

INVESTING IN SAFETY

ST. LOUIS METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT
FY27 BUDGET SUMMARY





ST. LOUIS METROPOLITAN
POLICE DEPARTMENT

FY27 Budget Summary

March 2026

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Executive Report

The St. Louis Metropolitan Police Department enters Fiscal Year 2027 focused on one central priority: ensuring the safety of every neighborhood in the City of St. Louis while supporting the men and women who serve this community each day.

Policing is a mission that requires preparedness, professionalism, and the ability to respond to an evolving public safety environment. The FY27 budget reflects an assessment of the Department's operational needs and outlines the resources necessary to sustain effective policing across the city.

The Department continues to face significant staffing challenges, with approximately 250 commissioned officer vacancies. This staffing shortage places strain on current personnel and increases reliance on overtime. Recruitment, retention, and training therefore remain central priorities for the upcoming fiscal year. Investments in competitive compensation, officer wellness, and professional development are critical to maintaining a stable and effective workforce.



Beyond staffing, the SLMPD must also maintain the infrastructure that supports daily operations. The St. Louis Metropolitan Police Department will assume responsibility of more than two dozen facilities across the city. Many of these buildings have experienced years of deferred maintenance and require ongoing investment to ensure safe and functional working environments for both commissioned officers and professional staff. Addressing these infrastructure needs is an important component of maintaining operational readiness.

The FY27 budget also prioritizes the tools and technology that officers rely on to perform their duties effectively. Modern policing requires reliable equipment, technology that enhances investigative capabilities, and operational systems that allow officers to respond quickly and efficiently to calls for service.



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At its core, this budget is about people. Every day, commissioned officers and professional staff respond to emergencies, assist victims, investigate crimes, and work alongside community members to improve public safety. Ensuring they have the support, staffing, and infrastructure necessary to carry out this mission is essential.

The Department remains committed to transparency, fiscal responsibility, and responsible stewardship of public resources. The FY27 proposal represents a continued effort to balance operational needs with the responsibility to ensure that taxpayer dollars are used effectively and in support of public safety.

The St. Louis Metropolitan Police Department will continue working with city leadership and community stakeholders throughout the budget process. Together, we remain focused on maintaining a police department that is well-staffed, properly equipped, and prepared to meet the public safety needs of the City of St. Louis.

Respectfully,

Chief Robert J. Tracy
St. Louis Metropolitan Police Department



The Board of Police Commissioners

On March 26, 2025, Governor Mike Kehoe signed Bill 495 into law, which established the St. Louis Board of Police Commissioners (the “Board”). The Board is a public body made up of four citizen commissioners, one non-voting commissioner and the Mayor of the City of St. Louis (the “City”). The Board held their first meeting on July 17, 2025, and the members of the board include: President Chris Saracino, Vice President Sonya Jenkins-Gray, Commissioner Brad Arteaga, Commissioner Edward McVey, Commissioner Don Brown and Mayor Cara Spencer.



Commissioner Brad Arteaga
One-Year Term, Voting Member



Commissioner Don Brown
Four-Year Term, Non-Voting Member



Mayor Cara Spencer



Commissioner Sonya Jenkins-Gray
Two-Year Term, Voting Member



Commissioner Edward McVey
Three-Year Term, Voting Member



Commissioner Chris Saracino
Four-Year Term, Voting Member



The Law

State law mandates that the City set aside **24% of its general revenue** from the 2026-27 fiscal year for the operation of the SLMPD. Applying the 24% to the city's general revenue of \$1.39 billion results in a SLMPD budget allocation of \$333.98 million dollars.

The Missouri Supreme Court expressly states that if the resulting budget is too harsh in its paucity or excess, that is an issue for the legislature. The law is clear -- if the city has \$1.39B to spend after statutorily or constitutionally authorized exemptions, then the SLMPD is afforded a budget of \$333.98M.

This is clearly the law – which the SLMPD is compelled to follow.



Determining General Revenue

General Revenue is all revenue brought in by the City (Sales tax, Use Tax, Property Tax, etc.), including any surplus general revenue from previous years. It is the total pool of money available to the city after special exemptions.

