



# OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

MAYOR BEN WALSH

## Memorandum

**TO:** Members of the Syracuse Common Council

**FROM:** Corey Driscoll Dunham, Chief Administrative Officer  
Conor Muldoon, Chief Operating Officer

**CC:** Ben Walsh, Mayor  
Patricia McBride, City Clerk

**DATE:** May 19, 2025

At Mayor Walsh's request, below is the summary compiled by department heads detailing the services and positions at risk as a result of the Council's amendments to the Mayor's proposed FY26 Budget.

---

**6. Amend – Common Council, 10100 “Professional Services” Account – 541500, decrease expenditure by \$56,140**

**Proposed Budget: \$165,000**

**Amended Budget: \$108,860**

Defer to the Common Council on impact of funding reduction.

---

**7. Amend – Citizen Review Board, 10500 “Professional Services” Account – 541500, decrease expenditure by \$29,040**

**Proposed Budget: \$47,450**

**Amended Budget: \$18,410**

Defer to the Common Council on impact of funding reduction.

---

**8. Amend – Office of the Mayor, 12100 “Contracted Services-Related Parties” Account – 541700, decrease expenditure by \$73,866**

**Proposed Budget: \$254,848**

**Amended Budget: \$180,982**

Elimination of the Syracuse Surge Manager position, tasked with oversight of the Surge Link, the City's community broadband service, providing affordable, high speed internet service

Office of the Mayor  
233 E. Washington St.  
201 City Hall  
Syracuse, N.Y. 13202

Office 315 448 8005  
Fax 315 448 8067

[www.syr.gov.net](http://www.syr.gov.net)

**GROWTH. DIVERSITY. OPPORTUNITY FOR ALL.**



for underserved families. This puts at risk the City's ability to implement the program's expansion into more neighborhoods throughout the City and execute on a \$10 million NYS grant to fund its buildout.

---

**9. Amend – Office of Gun Violence Prevention, 12150 "Professional Services" Account – 541500, decrease expenditure by \$150,000**

**Proposed Budget: \$200,000**

**Amended Budget: \$50,000**

Reduction in the Trauma Response Team which assists in the engagement with youth affected by neighborhood conflict in an effort to prevent gun violence.

---

**10. Amend – Office of Communications, 12120 "Consumable Supplies & Materials" Account 540541, decrease expenditure by \$2,000**

**Proposed Budget: \$2,000**

**Amended Budget: \$0**

Elimination of miscellaneous expenses related to special events, i.e. St. Patrick's Day striping, Ramadan community dinner.

---

**11. Amend – Office of Communications, 12120 "Technical Devices & Tools" Account 540542, decrease expenditure by \$6,200**

**Proposed Budget: \$6,200**

**Amended Budget: \$0**

Elimination of funds for electronic equipment to support constituent communications.

---

**12. Amend - Office of Communications, 12120 "Other Services" Account – 540552, decrease expenditure by \$19,394**

**Proposed Budget: \$22,300**

**Amended Budget: \$2,906**

Elimination of Language Line translation and interpretation services that impact accessibility for residents as well as budget for all outside expenses related to constituent communications.

---



**13. Amend - Office of Accountability, Performance & Innovation (API), 12140 "Factual & Informational" Account – 540530, decrease expenditure by \$649,723**

**Proposed Budget: \$2,710,000**

**Amended Budget: \$2,060,277**

The software applications contained within this budget serve core operational needs within departments. Funding reductions, without the benefit of the Council's commissioned tax-payer funded software audit, may result in staffing cuts, inefficiencies and limited-service delivery. The reduction in funding for software and enterprise service platforms puts at risk several applications including, but not limited to:

- **SYRCityline (SeeClickFix platform):** Residents will no longer be able to easily report and track issues like potholes, illegal dumping, or broken streetlights online. Eliminating this tool removes a vital connection between residents and government services.
- **Samsara (Vehicle GPS and dashcam software):** Without this system, the City will lose the ability to track vehicle locations, routes, and activity in real-time. This hampers emergency response, snowplow coordination, and service accountability and will leave the City without critical knowledge of where vehicles are and how they're being used.
- **CityWorks (Work order and asset management software):** Already in use at Water and Parks, this system is how crews manage maintenance, repairs, and capital assets like hydrants, streetlights, and park equipment. Losing CityWorks means losing real-time coordination, tracking, and efficiency and will lead to slower repairs and more resident complaints.
- **DocuSign (Digital signature platform):** Removing this tool will force departments back to physical paperwork for contracts, HR forms, and interdepartmental approvals. This will dramatically slow down hiring, onboarding, and service delivery, at a time when speed and efficiency are most needed.
- **I-manage (law department document management system):** Elimination of this program will eviscerate the law department's ability to prepare and save legal documents in a manner consistent with accepted practice and hinder its ability to efficiently represent the City's interests.

