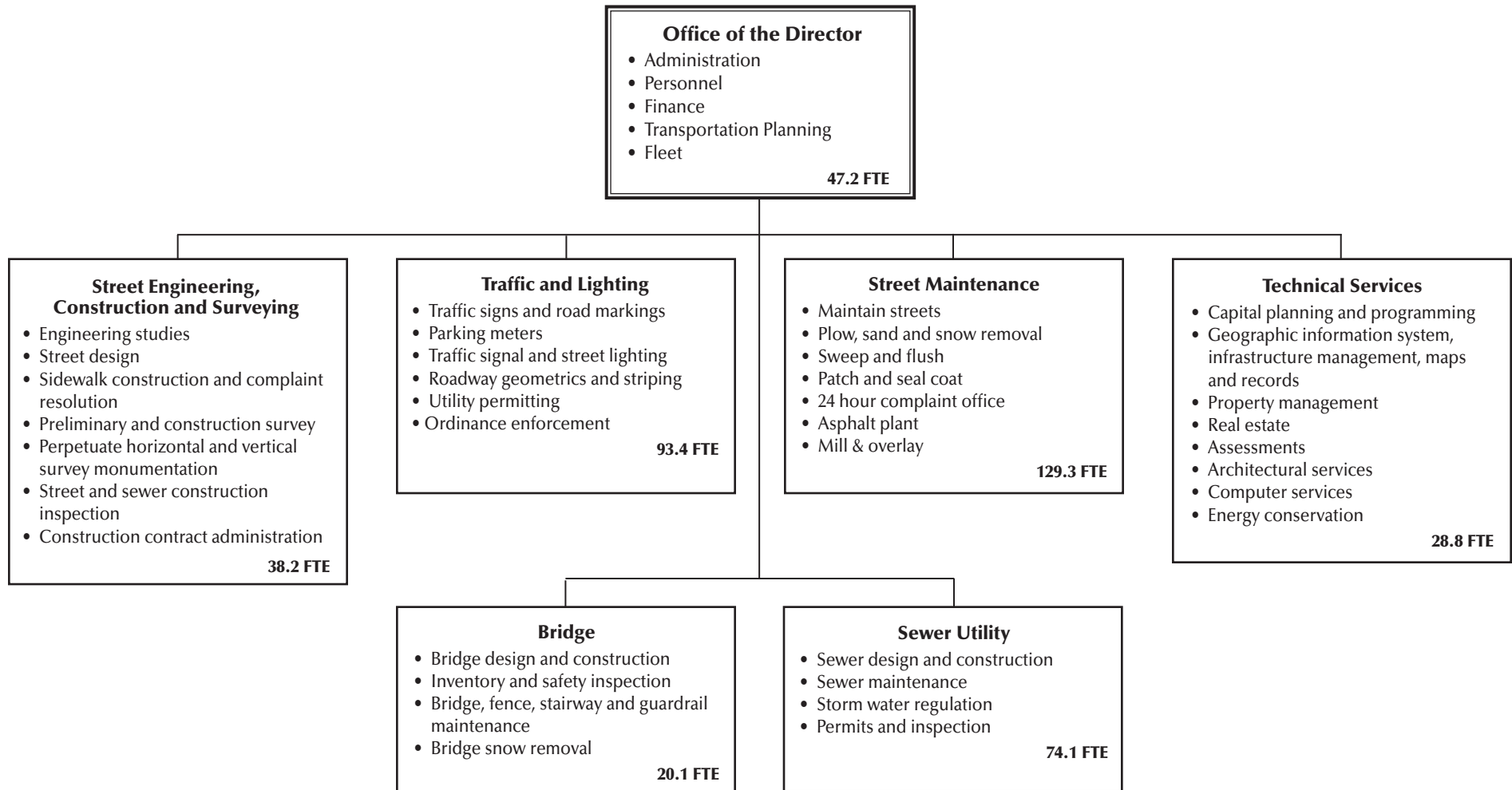


Public Works

The Department of Public Works is committed to performing its many services in the most timely, efficient and cost effective manner possible.



(Total 431.1 FTEs)

5/31/07

About the Department of Public Works

What We Do (Description of Services)

Public Works is one of the key departments responsible for maintaining the "face" of the City, and we make sure that:

- Streets are kept clean, plowed and have routine surface maintenance;
- Sanitary sewer and lift stations are free of blockage, collapse and extraordinary infiltration of ground water;
- Storm sewers are operational and transmitting environmentally safe flow to the appropriate lakes, streams or the river;
- Flood protection levees and pumping facilities are well maintained and prepared for floods;
- Alleys are maintained to the level of service customers expect (paved, oiled, dirt);
- Sidewalks are maintained properly for our pedestrian public;
- Street lights are lit and maintained;
- Traffic signals in Saint Paul and surrounding communities are functioning safely and maintained;
- Traffic signs are in place and maintained;
- Equipment for maintenance work is maintained and available for use; and
- Engineering services (design, survey, inspection and administration) are provided for street, sewer, traffic, and bridge construction projects.

