

**City of Minneapolis  
2020 Budget**

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# City of Minneapolis 2020 Budget

## Financial Management Policies

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### OPERATING BUDGET POLICIES

The objective of the operating budget policies is to ensure that sufficient information is available to decision makers to provide for adequate levels of funding for essential City services at reasonable costs.

#### ***Balanced Budget***

The operating budget for the City shall be balanced. For each fund, ongoing costs are not to exceed ongoing revenues plus available fund balances used in accordance with reserve policies.

#### ***Basis of Budgeting***

The basis of budgeting and accounting are the same, except as noted below. The budgets of all governmental funds are created using the modified accrual basis. Revenues are budgeted if they are measurable and available as net current assets. Major revenues determined to meet these standards for accrual and budgeting include the following: property taxes, special assessments, grants-in-aid, intergovernmental revenues, rentals, franchise fees, and intra-city charges.

Interest on investments, short-term notes, and loans receivable are budgeted, but interest on special assessments receivable is not budgeted. Major revenues that are not accrued because they are not available soon enough to pay liabilities of the current period or are not objectively measurable include the following: delinquent property taxes and assessments, licenses, permits, fines and forfeitures. Delinquent property taxes are not budgeted, while the other categories are budgeted on a cash basis.

In the governmental funds, expenditures are generally budgeted when the related fund liability is incurred. Only the current portion of principal and interest expense on general long-term debt is budgeted. Compensated Absences and Other Post-Employment Benefits (OPEB) are not budgeted and are considered expenditures at the time they are paid. Salary expenditures are budgeted based on full time equivalents (FTEs), regardless of the type of pay.

Proprietary (internal service and enterprise) funds use the accrual basis, and revenues are budgeted as they are anticipated to be earned. Unbilled utility service receivables are recorded at year end. Utility service revenue estimates are based on the number of users and volume of service consumed, without a factor for delinquencies. Long-term liabilities are recorded at full cost, including Compensated Absences and the actuarial accrued liability for Other Post - Employment Benefits.

#### ***Budgetary Controls***

The legal level of budgetary control is at the department level within a fund. The City Coordinator's Departments, the Public Works Department and the City Council/City Clerk/Elections areas are examples of legal levels of budgetary control within a fund, even though budgetary data may be presented at lower levels within the department. Budget amendments at the department/fund level must be approved by the City Council. Budget amendments below the department/fund level may be approved by the appropriate department director, but are not required.

Generally all appropriations for operating activities lapse at year end. Encumbrances and other requests may be approved during the roll-over process after year end [See re-appropriation authority in the Authority of Finance Officer Section].

Purchase orders, certain contracts, and other commitments are recorded as encumbrances, which may reserve appropriation authority. Encumbrances outstanding at year-end are reported as restrictions of fund

balance. The appropriations for these encumbrances do not automatically transfer to the following year, but rather are included as part of the annual roll-over process.

### ***Proprietary Funds vs Discretionary Budget***

Proprietary funds include only those internal service and enterprise funds that are considered separate and subject to the intended purposes of those internal services and enterprises. Discretionary budget is the appropriation that is included as part of a department's base budget, but which is not associated with the need to fund the costs of a given position within that department. Whenever discretionary budget is assigned to support a given position on an ongoing basis, it will remain in the base budget but will no longer be considered discretionary.

### ***Service Levels***

The City uses a Current Service Level methodology of budgeting, meaning any ongoing service level commitments from a prior year constitute the starting point for the next year's budget. Finance and Property Services, in conjunction with other internal service providing departments, works annually to determine the costs for the continuation of current services into each successive year.

Departments, programs, and activities supported by the General Fund shall receive a target allocation each year to cover assumed expenses for operating costs including: personnel (including salary and fringe), internal services (including IT, Fleet, Rent, etc.), and self-insurance. Departments, programs, and activities supported by non-General Funds shall cover current service level operational expense, including General Fund Overhead expense, with fund revenues.

Changes in service levels shall be governed by the following:

#### **Budget Process**

The annual budget process is intended to weigh all competing requests, also known as Change Items, for City resources within expected fiscal constraints. Requests for new programs or activities, or expansion of existing programs or activities, shall be submitted as a part of the annual budget process. These submissions shall conform to a format as prescribed by the Budget Director, and shall - at a minimum - separate operating expenses from programmatic expenses, and articulate what outcomes are expected as a result of the new level of service.

#### ***Personnel Expenses***

The Budget Office, in conjunction with the Human Resources department, will establish the current service level budget appropriation for each department. Departments are to account for the salaries and benefits of permanent employees within these budget appropriations.

Factors considered in this current service level budget appropriation for personnel include:

- Salaries. Each position, active as of March 1<sup>st</sup>, will be budgeted at the enterprise-wide average step for its job class, recognizing that some incumbents are paid at a grade higher than the average and others lower. In addition, all newly created job classes will be budgeted at step 4 of their assigned salary range. Exceptions may be granted on a case by case basis at the discretion of the Budget Director. Departments may request an exception only if they can provide replicable data showing that employees in a particular job class are paid higher on average in their department than the enterprise.
- Overtime. Unless specifically directed by the City Council, overtime costs are not included in salary budgets.
- Premium Pay. Different types of premium pay, such as shift differentials, on call pay, etc., will be included in salary budgets to the extent that it is predictable that such costs will be incurred. The Budget Office will work with Human Resources to identify where and to what extent that predictability exists.

- Health Insurance & HRA/VEBA. The Budget Office will work with HR to determine reasonable assumptions for health insurance & HRA/VEBA expense for each department. As an enterprise roughly 60% of employees elect family coverage and 40% elect single coverage. Exceptions may be granted on a case by case basis at the discretion of the Budget Director. Departments may request an exception only if they can provide replicable data showing that their employees elect coverage at a different rate than the enterprise average.

Departments may use projections of bell-curve staffing to adjust the level of employees throughout the year as long as the department does not exceed its appropriated budget. If the department cannot meet its obligations within its adopted budget, as identified in ongoing cooperation with Finance and Property Services, the department may seek budget amendments through requests to the City Council via the Ways & Means Committee.

In the event that service levels are not able to be maintained with the current complement of budgeted FTEs as monitored and reported through the *Results Minneapolis* process and other mechanisms, departments may seek to temporarily expand staffing beyond the number of approved FTEs to meet business needs if the department has exhausted the potential to reallocate existing, vacant positions. To accomplish this, departments shall prepare a business case showing the targeted service level, the change in ability to meet the service level, reasons for the change in level of service required, the amount of additional staff resources necessary to meet services and a plan for reduction of staffing if or when the need for service declines. Budget impacts shall be monitored in cooperation with Finance and Property Services throughout the year.

#### ***Adding FTE Administratively***

Departments may increase their approved FTE complement administratively during the year if they have sufficient discretionary ongoing budget to do so. In cases where departments decide to take such action, the full cost of adding the FTE will be reduced from the following year's discretionary base budget amount in order to pay for the increase.

#### ***Position Reclassification and Promotions***

During the year departments may, in consultation with Human Resources, decide to reclassify positions and/or promote staff between job classifications - so long as funding exists to support any additional expenses incurred as a result of this action. In cases where departments incur additional salary expense associated with reallocation or promotion, the marginal increase will be reduced from the following year's discretionary base budget amount.

#### ***Overtime Limitation***

The policy approved by the Mayor and Council limits all departmental overtime to 5% of the budgeted amount for the salaries and wages category in the current budget year.

#### ***Internal Service Fund Charges***

Internal service funds' charges shall be fully allocated to the extent possible using approved allocation methodology. Charges allocated to General Fund departments shall be funded per the approved allocation model. Non-General Fund departments, including special revenue funds and enterprise funds, shall fully fund their allocated costs with fund revenues. Additional costs incurred by departments throughout the year shall be funded by the department with the understanding that the expenditures were either planned through the annual budget-setting process or as part of the department's discretionary budget. Appropriation authority used in one year to enhance internal service fund-related costs will be reviewed on an annual basis for continued appropriation in the subsequent budget year, including both operating and non-CIP capital requests. Subject to review by Finance and Property Services and the internal service fund staff, the additional cost and/or service may be funded through the cost recovery model in the subsequent budget year using the approved allocation methodology.

### ***Elected Official Budgets***

A year-end deficit of up to 25% will be allowed for each ward and the Mayor's office budget with the exception of the final year of their term (but not for two consecutive years). The deficit will be offset by a corresponding reduction in the Council Member or Mayor's office budget for the current year. If there are savings in a ward or Mayor's budget, these savings may be re-appropriated from one year to the next year, but cannot be re-appropriated following the final year of the term.