---

**14. Amend - Office of Management & Budget, 13400 "Salaries" Account – 510100, decrease expenditure by \$25,923.**

**Proposed Budget: \$392, 987**

**Amended Budget: \$367,064**

Given the reduction in the salary account to a department that is otherwise fully staffed, this budget cut forces the delay of hiring a new Budget Director until at least September.



**15. Amend - Division of Purchase, 13450 "Office Supplies" Account – 540320, decrease expenditure by \$500.**

**Proposed Budget: \$1,000**

**Amended Budget: \$500**

Limits the funding for office supplies for the Office of Management & Budget to \$500 for the entire fiscal year.

---

**16. Amend - Division of Purchase, 13450 "Travel" Account – 541610, decrease expenditure by \$500.**

**Proposed Budget: \$500**

**Amended Budget: \$0**

Elimination of the entire travel budget for the Office of Management & Budget.

---

**17. Amend - Division of Purchase, 13450 "Training" Account – 541620, decrease expenditure by \$700.**

**Proposed Budget: \$700**

**Amended Budget: \$0**

Elimination of the entire training budget for the Office of Management & Budget.

---

**18. Amend - Division of Equity Compliance & Social Impact, 64500 "Office Supplies" Account – 540320, decrease expenditure by \$1,000.**

**Proposed Budget: \$1,000**

**Amended Budget: \$0**

Elimination of the entire office supplies budget for the Division of Equity Compliance & Social Impact.

---

**19. Amend - Division of Equity Compliance & Social Impact, 64500 "Travel" Account – 541610, decrease expenditure by \$3,000.**

**Proposed Budget: \$3,000**

**Amended Budget: \$0**



Elimination of any travel expenses for the Division of Equity Compliance & Social Impact.

---

**20. Amend - Division of Equity Compliance & Social Impact, 64500 "Training" Account – 541620, decrease expenditure by \$4,000.**

**Proposed Budget: \$4,000**

**Amended Budget: \$0**

Elimination of any training for the Division of Equity Compliance & Social Impact, at a time when the City is making efforts to attract a more diverse pool of qualified contractors for City projects

---

**21. Amend - Division of Equity Compliance & Social Impact, 64500 "Professional Development" Account – 541630, decrease expenditure by \$1,000.**

**Proposed Budget: \$1,000**

**Amended Budget: \$0**

Elimination of any professional development opportunities for staff within the Division of Equity Compliance & Social Impact, at a time when the City is making efforts to attract a more diverse pool of qualified contractors for City projects.

---

**22. Amend - Office of Personnel & Labor Relations, 14300 "Salaries" Account – 510100, decrease expenditure by \$97,877.**

**Proposed Budget: \$1,240,311**

**Amended Budget: \$1,142,434**

Elimination of two full-time positions: (1) Administrative Assistant, resulting in an inability to properly manage and verify the \$80M in healthcare expenses, increasing late payments, vendor dissatisfaction, and financial risk; and (2) Employee Relations Generalist, resulting in a delay in investigations, prolonged unresolved employee issues, and increased legal risk and liability. Fewer staff to conduct internal investigations will shift caseloads to outside counsel, exacerbating an already constrained budget. Management guidance to Department Heads and other supervisors will decline even further, increasing the City's legal risk and liability.

---

**23. Amend - Bureau of Research, 14800 "Travel" Account – 541610, decrease expenditure by \$4,185.**

**Proposed Budget: \$8,000**



**Amended Budget: \$3,815**

Reduction in the capacity to receive advanced notice of new grant requirements, including upcoming (but not yet announced) grant opportunities, and limits the ability to build or maintain relationships with external funders, a critical function of the Bureau of Research.

---

**24. Amend - Bureau of Information Technology, 16800 "Salaries" Account – 510100, decrease expenditure by \$170,112.**

**Proposed Budget: \$673,365**

**Amended Budget: \$503,253**

Elimination of two full-time positions at a time when investment in the City's Information Technology infrastructure, and securing the staff to support it, is at a critical point.

---

**25. Amend - Bureau of Information Technology, 16800 "Other Services" Account – 540552, decrease expenditure by \$250,000.**

**Proposed Budget: \$827,478**

**Amended Budget: \$577,478**

Reduction in funding will hinder City's ability to prepare for and respond to cybersecurity concerns.