Statistical Profile

- Sewer Utility Bond Rating maintained by Standard and Poor's of AAA and was upgraded to Aa2 by Moody's Investors Service.
- Saint Paul has:
 - 851 miles of streets
 - 804 miles of sanitary sewers
 - 450 miles of storm sewers
 - 1007 miles of sidewalks
 - Over 30,000 street lights
 - 471 signalized intersections
 - 371 bridges

2006-2007 Accomplishments

Public Works prides itself on being systematic and preventive in maintenance, having accomplished the following:

- Entering the tenth consecutive year in 2007, funding approximately \$6.2 million annually in sewer rehabilitation projects, as part of our 20-year sewer rehabilitation program;
- Continue to provide annual funding for \$1.7 million of major sewer repair projects each year to minimize disruption and property damage by prompt attention to problem areas;
- Began major sewer tunnel repair in 2007 with approximately \$3 million in funding;
- Initiated a pilot project to demonstrate methods for the reduction of storm water infiltration into sanitary sewers;
- Chip sealed streets and alleys in 12.5% of the City on an annual basis (an eight year cycle);
- Mill and overlay program for city streets is approximately 4 miles for 2006 and 2007;
- A new salt storage building with an estimated storage capacity of 7,000 tons was completed in 2006;
- Completed a pilot program of training underserved community members and providing good paying summer temporary employment;
- Completed four RSVP projects in 2006: Arlington/Pascal, Baker/Bellows, Chatsworth/Goodrich, and Orange/Park.
- Began four new RSVP projects in 2007: Hubbard/Griggs, Griggs/Jefferson, White Bear/Burns, and Seventh/Bay;
- An E85 fueling site will be operational at the Dale Street facility for the summer of 2007;
- A new DOT truck inspection program was initiated and units are no longer out of service due to pending inspections;
- Held the first annual all employee conference on May 1, 2007;
- Established an employee and stakeholder team to review our mission and vision in alignment with citywide strategies;
- Hired a Marketing and Public Relations Manager in 2007 to assist in improving our communication with the public and media;
- Established a Safe Routes to School Committee and dedicated more staff time to school safety reviews; and
- Secured \$6 million in Federal funding for 2009 and 2010 for City bridge replacements.

Key Performance Measures

Performance Objective: Provide an environmentally safe sewage transmission system to Saint Paul customers at a reasonable price.				
Performance Indicator: Residential Sanitary Sewer rates, average estimated annual cost per homeowner, annual percentage increase.				
MEASURES:	2005 Actual	2006 Actual	2007 Estimated	2008 Projected
Residential Sanitary Sewer Rates per ccf	\$2.62	\$2.66	\$2.71	\$2.85
Average Annual Cost per homeowner (84 ccf)	\$220.8	\$223.44	\$227.91	\$239.31
Percent increase over prior year	3.0%	1.5%	2.0%	5%

Performance Objective: Provide a full range of right-of-way maintenance services to Saint Paul customers.				
Performance Indicator: Residential Right-of-Way (ROW) rate, average estimated annual cost per homeowner, annual percentage increase.				
MEASURES:	2005 Actual	2006 Actual	2007 Estimated	2008 Projected
Residential ROW Maintenance Rate per foot	\$2.20	\$2.29	\$2.46	\$2.78
Average Annual cost per homeowner (50 ft)	\$110.00	\$114.50	\$123.00	\$138.99
Percent increase over prior years	21.5%	4.1%	7.9%	13%

Performance Objective: Continually renew our street infrastructure assets.				
Performance Indicator: Miles of street reconstructed annually				
MEASURES:	2005 Actual	2006 Actual	2007 Estimated	2008 Projected
Miles of street reconstructed	8.1	15.2	9.9	12.6
Percent of total street miles	1.0%	1.8%	1.2%	1.5%

Performance Objective: Quickly and efficiently remove snow from City streets, and communicate effectively with the public.				
Performance Indicator: Snow emergencies per year, tickets issued, cars towed, snow removal hours of 96 hour snow emergency.				
MEASURES:	2005 Actual	2006 Actual	2007 Estimated	2008 Projected
Snow Emergencies	4	2	4	4
Tickets issued	16,247	6,048	12,800	12,800
Vehicles Towed	3,686	1,673	3,200	3,200
Snow removal time (hours)	24	24	24	24

