

FY 2002–2003 Budget
Fairbanks North Star Borough

PROGRAM BUDGET SUMMARY

DEPARTMENT OF LAW

Mission/Program Description

By State law, the Department of Law represents three clients: the Borough administration, the Borough Assembly, and the School District.

The Borough has a high level of contact with the general public, and must conduct its operations and provide its services in accordance with federal, state and local laws and regulations. It is inevitable that questions will arise concerning the interpretation of these laws. It is also inevitable that conflicts will arise in the provision of Borough and School District services.

The Department of Law provides advice through a range of activities, including informal opinions and written memoranda, and review of proposed ordinances and contracts. It represents the Borough and School District before local, state, and federal agencies in administrative hearings and litigation.

Objectives for FY 2003

- Defend lawsuits and administrative appeals brought against the Borough and School District.
- Provide legal advice and counsel, and answer legal questions raised by the Mayor, Assembly, and School District.
- Assist departments in resolving legal problems as they arise before they create serious difficulty.

Significant Budget Changes

The FY 2003 budget reflects a net increase in personnel costs due to cost of living adjustments, normal union and management longevity.

Previous Year's Accomplishments

- The Borough participated in the hearing before the Local Boundary Commission and voters subsequently rejected the proposed consolidation of the Borough and City of Fairbanks.
- The Borough prevailed in an appeal to the Alaska Supreme Court regarding the assessment of the telephone utility formerly owned by the City of Fairbanks.
- The Borough prevailed in several zoning code enforcement cases, including a case that was appealed to the Alaska Supreme Court.
- Claims relating to the legal status of a subdivision were resolved.
- Personal injury claims and workers compensation cases against the borough and the school district were resolved.
- The Borough prevailed in two bid protests.
- The Legal Department drafted or reviewed over 75 ordinances in 2001, including curfew, a bond election for South Davis Park, school bond sales, code changes relating to service area appeals and to implement HB 13, filing fees for Board of Equalization appeals, special limitations on rezones, outhouses, waiver of tipping fees for residential solid waste haulers, alternative revenues (sales and employment) taxes, plug-ins, noise control, senior citizen tax exemption and HR department reorganization.

Dept: Law
Departmental Summary

	1999/00 Actual	2000/01 Actual	2001/02 Approved	2001/02 Revised	2002/03 Recommended	2002/03 Approved
PERSONNEL SERVICES						
Permanent Salaries	333,083	355,798	361,290	361,290	379,710	372,580
Overtime Wages	-	-	3,670	3,670	3,670	3,670
Temporary Salaries	-	438	8,570	8,570	8,570	8,570
Benefits	124,781	134,737	153,030	153,030	155,320	152,450
Subtotal:	457,864	490,973	526,560	526,560	547,270	537,270
COMMODITIES						
Office Supplies	2,156	2,109	3,500	3,500	3,500	3,500
Computer Supplies	-	30	-	-	-	-
Operating Supplies	-	-	-	-	-	-
Books and Periodicals	13,340	12,939	8,000	8,000	8,000	8,000
Repair and Maint. Supplies	-	-	-	-	-	-
Clothing Supplies	-	-	-	-	-	-
Motor Fuels and Lubricants	-	-	-	-	-	-
Equipment Parts	-	-	-	-	-	-
Subtotal:	15,496	15,078	11,500	11,500	11,500	11,500
CONTRACTUAL SERVICES						
Professional Services	124,423	63,215	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000
Communications	77	195	300	300	300	300
Travel	2,030	1,997	2,060	2,060	2,060	2,060
Professional Dues/Meetings	2,040	1,785	1,890	1,890	1,890	1,890
Training	1,066	2,419	2,210	2,210	2,210	2,210
Advertising, Printing & Binding	211	732	1,800	1,800	1,800	1,800
Insurance and Bonding	-	-	-	-	-	-
Repairs & Maint. -Bldg. & Grounds	-	-	-	-	-	-
Repairs & Maint. -Office Equipment	-	-	-	-	-	-
Repairs & Maint. -Other Equipment	-	-	-	-	-	-
Rent	-	-	-	-	-	-
Utilities	-	-	-	-	-	-
Equipment Leases	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other Contractual Services	15,053	9,608	25,280	25,280	25,280	25,280
Subtotal:	144,900	79,951	108,540	108,540	108,540	108,540
Grants Local Match & Indirect Costs	-	-	-	-	-	-
CAPITAL OUTLAY						
Buildings & Structures	-	-	-	-	-	-
Road Construction	-	-	-	-	-	-
Office Furniture	-	2,544	-	-	-	-
Office Equipment	-	-	-	-	-	-
Rolling Equipment	-	-	-	-	-	-
Machinery & Equipment	-	-	-	-	-	-
Land & Land Improvements	-	-	-	-	-	-
Library Materials	-	-	-	-	-	-
Leasehold Improvements	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other Capital Items	-	-	-	-	-	-
Subtotal:	-	2,544	-	-	-	-
GRAND TOTAL:	618,260	588,546	646,600	646,600	667,310	657,310
FUNDING SOURCE:						
General Fund Revenues						