---

**26. Amend - Bureau of Information Technology, 16800 "Professional Services" Account – 541500, decrease expenditure by \$250,000.**

**Proposed Budget: \$575,000**

**Amended Budget: \$325,000**

Reduction in City's ability to partner with vendors to accomplish projects citywide, including public safety technology improvements, the implementation of the school zone traffic enforcement program. With a reduction in both city staff and funding for external vendors, the City will be unable to complete these projects in an efficient manner, resulting in prolonged timelines with correlated higher costs as a result.

---

**27. Amend - Bureau of Accounts, 13110 "Salaries" Account – 510100, decrease expenditure by \$63,190**

**Proposed Budget: \$886,234**

**Amended Budget: \$823,044**



Elimination of a full-time, senior-level accountant position—undermining financial oversight and reporting accuracy.

- **Eliminates the Accountant III role:** This senior position plays a critical role in financial management and internal control compliance.
- **Jeopardizes timely and accurate financial reporting:** Slower reporting increases risks during audits, budgeting, and year-end closeout.
- **Reduces overall bureau efficiency:** Complex responsibilities will fall to junior staff, slowing operations and increasing the chance of error.

---

**28. Amend - Parking Violations Bureau, 13310 "Salaries" Account – 510100, decrease expenditure by \$74,652.**

**Proposed Budget: \$689,144**

**Amended Budget: \$614,492**

Limits ability to implement school zone traffic enforcement just as it is prepares to launch, one of the few opportunities to generate new revenue.

- **Reduces capacity to process disputes:** The cut jeopardizes the Bureau's ability to handle the volume of challenges from both school zone traffic enforcement and expanded parking ticket operations, risking lost revenue and constituent frustration.
- **Creates a backlog of adjudications:** Without sufficient front-line staff and Hearing Examiners, the City will be unable to resolve ticket disputes within the 30-day standard, resulting in delayed resolutions, diminished public trust, and reduced collections.

---

**29. Amend - Office of the City Auditor, 13200 "Professional Services" Account – 541500, decrease expenditure by \$24,421.**

**Proposed Budget: \$25,000**

**Amended Budget: \$579**

Elimination of the Auditor's ability to hire outside legal counsel, limiting the use of subpoena power, granted to the Office by the Common Council.

---

**30. Amend – City Clerk's Office, 14100 Professional Services Account – 541500, decrease expenditure by \$15,000.**

**Proposed Budget: \$15,000**



**Amended Budget: \$0**

Defer to the City Clerk's Office on the impact of funding reduction.

---

**31. Amend - Department of Assessment, 13550 "Professional Services" Account – 541500, decrease expenditure by \$1,000,000.**

**Proposed Budget: \$1,060,000**

**Amended Budget: \$60,000**

Elimination of the opportunity for a city-wide revaluation, undermining tax fairness and reducing long-term revenue growth:

- **Cancels years of preparation:** The department spent over three years rebuilding its operations, staffing, and systems in anticipation of the revaluation. The cut sidelines this effort and leaves the City without a modernized assessment framework.
  - **Deepens inequities in the tax roll:** With citywide assessments frozen at just 57.5% of market value, inequities will worsen, driving more grievance filings, eroding public trust, and increasing legal and administrative costs.
  - **Threatens future revenue growth:** Without a revaluation, the City forfeits new, recurring tax revenue that could fund critical services and infrastructure.
- 

**32. Amend - Board of Assessment Review, 13560 "Salaries" Account – 510100, decrease expenditure by \$1,414.**

**Proposed Budget: \$20,000**

**Amended Budget: \$18,586**

Reduces capacity of the Board of Assessment Review to address an anticipated higher level of grievance activity, given the increasingly-inequitable assessment roll. Defending and adjudicating the disputes will require more resources, not fewer.

---

**33. Amend - Board of Zoning Appeals, 80100 "Temporary Services-P/T" Account – 510300, decrease expenditure by \$665.**

**Proposed Budget: \$9,200**

**Amended Budget: \$8,535**

Reduces capacity of the Board of Zoning Appeals to address an anticipated higher level of zoning appeals,



given the prolonged approval times and reduced staff capacity with the corresponding funding cuts to staffing.

---

**34. Amend - Law Department, 14200 "Professional Services" Account – 541500, decrease expenditure by \$869,067.**

**Proposed Budget: \$1,680,000**

**Amended Budget: \$810,933**

Severely limits the City's ability to hold bad actors accountable and protect vulnerable residents with a 50% reduction in funding for outside counsel.

