



2026 Adopted Budget: Safety and Inspections

Department Mission: To preserve and improve the quality of life in Saint Paul by protecting and promoting public health and safety for all. **Learn More:** stpaul.gov/DSI

Department Facts

- **Total General Fund Budget:** \$25,947,629
- **Total Special Fund Budget:** \$2,228,776
- **Total FTEs:** 166.00

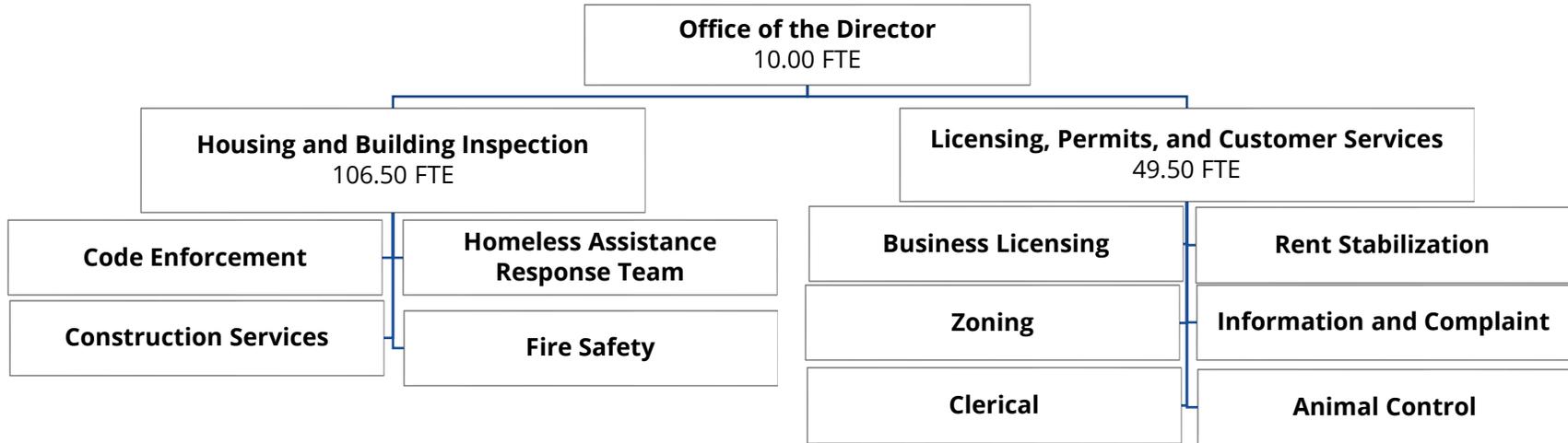
Department Goals

- Prevent life and property loss.
- Promote neighborhood safety and livability.
- Engage communities in effective communication, customer service, and education.
- Promote sustainable and innovative solutions.
- Ensure equity in the delivery of our programs and services.
- Provide seamless services to help individuals operate businesses.

Recent Accomplishments

- Innovation in every aspect of permitting, licensing, proactive and complaint-based inspections, customer service, and payment processing with the decommissioning of two legacy software programs and the implementation of SaaS-based PAULIE.
- Administered and inspected over \$1 billion in construction investment.
- Supported recreational cannabis implementation which saw its first state licenses issued.
- Supported a record number of events throughout the city.
- Processed four times as many Rent Increase Stabilization requests as the previous year, while inquiries and complaints decreased.
- Capital project to repurpose an underutilized Parks building for increased space and modernized care of animals in Saint Paul's care.
- Lead response to the impact of at-risk downtown buildings.
- In 2023 and 2024 about 29% of the city's vacant buildings became reoccupied.
- Fifty residents living outdoors now have access to housing because the Homeless Assistance Response Team (HART) conducted a coordinated entry housing assessment. Six residents have been housed in the last year as well as two pets.
- Triaged more than 15,500 complaints with the top 5 issues being garbage and rubbish, tall grass, overhanging vegetation, general exterior issues, and abandoned vehicles. These five issues make up more than 96% of complaints made to the city.