The Rationale

There are certain revenues known as **special revenues** created by state statute or the Missouri Constitution that are required to be segregated and used only for special purposes. City ordinance and Charter cannot convert general revenue to special revenue by restricting how money can be spent or used. The Missouri Supreme Court clearly states that the rationale for this rule is so that cities cannot shrink the general revenue, and the funds available to their police departments, by earmarking funds through their own charter or ordinances.

Actual Calculation

City revenues for the upcoming fiscal year are projected by the City and then provided to the Board for analysis and review. Based on the information provided by the City for the upcoming 2027 fiscal year, the Board projects that the general revenue of the City, including reserves and projected revenue, to be approximately \$1.9 billion dollars for FY 2027.

The special revenue funds must be deducted from the overall revenue funds of the City to calculate the general revenue of the City. After deducting all of the special revenue funds from the City's revenue funds (\$1.9B), the general revenue funds available for calculation of the SLMPD's percentage totals \$1.39 billion.



ST. LOUIS METROPOLITAN
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Budget Formulation

HB 495 established a budget process for the Board that requires the Board to certify an estimate of the sum of money necessary for the maintenance of the police department by February 28, 2026.

The Board, working with the Chief of Police, SLMPD officers and professional staff, have determined that \$250 million is the minimum necessary to address the immediate needs of the department.

On February 27, 2026, at its regularly scheduled board meeting, the Board passed resolution 2026-08, which certified an estimate of \$250 million dollars as the sum of money necessary for the expenses of the maintenance of SLMPD.

The anticipated \$250 million expenditure represents what the SLMPD believes is necessary to address critical staffing issues, improvements to the 911 system and aging facilities and technology.

Despite the Board knowing its statutorily entitled to \$333.98M, the Board **has not** revised its certified expenses submitted to the City and still only seeks \$250 million.



ST. LOUIS METROPOLITAN
POLICE DEPARTMENT

FY27 Budget Summary

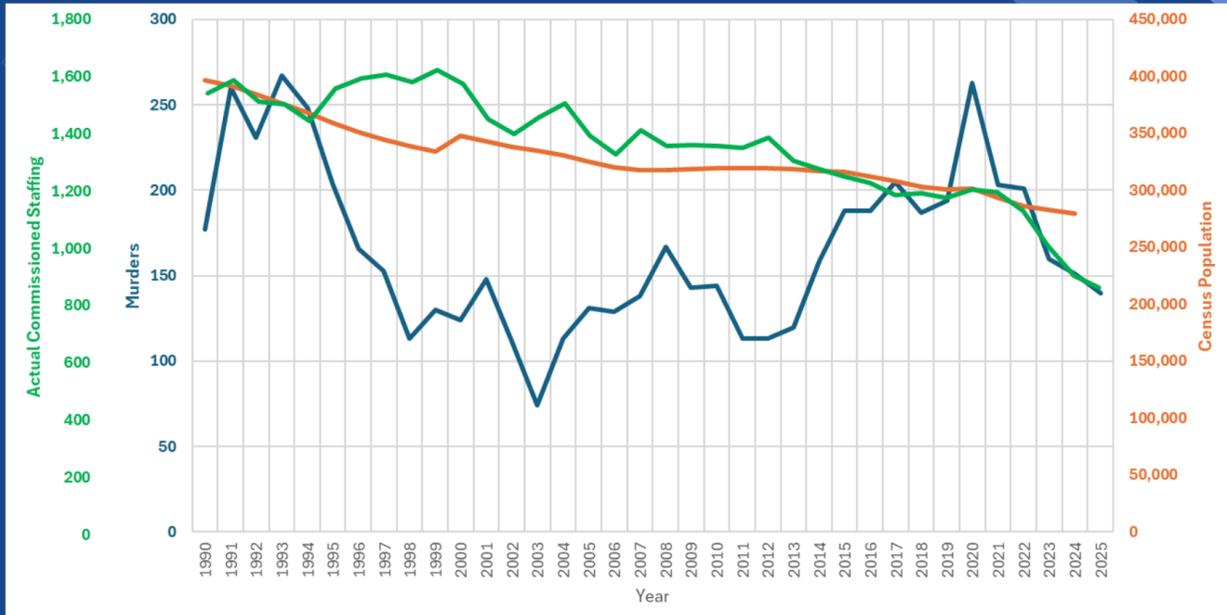
March 2026

SLMPD Immediate Needs

In 2012, the SLMPD had more than 1,300 commissioned officers. Over the last decade, SLMPD experienced a severe decline in the number of officers in the SLMPD, which now has approximately 850 police officers, with 22 currently in the Police Academy.