### ***Five-Year Financial Direction***

City departments prepare business plans with a rolling five-year planning horizon which reflect the anticipated allocation of general City revenues, including property tax and state aid revenue, as well as special revenues other than grant funds. This financial direction is based upon the City's shared revenue distribution policy which aligns the revenue growth of City departments and independent boards. The financial direction is updated annually with each budget release. City departments update their major financial projections prior to their final submission to the Mayor and Council.

#### **Self-Supporting Enterprises [including Internal Service Funds]**

All enterprise activities of the City shall be self-supporting, including those activities contained within the Internal Service Funds. To the extent that an activity is not self-supporting, long-term financial plans shall be created to secure a self-supporting state in the future.

### ***Grant Funded Programs***

General governmental programs financed with grant awards may be budgeted in special revenue funds, and the service program shall be adjusted to reflect the level of available grant funding. Grant funding for permanent improvement funds and internal service and enterprise fund activities shall be accounted for in those funds. Individual grant budgets are controlled in the financial system at the cost category level. In the event of reduced grant funding, City funding sources may be substituted only after all competing program priorities are considered during the annual budget process. Grant programs that require an ongoing City funding commitment shall be specified at the time of grant acceptance and may be rejected on the basis that the City is unwilling or unable to provide continued funding.

#### ***Grant Funding in the Five-Year Financial Direction***

All appropriations of grant funding require Council approval. Any department applying for grant funding should be aware of the effect on its budget.

Budget effects include, but are not limited to, such items as:

- local match requirements;
- additional costs for maintenance, operation, and replacement of equipment and other capital assets purchased with grant funding; or,
- requirements for maintenance of a minimum staffing level and/or maintenance of effort contribution after the grant ends.

The department requesting the approval and acceptance of grant funding shall determine the amount of additional City resources that will be required to fund any local match requirement as well as the ongoing services, maintenance and operation costs, and positions once the grant funding expires. Those estimates shall be reported to the Finance and Property Services Department, as well as included as information when seeking Council approval for the application, acceptance and/or entering into the grant agreement.

As a condition of accepting the funds, the Council shall identify the amount and source of permanent resources - by adding to, or repurposing within, existing budgets - necessary to fulfil any ongoing commitments associated with the acceptance. If necessary, the Council shall amend the Five-Year Financial Direction to reflect any such changes. In the event the Council fails to provide budgetary

resource necessary to fulfill ongoing commitments associated with the acceptance of a grant, the receiving department shall be responsible for absorbing the costs of those ongoing commitments into their existing budget.

See below for additional grants management policies in the Administrative Policies section of this document.

## **ALLOCATION MODEL POLICIES**

The City employs cost allocation models for a variety of purposes:

- Recovery of indirect costs for grants, capital projects, internal and external work-for- others.
- Internal Service Funds cost recovery.
- To support activities and services of departments which are funded by the General Fund and provide services to other departments which are supported by other fund types.
- Provide for a mechanism to calculate the total cost of service when determining user fees and charges.

The primary methodology used is Activity-Based-Costing which links the cost of the service provided to the consumption of the service. In addition, cost allocation models should conform to the following principles:

- Cost allocation models should recover indirect labor, depreciation, general and administrative costs, and costs from other allocation models.
- Cost allocation models should abide by grant agreements, contracts and other applicable Federal, State and local guidelines.
- Cost allocation models should be reviewed and updated annually.
- Costs shall be allocated to the fullest extent possible. When feasible, costs deemed non-allocable (for example, un-utilized space in leased facilities) shall be allocated to a non-department specific cost center in the General Fund to maintain the level of funding needed in the Internal Service Fund.

### ***General Fund Allocation Model***

The City will recover costs within the General Fund related to services it provides to non-General Fund departments. The allocation of those costs shall be based on a consistent methodology, applied enterprise-wide and developed and administered by the Finance and Property Services Department.

The General Fund overhead allocation model is not self-balancing in nature; costs that should be borne by one department will not be subsidized by another unless it is determined by the Finance and Property Services Department that a phase-in period is necessary.

The General Fund overhead allocation model will adhere to the applicable policies set forth for Internal Service Funds.

### ***Internal Service Funds (ISF's)***

All ISF's use cost allocation models to recover costs.

#### ***Fleet Services Division (Equipment Services Fund)***

The Fleet Services Division (FSD) of the Public Works Department procures, equips, and maintains an enterprise-wide fleet.

#### ***Fleet Defined***

For the purposes of this document "Fleet Units" or "Units" will be used when referring to the following: City vehicles, on road and off road equipment, mobile equipment, rolling stock, trailers, boats, and associated components/attachments.

#### ***Fleet Acquisitions***

- 1) All Fleet units shall be purchased through and maintained by FSD. Exceptions may be granted on a case by case basis by the Director of Public Works or the City Coordinator or designee.
- 2) The benefitting department shall request funding through the annual budget process, or provide funding through their discretionary budget, for additional units or the underfunded portions of replacement units.

- i. The purchase of a Fleet unit may be funded from a number of different sources including but not limited to: accumulation in the Fleet replacement fund, net debt bonds, General Fund appropriation, fund balance in enterprise or internal service funds, State or Federal capital grants.
  - ii. All funds, including State and Federal capital grant money, that are to be used for the purchase of Fleet units will be paid or contributed to the FSD Fund upon initial purchase of the Fleet unit.
  - iii. The funding for the purchase of a replacement unit includes the replacement amount accumulated through the Fleet Services Division rental fee for the specific unit with any shortfalls funded by the using department through the annual budget process or discretionary budget.
- 3) Unless purchased for specific closed-ended projects, all units are assumed to be replaced at a later date in accordance with the replacement plan established by FSD.
- i. Exceptions may be granted on a case by case basis by the Director of Public Works or the City Coordinator or designee, if it is determined that an enterprise fund or internal service fund unit will either not be replaced in the future or will be replaced on a pay-as-you-go basis using fund balance. The enterprise or internal service department, in cooperation with the Finance and Property Services Department, must be able to substantiate that funding will be available at the time of replacement. The benefitting department will need to include in its operating budget the ongoing charges for the FSD administrative costs for each item.
  - ii. FSD will establish a monthly replacement/rental fee for the replacement of that unit with a similar unit.
  - iii. The benefitting department must include in its annual budget the total rental fee due to Fleet Services for the units for that budget year.
  - iv. The rental fee will be charged monthly to the department's budget through the City of Minneapolis Fleet Management and accounting system. Cost recovery schedules are available from FSD.
  - v. The rental fee for each unit includes depreciation, an inflationary factor, and administrative charges.
  - vi. The City of Minneapolis is self-insured and any claims or tickets against the City will be charged to the benefitting department.
  - vii. Departments with a history of claims or tickets against the City may be required by the City Coordinator or designee to set and maintain a balance and related discretionary budget in the self-insurance fund to reduce the financial impact of such claims. Any uses of the balance and related discretionary appropriation should be replaced in the following year budget; a decrease in the history of claims or tickets against the City should cause a reduction of the balance and return of the discretionary appropriation to the department.
  - viii. All other charges associated with the unit will be charged to the benefitting department.

***Information Technology (Intergovernmental Services Fund)***

The Information Technology (IT) department provides enterprise-wide purchasing, strategy, development, and maintenance services for the City's IT infrastructure.

**IT Defined**

For the purposes of this document, IT is inclusive of hardware - including handheld equipment that requires City-maintained software to function, and software - including software as a service (SAAS) applications. IT does not include salary costs of business-side application managers.

**IT Acquisitions**

All IT shall be purchased through the IT department. Exceptions may be granted on a case by case basis with the approval of the Chief Information Officer, or the City Coordinator or designee. An IT

Governance Committee, composed at minimum of the City Coordinator, Chief Finance Officer, and Chief Information Officer, shall review all proposed IT purchases annually and may recommend a set of priority IT projects based on current resource constraints and applicable City values, goals, and objectives.

Except for the acquisition of new desktop or laptop computers as part of the City's annual refresh cycle, the IT allocation model shall not collect in advance to cover costs associated with the purchase of new IT.

### ***IT Licenses and Maintenance***

The IT allocation will include funding for application licenses and maintenance contracts for all IT systems which have been expressly approved by the City Council - including increases to license or maintenance fees upon contract renewals. The IT allocation will also include recovery of administrative costs and fund an adequate reserve as defined in these policies.