Safety and Inspections Organizational Chart



Total FTE 166.00

Department Division Descriptions

The Department of Safety and Inspections is managed by the Director and department support staff. It includes the following divisions:

- **Housing and Building Inspection:** The Housing and Building Inspection division is made up of four main services:
 - Code Enforcement, which handles code compliance, nuisance abatement, Truth in Sale of Housing, and vacant buildings.
 - Homeless Assistant Response Team, which connects people experiencing homelessness with resources.
 - Construction Services, which handles business plan review, building inspections, and issues relating to electrical, elevator, mechanical, warm air and ventilations, plumbing, and energy compliance.
 - Fire Safety, which works with resident, commercial, and case managed properties, in addition to fire engineering issues.
- **Licensing, Permits, and Customer Service:** The Licensing, Permits, and Customer Service division is made up of six main services:
 - Business Licensing, which handles licensing and compliance, skyway management, gambling enforcement, project facilitation, and sound level variances.
 - Rent Stabilization, which handles process appeals and exemptions and customer service.
 - Zoning, which handles zoning and sign regulation, site plan review, zoning compliance.
 - Information and complaint, which handles city-wide information calls, process complaints, and communication.
 - Front Counter, which handles processing licenses, payments, and permits and provides clerical administration for hearings.
 - Animal Control, which handles animal licensing and sheltering, along with code compliance.

Fiscal Summary: Safety And Inspection

2026 Adopted Budget

Spending	2023 Actuals	2024 Adopted	2025 Adopted	2026 Adopted	Change From Prior Year	2025 Adopted FTE	2026 Adopted
100: CITY GENERAL FUND	22,515,820	24,398,624	25,800,516	25,947,629	147,113	165.00	161.00
200: CITY GRANTS	60,942	268,850	-	-	-	-	-
211: GENERAL GOVT SPECIAL PROJECTS	-	-	1,590,000	1,640,002	50,002	-	5.00
215: ASSESSMENT FINANCING	207,378	489,029	488,985	488,774	(211)	-	-
228: CHARITABLE GAMBLING	537,697	-	-	-	-	-	-
645: RECYCLING AND ORGANIZED TRASH	-	-	-	100,000	100,000	-	-
Total	23,321,837	25,156,503	27,879,502	28,176,405	296,903	165.00	166.00

Financing	2023 Actuals	2024 Adopted	2025 Adopted	2026 Adopted	Change From Prior Year
100: CITY GENERAL FUND	21,431,471	19,051,848	22,064,635	22,197,135	132,500
200: CITY GRANTS	51,192	268,850	-	-	-
211: GENERAL GOVT SPECIAL PROJECTS	-	-	1,590,000	1,640,002	50,002
215: ASSESSMENT FINANCING	202,851	489,029	488,985	488,774	(211)
228: CHARITABLE GAMBLING	280,254	-	-	-	-
645: RECYCLING AND ORGANIZED TRASH	-	-	-	100,000	100,000
Total	21,965,767	19,809,727	24,143,620	24,425,911	282,291

Budget Changes Summary

The 2026 Department of Safety and Inspections adopted General Fund budget recognizes anticipated cannabis registration revenue of \$132,500 and adds a DSI Inspector III position to manage registration, zoning, and compliance checks for retail hemp and cannabis locations. The budget also includes targeted reductions totaling \$335,060 in computer lease renewals, office supplies, and attrition. Other changes in the DSI General Fund budget reflect current service level adjustments for salaries, benefits, and other ongoing operational costs.

The 2026 budget shifts costs related to the Homeless Assistance Response Team (HART) out of the General Fund. Eligible solid waste and recycling costs totaling \$100,000 are moved to the Solid Waste and Recycling Fund and 5.0 FTE and remaining HART General Fund expenses totaling \$621,910 are moved to the Opioid Settlement Fund.

DSI special fund budgets also reflect the removal of \$1,440,000 in one-time investments made in the 2025 budget to advance the City's All-In Housing Framework, the repurposing of \$150,000 from the SAC Financial Assistance project, and current service level adjustments for salaries, benefits and other ongoing operational costs.

