



City of Kansas City, Missouri

Docket Memo

Ordinance/Resolution #: 260065

Submitted Department/Preparer: Mayor/Council's Office

Revised 12/03/25

Docket memos are required on all ordinances initiated by a Department Director. More information can be found in [Administrative Regulation \(AR\) 4-1](#).

Executive Summary

Directing the City Manager to assign costs beyond the twenty-five (25) percent annual budget threshold in Mo. Rev. Stat. 84.730 for previously approved Board of Police Commissioners legal settlements to the City's Legal Expense Fund rather than the submitted Kansas City Police Department Budget; retaining requisitioning authority with the City Attorney; directing the City Manager to negotiate with the Board of Police Commissioners a process for Council approval of costs related to Board of Police Commissioners established settlement agreements, including settlements with costs structured over future budget cycles.

Discussion

Kansas City is required to provide no more than one-fourth of the general revenue to the Kansas City Police Department, pursuant to Chapter 84.730 of the Missouri Revised Statutes. The Kansas City Police Department is governed by the Board of Police Commissioners appointed by the Governor of Missouri, pursuant to Chapter 84.350 of the Missouri Revised Statutes; and

While the Board of Police Commissioners has exclusive operational control over the Kansas City Police Department, City Council has the responsibility to appropriate funds and provide fiscal oversight on behalf of Kansas City taxpayers. The City Council has the responsibility to approve the annual budget, including the yearly funding appropriation for the Board of Police Commissioners. Pursuant to Missouri Revised Statutes Section 84.730, City Council is not required to appropriate amounts exceeding one-fourth of the general revenue fund in any fiscal year to the Board of Police Commissioners. The Board of Police Commissioners periodically makes funding requests above and beyond the required one-fourth funding allocation, including requests for settlements and judgments from litigation involving the department. Board of Police Commissioners in its 2026-2027 Requested Budget seeks funding beyond the required one-fourth funding allocation mandated by state law.

The Board of Police Commissioners in its 2026-2027 Requested Budget seeks funding beyond the required one-fourth funding allocation mandated by state law to address costs from legal settlements previously approved by the Board of Police Commissioners with fiscal impact in future years and budget cycles. City Council has received no information on the nature, size, or scope of structured legal settlements impacting this and future years and budget cycles seeking appropriations in excess of state statutory mandate. The City has established procedures for review of costs arising from legal settlements and has responsibility for properly anticipating and budgeting future costs to the City, including seven- and eight-figure legal settlement costs approved by the Board of Police Commissioners. The City desires to reduce the detrimental effect of structured legal settlement costs impacting the current and future years and budget cycles on policing and public safety in Kansas City.

Fiscal Impact

1. Is this legislation included in the adopted budget? ☐ Yes ☒ No
2. What is the funding source?
The ordinance itself does not require a funding source upon adoption. The City Manager would be directed to identify funding above the City's statutory contributions in order to fund legal settlements entered into by the Board of Police Commissioners in future fiscal years.
3. How does the legislation affect the current fiscal year?
n/a
4. Does the legislation have a fiscal impact in future fiscal years? Please notate the difference between one-time and recurring costs.
Yes. The legislation would direct the City Manager to identify future funding for legal settlements beyond what the City already appropriates to the Board of Police Commissioners on an annual basis. This would have both one-time and recurring costs, assuming certain BOPC settlements are structured to provide multi-year payments.
5. Does the legislation generate revenue, leverage outside funding, or deliver a return on investment?
No.

Office of Management and Budget Review

(OMB Staff will complete this section.)

1. This legislation is supported by the general fund. ☒ Yes ☐ No

2. This fund has a structural imbalance. ☒ Yes ☐ No
3. Account string has been verified/confirmed. ☐ Yes ☒ No

Additional Discussion (if needed)

This legislation does not appropriate funds, but provides directions on where to appropriate existing and future funds.

Citywide Business Plan (CWBP) Impact

1. View the [Adopted 2025-2029 Citywide Business Plan](#)
2. Which CWBP goal is most impacted by this legislation?
Finance and Governance (Press tab after selecting.)
3. Which objectives are impacted by this legislation (select all that apply):
 - ☒ Ensure the resiliency of a responsive, representative, engaged, and transparent City government.
 - ☐ Engage in workforce planning including employee recruitment, development, retention, and engagement.
 - ☐ Foster a solutions-oriented, welcoming culture for employees and City Partners.
 - ☐
 - ☐
 - ☐

Prior Legislation

City Budget Ordinance, e.g. Ordinance 250175

Service Level Impacts

Additional budget items beyond the City's statutory contribution to the BOPC could have a negative fiscal impact on the City's General Fund or other funds depending on the source(s) identified by the City Manager.

Staff Recommendation

Law Department

Select One: ☐ Sponsored
☒ Directive: Res/Ord # 260065

Select One: ☐ Recommend
☐ Do Not Recommend
☒ Not Applicable

Click or tap here to provide reasoning.

Other Impacts

1. What will be the potential health impacts to any affected groups?
N/A
2. How have those groups been engaged and involved in the development of this ordinance?
N/A

3. How does this legislation contribute to a sustainable Kansas City?

This legislation would facilitate an agreement for funding of BOPC legal settlements such that the City may have more involvement in the budgeting of those claims.

4. Does this legislation create or preserve new housing units?
No (Press tab after selecting)

Click or tap here to enter text.
Click or tap here to enter text.

5. Department staff certifies the submission of any application Affirmative Action Plans or Certificates of Compliance, Contractor Utilization Plans (CUPs), and Letters of Intent to Subcontract (LOIs) to CREO prior to, or simultaneously with, the legislation entry request in Legistar.

No - CREO's review is not applicable (Press tab after selecting)
Please provide reasoning why not:
Click or tap here to enter text.

6. Does this legislation seek to approve a contract resulting from an Invitation for Bid?

No(Press tab after selecting)

Click or tap here to enter text.

7. Does this legislation seek to approve a contract resulting from a Request for Proposal/Qualification (RFP/Q)?

No(Press tab after selecting)