- **Ends proactive closures of nuisance properties:** The City will no longer be able to take legal action to shut down chronically problematic properties that destabilize neighborhoods.
  - **Reduces enforcement of illegal cannabis and spike sales:** The City's ability to pursue remedies against unlicensed sellers will be significantly diminished.
  - **Prevents action on tobacco sales to minors:** Legal tools to hold proprietors accountable will be curtailed.
  - **Blocks efforts to secure inspection warrants:** Without legal support, the City cannot compel inspections of rental units, leaving tenants at risk in unsafe or unhealthy housing.
  - **Eliminates new receivership petitions:** The City will be unable to pursue court-appointed management of derelict properties, as was pursued effectively with The Greens and Clear Investment Group.
  - **Shuts down legal action against negligent landlords:** The City will lose capacity to pursue those who acquire and degrade properties, harming tenants and surrounding communities.
- 

**35. Amend - Bureau of Administrative Adjudication, 13320 "Temporary Services-P/T" Account – 510300, decrease expenditure by \$67,658.**

**Proposed Budget: \$380,000**

**Amended Budget: \$312,342**

No impact.

---

**36. Amend - Neighborhood & Business Development, 64200 "Contracted Services-Related Parties" Account – 541700, decrease expenditure by \$97,234.**

**Proposed Budget: \$1,155,237**

**Amended Budget: \$1,058,003**



Elimination of two full-time positions which support code enforcement and the emergency repair program for unaddressed violations in rental housing, as well as coordination with community ambassadors.

---

**37. Amend - Division of Code Enforcement, 36210 "Professional Services" Account – 541500, decrease expenditure by \$250,000.**

**Proposed Budget: \$545,000**

**Amended Budget: \$295,000**

Limits the City's ability to expedite reviews for developers and small contractors, creating delays that disproportionately harm those unable to pay for private plan review and negatively impacts revenue from permitting

---

**38. Amend - Division of Code Enforcement, 36210 "Contracted Services-Related Parties" Account – 541700, decrease expenditure by \$210,000.**

**Proposed Budget: \$2,230,692**

**Amended Budget: \$2,020,692**

Elimination of two existing positions essential to daily zoning and permit functions, further weakening operational capacity.

- **Slows zoning and permit review timelines:** Reduced staff and plan review capacity will result in significantly longer delays for permit approvals and project advancement.
  - **Delays CPC and BZA scheduling:** Applicants may face missed deadlines and higher carrying costs, potentially forcing them to look outside the City for development opportunities.
  - **Reduces Central Permit Office services:** Pre-development and intake meetings will be delayed, and the City's ability to uphold its shared services agreement with Syracuse University will be jeopardized by the loss of a Senior Project Manager.
- 

**39. Amend - Division of Code Enforcement, 36210 Salaries Account – 510100, decrease expenditure by \$120,000.**

**Proposed Budget: \$2,815,659**

**Amended Budget: \$2,695,659**

Elimination of two housing inspector roles at a time when the City's stated goal is to hold landlords



accountable and improve housing quality for tenants.

---

**40. Amend - Division of Planning & Sustainability, 64210 "Professional Services" Account – 541500, decrease expenditure by \$29,260.**

**Proposed Budget: \$192,500**

**Amended Budget: \$163,240**

Threatens the City's ability to plan for historic growth and meet critical state requirements:

- **Cuts Comprehensive Plan and Brownfield funding:** Halts progress on Phase II of the Comprehensive Plan and delays state-required Brownfield services.
  - **Jeopardizes planning for major growth:** At a time of record permit activity and the coming Micron development, these cuts risk missing a once-in-a-generation opportunity to shape the city's future.
- 

**41. Amend - Department of Engineering, 80400 "Salaries" Account – 510100, decrease expenditure by \$110,309.**

**Proposed Budget: \$1,523,767**

**Amended Budget: \$1,413,458**

Elimination of two full-time positions placing both ongoing and planned capital construction projects at significant risk.

- **Reduced Project Capacity:** Engineering may no longer be able to effectively manage the full volume of capital projects that have already secured funding.
  - **Increased Costs:** Due to reduced in-house capacity, the department may be forced to hire external consultants for surveying and construction inspection—especially on smaller projects—at a significantly higher cost to the City.
  - **Slower Permit Reviews:** Staff reductions may lead to longer turnaround times for reviewing permits.
  - **Delayed Implementation of New Processes:** The rollout and enforcement of the new Right-of-Way (ROW) permit process may be hindered by staffing limitations.
- 

**42. Amend - DPW Environmental Services, 14910 "Overtime Wages" Account – 510400, decrease expenditure by \$43,387.**

**Proposed Budget: \$100,000**

**Amended Budget: \$56,613**



Reduction of overtime for the team responsible for litter pickup, brush removal, and addressing illegal setouts will diminish the City's ability to keep neighborhoods clean.

