


David Whitaker, Esq.
Director
Irvin Corley, Jr.
Executive Policy Manager
Marcell R. Todd, Jr.
Director, City Planning
Commission
Janese Chapman
Director, Historic Designation
Advisory Board

John Alexander
LaKisha Barclift, Esq.
Paige Blessman
M. Rory Bolger, Ph.D., FAICP
Lisa DiChiera
Eric Fazzini, AICP
Willene Green
Christopher Gulock, AICP
Derrick Headd
Marcel Hurt, Esq.

City of Detroit
CITY COUNCIL
LEGISLATIVE POLICY DIVISION
208 Coleman A. Young Municipal Center
Detroit, Michigan 48226
Phone: (313) 224-4946 Fax: (313) 224-4336

.Kimani Jeffrey
Anthony W. L. Johnson
Phillip Keller, Esq.
Edward King
Kelsey Maas
Jamie Murphy
Latawn Oden
Dolores Perales
Analine Powers, Ph.D.
W. Akilah Redmond
Rebecca Savage
Sabrina Shockley
Renee Short
Floyd Stanley
Thomas Stephens, Esq.
Timarie Szwed
Theresa Thomas
Ian Tomashik
Ashley A. Wilson

TO: William C. McConico, Chief Judge
36th District Court

FROM: David Whitaker, Director 
Legislative Policy Division Staff

DATE: March 22, 2024

RE: 2024-2025 Budget Analysis

Attached is our budget analysis regarding your agency's budget for the 2024-2025 Fiscal Year.

Please be prepared to respond to the issues/questions raised in our analysis during your scheduled hearing on **Monday, March 25, 2024, at 11:00 am**. We would then appreciate a written response to the issues/questions at your earliest convenience before or after your budget hearing. Please forward a copy of your responses to the Council members, the City Clerk's Office, and the Legislative Policy Division.

Please contact us if you have any questions regarding our budget analysis.

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

DW:ml:ss

Attachments:

Issues and Questions

cc: Councilmembers
Auditor General's Office
Jay Rising, Chief Financial Officer
Tanya Stoudemire, Chief Deputy CFO Policy & Administration Director
Steve Watson, Budget Director
Andrea Ringer, Budget Analyst
James George, Agency CFO
Malik Washington, Mayor's Office

36TH District Court (60)

FY 2024-2025 Budget Analysis by the Legislative Policy Division

Mission

The 36th District Court is dedicated to administering justice in an equitable, impartial, and timely manner in accordance with the rule of law. The public and other agencies it serves shall be provided with an accessible, safe, and respectful environment in which to conduct business and resolve disputes. There is a commitment to promoting excellence, integrity and competence while ensuring public trust and confidence in the judicial system.

The 36th District Court is one of the busiest courts in the nation and is Michigan's largest limited jurisdiction court. It has 29 judges, 5 magistrates, and approximately 300 employees in downtown Detroit. The majority of the Court's annual case filings are handled in the Traffic Division. On an annual basis, approximately 1 million citizens conduct business at the court, and just under 500,000 telephone and email inquiries are received.

The Court has exclusive jurisdiction in general civil and landlord/tenant matters for litigation up to \$25,000, misdemeanor traffic and civil infraction violation cases, and all judicial functions on felony criminal cases, as well as Small Claims matters with claims up to \$5,500. Criminal jurisdiction includes misdemeanor and felony offenses through preliminary examination. Legislation, effective January 1, 2015, mandated an additional hearing and a probable cause conference for every felony case. 36th District Court operations previously controlled by the State were transferred to the City upon enactment of Public Act 374 of 1996.