100: General Fund

Safety and Inspections

Current Service Level Adjustments

Current service level adjustments include inflationary increases due to salary and benefit costs, adjustments to department contributions to citywide services such as property insurance and telephone monthly charges, and other revenue and expense adjustments. As part of the initial 2026 budget phase, an attrition adjustment made in the 2025 Adopted Budget has been reduced and replaced with a reduction in materials and services. Starting in 2026, the State of Minnesota will begin offering Paid Leave benefits funded by payroll contributions. The budget reflects this premium.

	Change from 2025 Adopted		
	Spending	Financing	FTE
Remove attrition adjustment	294,927	-	-
Reduction to materials and services	(68,590)	-	-
State of Minnesota Paid Leave	66,848	-	-
Other current service level adjustments	794,724	-	-
Subtotal:	1,087,909	-	-

Mayor's Proposed Changes

Department Reductions

The 2026 budget reflects targeted reductions by the Department of Safety and Inspections in computer lease renewals, office supplies, and increase of planned attrition, made possible by the implementation of the new PAULIE system.

	Change from 2025 Adopted		
	Spending	Financing	FTE
Computer lease renewals and office supplies	(45,060)	-	-
Attrition adjustment	(290,000)	-	-
Subtotal:	(335,060)	-	-

Cannabis Registration Administration

The 2026 budget reflects increased revenue and expenses associated with registration, zoning, and compliance checks for retail hemp and cannabis locations. A DSI Inspector III position has been added to manage this work.

Cannabis registration revenue	-	132,500	-
DSI Inspector III	116,174	-	1.00
Subtotal:	116,174	132,500	1.00

Homeless Assistance Response Team (HART) Shifts

The 2026 budget moves the budget for HART from the General Fund to special funds. Expenses related to refuse disposal are shifted to the Recycling and Solid Waste Fund, while remaining program staff and other expenses are moved to Opioid Settlement funding within the General Government Special Projects Fund. Corresponding increases can be found in these two funds.

Shift HART expenses to Opioid Settlement Fund	(621,910)	-	(5.00)
Shift HART trash expenses to Recycling and Solid Waste Fund	(100,000)	-	-
Subtotal:	(721,910)	-	(5.00)

Fund 100 Budget Changes Total	147,113	132,500	(4.00)
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215: Assessment Fund

Safety and Inspections

The Assessment Fund includes revenues from abatement activities.

Current Service Level Adjustments

	Change from 2025 Adopted		FTE
	Spending	Financing	

Current service level adjustments reflect changes in spending and revenue patterns. Current service level adjustments include inflationary increases due to salary and benefit costs, adjustments to department contributions to citywide services such as property insurance and telephone monthly charges, and other revenue and expense adjustments.

Current service level adjustments	(211)	(211)	-
Subtotal:	(211)	(211)	-

Fund 215 Budget Changes Total

(211) (211) -

228: Charitable Gambling Fund

Safety and Inspections

The Charitable Gambling Fund was discontinued in the 2024 Adopted Budget

	Change from 2025 Adopted		FTE
	Spending	Financing	

No changes from 2025 Adopted Budget

Subtotal:	-	-	-
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Fund 228 Budget Changes Total

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645: Recycling and Solid Waste

Safety and Inspections

The Recycling and Solid Waste Fund includes the budget for the City's recycling contract and the Organized Trash Collection program.

Mayor's Proposed Changes

	Change from 2025 Adopted		FTE
	Spending	Financing	

Shift HART Expenses from General Fund

The 2026 budget moves eligible HART-related refuse disposal expenses to the Recycling and Solid Waste Fund from the General Fund.