---

**43. Amend - DPW Environmental Services, 14910 "Temporary Services-P/T" Account – 510300, decrease expenditure by \$49,000.**

**Proposed Budget: \$109,200**

**Amended Budget: \$60,200**

Reduction in temporary staff for the team responsible for litter pickup, brush removal, and addressing illegal setouts will diminish the City's ability to keep neighborhoods clean.

---

**44. Amend - DPW Building Services, 16210 Wages- F/T Weekly Account – 510200, decrease expenditure by \$305,022.**

**Proposed Budget: \$2,874,238**

**Amended Budget: \$2,569,216**

Elimination of positions (plumbers, electricians, carpenters) necessary for summer festivals and events downtown.

---

**45. Amend - DPW Street Repair, 51200 "Salaries" Account – 510100, decrease expenditure by \$98,880.**

**Proposed Budget: \$510,684**

**Amended Budget: \$411,804**

Funding reductions for road crews will slow pothole repairs and delay street paving, impacting roadway conditions citywide.

---

**46. Amend - DPW Motor Equipment Maintenance, 51320 "Fuels" Account – 540110, decrease expenditure by \$521,148.**

**Proposed Budget: \$2,600,000**

**Amended Budget: \$2,078,852**

Fuel is a core operational need; funding reduction may result in staffing cuts and limited-service delivery.

---



**47. Amend - DPW Motor Equipment Maintenance, 51320 "Automotive Repairs" Account – 540210, decrease expenditure by \$500,000.**

**Proposed Budget: \$1,500,000**

**Amended Budget: \$1,000,000**

Automotive repair is a core operational need; funding reduction may result in staffing cuts and limited-service delivery.

---

**48. Amend - DPW Snow & Ice Control, 51420 "Consumable Supplies & Materials" Account – 540541, decrease expenditure by \$324,092.**

**Proposed Budget: \$1,600,000**

**Amended Budget: \$1,275,908**

Salt is a core operational need; funding reduction may result in staffing cuts and limited-service delivery.

---

**49. Amend - DPW Waste Collection, Recycling & Disposal, 81600 "Other Services" Account – 540552, decrease expenditure by \$600,874.**

**Proposed Budget: \$4,008,000**

**Amended Budget: \$3,407,126**

Reduction in funding for tipping fees paid to Onondaga County Resource Recovery Agency (OCRRA) for disposal of trash and debris; a core operational need.

---

**50. Amend - DPW Street Cleaning, 81700 "Manual Services" Account – 540551, decrease expenditure by \$70,000.**

**Proposed Budget: \$170,000**

**Amended Budget: \$100,000**

Reduction in funding for disposal of street sweeper debris; a core operational need.

---

**51. Amend - DPW Street Cleaning, 81700 "Other Services" Account – 540552, decrease expenditure by \$45,077.**

**Proposed Budget: \$108,000**



**Amended Budget: \$62,923**

Reduction in funding for disposal of construction debris set to curb by residents; a core operational need.

**52. Amend - DPW Transportation, 81800 "Professional Services" Account – 541500, decrease expenditure by \$1,140,689.**

**Proposed Budget: \$3,498,000**

**Amended Budget: \$2,357,311**

Elimination of future traffic calming, bike, and pedestrian safety improvements, and implementation of the City's Vision Zero initiative will be delayed.

**53. Amend - Police Field Services - Sworn, 31230 "Factual & Informational" Account – 540530, decrease expenditure by \$1,000,000.**

**Proposed Budget: \$3,173,100**

**Amended Budget: \$2,173,100**

Elimination of critical technology applications, which may include but are not limited to:

- Shotspotter - \$450,000
- Flock Safety (License Plate Reader technology) - \$85,000
- Police 1 - \$28,000
- Tip411 (Platform for residents to submit tips anonymously) - \$20,000
- Gangscope - \$18,000

**54. Amend - Police Field Services - Sworn, 31230 "Overtime Wages" Account – 510400, decrease expenditure by \$1,000,000.**

**Proposed Budget: \$6,500,000**

**Amended Budget: \$5,500,000**

Elimination of police details, which may include, but are not limited to:

Armory Square	\$225,000	Downtown Proactive Detail	\$175,000
Police Academy	\$140,000	Background Investigations	\$100,000
Snow Emergencies	\$91,000	St. Patrick's Day Parade	\$60,000



Drug Arrests – Downtown	\$56,000	Dangerous Panhandling	\$53,000
City Pool Summer Detail	\$49,000	Recruitment	\$45,000
Clinton Square Skating Rink	\$42,000	Taste of Syracuse	\$36,000
Juneteenth	\$25,000	Dirtbike/ATV Detail	\$17,000
Italian Festival	\$17,000	Syracuse Nationals Traffic Detail	\$16,000
Tree Lighting	\$14,000	Neighborhood Watch – Southeast District	\$12,000
Polish Festival	\$11,000	Party in the Square	\$10,000
Irish Festival	\$9,000	Loud Noise/Pop-up Party Detail	\$9,000
Neighborhood Watch – SW District	\$8,000	Burnet Park Security	\$8,000
One Love Basketball Tournament	\$7,000	Latino Festival	\$6,000
Jazz in the City	\$4,000	Mary Nelson Community Events	\$5,000
PAL	\$4,000	Halloween Detail	\$3,000
Neighborhood Watch - North	\$2,000	JazzFest	\$2,000

---

**55. Amend - Police Field Services - Sworn, 31230 "Professional Services" Account – 541500, decrease expenditure by \$884,865**

**Proposed Budget: \$2,347,000**

**Amended Budget: \$1,462,135**

Elimination of critical services and community outreach, which may include but are not limited to:

- Liberty Resources (program provides appropriate mental health assistance to citizens in need) - \$500,000
- Community Dialogues (valuable tool to strengthen relationships with the community) - \$75,000
- Recruiting and Public Relations Firm - \$205,000

---

**56. Amend - Police Field Services - Civilian, 31231 "Temporary Services-P/T" Account – 510300, decrease expenditure by \$415,000.**



**Proposed Budget: \$2,725,000**  
**Amended Budget: \$2,310,000**

Elimination of 10 crossing guard positions and 10 Special Patrol Officers.

---

**57. Amend - Police Field Services - Civilian, 31231 "Salaries" Account – 510100, decrease expenditure by \$239,000.**

**Proposed Budget: \$3,809,392**  
**Amended Budget: \$3,570,392**

Elimination of two full-time positions for parking checkers (eliminates potential revenue generated by positions) and four full-time positions for Community Service Officers

---

**58. Amend - Fire Main - Sworn, 34100 "Overtime Wages" Account – 510400, decrease expenditure by \$1,000,000.**

**Proposed Budget: \$5,262,135**  
**Amended Budget: \$4,262,135**

Compromises fire prevention efforts and prolongs timelines for permit reviews:

- **Reduces fire code inspections:** Increases the risk of preventable hazards in homes, businesses, and public buildings.
  - **Delays permit reviews for fire safety compliance:** Slows down construction, renovations, and occupancy approvals, impacting business operations.
  - **Cuts smoke and carbon monoxide detector installations:** Reduces access to this free life-saving service for vulnerable households.
- 

**59. Amend - Fire Main - Sworn, 34100 "Other Services" Account – 540552, decrease expenditure by \$136,000.**

**Proposed Budget: \$312,000**  
**Amended Budget: \$176,000**

Reduction in essential support systems that directly affect firefighter safety, operational readiness, and the department's ability to deliver emergency medical care, fire suppression and special operation services, conduct effective training, and maintain healthy working conditions. These cuts would also severely impact the maintenance of fire apparatus, stations, and life-saving equipment (such as Self-



Contained Breathing Apparatus and aerial ladder testing etc.), ultimately jeopardizing both personnel safety and public assets.

---

**60. Amend - Fire Main - Sworn, 34100 "Manual Services" Account – 540551, decrease expenditure by \$4,000.**

**Proposed Budget: \$13,500**

**Amended Budget: \$9,500**

Reduction in essential support systems that directly affect firefighter safety, operational readiness, and the department's ability to deliver emergency medical care, fire suppression and special operation services, conduct effective training, and maintain healthy working conditions. These cuts would also severely impact the maintenance of fire apparatus, stations, and life-saving equipment (such as Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus and aerial ladder testing etc.), ultimately jeopardizing both personnel safety and public assets.