Issues and Questions

1. Please briefly explain the new expense initiatives the 36th District Court is planning to implement in FY 2025. Please provide which appropriation/cost center the new initiatives will affect in FY 2025.
2. Please briefly explain the new capital funding requests the 36th District Court is planning to implement in FY 2025. Please provide which appropriation/cost center the new requests will affect in FY 2025.
3. Please briefly explain the operational reform and savings proposals the 36th District Court is planning to implement in FY 2025. Please provide which appropriation/cost center the new reforms/proposals will affect in FY 2025.
4. Please briefly explain the new revenue initiatives/proposals the 36th District Court is planning to implement in FY 2025. Please provide which appropriation/cost center the new initiatives/proposals will affect in FY 2025.
5. What are your projected performance metrics for each division/operational program in the current fiscal year? What are your target metrics for each division/operational program for fiscal year 2025?
6. According to the Office of the Chief Financial Officer (OCFO), the 36th District Court had nine (9) vacancies through **February 9, 2024**.
 - a. Please indicate your number of vacancies as of March 22, 2024.
 - b. What are the titles of the vacant positions?
 - c. What is the difficulty of filling the vacancies?
 - d. Please briefly explain the 36th District Court's strategy to fill the vacant positions or why they will remain vacant.
7. For FY 2025, revenues and expenditures for the Traffic cost center (600020) in the Safe Neighborhoods – Traffic Court appropriation (25601) will decrease by \$4,708,000 (35%). Please explain this decrease.
8. For FY 2025, revenues for the Court Administration cost center (600100) in the Economic Equity and Opportunity—Courts appropriation (27600) will decrease by \$600,000 (100%). Please explain this decrease.

9. For FY 2025, expenditures increase by \$1,598,000 (131%) for the Civil cost center (600015) in the Economic Equity and Opportunity—Courts appropriation (27600) and the revenues correspondingly increase by the same amount. Please explain this increase.
10. For FY 2025, expenditures increase by \$1,081,000 (100%) for the Court Administration cost center (600100) in the 36th District Court Administration appropriation (29600) and the revenues correspondingly increase by the same amount. Please explain this increase.
11. Six million dollars from the City's ARPA (American Rescue Plan Act) funding was allocated to the Right to Counsel program due to the increased number of landlord-tenant eviction cases after the pandemic eviction moratorium ended.
 - a. Can you provide an update on the caseload for FY 2023 and FY 2024?
 - b. Has there been a decrease in the number of cases filed?
 - c. How are default cases handled?
 - d. What is the status of data dashboard?

36TH DISTRICT COURT (60)

Metrics and Data

Metrics	Data	Related Goal #
# of cases filed	388,653 cases filed in CY 2022	1 & 2
# of cases disposed	454,978 cases disposed in CY 2022	1 & 2
# of grant funds awarded for Specialty Court programs	3 recurring State grants 5 DOJ grants	3
% of survey respondents who agree or strongly agree that they were treated with courtesy and respect by Judges, Magistrates, and Court staff	88%	4
% of survey respondents who agree or strongly agree that the way their case was handled was fair	86%	5

Department 60 - 36th District Court

Budget Summary

	FY2023 Actual		FY2024 Adopted		FY2025 Mayor Proposed	
	General Fund	All Funds	General Fund	All Funds	General Fund	All Funds
Total Revenues	13,475,912	13,475,912	17,000,000	17,000,000	14,575,520	14,575,520
Total Expenditures	31,248,822	31,248,822	31,700,904	31,700,904	32,604,622	32,604,622
Net Tax Cost	17,772,910	17,772,910	14,700,904	14,700,904	18,029,102	18,029,102

	FY2026 Forecast		FY2027 Forecast		FY2028 Forecast	
	General Fund	All Funds	General Fund	All Funds	General Fund	All Funds
Total Revenues	14,867,030	14,867,030	15,164,372	15,164,372	15,467,658	15,467,658
Total Expenditures	33,186,331	33,186,331	33,779,068	33,779,068	34,383,040	34,383,040
Net Tax Cost	18,319,301	18,319,301	18,614,696	18,614,696	18,915,382	18,915,382

General Fund Recurring vs One-Time Expenditures

	FY2024 Adopted	FY2025 Mayor Proposed
Recurring Expenditures	31,700,904	32,604,622
One-Time Expenditures	-	-
Total Expenditures	31,700,904	32,604,622

Positions (by FTE)

	2/9/2024 Actual	FY2024 Adopted	FY2025 Mayor Proposed	FY2026 Forecast	FY2027 Forecast	FY2028 Forecast
General Fund	316.00	325.00	325.00	325.00	325.00	325.00
Non-General Fund	-	-	-	-	-	-
ARPA	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Positions	316.00	325.00	325.00	325.00	325.00	325.00