The IT allocation will not include application licenses or maintenance contracts for IT systems developed or procured at department discretion.

### ***Self-Insurance (Excluding Medical and Dental Self-Insurance)***

The Risk Management division of the Finance & Property Services department manages the City's self-insurance program.

The Self-Insurance allocation for Worker's Compensation and Tort Liability will recover costs to pay claims and other legal liabilities. Estimates for Worker's Compensation and Tort Liability are developed by an outside actuarial firm and assessed to departments based on historic experience.

### ***Legal Services (Self-Insurance Fund)***

The Civil division of the City Attorney's office provides legal services for all City departments.

The Legal Services allocation will recover costs to pay for legal services for city departments and city officials as necessary and prudent. Estimates are based on historic usage of legal services by each department.

### ***Property Services (Property Services Fund)***

The Property Services division of the Finance & Property Services department provides leasing, space management, construction management services and security services to all City departments.

The Property Services allocation will recover costs of providing the services listed above. Rent estimates will be based on all known information as of March 1 of the year prior to the year for which costs are being allocated. Any additional rent costs beyond what is included in the allocation are the responsibility of the department incurring the expense.

### ***One-Time Costs Assessed***

One-time cost increases may be assessed to internal service funds if the financial condition of the fund meets the City's financial policies.

### ***Management Support Charges to Independent Boards***

The management support charges to the Independent Boards are based upon standard practices for allocating costs. The method and procedure to calculate the prorated costs and collection of the charge are finalized and communicated to the Independent Boards by December 31 of each year in accordance with the City's revenue policies.

## **REVENUE POLICIES**

The objective of the revenue policies is to ensure that funding is derived from a fair, equitable, defensible, and adequate resource base, while minimizing tax burdens.

### ***Revenue Structure and Sources***

The City shall maintain a stable and diverse revenue system to shelter programs and services from short-term fluctuations in any single revenue source. Services with a citywide benefit shall be financed with revenue sources generated from a broad base, such as property taxes, state aids, and general fees. Services where the customer determines the use shall be financed with a combination of broad-based revenues as well as user fees, charges, and assessments related to the level of service provided.

### ***Revenues Default to General Fund***

All non-restricted revenues shall be deposited in the General Fund and appropriated through the annual budget process. Except where required by law, ordinance, generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP), or resolution, no revenues shall be dedicated for specific purposes.

### ***Shared Revenue Distribution***

Subject to annual review as part of the budget process, major sources of broad-based revenue, including Local Government Aid (LGA) and property tax revenue, shall be treated in the aggregate, allowing for changes in the level of resources to be consistently aligned among the City and independent boards. Future increases and decreases will be aligned with available resources, and the annual percentage change in revenues covered by this policy available for activities of the City, Park Board and MBC will be similar for each entity.

Costs of shared services among the jurisdictions will be funded prior to determining the amount of resources available for general operating expenditures. These costs may include, but are not limited to, closed pension obligations, the Bond Redemption Fund levy, the Permanent Improvement Fund levy, the Minneapolis Public Housing Authority special levy, the Teacher's Retirement Association special levy, the Library Market Value Referendum levy, the levy for the Board of Estimate and Taxation, and shared administrative costs.

City and independent board priorities that require an increase for one entity above others will be clearly described to allow for maximum transparency and should be considered within the context of the impact on the overall organization and the ability to provide for such adjustments.

The annual adjustment in revenues available to each entity in a given budget year for general activities will be based on the projected percentage increase in costs and availability of revenue. The funding available for the activities will be based on the sum of the LGA, total tax collections, and total General Fund revenues after funding the costs of shared services outlined above. Available funding shall exclude funds transferred to other entities, including the following:

- *For the Park Board*, the funding amount shall exclude the General Fund Overhead transfer to the City, the General Fund Administration Fee transfer to the City, and the costs of Park Board Capital Improvements funded from the Park Board levy.
- *For MBC*, the funding amount shall exclude the General Fund Overhead transfer to the City.
- *For the City's General Fund*, the funding amount shall exclude the General Fund Overhead recovered from the Park Board, MBC, and others.

The tax revenue percentage change for the City, the Park Board, and MBC may vary from year to year based on adjustments to LGA, total General Fund revenues, and adjustments to those items excluded from general activities, as well as adjustments to the projected change in cost of providing services. Such adjustments will be reviewed and made subject to the annual budget process.

### **Local Sales Taxes**

The City receives five different sources of local taxes related to entertainment, food and beverage, general retail, and lodging. These local taxes are collected by the State of Minnesota's Department of Revenue and detailed in the State's Sales Tax Fact Sheet 164M. The use of these local taxes are broadly authorized by state laws and statutes and, more narrowly, by annual budgetary decisions by the Mayor and City Council. The following shall guide the City's use of sales tax resources within the Downtown Assets Fund and the associated transfers to the City's general fund:

- Entertainment taxes as defined in Laws of Minnesota 1969 Chapter 1092 can be used for any purpose and are not pledged to any particular operational or capital use. A portion of the entertainment taxes will be utilized within the Downtown Assets Fund for operating costs of assets that are not the convention center or marketing costs. The remainder will be transferred to the City's general fund.
- Sales taxes related to the downtown food and liquor taxes, as well as the lodging taxes, as described in Laws of Minnesota 2012, Chapter 299, Article 3, Section 3 shall first be utilized for:
  - The payment of debt service obligations on the City's Convention Center.
  - The payment of debt service obligations on the City's basketball arena.
  - The payment of the applicable portion of the State of Minnesota's debt service obligations and annual capital and operating cost contribution for the MSFA and its stadium
- Any remainder of the downtown food and liquor taxes, the lodging taxes, together with the 0.5% general sales may then be used for:
  - Operational support of the City's convention center, inclusive of maintenance, service, and marketing agreements.
  - Reserves necessary for the City's convention center and its basketball arena and financing related to these facilities.
  - Economic development.
  - Capital projects generally and any debt service associated with capital projects.

For purposes of the City's annual general fund budget that is supported by local sales taxes, economic development may include a portion of the operations of the Community Planning and Economic Development department, and a portion of any other general fund supported department that enhances the economic vitality of the City.

For purposes of the budget, capital projects can include any general fund cash or debt service for a capital budget item in the City's capital budget in the current year or any prior year budget, either at the original adoption of the budget or added subsequently through amendments.

### **License, Permit and User Fees**

The City may implement user charges to supplement general revenue sources for identified services where the costs are related to the service. The user charge may not exceed the cost of providing the service, although the City may recoup all associated and indirect costs, subject to limitations imposed by Statute, Charter or Ordinance. The City, at the direction of the City Council, may charge less than the cost of providing the service. Fee schedules shall be reviewed with Finance and Property Services and approved by the Council on an annual basis.

### **Cost of Service**

The City shall establish user charges and fees at levels that reflect the cost of providing the service. Components of the user charges may include operating and capital costs, as well as the direct and indirect costs of providing the service. Full cost charges shall be imposed unless it is determined that policy, legal or market factors require lower fees.

### ***Non-Resident Charges***

User fees and other appropriate charges shall be levied for City activities, services or facilities in which non-residents participate, whenever practical. Non-resident fees may be set at different levels than charges to residents to minimize the tax burden on City residents. The user fee may not exceed the cost of providing the service.

### ***Enterprise Service Fees and Rates***

User charges for Enterprise Services such as water, sewer, stormwater, and solid waste collection, shall be set at rates sufficient to finance all direct and indirect operating, capital, reserve/working capital, and debt service costs. Overhead expenses and general government services provided to the enterprise activities shall be included as indirect costs. Rates shall be set such that these enterprise funds maintain a positive cash position throughout the year and provide for sufficient reserves as determined by fund policy.

### ***Administrative Fees***

The General Fund Overhead Allocation Model shall be used to recover General Fund costs attributed to all non-General Fund activities and to allocate costs to General Fund activities for the purpose of calculating indirect costs.

### ***Fines and Administrative Citations***

Levels of fines shall be set according to legal guidelines, deterrent effect, and administrative costs.

### ***Private Revenues***

All private money donated and accounted for as public money, contributed or lent to the City shall be subject to grant solicitation and acceptance procedures, deposited in the appropriate City fund, and accounted for as public money through the City's budget process and financial system.

