



Mayor Coleman's 2010 Budget: Reforming Government, Making Tough Choices, Investing in Saint Paul's Future

4 Years of Progress Making Saint Paul The Most Livable City in America

Overview

During his first year in office, Mayor Coleman convened a blue ribbon panel of community financial experts to help him develop a 4-year plan to balance the City's budget while investing in Saint Paul's future – education, public safety, economic growth, sound infrastructure, the environment, and the arts.

Mayor Coleman achieved a balanced budget in three years. New jobs are coming, with Microsoft and Cray Research moving to downtown. Saint Paul has grown the police force to historic levels. The Saint Paul Fire Department now has the tools and personnel to respond to the changing demands of our community. Nearly 1,000 children are attending quality early childhood learning programs thanks to foundational and state partners, and thousands more students are attending quality after-school and no-school day classes in our recreation centers and libraries – extending the learning day and opening opportunities for them to achieve academic success.

In the toughest economy in more than a generation, Saint Paul has attracted new corporations and businesses to both downtown and our neighborhoods, and through proactive efforts, Mayor Coleman's administration has been at the forefront working with partners from non-profits to foundations to banking institutions to mitigate the effects of the mortgage foreclosure crisis in the city.

Strong Management:

- Brought balance to the City's budget in three years – matching ongoing revenues with ongoing expenses.
- Managed through the loss of nearly \$150 million in Local Government Aid and overcame 12 years of flat revenue increases.
- Maintaining a "AAA" credit rating while achieving a "Strong" fiscal management rating from Standard & Poor's.

Top-to-Bottom Reform of the Way the City Does Business

- \$14 million investment in COMET – Saint Paul's new enterprise resource planning system to streamline operations, free strategic resources for better customer service, and realize \$5 million in annual savings.
- Reorganized licensing and inspection services into the Department of Safety and Inspections for better residential and business service.
 - 400-percent improvement in response times to property maintenance and graffiti complaints.
- Completed a first-in-the-nation audit of how the City serves minority- and women-owned businesses.
 - Reorganized divisions into the Department of Human Rights and Equal Economic Opportunity to reduce overlap and improve contracting opportunities for small business owners.
- Conducted audits and best practice assessments for the Saint Paul Fire Department and Saint Paul Police Department, respectively.
 - Provided strategic direction for investments in public safety, including the creation of super-medical Emergency Medical Services teams and the City's first Emergency Management Department.

Investing Wisely

- Passed \$25 million bond to launch Invest Saint Paul – bringing the full resources of the City, development partners and non-profits to bring investment into Saint Paul's historic neighborhoods.
 - Prevented more than 1,500 foreclosures through the Mortgage Foreclosure Prevention Program.
 - Opened The Winnipeg, a mixed-use housing development in a major commercial corridor on Saint Paul's North End.
 - Attracted a top-rated, private day care and preschool provider to an Invest Saint Paul neighborhood through the pilot of Early Childhood Education scholarships.



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Saint Paul has invested in a new library and new parks, renovated old parks that reclaim the Mississippi River as the lifeblood of the city, and found partners to operate centers that expand recreational opportunities for children and families throughout our neighborhoods. The city is now home to new music festivals and theaters, growing the Soul of Saint Paul and entertaining millions from around the Upper Midwest.

And Mayor Coleman continues to push for more, with Central Corridor leading the way as a \$1 billion economic development opportunity that will change the face of Saint Paul. Together with high-speed rail from Chicago, Saint Paul will once again be the hub for a multi-modal transportation system serving residents and businesses throughout the Upper Midwest.

- Brought new vitality to old corners through state-of-the-art community facilities.
 - Rondo Community Outreach Library at Dale and University.
 - Oxford Community Center featuring the Jimmy Lee Recreation Center and Great River Water Park at Lexington and Marshall.
 - New outdoor refrigerated ice rinks providing free skating opportunities and extending the skating season for hundreds of children and families in the North End and Payne-Phalen neighborhoods.
 - Allocated \$8 million to help launch the Payne Maryland Project, a new mixed-use development featuring a new library and recreation center in the Payne-Phalen neighborhood.
- Earmarked more than \$1 million for deferred maintenance issues, including improved security at libraries and recreation centers.
- Created \$1 million Energy Conservation Investment Fund to make City-owned buildings more energy efficient, leveraging money from federal recovery dollars and utility companies.
- Built state-of-the-art public safety buildings that add value to the neighborhood and help improve the environment.
 - The Western District Police Station with community room in the Midway neighborhood is the state's first LEED-Gold certified police station.
 - The new fire department headquarters and station for the 1s and 10s on West Seventh Street will feature a green roof.