**CITY OF DETROIT
BUDGET DEVELOPMENT
EXPENDITURES BY SUMMARY CATEGORY - ALL FUNDS
DEPARTMENT 60 - 36TH DISTRICT COURT**

Department # - Department Name Summary Category	FY2024 Adopted	FY2025 Mayor Proposed	FY2026 Forecast	FY2027 Forecast	FY2028 Forecast
60 - 36th District Court	31,700,904	32,604,622	33,186,331	33,779,068	34,383,040
Salaries & Wages	18,358,782	19,022,258	19,402,703	19,790,757	20,186,571
Employee Benefits	6,903,275	7,493,297	7,633,671	7,776,852	7,922,897
Professional & Contractual Services	2,935,000	2,670,220	2,696,922	2,723,892	2,751,131
Operating Supplies	1,211,347	1,171,347	1,183,060	1,194,891	1,206,840
Operating Services	2,222,500	2,177,500	2,199,275	2,221,269	2,243,480
Other Expenses	70,000	70,000	70,700	71,407	72,121
Grand Total	31,700,904	32,604,622	33,186,331	33,779,068	34,383,040

**CITY OF DETROIT
BUDGET DEVELOPMENT
REVENUES BY SUMMARY CATEGORY - ALL FUNDS
DEPARTMENT 60 - 36TH DISTRICT COURT**

Department # - Department Name Summary Category	FY2024 Adopted	FY2025 Mayor Proposed	FY2026 Forecast	FY2027 Forecast	FY2028 Forecast
60 - 36th District Court	17,000,000	14,575,520	14,867,030	15,164,372	15,467,658
Grants, Shared Taxes, & Revenues	500,000	381,000	388,620	396,393	404,320
Sales & Charges for Services	8,167,000	8,604,520	8,776,610	8,952,143	9,131,185
Fines, Forfeits, & Penalties	8,333,000	5,575,000	5,686,500	5,800,230	5,916,235
Miscellaneous	-	15,000	15,300	15,606	15,918
Grand Total	17,000,000	14,575,520	14,867,030	15,164,372	15,467,658

**CITY OF DETROIT
BUDGET DEVELOPMENT
EXPENDITURES BY SUMMARY CATEGORY - FUND DETAIL
DEPARTMENT 60 - 36TH DISTRICT COURT**

Department # - Department Name Fund # - Fund Name Summary Category	FY2024 Adopted	FY2025 Mayor Proposed	FY2026 Forecast	FY2027 Forecast	FY2028 Forecast
60 - 36th District Court	31,700,904	32,604,622	33,186,331	33,779,068	34,383,040
1000 - General Fund	31,700,904	32,604,622	33,186,331	33,779,068	34,383,040
Salaries & Wages	18,358,782	19,022,258	19,402,703	19,790,757	20,186,571
Employee Benefits	6,903,275	7,493,297	7,633,671	7,776,852	7,922,897
Professional & Contractual Services	2,935,000	2,670,220	2,696,922	2,723,892	2,751,131
Operating Supplies	1,211,347	1,171,347	1,183,060	1,194,891	1,206,840
Operating Services	2,222,500	2,177,500	2,199,275	2,221,269	2,243,480
Other Expenses	70,000	70,000	70,700	71,407	72,121
Grand Total	31,700,904	32,604,622	33,186,331	33,779,068	34,383,040

**CITY OF DETROIT
BUDGET DEVELOPMENT
REVENUES BY SUMMARY CATEGORY - FUND DETAIL
DEPARTMENT 60 - 36TH DISTRICT COURT**

Department # - Department Name Fund # - Fund Name Summary Category	FY2024 Adopted	FY2025 Mayor Proposed	FY2026 Forecast	FY2027 Forecast	FY2028 Forecast
60 - 36th District Court	17,000,000	14,575,520	14,867,030	15,164,372	15,467,658
1000 - General Fund	17,000,000	14,575,520	14,867,030	15,164,372	15,467,658
Grants, Shared Taxes, & Revenues	500,000	381,000	388,620	396,393	404,320
Sales & Charges for Services	8,167,000	8,604,520	8,776,610	8,952,143	9,131,185
Fines, Forfeits, & Penalties	8,333,000	5,575,000	5,686,500	5,800,230	5,916,235
Miscellaneous	-	15,000	15,300	15,606	15,918
Grand Total	17,000,000	14,575,520	14,867,030	15,164,372	15,467,658