### ***City-Administered Special Assessments***

The City Council has the authority to levy special assessments. There are four main areas of assessments:

- *Capital or Infrastructure/Public Works Improvements:* The most common types of assessments are for infrastructure improvements and replacements such as sidewalks, street improvements, water and sewer line repairs (not including delinquent utility bills) and special service districts.
  - *Park Board:* The most common types of assessments are for tree removal, and parkway and sidewalk reconstruction, similar to Public Works Improvements.
- *Inspections and Code Enforcement:* The most common types are for rubbish removal; trees, grass and brush cutting; inspection fees for inoperable vehicles towed from private property; re-inspection fees; administrative citations; vacant building registration fees; and inspections.
  - *Tax-Forfeited Properties:* A portion of nuisance abatement special assessments under State statute may be cancelled for tax-forfeited properties.
- *Unpaid Citations and Invoices:* The most common types are for unpaid administrative citations and utility bills, as well as abatement and service invoices associated with Inspections and Code Enforcement (above).
- *Special Districts.* Assessments may be collected for the purpose of funding special districts to the extent allowed by State statute, City Charter or Ordinance.

### ***Method of Payment (Public Works and Park Board Improvement Assessments)***

Owners of benefiting properties shall have the option of paying their assessments all at once or in installments as part of their annual real estate taxes following the process outlined in MN Statutes 429.061 and Chapter 10 of the City Charter. The City Council shall determine the number of equal annual installments, not to exceed twenty, in which assessments may be paid. The City Council shall also determine the interest rate to be paid annually on all unpaid installments upon certification of the

assessment based on market interest rates. Interest rates shall be determined annually for the new projects to be assessed based on the Daily Treasury Yield Curve Rates in effect on December 1 of the year prior to the property owner receiving notice of the public hearing of a proposed property assessment. The interest rate will correspond to the anticipated term of the assessment plus 2 percent. An alternate structure for timing interest accrual, shifting all interest to the principal balance, shall also be made available to property owners. The first installment shall be payable in the year following certification of the assessment role to Hennepin County and will be payable in the same manner as real estate taxes. Property owners will receive a bill from the City in November of the year before their first payments are due and can prepay this bill up to December 31<sup>st</sup> without incurring interest costs

### ***Uniform Assessment Rate***

The Uniform Assessment Rate is a standardized rate applied in street construction and street renovation projects. Assessments shall be part of the funding for all street paving construction/reconstruction projects for which the City is to bear any part of the cost, except for freeways. This rate shall be applied to the square footage per parcel in the project area to arrive at an assessment cost for each benefited property. The goal of the rate is to ensure an equitable distribution of costs between projects and to assess approximately 25% - 75% of construction project costs depending upon the nature of the improvement project. The Uniform Assessment shall be calculated annually and submitted to the City Council's Transportation and Public Works Committee for approval. Separate rates must be established based on the type of project (construction, renovation, or resurfacing), funding category (local or other), and benefited parcel category (non - residential or residential).

### ***Permanent Improvement Fund***

The Permanent Improvement Fund is used to account for construction costs on basic governmental infrastructure projects. The fund is used to record both expenditures on projects and revenues received from outside funding sources as well as such internal sources as capital improvement tax levies, special assessments, and proceeds of bonds issued for public infrastructure projects. All project costs not assessed shall be paid from this fund. If the amount of money raised through special assessments is insufficient to pay the maximum amount specified for the project, the balance shall be paid from the Permanent Improvement Fund and offsetting revenue. City Council approval is required in order for the Permanent Improvement Fund to cover funding deficiencies.

### ***Method of Payment (Inspections, Code Enforcement and Unpaid Citations / Invoice Assessments)***

Owners of properties with unpaid citations and invoices shall have the amount of the outstanding balance certified to the County by December 15<sup>th</sup> of the year prior to collection following the process outlined in MN Statutes 429.101. The assessed amount shall be payable in the year following certification of the assessed amount and in the same manner as real estate taxes.

### ***Proceeds from Sale of Real Property***

City Ord. Sec. 14.120 requires proceeds from the sale of City property used for municipal operations to be deposited into a Property Disposition Fund. The proceeds of this fund are to be used for implementing the City's strategic real estate plan as developed and approved by the Facilities, Space, and Asset Management (FSAM) Committee with the exception of enterprise and proprietary funds and those funds and properties associated with development purposes. The City's Property Disposition Policy shall be reviewed and updated on a regular basis.

## **ADMINISTRATIVE POLICIES**

### ***Quarterly and Year-End Reporting***

The Finance and Property Services Department will report to the Ways and Means Committee quarterly and at year-end, expenditures and revenues by department and fund compared to authorized allocations for the prior fiscal year. This report will identify departments and funds with projected expenditures in excess of authorized appropriations and/or revenues projected to be less than budgeted amounts.

Departments with unanticipated or projected year-end actual expenses in excess of authorized appropriations and/or revenues less than budgeted amounts will report to the Ways & Means Committee each quarter for the year following the year of overspending or under-collection of revenues, beginning with the first committee meeting in April. This report should include information on actual spending and revenue collection to date for the current year and forecasts for the balance of the year compared to allocations. If forecasted spending exceeds authorized appropriations, the department will work with Finance and Property Services to present a plan that reduces spending to meet authorized appropriations or otherwise addresses the deficit.

### ***Operating Costs for Technology***

Departments are directed to clearly identify, within existing resources, the funds that would be used to finance the ongoing costs related to the purchase or development of technology prior to the expenditure of funds for the purchase or development of that technology. The sponsoring department shall prepare a Receive and File notice for consideration by the respective home committee and the Ways and Means Committee when the annual operating and maintenance cost of any technology project exceeds \$50,000. This notice shall be submitted as soon after the sponsoring department has identified the ongoing costs and funding sources. Departments shall work with the Information Technology (IT) Department and Finance and Property Services to ensure those costs are identified and included in the contract for technology services. Departments shall also work with IT to jointly determine the appropriateness of the purpose for the City's technology planning. Operating costs of department-specific technology will be allocated to that department. Technology for use across the City or in support of citywide operations shall be allocated citywide.

### ***Contract Funding***

Prior to committing to conditions requiring a minimum purchase under any contract, the department/ departments involved must clearly identify the specific funding sources dedicated for such purchases.

### ***Gift Acceptance***

Any gifts with a value of \$15,000 or less can be received by individual City departments with written notice to the Finance Officer or his designee. The Finance and Property Services Department shall submit a quarterly gift report to the City Council's Ways and Means Committee for approval. The quarterly gift report shall contain the following information on each donation:

- 1) Name of recipient department;
- 2) Name of entity making gift;
- 3) Description of gift (including date received and special designations on gift, if any); and
- 4) Funding strings for revenue and expense appropriation increases.

For any gifts with a value exceeding \$15,000, the recipient department shall submit a request for authorization to accept the gift directly to the City Council's Ways & Means Committee. Consistent with Minnesota Statutes, section 465.03, the department may not use the gift until it has been approved by a two-thirds vote of the City Council.

### ***Grants Administration***

The following provisions apply to the administrative of grant funds within the City.

#### ***Applications for Grants***

Grant Applications require prior City Council approval if one of the following applies:

1. More than one Department is applying for the same funds and prioritization is required;
2. Grant request exceeds \$250,000;
3. Grant requires any local cash match;
4. Grant requires new hiring to implement the project;
5. The project, if funded, would require an expectation for the City to continue the funding;
6. The application appears to be inconsistent with the City's Annual Budget;
7. The application appears to be inconsistent with the City's Comprehensive Plan, Consolidated Plan, or other adopted Plans or Policies; or
8. The application includes controversial or unclear elements.

### ***Acceptance of Grants***

All grant awards need to be formally accepted by City Council and appropriated to a City grant fund. Final, signed grant agreements should be sent to the Procurement Office to be scanned into the financial software for storage.

### ***Changes to Grants after acceptance***

Any department which has received a grant shall notify the Finance and Property Services Department of changes in the grant award or terms of the grant that occur after the grant is initially awarded.

### ***Approval of Payments and Procurements***

All payments for or procurement of goods and services from external sources, regardless of dollar amount, must be approved. Additionally, where applicable, the system-generated purchase order number will be communicated to the vendor prior to the order being placed. Purchases under \$100,000, with minor exceptions, shall meet the Target Market Program requirements, which can be found at the below link:

<http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/www/groups/public/@finance/documents/webcontent/wcmsp-188040.pdf>

Additional procurement policies and procedures are available for reference at:

<http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/finance/procurement/WCMS1Q - 003577>.