In 2023, Chief Tracy was hired and immediately implemented the CompStat methodology, which leverages resources and technology to combat crime. Through the CompStat process, Chief Tracy has successfully brought crime down, however, SLMPD is at a critical juncture as a result of the loss of commissioned police officers from natural attrition.

In order to increase staffing, the Board recognizes the biggest recruitment issue for SLMPD: paying a market competitive salary to one of the lowest paid departments in the region.

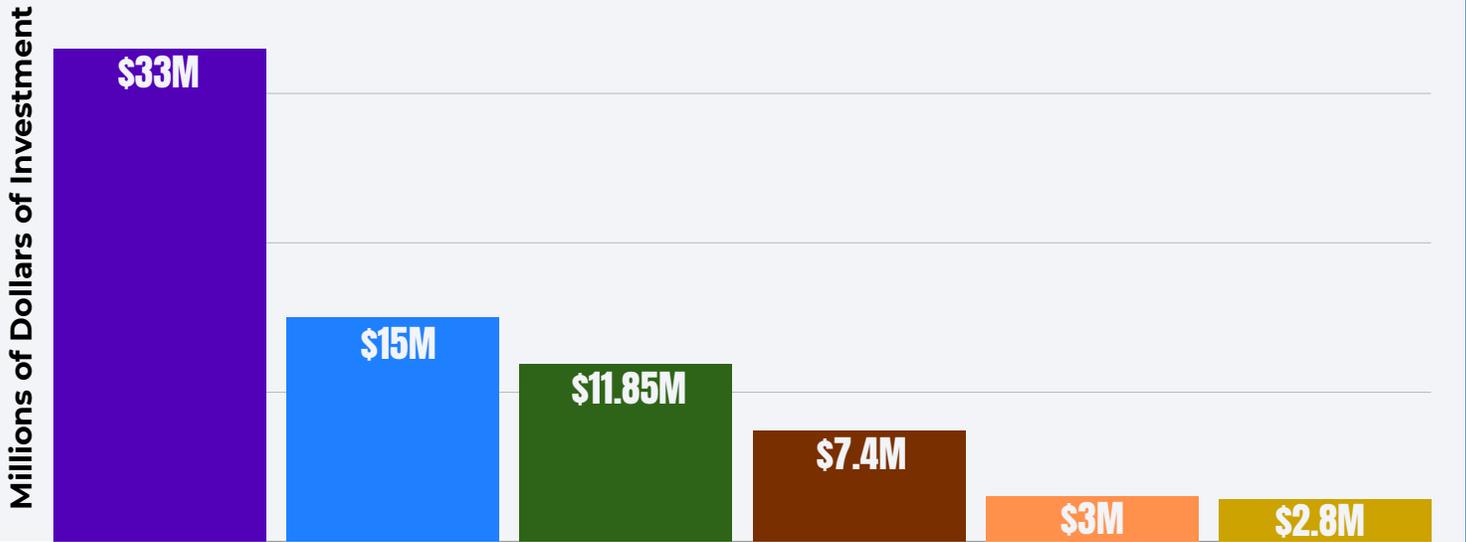


Commissioned Staffing
As of January 1
Census

Murders
1990-2020: By Date of Coding/Report Based on UCR SRS
2021-2025 By Date of Occurrence Based on UCR NIBRS

INVESTING IN SAFETY

- Staff Salaries
- Facilities
- IT & Communications
- Health & Safety
- Fleet
- Increased Insurance



Staff Salaries - Offer competitive salaries allowing SLMPD to recruit more police officers which will increase police presence in neighborhoods.