**CITY OF DETROIT
BUDGET DEVELOPMENT
FINANCIAL DETAIL BY DEPARTMENT, FUND, APPROPRIATION, & COST CENTER - EXPENDITURES
DEPARTMENT 60 - 36TH DISTRICT COURT**

Department # - Department Name	FY2024	FY2025	FY2026	FY2027	FY2028
Fund # - Fund Name	Adopted	Mayor Proposed	Forecast	Forecast	Forecast
Appropriation # - Appropriation Name					
Cost Center # - Cost Center Name					
60 - 36th District Court	31,700,904	32,604,622	33,186,331	33,779,068	34,383,040
1000 - General Fund	31,700,904	32,604,622	33,186,331	33,779,068	34,383,040
29600 - 36th District Court Administration	31,700,904	32,604,622	33,186,331	33,779,068	34,383,040
600010 - Direct Costs	3,650,223	3,663,863	3,715,725	3,768,418	3,821,956
600014 - District Court Operations	23,679,334	24,919,192	25,408,824	25,908,248	26,417,660
600035 - Court Security Reimbursement	530,000	485,000	489,850	494,749	499,696
600100 - Court Administration	3,801,347	3,536,567	3,571,932	3,607,653	3,643,728
600155 - Drug Court ¹	40,000	-	-	-	-
Grand Total	31,700,904	32,604,622	33,186,331	33,779,068	34,383,040

¹ 600155 - Drug Court reflected in 600014 - District Court Operations beginning in FY2025.

**CITY OF DETROIT
BUDGET DEVELOPMENT
FINANCIAL DETAIL BY DEPARTMENT, FUND, APPROPRIATION, & COST CENTER - REVENUES
DEPARTMENT 60 - 36TH DISTRICT COURT**

Department # - Department Name	FY2024	FY2025	FY2026	FY2027	FY2028
Fund # - Fund Name	Adopted	Mayor Proposed	Forecast	Forecast	Forecast
Appropriation # - Appropriation Name					
Cost Center # - Cost Center Name					
60 - 36th District Court	17,000,000	14,575,520	14,867,030	15,164,372	15,467,658
1000 - General Fund	17,000,000	14,575,520	14,867,030	15,164,372	15,467,658
25601 - Safe Neighborhoods - Traffic Court	13,500,000	8,792,000	8,967,840	9,147,197	9,330,141
600020 - Traffic	13,500,000	8,792,000	8,967,840	9,147,197	9,330,141
27600 - Economic Equity and Opportunity - Courts	2,174,000	3,350,000	3,417,000	3,485,340	3,555,047
600015 - Civil	1,224,000	2,822,000	2,878,440	2,936,009	2,994,729
600055 - Real Estate	350,000	528,000	538,560	549,331	560,318
600100 - Court Administration	600,000	-	-	-	-
29600 - 36th District Court Administration	1,326,000	2,433,520	2,482,190	2,531,835	2,582,470
600010 - Direct Costs	1,326,000	1,352,520	1,379,570	1,407,162	1,435,305
600100 - Court Administration	-	1,081,000	1,102,620	1,124,673	1,147,165
Grand Total	17,000,000	14,575,520	14,867,030	15,164,372	15,467,658

**CITY OF DETROIT
BUDGET DEVELOPMENT
POSITION DETAIL BY DEPARTMENT, FUND, APPROPRIATION, & COST CENTER
DEPARTMENT 60 - 36TH DISTRICT COURT**

Department # - Department Name					
Fund # - Fund Name					
Appropriation # - Appropriation Name	FY2024	FY2025	FY2026	FY2027	FY2028
Cost Center # - Cost Center Name	Adopted	Mayor Proposed	Forecast	Forecast	Forecast
Job Code - Job Title					
60 - 36th District Court	325	325	325	325	325
1000 - General Fund	325	325	325	325	325
29600 - 36th District Court Administration	325	325	325	325	325
600010 - Direct Costs	29	29	29	29	29
913051.Judge 36Th District Court	29	29	29	29	29
600014 - District Court Operations	296	296	296	296	296
950101.Detroit Judicial Council Staff	296	296	296	296	296
Grand Total	325	325	325	325	325