Shift HART trash expenses	100,000	100,000	-
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Fund 645 Budget Changes Total

100,000 100,000 -

Safety and Inspections Spending Reports

Spending Plan by Department: Safety And Inspection

Fund: 100 - CITY GENERAL FUND

Budget Year: 2026

Spending by Major Account	2023 Actuals	2024 Adopted	2025 Adopted	2026 Adopted	Change From Prior Year
Employee Expense	19,528,726	21,506,707	22,908,391	23,285,391	377,000
Services	2,711,112	2,573,529	2,591,273	2,391,386	(199,887)
Materials And Supplies	214,230	248,202	248,002	218,002	(30,000)
Additional Expenses	-	250	250	250	-
Capital Outlay	54,167	45,000	45,000	45,000	-
Debt Service	86	100	100	100	-
Other Financing Uses	7,500	24,836	7,500	7,500	-
Total Spending by Major Account	22,515,820	24,398,624	25,800,516	25,947,629	147,113

Spending by Accounting Unit	2023 Actuals	2024 Adopted	2025 Adopted	2026 Adopted	Change From Prior Year
10024100 - DSI ADMINISTRATION	1,223,500	832,538	1,981,256	1,991,704	10,448
10024200 - PROPERTY CODE ENFORCEMENT	1,543,536	1,378,647	944,419	1,072,645	128,226
10024205 - VACANT BLDG CODE ENFORCEMENT	803,393	785,607	779,748	897,708	117,960
10024210 - SUMMARY NUISANCE ABATEMENT	1,088,339	914,245	914,245	918,245	4,000
10024215 - TRUTH IN SALE OF HOUSING	128,270	136,736	129,686	136,835	7,149
10024225 - DSI UNSHELTERED	488,021	419,060	689,888	-	(689,888)
10024230 - RENT STABILIZATION	232,576	368,766	380,563	315,479	(65,084)
10024300 - CONSTRUCTION SVCS AND PERMITS	9,024,815	10,219,926	11,190,251	11,400,291	210,040
10024400 - FIRE CERTIFICATE OF OCCUPANCY	2,818,230	3,249,528	3,125,527	2,966,252	(159,275)
10024500 - BUSINESS AND TRADE LICENSE	1,583,395	1,837,979	1,499,336	1,777,006	277,670
10024505 - ZONING	1,094,563	1,127,412	1,195,077	1,120,414	(74,663)
10024510 - ANIMAL AND PEST CONTROL	1,124,540	1,336,754	1,291,488	1,318,673	27,185
10024520 - INFORMATION AND COMPLAINTS	546,786	717,268	835,992	931,064	95,072
10024525 - DSI CLERICAL SUPPORT	815,856	1,074,160	843,040	1,101,313	258,273
Total Spending by Accounting Unit	22,515,820	24,398,624	25,800,516	25,947,629	147,113

Spending Plan by Department: Safety And Inspection

Fund: 200 - CITY GRANTS

Budget Year: 2026

Spending by Major Account	2023 Actuals	2024 Adopted	2025 Adopted	2026 Adopted	Change From Prior Year
Employee Expense	45,934	-	-	-	-
Services	15,008	268,850	-	-	-
Total Spending by Major Account	60,942	268,850	-	-	-

Spending by Accounting Unit	2023 Actuals	2024 Adopted	2025 Adopted	2026 Adopted	Change From Prior Year
20024800 - DSI FEDERAL GRANTS	9,750	268,850	-	-	-
20024810 - DSI STATE GRANTS	51,192	-	-	-	-
Total Spending by Accounting Unit	60,942	268,850	-	-	-

Spending Plan by Department: Safety And Inspection

Fund: 211 - GENERAL GOVT SPECIAL PROJECTS

Budget Year: 2026

Spending by Major Account	2023 Actuals	2024 Adopted	2025 Adopted	2026 Adopted	Change From Prior Year
Employee Expense	-	-	440,000	611,910	171,910
Services	-	-	150,000	1,020,092	870,092
Materials And Supplies	-	-	-	8,000	8,000
Additional Expenses	-	-	1,000,000	-	(1,000,000)
Total Spending by Major Account	-	-	1,590,000	1,640,002	50,002

Spending by Accounting Unit	2023 Actuals	2024 Adopted	2025 Adopted	2026 Adopted	Change From Prior Year
21124100 - DSI SPECIAL PROJECTS	-	-	1,440,000	-	(1,440,000)
21124700 - DSI OPIOID SETTLEMENT	-	-	-	1,640,002	1,640,002
21124820 - DSI SAC FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE	-	-	150,000	-	(150,000)
Total Spending by Accounting Unit	-	-	1,590,000	1,640,002	50,002