Performance Objective: Create a comprehensive funding program to facilitate our services to customers.				
Performance Indicator: Revenue mix, and percentage General Fund.				
MEASURES:	2005 Actual	2006 Actual	2007 Estimated	2008 Projected
General Fund	\$2.1 M	\$1.5 M	\$1.6 M	\$1.7 M
Special Funds	\$118.3 M	\$119.3 M	\$123.2 M	\$137.1 M
Capital Programs	\$38.7 M	\$31.9 M	\$35.6 M	\$32.6 M
Total Annual Programs	\$159.1 M	\$152.7 M	\$160.4 M	\$171.4 M
Percent General Fund	1.3%	1.0%	1.0%	1.0%

2008 Budget Plan

2008 Priorities

- Continue to improve citizen communications on snow emergency procedures to improve compliance and plowing efficiency;
- Continue to make use of innovative technologies in traffic control to make streets safer for all people in Saint Paul;
- Continue to improve the look of our streets by aggressively targeting litter and cleanliness activities;
- Perform significant sidewalk replacement work in Invest St. Paul areas;
- Complete the planned portions of our 2007/2008 Residential Street Vitality Program projects which includes one Invest St. Paul area project;
- Work with Eureka Recycling to further enhance and streamline recycling programs for increased citizen participation;
- Aggressively seek improvement in internal safety programs to continue the benefits realized in work place safety and cost reduction;
- Continue evaluating particularly strenuous job duties to see if there are ways to minimize or eliminate work related injury;
- Hold the second annual all employee conference that will build department esprit de corps through training, motivation and shared experience;
- Improve communication with the public and the media to tell the department's story and help the public understand what Public Works does, what to expect, and who to call when they have concerns;
- Coordinate employee training to ensure that staff is trained to provide good service to customers and provide career opportunities for employees;
- Coordinate and manage the retrofitting of city-owned buildings to reduce energy use and carbon dioxide emissions;
- Implement a pilot project to install laptop computers in Traffic Division field trucks.

2008 Budget Explanation

Base Adjustments

The 2007 adopted budget was adjusted to set the budget base for 2008. The base includes the anticipated growth in salaries and fringes for 2008 for employees related to the bargaining process. It also includes 2.5% inflation growth on services and 3% on goods and materials.

Mayor's Recommendation

The proposed general fund budget is \$1,677,291, an increase of \$48,827 from the 2007 adopted budget. Included in this increase was \$57,115 due to the add-back of some one-time spending reductions from 2007 for properties which do not pay assessment charges. Special fund budgets total \$137,158,694 which is an increase of \$13,940,719.

Overall, this budget maintains or increases service levels. The recommended budget includes the following rate increases:

Sanitary Sewer:	5%
Storm Sewer:	10%
ROW Maintenance:	13% non-downtown properties; 16% downtown.
Recycling Charges:	11%

Expenses included in this increase are largely for material and other input costs. The Asphalt plant has seen bitumen costs increase by over \$900,000. In the Right of Way Fund, asphalt costs increased \$300,000; streetlight electricity, \$200,000; light pole painting, \$100,000; salt and noxious weed removal, \$100,000 each. The ROW Maintenance Assessment increase will need to be nearly as large for each of the following two years 2009-2010 to support higher costs, regain structural balance in this fund and maintain an adequate cash balance.

Significant changes to the Sewer Utility Fund include an internal loan of \$3.3 million for capital improvements to City Hall and the City Hall Annex. This fund will also transfer a total of \$6 million to the General Debt Service fund to reimburse for principal & interest on past sewer separation bonds paid in full by the General Debt Service Budget in previous years. This reflects an increase of \$632,000 from 2007.

The proposed budget for Public Works reflects the department's share of spending for the new Enterprise Technology Initiative (ETI) and includes costs associated with the revised Central Service Cost allocation methodology as described in the General (or Special) Fund Highlights.

2008 Budget Plan (continued)

2008 Budget Explanation (continued)

Council Actions

The City Council adopted the Public Works Department budget and recommendation as proposed by the Mayor, and approved the following changes:

- increased transfers to capital improvement budget by \$722,568 to reflect that the work on these projects will be completed in the capital budget
- reduced parking revenues transferred to the general fund by \$300,000 to reflect anticipated collections
- eliminated loan repayment of \$150,000 from the Solid Waste fund after this loan was pre-paid in full during 2007
- added \$38,500 for debt payment to finance sidewalk maintenance through bonds
- increased the transfer from the Solid Waste fund to the general fund by \$75,000 for citywide recycling efforts

The 2008 Adopted budget is \$1,677,291 in the general fund and \$137,544,762 in special funds, which includes 431.1 FTEs, with 12.1 in the general fund and 419.0 in special funds.