---

**61. Amend - Fire Main - Sworn, 34100 "Consumable Supplies & Materials" Account – 540541, decrease expenditure by \$50,000.**

**Proposed Budget: \$161,000**

**Amended Budget: \$111,000**

Elimination or delay in critical testing and maintenance of emergency equipment, increasing the likelihood of failure during an emergency:

- **Jaws of Life:** Used in vehicle extractions
  - **SCBA units:** Protect firefighters from smoke and toxic air
  - **Defibrillators and auto pulse machines:** Used for cardiac emergencies
  - **Carbon monoxide monitors**
  - **Ground ladders and fire extinguishers**
  - **Fire apparatus lift equipment**
  - **Diesel exhaust systems:** Protect firefighters from cancer-causing fumes in fire stations
- 

**62. Amend - Fire Main - Sworn, 34100 "Factual & Informational" Account – 540530, decrease expenditure by \$25,000.**

**Proposed Budget: \$173,000**

**Amended Budget: \$148,000**

Compromises dispatch systems, record management, emergency communication infrastructure.



---

**63. Amend - Fire Main – Sworn, 34100 "Facility Repair" Account – 540511, decrease expenditure by \$225,000.**

**Proposed Budget: \$443,500**

**Amended Budget: \$218,500**

Reduction in funding to ensure stations are free from hazards – ground ladders, fire extinguishers, fire apparatus, lift equipment, etc.

---

**64. Amend - Fire Main - Sworn, 34100 "Technical Devices & Tools" Account – 540542, decrease expenditure by \$300,000.**

**Proposed Budget: \$605,000**

**Amended Budget: \$305,000**

Reduction in funding for emergency radios, digital command tools, hindering ability to communicate and coordinate responses in emergency situations.

---

**65. Amend - Fire Main - Sworn, 34100 "Emergency, Medical & Safety Supplies" Account – 540520, decrease expenditure by \$260,000.**

**Proposed Budget: \$640,000**

**Amended Budget: \$380,000**

Reduction in funding for helmets, gloves, boots and fall protection – all of which must be regularly tested, repaired and replaced in order to reduce likelihood of serious injury to firefighters

---

**66. Amend - Fire Main - Sworn, 34100 "Professional Services" Account – 541500, decrease expenditure by \$330,000.**

**Proposed Budget: \$610,000**

**Amended Budget: \$280,000**

Threatens department's ability to meet new federal Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) regulations requiring medical evaluations for firefighters, ongoing fitness for duty, wellness monitoring, etc.



**67. Amend - Fire Main - Sworn, 34100 "Motor Equipment Repair Supplies" Account – 540220, decrease expenditure by \$42,500.**

**Proposed Budget: \$656,500**

**Amended Budget: \$614,000**

Reduction in funding to ensure vehicle readiness in response to emergencies.

---

**68. Amend - Fire Main - Civilian, 34101 "Salaries" Account – 510100, decrease expenditure by \$67,000.**

**Proposed Budget: \$539,740**

**Amended Budget: \$472,740**

Elimination of a dedicated LAN technician to manage network and computer systems across the department and ensure the continuous functionality of essential systems like staffing software, mandated incident reporting and the maintenance and operation of portable radios, 911 alerting systems, and apparatus communications equipment.

---

**69. Amend - Parks Administration, 70200 "Salaries" Account – 510100, decrease expenditure by \$58,648.**

**Proposed Budget: \$678,504**

**Amended Budget: \$619,856**

Elimination of one full-time position in the Parks Administration Bureau.

---

**70. Amend - Parks Grounds Maintenance, 71100 "Contracted Services-Related Parties" Account – 541700, decrease expenditure by \$74,360.**

**Proposed Budget: \$237,905**

**Amended Budget: \$163,545**

Elimination of one filled and one vacant grant-funded positions in the Forestry division.

---

**71. Amend - Parks Grounds Maintenance, 71100 "Manual Services" Account – 540551, decrease expenditure by \$408,640.**



**Proposed Budget: \$2,428,221**  
**Amended Budget: \$2,019,581**

Reduction in funding for contracted services will limit grass mowing on athletic fields, city-owned land, medians, and vacant lots in neighborhoods.

---

**72. Amend - Parks Recreation, 71400 "Salaries" Account – 510100, decrease expenditure by \$165,000.**

**Proposed Budget: \$1,716,380**  
**Amended Budget: \$1,551,380**

Reduction in staffing for pools, youth programming and special events.

---

**73. Amend - Parks Recreation, 71400 "Temporary Services-P/T" Account – 510300, decrease expenditure by \$165,000.**

**Proposed Budget: \$2,003,040**  
**Amended Budget: \$1,838,040**

Elimination of 36 Seasonal recreation and lifeguard positions will lead to reduced public pool operations and fewer youth-focused programs during the summer.