Facilities - Routine maintenance needs across more than two dozen police facilities

IT & Communications - Mission-critical technology updates to 911, radio tower and station connections; computer equipment needs and maintenance department-wide

Health & Safety - Less than lethal tools, security improvements, officer testing

Fleet - Additional vehicles for added officers and upgrades for aging vehicles

Increased Insurance Costs - Insurance industry cost increase



INVESTING IN SAFETY



\$33M

\$30 Million investment towards recruitment of new commissioned officers and retention of current staff by providing salaries closer in line with the region

+

\$3 Million investment in competitive salaries for civilian employees



INVESTING^{IN} SAFETY



\$15M

Investing \$15 Million in 25 facilities now under the responsibility of the SLMPD to provide necessary repairs and maintenance



INVESTING ^{IN} SAFETY



\$11.85M

A new radio tower and updates to our 911 and communications systems are crucial in ensuring fast response times, and clear communication across all departments



INVESTING ^{IN} SAFETY

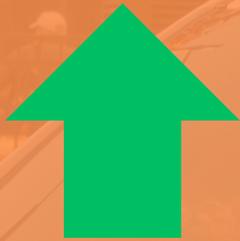


\$7.4M

An investment in the equipment and resources needed for our officers serve the community safely and effectively



INVESTING^{IN} SAFETY



\$3M

To accommodate the investment in new officers additional reliable vehicles will be required to meet the demands of the department



INVESTING^{IN} SAFETY



\$2.8M

This investment is necessary to accommodate the increase in insurance industry costs



City of St. Louis
FY27 Budget By Fund / Cost Center

Preliminary General Budget Appropriation

	FY27 Preliminary
1000 General Fund	\$ 622,207,000.00
1001 Police Contracts	\$ 1,772,000.00
1002 Communications	\$ 1,446,000.00
1110 Use Tax	\$ 62,265,000.00
1111 Budgeted SpecialFund	\$ 40,033,600.00
1112 Gaming	\$ 5,210,000.00
1113 Tourism Fund	\$ 18,175,000.00
1115 Assessor	\$ 5,650,000.00
1116 Public Safety GBL	\$ 3,198,000.00
1117 Sewer LaterRepair Program	\$ 2,915,000.00
1118 Recreation	\$ 10,966,000.00
1119 Public Safety SalesTax Fund	\$ 23,029,000.00
1120 EconomicDevelopment Sales Tax	\$ 23,903,000.00
1121 Public Safety SalesTax II Fund	\$ 34,832,000.00
1205 CapitalImprovement Fund	\$ 20,626,535.00
1207 Metro Parks Sales Tax	\$ 5,234,000.00
1208 CapitalImprovement Sales Tax	\$ 22,847,800.00
1210 Neighborhood Stabilization GOB	\$ 48,427.00
1301 GOB Debt Service	\$ 9,105,195.00
1302 Other Debt Service	\$ 3,881,433.00
1501 St Louis Agency of Training and Employment Grants	\$ 4,687,120.00
1502 CommunityDevelopment BlockGrants	\$ 7,087,170.00
1503 OtherMiscellaneous HUDGrants	\$ 970,608.00
1504 Department ofHealth and HospitalsGrants	\$ 16,966,673.00
1505 Department ofHuman Services Grants	\$ 12,974,140.00
1506 St. Louis AreaAgency on Aging Grants	\$ 16,807,688.00
1507 OtherMiscellaneous Grants	\$ 1,909,123.00
1508 Police Grants	\$ 4,439,918.00
1509 AmericanRecovery Plan Act Interest	\$ 15,000,000.00
1510 Asset ForfeitureFund	\$ 2,240,500.00
2001 Water Fund	\$ 89,228,638.00
2003 Airport Fund	\$ 248,930,777.00
2101 Mailroom	\$ 829,780.00
2102 Fuel	\$ 6,526,642.00
2103 Health Self Insurance	\$ 29,163,500.00
2105 Internal Service Fund - Police	\$ 10,204,679.00

Total General Appropriation **\$ 1,385,311,946.00**

Separate / Supplemental Appropriations

1203 St. Louis Works	\$ 6,000,000.00
1114 Transportation Sales Tax	\$ 26,308,000.00
1114 City Public Transit Sales Tax Trust (Acct 1)	\$ 13,657,000.00
1114 City Public Transit Sales Tax Trust (Acct 2)	\$ 13,657,000.00
1122 Rams Fund / Interest Appropriations	\$ 35,000,000.00
1502 Community Development Block Grants	\$ -
2008-09 Parking Division	\$ 20,764,900.00

