00	(4.00)