### ***Accounts Receivable Collections Policy***

Services provided in advance of payment are recorded as accounts receivable. Invoices must be created and recorded as receivables as soon as possible after a billing cycle ends or service is provided. Collections of receivables are managed according to type and age. Collection methods may include the use of collection agencies, cancellation of service and assessment of unpaid amounts to real estate property taxes. Installment arrangements may be utilized to facilitate collections. Receivables that are in dispute or are determined to be uncollectible will be processed in accordance with Minneapolis City Ordinance 509.920 or the Write-off section under the Accounts Receivable Policy depending on the receivable type. All efforts to collect or resolve an outstanding receivable must be done in accordance with Federal Regulations, State Statute and Minneapolis City Ordinance or Charter. Write-offs for delinquent billings shall be managed using the allowance for doubtful accounts methodology rather than the direct write-off method.

### ***PCI Information Security Policy***

This policy has been created to ensure compliance with the Payment Card Industry Data Security Standard ("PCI DSS"). The data that resides at and is transmitted from the City of Minneapolis merchant locations includes cardholder data as defined by the Payment Card Industry Security Standards Council. Due to the value of cardholder data and contractual requirements of processing credit cards, it is a high priority for the City of Minneapolis to protect such data and maintain compliance with the Payment Card Industry Data Security Standard.

### **Central Requisitions and Receiving Policy**

The City has developed a Central Requisitions and Receiving process for the purpose of improving and strengthening practices relating to the procurement of goods and services as outlined on the City's Finance & Property Services Department internal website, accessible only to City staff, at the following link: <http://citytalk/finance/central/index.htm>

### **Medical Self-Insurance**

The City began implementing medical self-insurance on January 1, 2018. The City's medical self-insurance plan shall maintain adequate reserve balances as outlined in the reserve policies section of this document. Funding of reserves shall be included in the premium rates paid by the City and employees. Medical self-insurance reserves shall be used only for medical self-insurance purposes and not be allocated for any other purpose. No interest earned shall be retained in and accrue to the medical self-insurance reserve.

If premium holidays (forgiveness of premiums for a set period) are granted, both the City and employees will share in the premium savings on a pro rata basis according to the share of premium paid by each.

If the medical self-insurance fund is dissolved for any reason, the reserve shall be transferred to the City's remaining self-insurance reserves in the Self-Insurance Fund.

### **City Time Reporting**

Every employee of City departments must follow the City's Time and Labor guidelines for time reporting and approval of compensation, reporting both working and non-working compensable hours. With the exception of Charter Department Heads, every employee's timesheet must be approved by a supervisor, regardless of FLSA exemption status.

### **Authority of the Finance Officer**

The Finance Officer or his designee has the following authorities:

#### **Related to Loans**

- To make temporary loans between funds to cover any cash deficits at the end of each fiscal year.

#### **Related to Capital and Debt**

- To create or adjust appropriations in any fund to prepay bonds and facilitate transfers for debt service and to make all appropriate transfers and payments relating to debt service and the administration thereof.
- To call (prepay) bonds in advance of maturity for the following types of bonds: net debt, special assessment, enterprise and tax increment provided sufficient excess cash resources are available.
- To approve the closure of non-bond funded capital projects.
- To authorize the Deputy Finance Officer and/or Controller to sign real estate and bond documents in the absence of the Finance Officer.

#### **Related to Appropriations and Transfers**

- To amend appropriations related to technical accounting treatment changes.
- To assign fund balance in accordance with GASB 54 based on analysis provided by the City Controller.
- To adjust the appropriations of the special revenue funds for payments to various pension organizations as may be required.
- To establish or adjust appropriations, transfer balances, or make payments to carry out the intent of any action or resolution Passed and Approved, or any legal agreement Passed, Approved and Executed, with respect to any inter-fund loans, advances, residual equity transfers, or operating transfers, or the repayment thereof.
- To make any necessary appropriation adjustments to allow departments to receive and spend funds consistent with Council-approved actions.

- To review and approve any and all transfers of eligible revenues into and out of the Development Account, based on an eligibility assessment and analysis conducted by Finance & Property Services Department staff.
- To approve any and all transfers of eligible revenues into the Property Disposition Fund based on approval by the Facilities, Space and Asset Management Committee and eligibility assessment conducted by Finance & Property Services Department staff.
- To make appropriation adjustments to correct any errors, omissions or misstatements to accurately reflect the intent of the City Council in adopting the Operating or Capital Budget and/or any subsequent City Council action.
- To administratively increase or decrease capital project appropriations to reflect necessary reductions whenever a revenue source is determined to be uncollectible or to increase appropriations upon receipt of funds and/or a reasonable expectation of receipt of funds based on adopted Council actions.
- To appropriate and transfer revenue within the Tax Increment and other special revenue funds consistent with the management of the City's tax increment districts and development program.
- To establish or amend appropriations related to technical accounting treatment changes and to establish and adjust accounts and appropriations, make payments and transfers, process transactions as necessary for the purpose of cash management of revenues, and facilitate any technical corrections, adjustments and completions authorized for the following project/s:
  - Target Center Finance Plan internal allocation models and the appropriations attached to them.

***Related to Grants and CDBG***

- To make the necessary project and line item budget adjustments to periodically balance budgets and expenses between objectives within given programs and within normal CDBG program constraints.
- To adjust re-appropriations for grant funds within cost centers as appropriate.
- To appropriate available grant balances.

***Related to Claims Administration***

- To make the necessary adjustments in Subrogation 3<sup>rd</sup> party claims, to take the necessary action to increase 3<sup>rd</sup> party payments and decrease write-offs to the City.
- To provide oversight of related-party or sub-recipient transactions using City or pass-through funds to insure compliance with applicable rules and regulations.

***Related to Interest Earnings***

- To administratively allocate interest earnings from any City fund as long as such allocations are consistent with State law and federal regulations.

***Related to State Aids***

- To allocate the State Insurance Aid payments received from the state for pension costs.
- To reduce LGA payments to the Independent Boards if payment of the management support charge, or any other charges required by City Ordinance, are not received prior to the distribution of the December LGA payment. This reduction shall only occur after an affirmative vote of the Council to implement this authority.

***Related to Rollover***

- To re-appropriate funds and certify that an encumbrance is eligible for re- appropriation at the end of the fiscal year. Additionally, the Finance Officer may reject re-appropriation requests based on the financial health of the fund or extenuating circumstances. To be eligible for re-appropriation, requests must meet all of the following criteria:
  - 1) Be a valid encumbrance;
  - 2) Be a one-time expenditure and not a recurring budget item;

- 3) Have a purpose consistent with the department's business plan and included as part of the department's planned expenditures for the year;
- 4) Have the budget year appropriation balance available for the encumbered item; and
- 5) Have a positive fund financial position

## **FUND BALANCE POLICIES**

The objective of the fund balance policies is to provide adequate working capital for cash flow and contingency purposes, while maintaining reasonable tax rates.

### ***General Fund Cash Flow and Contingency***

The City shall maintain a minimum unrestricted fund balance in the General Fund equal to 17% of the following year's General Fund budgeted expenditures, not including transfers out, to be used for cash flow purposes, unanticipated expenditures of a non-recurring nature, to meet unexpected increases in service delivery costs or unexpected revenue shortfalls. These funds are used to avoid cash flow interruptions, generate interest income, and to avoid the need for short-term borrowing.

Adequate operating contingency reserves shall be maintained to provide for business interruption costs and other unanticipated expenditures of a non-recurring nature. Enterprise funds shall also maintain adequate capital fund reserves for emergency improvements relating to new regulations, or emergency needs for capital repair or replacement.

### ***General Fund Operating Contingency***

Each year, the City shall budget an operating budget contingency of not less than 1% of all budgeted General Fund expenditures in each of the applicable years planned for in the City's Five-Year Financial Direction.

For all other funds, appropriate balances shall be maintained reflecting the nature of the accounts, including the following:

### ***Non-General Governmental Funds***

The appropriate balances shall be the amount needed to maintain positive cash balances throughout the year with exceptions made for those funds associated with economic development purposes, and those under the downtown assets umbrella fund, which may be aggregated by fund type to maintain a positive balance.

### ***Enterprise Funds***

The City shall maintain a minimum cash balance in its Enterprise Funds equal to three months of operating expense, or 25% of the funds' annual operating budget. This balance shall be maintained to ensure adequate maintenance reserves, operating cash flow requirements, debt service requirements and legal restrictions. Where cost-effective access to capital markets is available and debt financing is regularly used, replacement balances shall not be maintained in a manner which charges current consumers to pay for future facilities, with exceptions made for those funds associated with economic development purposes. Balances in excess of three months of operating expense may be utilized for capital purchases and replacements in lieu of debt financing if doing so allows for continued maintenance of appropriate balances and funding plans. Alternatively, surplus cash reserves may be used for early debt retirement at the discretion of the Finance Officer. Financing decisions shall consider the impact on user rates.