Reserves	\$ 162,900,000.00	No statutory or constitutional authority to exclude from general revenue.
Rams Settlement Principal	\$ 255,000,000.00	No statutory or constitutional authority to exclude from general revenue.
Additional Investment Assets (Primary Government Investments, Excluding Pension Funds)	?	No statutory or constitutional authority to exclude from general revenue.
Budget Operating Surplus	?	*Will need to reconcile FY26 Surplus.
Total	\$ 533,286,900.00	
Grand Total Appropriations	\$ 1,918,598,846.00	

City of St. Louis
 FY27 Budget By Fund / Cost Center

Total FY27 Preliminary General and Other Appropriations		\$ 1,918,598,846.00	
Less Constitutional and Statutory Restricted Revenues ¹			
Fund 1000	Property Tax - Statutory Specified Purposes	\$ (27,084,267.00)	SLMPD Notes We still question the statutory basis. Please provide a citation to RSMo or MO constitution section(s).
Fund 1000	Motor Fuel Tax (Gen Fund)	\$ (8,200,000.00)	
Fund 1000	Motor Vehicle Sales Tax	\$ (3,756,000.00)	We agree this is not part of general revenue. We still question the statutory basis. Please provide a citation to RSMo or MO constitution section(s).
Fund 1000	Transfer in from Sports Facility Trust Fund	\$ (11,200,000.00)	
Fund 1000	Transfer In from C&T Fund	\$ (6,900,000.00)	
Fund 1000	Revenues Allocated to Circuit Court	\$(41,372,000.00)	Once the funds are transferred into the general revenue, they are included.
Fund 1000	Revenues Allocated to FRS	\$(4,500,572.00)	No statutory basis to keep out of general revenue.
Fund 1111	CAO Special Funds	\$ (2,008,000.00)	No statutory basis to keep out of general revenue. We still question the statutory basis. Please provide a citation to RSMo or MO constitution section(s).
Fund 1111	Courthouse Restoration Revenue (Capital Fund)	\$ (1,000,000.00)	We still question the statutory basis. Please provide a citation to RSMo or MO constitution section(s).
Fund 1111	Circ Court - Public Administrator Special Funds	\$ (477,000.00)	We still question the statutory basis. Please provide a citation to RSMo or MO constitution section(s).
Fund 1111	Circ Court Juvenile Det. Children Srvc's Fund	\$ (536,000.00)	We still question the statutory basis. Please provide a citation to RSMo or MO constitution section(s).
Fund 1111	Fire Dept. GEMT Revenue	\$(7,150,000.00)	We still question the statutory basis. Please provide a citation to RSMo or MO constitution section(s).
Fund 1111	Domestic Violence Fund (statutory portion)	\$ (100,000.00)	No statutory basis to keep out of general revenue. We still question the statutory basis. Please provide a citation to RSMo or MO constitution section(s).
Fund 1113	Sports Facility Trust Fund (restricted use)	\$ (11,200,000.00)	We still question the statutory basis. Please provide a citation to RSMo or MO constitution section(s).
Fund 1114	Transportation Sales Tax Funds	\$ (53,622,000.00)	We still question the statutory basis. Please provide a citation to RSMo or MO constitution section(s).
Fund 1115	Assessment Revenue (incl. Gen Fund transfer)	\$ (5,650,000.00)	We still question the statutory basis. Please provide a citation to RSMo or MO constitution section(s).
Fund 1117	Sewer Lateral Program	\$ (2,915,000.00)	We still question the statutory basis. Please provide a citation to RSMo or MO constitution section(s).
Fund 1118	Local Parks Sales Tax	\$ (5,664,000.00)	We still question the statutory basis. Please provide a citation to RSMo or MO constitution section(s).
Fund 1118	Transfer In From General Fund	\$ (1,600,000.00)	We still question the statutory basis. Please provide a citation to RSMo or MO constitution section(s).
Fund 1120	Econ Dev Sales Tax Fund	\$ -	Once the funds are transferred into the general revenue, they are included.
Fund 1203	St. Louis Works - Vehicle Sales Tax portion	\$ (1,100,000.00)	
Fund 1205	Motor Fuel Tax (Capital Fund)	\$ (6,800,000.00)	? We are leaving this in the general revenue calculation, but have questions. We still question the statutory basis. Please provide a citation to RSMo or MO constitution section(s).
Fund 1207	Metro Parks Sales Tax	\$ (5,234,000.00)	We still question the statutory basis. Please provide a citation to RSMo or MO constitution section(s).
Fund 1208	Transfer In from General Fund budget (Capital Fund)	\$(1,744,000.00)	We still question the statutory basis. Please provide a citation to RSMo or MO constitution section(s).
Fund 1208	Transfer In from Gaming Fund budget (Capital Fund)	\$(650,000.00)	
Fund 1208	Transfer In from Econ Dev Fund budget (Capital Fund)	\$(2,401,700.00)	
Fund 1210	Neigh. Stab. GOB	\$ (48,427.00)	Once the funds are transferred into the general revenue, they are included.
Fund 1301	GOB Debt Service	\$ (9,105,195.00)	These appear to be excluded under RSMo 84.210.
Fund 1302	Other Debt Service (ERS debt funded thru transfers)	\$ (3,881,433.00)	These appear to be excluded under RSMo 84.210.
Fund 1501	SLATE Grants	\$(4,687,120.00)	These appear to be excluded under RSMo 84.210.
Fund 1502	EDBG Grants	\$(7,087,170.00)	
Fund 1503	Other Misc. HUD Grants	\$(970,608.00)	
Fund 1504	DOH Grants	\$(16,966,673.00)	
Fund 1505	DHS Grants	\$(12,974,140.00)	
Fund 1506	SLAA Grants	\$(16,807,688.00)	
Fund 1507	Other Misc. Grants	\$(1,909,123.00)	These grants act as an offset to general revenue spending and are part of the general revenue.
Fund 2001	Water Division	\$ (89,228,638.00)	
Fund 2003	Airport	\$ (248,930,777.00)	We agree this is not part of general revenue.
Fund 2008-09	Parking Division	\$ (20,764,900.00)	? We are leaving this in the general revenue calculation, but have questions.
Fund 2101	Internal Service Fund - Mailroom	\$(829,780.00)	? We are leaving this in the general revenue calculation, but have questions.
Fund 2102	Internal Service Fund - ESD Fuel	\$(6,526,642.00)	
Fund 2103	Internal Service Fund - Health Ins.	\$(29,163,500.00)	
Fund 2105	Internal Service Fund - Police	\$(10,204,679.00)	
	Federal Funding Mandates	\$ -	There is no statutory basis to offset internal expenses.
General Revenue		\$ 1,391,593,209.00	