Spending Plan by Department: Safety And Inspection

Fund: 215 - ASSESSMENT FINANCING

Budget Year: 2026

Spending by Major Account	2023 Actuals	2024 Adopted	2025 Adopted	2026 Adopted	Change From Prior Year
Services	207,378	489,029	488,985	488,774	(211)
Total Spending by Major Account	207,378	489,029	488,985	488,774	(211)

Spending by Accounting Unit	2023 Actuals	2024 Adopted	2025 Adopted	2026 Adopted	Change From Prior Year
21524250 - NUISANCE BUILDINGS ABATEMENT	207,378	489,029	488,985	488,774	(211)
Total Spending by Accounting Unit	207,378	489,029	488,985	488,774	(211)

Spending Plan by Department: Safety And Inspection

Fund: 228 - CHARITABLE GAMBLING

Budget Year: 2026

Spending by Major Account	2023 Actuals	2024 Adopted	2025 Adopted	2026 Adopted	Change From Prior Year
Services	20,762	-	-	-	-
Additional Expenses	506,935	-	-	-	-
Other Financing Uses	10,000	-	-	-	-
Total Spending by Major Account	537,697	-	-	-	-

Spending by Accounting Unit	2023 Actuals	2024 Adopted	2025 Adopted	2026 Adopted	Change From Prior Year
22824550 - GAMBLING ENFORCEMENT	537,697	-	-	-	-
Total Spending by Accounting Unit	537,697	-	-	-	-

Spending Plan by Department: Safety And Inspection

Fund: 645 - RECYCLING AND ORGANIZED TRASH

Budget Year: 2026

Spending by Major Account	2023 Actuals	2024 Adopted	2025 Adopted	2026 Adopted	Change From Prior Year
Services	-	-	-	100,000	100,000
Total Spending by Major Account	-	-	-	100,000	100,000

Spending by Accounting Unit	2023 Actuals	2024 Adopted	2025 Adopted	2026 Adopted	Change From Prior Year
64524490 - DSI RECYCLING AND SOLID WASTE	-	-	-	100,000	100,000
Total Spending by Accounting Unit	-	-	-	100,000	100,000

Safety and Inspections Financing Reports

Financing Plan by Department: Safety And Inspection

Fund: 100 - CITY GENERAL FUND

Budget Year: 2026

Financing by Major Account	2023 Actuals	2024 Adopted	2025 Adopted	2026 Adopted	Change From Prior Year
License And Permit	13,797,430	10,969,946	12,349,643	12,482,143	132,500
Intergovernmental Revenue	-	35,000	-	-	-
Charges For Services	5,802,508	5,812,881	7,680,971	7,680,971	-
Fine And Forfeiture	61,660	57,000	57,000	57,000	-
Assessments	2,284	26,700	26,700	26,700	-
Miscellaneous Revenue	8,090	22,000	22,000	22,000	-
Other Financing Sources	1,759,498	2,128,321	1,928,321	1,928,321	-
Total Financing by Major Account	21,431,471	19,051,848	22,064,635	22,197,135	132,500

Financing by Accounting Unit	2023 Actuals	2024 Adopted	2025 Adopted	2026 Adopted	Change From Prior Year
10024100 - DSI ADMINISTRATION	131,692	151,925	151,925	151,925	-
10024200 - PROPERTY CODE ENFORCEMENT	26,946	84,840	49,840	49,840	-
10024205 - VACANT BLDG CODE ENFORCEMENT	386,905	414,275	456,075	456,075	-
10024210 - SUMMARY NUISANCE ABATEMENT	1,442,503	1,848,700	1,648,700	1,648,700	-
10024215 - TRUTH IN SALE OF HOUSING	127,847	156,060	156,060	156,060	-
10024300 - CONSTRUCTION SVCS AND PERMITS	15,908,694	13,071,918	16,091,372	16,091,372	-
10024400 - FIRE CERTIFICATE OF OCCUPANCY	1,510,417	1,545,901	1,677,391	1,677,391	-
10024500 - BUSINESS AND TRADE LICENSE	1,251,204	1,056,992	1,112,035	1,112,035	-
10024505 - ZONING	352,150	393,465	393,465	525,965	132,500
10024510 - ANIMAL AND PEST CONTROL	280,368	315,026	315,026	315,026	-
10024520 - INFORMATION AND COMPLAINTS	12,746	12,746	12,746	12,746	-
Total Financing by Accounting Unit	21,431,471	19,051,848	22,064,635	22,197,135	132,500

