



**OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY**

JERRY E. ABRAMSON
MAYOR

Dear Fellow Citizens,

I am pleased to present my seventh budget for Louisville Metro Government – a spending plan that continues our progress and maintains basic services for our citizens despite the longest national economic recession since the Great Depression.

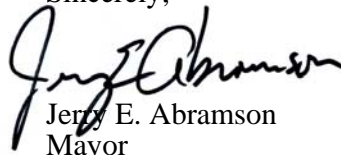
The economic downturn has posed a great challenge in the current budget year with revenues declining by about 2 percent from the previous fiscal year, the first decline in the new government's history. Unfortunately, we are projecting another revenue decline of about 1.4 percent in the coming year. To meet this challenge, my budget plan continues to shrink the size of government and find new efficiencies to deliver the core services, such as public safety, that our government must provide.

In this spending plan, I propose:

- Reducing the size of government by eliminating 528 positions – 409 vacant jobs and 119 filled jobs. With these cutbacks, we will have eliminated about 1,600 positions since merger;
- Creating about 3,000 private-sector jobs to stimulate the local economy with more than \$100 million in capital investments in roads, sidewalks, public housing, parks and other projects;
- Devoting the largest single share of General Fund revenue – more than 56 percent – to police and public protection to keep citizens safe;
- Investing \$28.9 million in streets, sidewalks, bikeways, other transportation needs – the largest allocation in seven years of our new government;
- Completing the new MetroSafe emergency communications network, including a new downtown headquarters at Fifth and Liberty streets;
- Allocating \$18.9 million to provide housing improvements for elderly and low-income citizens; and
- Improving our parks system by providing \$4.5 million, primarily for connecting trails.

By working closely together, we have moved Louisville forward despite the difficult challenges in recent years. I look forward to continuing that partnership in the year ahead to make a positive difference for our hometown.

Sincerely,



Jerry E. Abramson
Mayor

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