City of St. Louis
FY27 Budget By Fund / Cost Center

General Revenue \$ 1,391,593,209.00

FY27 Preliminary Police Allocation

Fund 1000	\$ 156,106,000.00	General Fund
Fund 1001	\$ 1,772,000.00	Police Contracts
Fund 1110	\$ 17,627,000.00	Use Tax
Fund 1111	\$ 50,000.00	Budgeted Special Fund
Fund 1112	\$ 3,500,000.00	Gaming
Fund 1116	\$ 1,925,000.00	Public Safety GBL
Fund 1119	\$ 9,400,000.00	Public Safety Salex Tax I
Fund 1121	\$ 12,500,000.00	Public Safety Sales Tax II
Fund 1121	\$ 700,000.00	Police Cadets
Fund 1208	\$ 2,145,650.00	Capital Improvement Sales Tax

SLMPD Notes

This is not funding from the City, this is money earned by the SLMPD.

Fund 1508 ~~\$ 4,439,918.00~~ ~~Police Grants~~

This is not funding from the City, this is money earned by the SLMPD.

Fund 1510 ~~\$ 2,240,500.00~~ ~~Asset Forfeiture~~

This is not funding from the City, this is money earned by the SLMPD.

Total City Funding \$ 203,953,650.00
Percent Allocation 14.66%

Funding Needed for 24% Allocation
\$333,982,370.16

Certification of Expenses from Board of Police Commissioners
\$ 250,000,000.00

Amount Under Statutory Allocation
\$83,982,370.16

