

# Amendment #2 to Ordinance No. 2055 – FY2027 Budget

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Submitted by: Councilmember James Kole

Date: May 11, 2026

## Proposed Action:

To amend the proposed FY2027 Budget Ordinance by reallocating funding from the Mayor’s Legal Services budget to increase appropriations for advertising and public communications, maintaining a balanced budget in accordance with Article 500, Section 503 of the City Charter.

## Section 1 – Expenditure Adjustments:

The FY2027 budget is amended as follows:

1. Funding for advertising in the Laurel Independent within Account No. 10-5-270-52061 is increased by \$20,000, raising the total allocation from \$30,000 to \$50,000.
2. Funding appropriated for Voices of Laurel within Account No. 10-5-270-52621 is reduced by \$4,000, decreasing the total allocation from \$4,000 to \$0.
3. Funding for advertising in Voices of Laurel within Account No. 10-5-270-52061 is increased by \$8,000, establishing a total allocation of \$8,000 within that account.
4. Funding for Legal Services within the Mayor’s Office (Account No. 10-5-210-52011) is reduced by \$24,000, decreasing the total allocation from \$297,839 to \$273,839.

## Revenue and Expenditure Impact Summary:

Category	Current Proposed	Amended	Change
Laurel Independent Advertising (10-5-270-52061)	\$30,000.00	\$50,000.00	+\$20,000.00
Voices of Laurel (10-5-270-52621)	\$4,000.00	\$0.00	-\$4,000.00
Voices of Laurel Advertising (10-5-270-52061)	\$0.00	\$8,000.00	+\$8,000.00
Mayor’s Legal Services (10-5-210-52011)	\$297,839.00	\$273,839.00	-\$24,000.00

**Net Fiscal Impact:**

This amendment results in no net fiscal impact to the FY2027 budget, as the expenditure increases are fully offset by reductions elsewhere within the proposed FY2027 budget.

**Fiscal Rationale:**

Current fiscal year legal services expenditures totaled \$188,383.70 as of May 1, 2026. The amended FY2027 appropriation for Legal Services remains consistent with several recent historical expenditure levels. This amendment is based on historical spending trends and currently available expenditure data presented during the budget process, while reallocating funding toward expanded public communication and community outreach efforts through local print media advertising.

Historical Legal Services expenditures are as follows:

<b>Fiscal Year</b>	<b>Amount</b>
FY2020-2021 Actual	\$270,972.92
FY2021-2022 Actual	\$177,406.73
FY2022-2023 Actual	\$182,930.86
FY2023-2024 Actual	\$306,222.50
FY2024-2025 Actual	\$184,444.50
FY2025-2026 YTD (as of 5/1/2026)	\$188,383.70
FY2026-2027 Proposed	\$297,839.00
FY2026-2027 Amended	\$273,839.00

**Requested Council Action:**

Move to adopt this amendment to Ordinance No. 2055, the FY2027 Budget Ordinance, during final budget proceedings.