

Office of Inspector General for Public Safety

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<https://www.seattle.gov/inspector-general>

Department Overview

The Office of Inspector General for Public Safety (OIG) was established in 2017 as part of the City of Seattle's police accountability system through [Ordinance 125315](#). OIG's purpose is to oversee the management, practices, training, supervision, and policies of the Seattle Police Department (SPD) and Office of Police Accountability (OPA) in order to promote fairness, legitimacy, and integrity in the delivery of law enforcement services and in the investigation of police misconduct. OIG's responsibilities include:

- Ensuring SPD is meeting its mission to address crime and improve quality of life through the delivery of constitutional, professional, and effective police services that retain the trust, respect, and support of the community;
- Assuming oversight previously conducted by the federal monitor related to use of force, crowd management, supervision, response to persons in crisis, bias and disparity, and related areas of concern to assure ongoing fidelity to the principles underlying the former Consent Decree, United States of America v. City of Seattle (USDC No. 2:12-cv-01282-JLR);
- Fulfilling obligations to monitor and review SPD acquisition and use of surveillance technology (pursuant to Seattle Municipal Code Chapter 14.18.060) as it evolves and expands;
- Conducting performance audits and reviews to ensure the integrity of SPD and OPA processes and operations;
- Reviewing OPA's intake and investigation of SPD misconduct allegations;
- Evaluating SPD response to incidents involving death, serious injury, serious use of force, mass demonstrations, or other issues of significant public concern to assess the integrity of SPD investigative processes;
- Responding to emerging policy projects from council members, community and other key stakeholders;
- Maintaining and promoting use of a hotline and other technologies to receive anonymous reports from the public and City employees; and
- Making recommendations to policymakers aimed at increasing fairness, equity, and integrity in the delivery of SPD services and related criminal justice system processes.

To fulfill these responsibilities, OIG has four operational functions: audits, investigations, compliance and policy, and strategic leadership to include operations and administration, guided by an overarching goal to work toward a sustainable, accountable law enforcement system.

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Budget Snapshot

	2025 Actuals	2026 Adopted	2027 Proposed	2028 Proposed
Department Support				
General Fund Support	4,736,093	5,429,157	5,325,353	5,390,455
Total Operations	4,736,093	5,429,157	5,325,353	5,390,455
Total Appropriations	4,736,093	5,429,157	5,325,353	5,390,455

Full-Time Equivalents Total*	22.50	23.00	23.00	23.00
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* FTE totals are provided for informational purposes only. Changes in FTEs resulting from City Council or Human Resources Director actions outside of the budget process may not be detailed here

Budget Overview

The City's 2027-2028 Proposed Budget maintains core services for the Office of Inspector General. Changes include a budget realignment with spending in the non-labor accounts and minor Citywide technical changes.

Incremental Budget Changes

Office of Inspector General for Public Safety

	Dollars	FTE
2026 Adopted Budget	5,429,157	23.00
Baseline		
Citywide Adjustments for Standard Cost Changes	76,393	-
Reduce SCERS Retirement Contribution Rate	(49,969)	-
Proposed Operating		
Reduce Non-labor Budget to Align with Actual Costs	(130,227)	-
Total Incremental Changes	\$(103,804)	-
Total 2027 Proposed Budget	\$5,325,353	23.00

Description of Incremental Budget Changes

Baseline

Citywide Adjustments for Standard Cost Changes

Expenditures	\$76,393
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Citywide technical adjustments made in the baseline phase reflect changes to internal services costs, including rates from the Department of Finance & Administrative Services, Seattle Information Technology Department, Seattle

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Department of Human Resources, and for healthcare and other central cost factors. These adjustments reflect initial assumptions about these costs and inflators early in the budget process.

Reduce SCERS Retirement Contribution Rate

Expenditures \$(49,969)

The City's employee retirement system, the Seattle City Employees Retirement System (SCERS) is a defined benefit pension program funded by a combination of salary-based employer (i.e., the City) and employee contributions, and investment earnings. Based on the updated actuarial valuation for 2026, this item reduces the employer contribution rate from the endorsed rate of 15.06% to the SCERS minimum actuarial required rate of 13.48% for 2027 and 13.52% for 2028.

Proposed Operating

Reduce Non-labor Budget to Align with Actual Costs

Expenditures \$(130,227)

This ongoing item reduces budget appropriation by \$130,228 to better align budget with historical spending levels in the non-labor accounts. This reduction is across supplies, equipment, consultants, travel and training and will not have a material impact on program operations.

Expenditure Overview

	2025 Actuals	2026 Adopted	2027 Proposed	2028 Proposed
Appropriations				
OIG - BO-IG-1000 - Office of Inspector General for Public Safety				
00100 - General Fund	4,736,093	5,429,157	5,325,353	5,390,455
Total for BSL: BO-IG-1000	4,736,093	5,429,157	5,325,353	5,390,455
Department Total	4,736,093	5,429,157	5,325,353	5,390,455
Department Full-Time Equivalents Total*	22.50	23.00	23.00	23.00

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Budget Summary by Fund Office of Inspector General for Public Safety

	2025	2026	2027	2028
	Actuals	Adopted	Proposed	Proposed
00100 - General Fund	4,736,093	5,429,157	5,325,353	5,390,455
Budget Totals for OIG	4,736,093	5,429,157	5,325,353	5,390,455

Appropriations by Budget Summary Level and Program

OIG - BO-IG-1000 - Office of Inspector General for Public Safety

The purpose of the Office of Inspector General for Public Safety Budget Summary Level is to provide civilian oversight of management and operations of the Seattle Police Department (SPD) and Office of Police Accountability (OPA) as well as civilian review of criminal justice system operations and practices that involve SPD or OPA.

Program Expenditures	2025	2026	2027	2028
	Actuals	Adopted	Proposed	Proposed
Inspector General for Public Safety	4,736,093	5,429,157	5,325,353	5,390,455
Total	4,736,093	5,429,157	5,325,353	5,390,455
Full-time Equivalents Total*	22.50	23.00	23.00	23.00

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