



Highlights of Mayor Abramson's Proposed FY 2005-06 Budget

No tax increases or service cuts

Creates more responsive Emergency Medical Services

- Adds 46 EMTs and paramedics – a 23 percent staff increase – to speed response and improve emergency medical care
- Funds 11 new ambulances and 7 refurbished ambulances

Allocates largest share of dollars to police department

- Allocates \$10 million of the \$13 million in new revenue growth to police, bringing department's budget to \$125 million (30 percent of entire budget)
- Provides funding to hire and train 100 police officers
- Supports chief's continuing efforts to hire civilians for office jobs to free up more officers to work the streets

Connects all emergency responders for the first time under MetroSafe

- Provides funding to open and operate the new MetroSafe Emergency Communications Center at 768 Barret Ave., beginning this fall
- Supports continuing renovations at the former Federal Reserve Building that will serve as main headquarters when it opens in 2007

Fuels largest expansion of parks system in three decades

- Provides \$1 million to support a \$20 million private fundraising drive to purchase about 3,000 acres for parkland in underserved suburban areas along Floyds Fork

Continues cutting the size of local government

- Eliminates 260 funded positions without layoffs
- Nearly 800 funded positions eliminated in three years

Other budget highlights

Economic Development and Jobs

- Invests \$6.9 million in job attraction, retention and expansion, including \$1.2 million for economic development partnership with Greater Louisville Inc.
- Supports expansion of the community's fastest-growing local businesses with additional \$117,000 for the Mayor's High Impact program
- Provides \$350,000 for MetaCyte, a business "incubator" that helps start-up life sciences and technology companies

Health

- Supports newest phase of Mayor's Health Hometown Movement, a weight loss initiative to reduce rates of obesity, heart disease and other health problems
- Launches effort to reduce health problems that disproportionately affect minorities
- Provides \$7 million for indigent care at University Hospital

Parks

- Provides \$26.2 million to operate Metro Parks system and \$5.8 million for additional capital improvements at scores of parks
- Continues development of a 23-mile bike and pedestrian trail from the Farnsley-Moreman House in Southwest Louisville (Ohio River Levee Trail) to Waterfront Park (Big Four Bridge)

Roads, Streets and Sidewalks

- Spends \$12.6 million on scores of Public Works repairs and improvements

Downtown

- Continues downtown renaissance with nearly \$2 million in funds for street and sidewalk improvements, Waterfront Park expansion and other infrastructure

Housing

- Allocates \$2.4 million to continue conversion of Clarksdale public housing complex into a mixed-income neighborhood
- Provides \$2.67 in capital funds for housing improvements in Newburg, Portland, Cane Run Road area and other neighborhoods

Youth

- Establishes new Youth One-Stop Center to connect young people with educational and job resources, a partnership of multiple Metro Government agencies led by Kentuckiana Works

Library

- Continues \$3.5 million in annual funding for books and materials
- Sets aside an additional \$200,000 for land acquisition for new branches