



LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

JERRY E. ABRAMSON
MAYOR

Dear Fellow Citizens,

I am pleased to present my sixth budget for Louisville Metro Government – a spending plan that continues our progress, despite a slowing economy.

We are projecting the slowest revenue growth in five years at 2.9 percent, but we will nevertheless continue to invest in our future. This coming fiscal year, we will witness major commitments coming to fruition – construction of the downtown arena, MetroSafe, and a new animal services building.

With this spending plan, I propose:

- Reducing the size of government, by eliminating 400 vacant positions. With these cutbacks, we will have eliminated more than 1,100 positions since merger;
- Allocating \$16 million for Phase III of Metro Safe, including a new downtown headquarters and radio system;
- Providing \$154 million for police, about 30 percent of the budget. This includes training more than 100 new police officers to maintain force strength;
- Investing \$4 million to build a new Beechmont Fire Station, continuing our fire modernization plan;
- Building a new library branch in Newburg, a \$1 million project that also includes new dollars to staff and operate the branch; and
- Investing in our downtown by providing \$17.6 million to purchase key land parcels in the former Water Company Block for the Center City project. This project brings much needed retail to our growing downtown.

This budget also improves our parks, expands our roads and bike paths and includes several million in grants to non-profits and faith-based organizations, which do so much important works in all areas of our hometown.

I appreciate your partnership and I look forward to the coming fiscal year, which brings numerous challenges but also opportunities.

Sincerely,

Jerry E. Abramson
Mayor