### ***Internal Service Funds***

The following balances shall be maintained to ensure adequate maintenance reserves, cash flow balancing requirements and legal restrictions:

- *Self-Insurance Fund* shall maintain a cash balance equal to the unpaid claim reserves payable amount on its balance sheet, as defined by the independent actuary plus 10% of the annual department operating budgets within the fund. Net position within the fund should not fall below zero.
- *Medical Self-Insurance Plan* shall maintain a minimum cash balance of 25% of total annual claims. Funding of the reserves shall be included in the premium rates paid by city employees.
- *Fleet Services, Intergovernmental Services, and Property Services Funds*: If allocation model charges to customers are sufficient to cover debt service or depreciation expense, then the minimum cash balance should be 15% of the fund's operating budget. If not, the reserve should be 15% of the fund's total budget. Net position shall not fall below two times the fund's annual depreciation amount.
- *Stores and Engineering Materials & Testing Funds* shall maintain cash and net position equal to 15% of the fund's annual operating budget. For the purposes of the cash and net position target, the fund's annual operating budget shall exclude purchases of construction materials for capital projects.

### ***Use of Fund Balances***

Fund balance is the accumulation of prior years' excess or deficit of all revenues and expense. In the case of proprietary funds, this is termed unrestricted net position. For the purposes of the budget, revenue and expense activity includes bond proceeds and debt service. Available fund balances shall not be used for ongoing operating expenditures, unless a determination has been made that available balances are in excess of required guidelines and plans have been established to address any future operating budget shortfalls. Emphasis shall be placed on one-time uses that achieve future operating cost reductions and/or service level efficiencies.

### ***Annual Review***

An annual review of cash flow requirements and appropriate fund balances shall be undertaken to determine whether modifications are appropriate for the reserve policy.

## **ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

The objective of the accounting policies is to ensure that all financial transactions of the City and its boards, commissions, and agencies conform to federal and state laws and regulations and generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP).

### ***Accounting Standards***

The City shall establish and maintain a central accounting system according to GAAP, which are set by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) and the Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB). The central system shall be used for financial transactions of all City departments, boards, and independent agencies.

### ***Disclosure and Monitoring***

Full disclosure is provided in all financial statements and bond representations. Financial systems are maintained to monitor all financial activity on a daily, monthly, and year-end basis. A Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) is published by the City within six months of the fiscal year-end as required by the Office of the Minnesota State Auditor. The CAFR shall be published on the City's website.

## **INVESTMENT POLICIES**

### ***Investment Policy and Strategy***

It is the policy of the City that the administration of its funds and the investment of those funds shall be regarded as its highest public trust. The Investment Policy of the City defines the parameters within which funds are invested. The policy establishes the framework for the City's investment program to ensure effective and judicious investment of the City's funds. The Policy is intended to be broad enough to allow investment officer(s) to function properly within the parameters of responsibility and authority, flexible enough to address changing market conditions, and specific enough to safeguard investment assets. The receipt of a market rate of return is secondary to the requirements for safety and liquidity. The earnings from investments are used in a manner that best serves the interests of the City and its various specialized funds. The complete current Investment Policy and Strategy, approved by the City Council is available at:

<http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/www/groups/public/@finance/documents/webcontent/wcms1p128032.pdf> -

### ***Depositories***

The Finance Officer is authorized to designate current City depositories pursuant to Chapter 118A and the City's investment policy. A list of eligible depositories shall be subject to a Council-approved request for proposals process no less than every five years.

## **DEVELOPMENT FINANCE POLICIES**

The objective of the development finance policies is to provide guidance for public assistance to community development efforts in a manner that balances costs against benefits. City staff shall identify sufficient public and private resources at the time a project is approved to ensure feasible completion and operation of the project. All development financing proposals shall be reviewed to ensure that the proposed finance plan is reasonable, balanced, and the best means by which to achieve City objectives, while adequately protecting citywide financial interests.

### ***Tax Increment Policy***

The Tax Increment Policy guides the City's use of the tax increment financing (TIF) tool. It identifies the purposes and conditions under which TIF may be used, and the factors to be considered when evaluating a developer's application for TIF assistance. The policy states that TIF will only be used when the City has the financial capacity to provide the needed public assistance and the developer can clearly demonstrate that the development will be able to meet its financial and public purpose commitments. The City seeks to recapture this public investment to the maximum extent feasible after allowing the developer a reasonable rate of return on their equity. Pay-as-you-go TIF financing is preferable to tax increment bond financing since repayment risk is assumed by the developer instead of the City. The City will only issue general obligation (G.O.) tax increment bonds under certain strict situations that are specified in the policy. Only those public improvements and public redevelopment costs directly associated with a proposed development project can be financed using TIF. The City's current Tax Increment Policy, as approved by the City Council, is available at:

[http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/cped/resources/reports/cped\\_tax\\_increment\\_policy](http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/cped/resources/reports/cped_tax_increment_policy)

### ***Tax Abatement Policy***

The Policy for the Use of Tax Abatement for Historic Properties identifies the circumstances under which the City will consider the use of tax abatement to support the substantial rehabilitation of designated historic preservation properties. Proposed uses of tax abatements must achieve one or more identified objectives, and the expected benefits to the City must at least equal the City's costs. The City's current policy, as approved by the City Council, is available at:

[http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/cped/resources/reports/cped\\_tax\\_abatement\\_historic](http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/cped/resources/reports/cped_tax_abatement_historic)

### ***Tax Increment Special Revenue Funds and Internal Loans***

State statute requires that tax increment (TI) revenues must be segregated from all other revenues of the City and maintained in separate TI (special revenue) funds established for each TIF district. A new TI fund is established whenever a new TIF district is approved. Qualifying expenses are charged to these individual TI funds as they are incurred. If expenses are incurred before the TIF district has generated any TI revenue, then the TI fund will experience a negative fund balance

When a TI fund experiences a negative fund balance, this is considered an "interfund loan" by the Office of the State Auditor. State statutes require that specific actions must be taken by the City to authorize these types of loans. As part of the budget process, and for purpose of covering any temporary negative fund balances in TI funds, the City authorizes interfund loans (also referred to as "capital advances") from other TI funds in the amount needed to offset any negative fund balances.

These loans do not result in the actual transfer of revenue between TI funds, but rather the collective positive fund balance of all the City's TI funds offsets any negative fund balances that may exist in a small number of TI funds. As TI revenue is collected and deposited in a TI fund that has a negative balance, the interfund loan for that TI fund is reduced and eventually paid off.

### ***Housing Improvement Area Policy***

The City's Housing Improvement Area (HIA) Policy establishes the conditions under which HIAs may be approved by the City Council, and provides a framework within which requests for the establishment of HIAs will be considered. This Policy briefly describes the statutory requirements of HIAs, and includes a list of

the City's goals and objectives, guidelines, and minimum criteria associated with the use of this financing tool. The administrative process and procedure for the establishment of HIAs in the City is also available in separate documentation.

***Development Program and Project Appropriation Expiration***

Any appropriation for a CPED development program or project that hasn't spent at least 75% of this appropriation on tangible project activities within a four-year period (including the appropriation year) may be subject to expiration. This test began with 2014 appropriations, which were subject to expiration at the end of 2017 unless the above test was met.

The mechanism for tracking these appropriations shall be an annual "CPED Development Program and Project Status Report" that is presented to the Economic Development & Regulatory Services Committee and the Ways & Means Committee at the request of the chair of either committee. This report shall contain the following information by individual program or project:

Brief program or project description;

Year of original appropriation;

Total appropriation for the most recently completed fiscal year (including any appropriation amounts rolled-over from prior years);

Annual expenditures for the most recently completed fiscal year;

Total outstanding encumbrances and Council commitments as of the most recently completed fiscal year;  
and

The unexpended and unobligated appropriation balance;

The 2019 report will contain information for calendar years 2015-2018, and will identify those development programs and projects that have not expended at least 75% of their 2015 appropriation, and the amount of the unspent 2015 appropriation that will expire, subject to review by the City Council.

## **CDBG REPROGRAMMING POLICIES**

There are four sources for reprogramming funds:

- 1) Unspent annual administrative appropriations,
- 2) Unspent and not legally obligated public service funds over two years old,
- 3) Cancelled, ineligible or unspent capital funds over four years old,
- 4) Program income.