Financing Plan by Department: Safety And Inspection

Fund: 200 - CITY GRANTS

Budget Year: 2026

Financing by Major Account	2023 Actuals	2024 Adopted	2025 Adopted	2026 Adopted	Change From Prior Year
Intergovernmental Revenue	51,192	268,850	-	-	-
Total Financing by Major Account	51,192	268,850	-	-	-

Financing by Accounting Unit	2023 Actuals	2024 Adopted	2025 Adopted	2026 Adopted	Change From Prior Year
20024800 - DSI FEDERAL GRANTS	-	268,850	-	-	-
20024810 - DSI STATE GRANTS	51,192	-	-	-	-
Total Financing by Accounting Unit	51,192	268,850	-	-	-

Fund: 211 - GENERAL GOVT SPECIAL PROJECTS

Budget Year: 2026

Financing by Major Account	2023 Actuals	2024 Adopted	2025 Adopted	2026 Adopted	Change From Prior Year
Other Financing Sources	-	-	1,590,000	1,640,002	50,002
Total Financing by Major Account	-	-	1,590,000	1,640,002	50,002

Financing by Accounting Unit	2023 Actuals	2024 Adopted	2025 Adopted	2026 Adopted	Change From Prior Year
21124100 - DSI SPECIAL PROJECTS	-	-	1,440,000	-	(1,440,000)
21124700 - DSI OPIOID SETTLEMENT	-	-	-	1,640,002	1,640,002
21124820 - DSI SAC FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE	-	-	150,000	-	(150,000)
Total Financing by Accounting Unit	-	-	1,590,000	1,640,002	50,002

Financing Plan by Department: Safety And Inspection

Fund: 215 - ASSESSMENT FINANCING

Budget Year: 2026

Financing by Major Account	2023 Actuals	2024 Adopted	2025 Adopted	2026 Adopted	Change From Prior Year
Other Financing Sources	202,851	489,029	488,985	488,774	(211)
Total Financing by Major Account	202,851	489,029	488,985	488,774	(211)

Financing by Accounting Unit	2023 Actuals	2024 Adopted	2025 Adopted	2026 Adopted	Change From Prior Year
21524250 - NUISANCE BUILDINGS ABATEMENT	202,851	489,029	488,985	488,774	(211)
Total Financing by Accounting Unit	202,851	489,029	488,985	488,774	(211)

Fund: 228 - CHARITABLE GAMBLING

Budget Year: 2026

Financing by Major Account	2023 Actuals	2024 Adopted	2025 Adopted	2026 Adopted	Change From Prior Year
Taxes	280,254	-	-	-	-
Total Financing by Major Account	280,254	-	-	-	-

Financing by Accounting Unit	2023 Actuals	2024 Adopted	2025 Adopted	2026 Adopted	Change From Prior Year
22824550 - GAMBLING ENFORCEMENT	280,254	-	-	-	-
Total Financing by Accounting Unit	280,254	-	-	-	-

Financing Plan by Department: Safety And Inspection

Fund: 645 - RECYCLING AND ORGANIZED TRASH

Budget Year: 2026

Financing by Major Account	2023 Actuals	2024 Adopted	2025 Adopted	2026 Adopted	Change From Prior Year
Other Financing Sources	-	-	-	100,000	100,000
Total Financing by Major Account	-	-	-	100,000	100,000

Financing by Accounting Unit	2023 Actuals	2024 Adopted	2025 Adopted	2026 Adopted	Change From Prior Year
64524490 - DSI RECYCLING AND SOLID WASTE	-	-	-	100,000	100,000
Total Financing by Accounting Unit	-	-	-	100,000	100,000