### ***Administrative Allocations***

The intent of the reprogramming policy is to limit administrative fund expenditures to the amount that was appropriated for that calendar year, regardless of the amount that is available from the grant balances. The limitation applies to the City Department's non-contractual, internal costs. Funds that are allocated to grant recipients for administrative purposes are exempt from this provision (e.g.: Legal Aid, Public Housing Citizen Participation). These projects are legal obligations and do not become part of the administrative reprogramming calculation unless the projects were finalized without fully expending the funds.

### ***Public Service Allocations***

The amounts that are awarded from and appropriated for public service activities expire two years from the original award date for that CDBG program year that starts on June 1. The Department may roll over appropriations from the prior year, as needed to carry out these activities. After two years, any unspent amounts and those that are not legally obligated are available for reprogramming and will be referred to the reprogramming process.

### ***Program Income***

Program income not obligated by existing contracts is available for reprogramming. Projects with a twelve-month period of inactivity shall be cancelled if the project has been authorized for more than three years.

## **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION POLICIES**

Consistent with adopted City goals and values, the objective of the Department's public participation policies is to enhance the City's ability to meet financial and policy challenges by promoting a well-informed community and by encouraging public input in the decision-making process. Financial and budget reports are available on the City's web site and in the Finance & Property Services Department offices in Room 325M City Hall.

### ***Financial Reports***

Information regarding the City budget and, financial statements shall be available to residents in various formats and, upon request; translation assistance is available via the City's Neighborhood and Community Relations Department.

### ***Budget and Service Priorities***

Various methods shall be used to ensure public input into the budgeting process, such as informational hearings, surveys, resident-based review committees and community meetings. The Mayor's recommended budget is available on the City's web site for review shortly after its release in mid-August each year. All City Council budget meetings in the fall are public and advertised as part of the normal Council Committee process. City stakeholders are encouraged to communicate any concerns related to the budget to the Mayor's Office, and to their Council Member.

## **CAPITAL BUDGET POLICIES**

The objective of the capital budget policies is to ensure construction and maintenance of capital assets and infrastructure in the most cost-effective manner.

### ***Capital Improvement Program***

The City prepares and adopts a five-year Capital Improvement Program (CIP) that details each capital project, the estimated cost and funding sources. An adopted point rating system is used to rank and prioritize recommended projects. The CIP includes City infrastructure, but does not include capital planning for major City facilities, including the Minneapolis Convention Center or Target Center.

### ***Planning Direction Provided***

The adoption of the CIP is to assist in planning and provide direction for City departments, but it does not establish permanent Council commitment to the out-year projects, either in scope or timeline of construction.

### ***Operating Budget Impacts***

Operating expenditures/savings of each capital request are included in the cost of implementing the CIP and reflect estimates of all personnel expenses and other operating costs attributable to the capital outlays. Departments receiving capital funds must account for the increased operating costs resulting from capital projects.

### ***Repair and Replacement***

The City strives to maintain its physical assets at a level that protects the City's capital investments and minimizes future maintenance and replacement costs. Where possible, the capital budget shall provide for the adequate maintenance, repair and replacement from current revenues.

### ***Capital Requests Outside the CIP***

In addition to physical assets narrowly defined as infrastructure, the City needs to maintain and replace capital equipment such as fleet and rolling stock, software, personal protective equipment and other depreciable assets that are generally not large enough or of the asset nature to fund through the City's CIP process. These non-CIP assets are addressed via the annual operating budget-setting process, and shall at minimum include consideration of ongoing maintenance costs and future replacements prior to being requested. Fleet replacements shall be included as part of the City's Current Service Level to the extent that they are included in a fleet replacement plan and the responsible department is charged in advance for planned replacements. IT-related requests shall be submitted in cooperation between the requesting department and the IT Department and will be reviewed by the IT Governance Committee to ensure consistency with the City's longer-term technology plan.

Future cost increases above those costs that are presented in individual budget requests or the Fleet Replacement Plan may be funded by submitting another request during the City's annual budget setting process or by using discretionary budget.

Whenever possible, the City shall utilize external resources, but recognize replacement costs associated with externally funded equipment. External resources received after funding has been appropriated shall replace funding for the department and not expand spending to the extent that the external revenue does not allow supplanting. Funding shortfalls in Internal Service Funds in the first year of the plan may be funded by General Fund fund balance with the expectation that recognized shortfalls in subsequent years will be funded through the approved rate models.

### ***Public Art***

During each calendar year, the city shall dedicate a minimum amount of funding, regardless of source, to the commissioning, siting, placement, conservation and maintenance of public art. The minimum amount of funding shall be the equivalent of 1.5 percent of the total amount of net debt bonds authorized by the City Council through the City's annual budget process.

***Neighborhood Park and Street Infrastructure Plans***

On April 29, 2016, the City Council approved ordinance amendment 2016-031 amending Chapter 16 of the Minneapolis Code of Ordinances by adding Article XIV. Neighborhood Park and Street Infrastructure Plans. The amendment establishes a 20 year funding plan to make significant additional capital improvements to neighborhood parks and street infrastructure utilizing racial and economic equity criteria while also avoiding the uncertainty and inflexibility of various potential ballot measures. The financial plan is fully described in Resolution 2016R-151 also approved on April 29, 2016. Details of the ordinance amendment and funding resolution are available at:

<http://www.minneapolismn.gov/www/groups/public/@council/documents/proceedings/wcmssp-179487.pdf>

## **CAPITAL PROJECT ADMINISTRATION**

### ***Reduction of Appropriations if revenues are not realized***

The amounts appropriated for capital projects using various revenue sources are appropriated contingent upon the reasonable expectation of receipt of the identified revenue.

### ***Re-appropriation of Capital Projects***

Capital project appropriations automatically roll over from year to year for ongoing or incomplete projects. Appropriations associated with non-CIP capital requests shall only roll-over if meeting the roll-over criteria for operations. The balances of prior year appropriations supporting operating budgets and reimbursable projects in capital project funds, internal service funds and enterprise funds do not roll over from year to year.

### ***Expiration of Revenue-Funded Capital Projects in Enterprise funds***

For certain enterprise fund capital projects, annual revenues are designated as the source of funding. These projects are typically for recurring major maintenance projects or ongoing long-term programs. For these projects, the expenditures are to be paid from funds of the appropriation year in which the work occurs. These projects will not have their appropriations carried forward since they receive a new annual appropriation each year based on work needs, existing financial capacity and utility rate considerations. Exceptions for large multi-year standalone enterprise projects will be made on a case by case basis with the approval of the Finance Officer. Bond appropriations authorized for these programs will be carried over upon request.

### ***Reallocation of Bond Resources***

Reallocation of excess bond proceeds must follow applicable charter, statutory and IRS regulations and provisions related to the issuance and use of those resources consistent with the City's comprehensive plan. Bonds cannot be reallocated until a project is completed and closed or abandoned. At the time of project closing, any excess bond proceeds will be reallocated according to the following priorities:

- 1) Completed projects with existing deficits;
- 2) Approved capital projects or programs with projected deficits;
- 3) Returned to the debt service fund to pay debt service;
- 4) If bond proceeds are returned to the debt service fund, a corresponding increase in capital allocations will be made in the next capital year.

### ***Expiration of Capital Project Funding***

For all capital appropriations, the City Council authorizations for bond issuance and project appropriation will expire after a maximum of four years following original project appropriation.

The expiration of bond authorizations and project appropriations under this policy will automatically take place unless a request for extension is specifically made to the Ways and Means Committee and is approved by the City Council.

## **DEBT POLICIES**

The debt management policies provide a framework for managing the City's debt-funded capital financing and economic development activities in a way that preserves the public trust and balances costs to current and future taxpayers without endangering essential City services.

### ***Authority and Oversight***

Management responsibility for the City's debt program is delegated to the Finance Officer. The Debt Management Committee advises on the use of debt financing and debt management activities. The Debt Management Committee meets and includes the following persons:

- Finance Officer
- City Attorney
- Deputy Finance Officer
- Director of Capital & Debt Management
- Executive Secretary, Board of Estimate & Taxation
- Director, Development Finance or designee
- Independent Bond Counsel
- Independent Financial Advisor

### ***Guiding Principles for City of Minneapolis Debt Issuance***

#### ***Method of Sale***

The three primary methods of selling bonds include competitive sale, negotiated sale and private placement. The City uses the competitive sale method for its general obligation bond sales unless factors such as structure, size or market conditions compel the use of a negotiated sale. The City may use the negotiated sale method when the characteristics of the transaction require a more specific marketing plan and/or the issue lacks an investment grade rating due to complex security provisions or other factors.

#### ***Selection of Independent Advisors***

The City uses competitive processes to select all service providers involved in the bond issuance process. The City shall designate a Municipal Advisor for each bond sale.

#### ***Use of Derivatives***

Derivative-based financing arrangements shall only be used after careful evaluation by knowledgeable staff regarding the benefits of the instruments as well as all of the associated risks including counterparty credit, market, settlement and operating risk.

#### ***Variable Rate Debt***

The City uses variable rate debt to provide debt structuring flexibility and potential interest savings to the total debt portfolio. Generally, the City maintains no more than 25% of its total debt obligations in variable rate mode.

#### ***Conduit Debt Financings***

The City actively participates in conduit business financings. Applications for financing and development proposals are reviewed by City staff to determine if they meet program objectives as determined by City Council financing guidelines and whether the proposal is financially feasible. As part of the application process, City staff will complete a due diligence process and project vetting procedure per established guidelines.

Items reviewed during due diligence reviews may include, but are not limited to, narrative on the company and owners, past three years of financial statements, personal financial statements, tenant and lease data, market feasibility studies, business plans, budget projections, project pro-formas, appraisals, plans and specifications, environmental reviews, insurance covenants, etc. Additionally, the project shall be evaluated for consistency with other City measures related to land use, job creation and compliance with affirmative action, civil rights, job linkage and other equal employment opportunity requirements.

### ***General Obligation Bonds, Property Tax Supported***

General obligation, property tax supported bonds finance only those capital improvements and long-term assets that have been determined to be essential to the maintenance or development of the City.

### ***General Obligation Revenue Bonds***

The City issues general obligation revenue bonds to finance assets associated with its primary enterprise businesses including stormwater and sanitary sewers, waterworks, solid waste and parking ramps, as well as select other projects, including those financed through the collection of special assessments. Financial feasibility of capital projects is reviewed each year, including a review of the cash basis pro forma for these funds. Five-year business plans detailing projected operating costs and prior debt obligations are reviewed as well as revenue performance and rate setting analysis to ensure that adequate bond coverage ratios are achieved.

### ***Tax Increment Bonds***

The City uses tax increment bonds only when such bonds can be shown to be self-supporting from tax increments, or where secured guarantees are provided for potential shortfalls, in order to avoid the use of citywide property tax revenues.

The City will not issue general obligation tax increment bonds except when all net bond proceeds are used to directly pay public costs or refinance debt that was previously issued to pay for such costs, and the taxable development that will generate the tax increment is either fully constructed or is underway and subject to the terms and conditions of a development agreement with the City. Alternatives, such as “pay as you go” financing and reimbursing front-end public redevelopment costs with tax increment revenues, are available as alternatives to bond financing and are to be considered and used when appropriate.

### ***Special Obligation Revenue Bonds***

Special obligation revenue bonds, those bonds for which the City incurs no financial or moral obligation, are issued only if the associated development projects can be shown to be financially feasible and contributing substantially to the welfare and/or economic development of the City and its inhabitants.

### ***Bond Term***

The City shall issue bonds with terms no longer than the economic useful life of the asset financed and frequently chooses terms shorter than the economic life to minimize interest expense. For self-supporting bonds, maturities and associated debt service shall not exceed projected revenue streams.

### ***Approvals for Bond Issuance***

The amounts appropriated in any City fund to be financed by bond proceeds are contingent upon the necessary approvals for issuance. The Finance Officer is authorized to establish or adjust any bond-financed appropriations when the necessary approvals for issuance of bonds are obtained.

### ***Alternative Financing Arrangements***

The Finance Officer is authorized to establish or adjust appropriations, make payments and transfers, and process transactions as necessary for the purpose of providing departments, boards and commissions an internal financing alternative to lease/purchase agreements with external vendors. The Finance Officer may provide capital advances from individual funds to the extent funds are available. The Finance Officer shall establish the term and interest rate applicable to the capital advance. The principal amount of the capital advance may be transferred to the fund of the department, board or commission after the purchase of the asset and execution of an Internal Lease/Purchase Agreement, signed between the department, board or commission and the Finance Officer. Prior to issuing the capital advance, the Finance Officer shall determine that the department, board or commission has made a commitment in their annual budgets to provide the funds necessary to repay the advance, with interest, over the term of the agreement.

### ***Internal Loans for Bond Defeasance***

The Finance Officer is authorized to establish internal loans as an alternative to issuing short to medium term (< 10 years) refunding bonds when bonds become callable. The interest rate to be used for the internal loans will be set using the Daily Treasury Yield Curve Rates at inception of the loan using the term applicable to the weighted average life of the refunding bonds, plus one percent. Internal loans made with tax increment are also subject to interest rate caps set forth in law. To use this approach, the Finance Officer will be required to designate the fund providing the loan proceeds from which the bonds will be paid and will be required to record the loan. The designated loan fund will receive the interest income and the appropriate debt service fund will be used to record the loan principal and interest payments. The loan balance between the designated loan fund and the debt service fund will be adjusted each year based on loan principal paid. Internal loans related to Housing Improvements Areas are not subject to the interest rate restrictions set forth above. A separate resolution will be required to be adopted by the City Council authorizing the loan in lieu of refunding bonds.

### ***Appropriations for Debt Service***

Sufficient funds shall be appropriated to pay debt service requirements and the Finance Officer shall be authorized to adjust appropriations to provide for prepayments, loans, transfers and other debt administration costs as necessary.

### ***Post Issuance Compliance Policy***

The City of Minneapolis adopted a formal Post-Issuance Compliance Procedure and Policy for Tax Exempt Governmental Bonds on August 3, 2012. This policy establishes the documentation requirements and management actions the City will perform to ensure compliance with the Internal Revenue Code and Treasury Regulations. Compliance with Treasury Regulations is required to maintain the tax-exempt status of the City's bonds. A copy of the full policy is available online here:

[http://www.minneapolismn.gov/www/groups/public/%40clerk/documents/webcontent/wcms1p\\_096355.pdf](http://www.minneapolismn.gov/www/groups/public/%40clerk/documents/webcontent/wcms1p_096355.pdf)

### ***Use of Investment Earnings***

The investment earnings from unspent bond proceeds shall be accounted for in separate arbitrage funds and will be allocated to debt service on net debt bond issues and shall be transferred on the scheduled debt service payment dates. The exception to this is that investment earnings on unspent tax increment bonds are to be used only for tax increment-eligible purposes related to that specific tax increment bond issue.

### ***Tax-Exempt Bonds***

The annual capital budget resolution constitutes an official declaration pursuant to IRS Treasury Regulations Section 1.150-2 that the City intends to reimburse expenditures which may be made for those projects designated herein to be funded with bond proceeds by incurring tax-exempt debt of the City in the amount of up to 125% of the project costs noted (taking into account the potential increases in actual project costs that may occur due to the timing lag between the budget preparation and the dates of the actual expenditures for project costs and decreases in other sources of funding). The expenditures to be reimbursed include all preliminary expenses for planning, design, legal, consulting services and staff costs reasonably allocated to the project as well as costs incurred and paid for related to the design and construction of the projects after approval of the capital budget. In addition, the City hereby declares its official intent to reimburse itself for expenditures for projects described as bond funded in the annual adopted capital resolution as amended by subsequent related resolutions. The projects are more fully described on Capital Budget Request forms on file in the office of Finance and Property Services.

**Source of Repayment**

The reasonably expected source of funds to pay debt service on the tax-exempt bonds to be issued by the City consists of the following according to the designated bond type:

<b>Bond Type</b>	<b>Source</b>
Net Debt	Property Taxes
Equipment, Property Services or Information Technology	Internal User Fees
Sanitary Sewer	Sanitary Sewer Fund revenues
Stormwater Sewer	Stormwater Fund revenues
Water	Water Fund revenues
Parking	Parking Fund revenues
Solid Waste & Recycling Services	Solid Waste revenues
Assessment	Special Assessments
Tax Increment	Tax Increment revenues

**Future Declarations of Official Intent to Reimburse**

The Finance Officer is authorized to make additional declarations of official reimbursement intent to reimburse expenditures in connection with the projects described herein and other projects for which the City plans to issue tax-exempt bonds to reimburse expenditures pursuant to IRS Treasury Regulations Section 1.150-2. Copies of any such further declarations shall be filed with the Ways & Means Committee and the Board of Estimate and Taxation.