---

**74. Amend - Dog Control Division, 35100 "Salaries" Account – 510100, decrease expenditure by \$37,164.**

**Proposed Budget: \$317,912**  
**Amended Budget: \$280,748**

Elimination of a necessary full-time position at the dog shelter in order to ensure adequate staff coverage.

---

**75. Amend - Special Objects of Expense, 90000 – "Housing Trust" Account – 593007, decrease expenditure by \$1,000,000.**

**Proposed Budget: \$1,000,000**  
**Amended Budget: \$0**

Hinders the efforts of the Syracuse Housing Strategies Corporation to implement the housing strategy



commissioned by the Administration and approved by the Common Council to address the affordable housing crisis.

---

**76. Amend – Special Objects of Expense, 90000 – “Home Headquarters” Account – 595946, increase expenditure by \$1,000,000.**

**Proposed Budget: \$0**

**Amended Budget: \$1,000,000**

While Home Headquarters is a valuable partner, this allocation threatens the Syracuse Housing Strategies Corporation’s ability to expend and leverage monies in accordance with the housing strategy funded by the City and approved by the Common Council.

---

**77. Amend – Water Fund Revenue, increase “Surpluses and Balances – Fund Balance” \$520,000 for a new revenue amount of \$2,625,846.**

**Proposed Budget: \$2,105,846**

**Amended Budget: \$2,625,846**

The amendment eliminates the 2% increase in water rates, which would have amounted to an average increase of \$5/year for residential properties. The failure to raise water rates comes at a time when the City is facing aging infrastructure and embarking on thousands of lead service replacements citywide. This is counter to the advice from Bonadio’s budget analysis, which recommended an increase in water rates. This amendment increases the reliance on the water fund balance, decreasing the amount in the reserves.

---

**78. Amend - Water Fund Revenue, decrease "Sale of Water" Account - 421400 \$520,000 for a new revenue amount of \$26,000,000.**

**Proposed Budget: \$26,520,000**

**Amended Budget: \$26,000,000**

The amendment increases the reliance on the water fund balance as opposed to an increase in water rates (an average increase of \$5/year for residential properties), counter to the recommendations in Bonadio’s budget analysis.

---

**79. Amend - General Fund Revenue, decrease "Surpluses and Balances - Fund Balance" \$12,800,238 for a new revenue amount of \$14,393,809.**



**Proposed Budget: \$27,194,047**  
**Amended Budget: \$14,393,809**

The amendment reduces the draw on the fund balance, putting city services, employees and safety at risk, at a time when the reserve is well above the recommended level for municipalities according to the City's own auditors.

---

**80. Amend - General Fund Revenue, decrease "Tax Levy" \$1,929,274 for a new revenue amount of \$58,970,189.**

**Proposed Budget: \$60,899.463**  
**Amended Budget: \$58,970,189**

The amendment eliminates the additional revenue realized from the proposed tax rate increase and necessitates the elimination of other goods and services.

---

**81. Amend - General Fund Revenue, decrease "1% Added Pursuant to Law" \$25,131 for a new revenue amount of \$583,864**

**Proposed Amount: \$608,995**  
**Amended Budget: \$583,864**

The amendment is a state-mandated adjustment.

---

**82. Amend - General Fund Expense, decrease "1% Added Pursuant to Law" \$25,131 for a new expense amount of \$583,864**

**Proposed Amount: \$608,995**  
**Amended Budget: \$583,864**

The amendment is a state-mandated adjustment.

---

**83. Amend - Syracuse School City District, Miscellaneous Revenue, decrease by \$1,455,000 to \$750,000.**

Defer to the Syracuse City School District on impact of funding reduction.

---



**84. Amend - Syracuse School City District, Technical Adjustment - Salaries and Benefits increase by \$1,422,179 to \$393,824,836.**

Defer to the Syracuse City School District on impact of funding adjustment.

---

**85. Amend - Syracuse School City District, Technical Adjustment - Supplies and Equipment decrease by \$303,569 to \$25,965,375.**

Defer to the Syracuse City School District on impact of funding reduction.

---

**86. Amend - Syracuse School City District, Technical Adjustment - Professional Services increase by \$406,390 to \$147,347,856.**

Defer to the Syracuse City School District on impact of funding adjustment.

---

**87. Amend - Syracuse School City District, Technical Adjustment – Interfund and All Other Expenses decrease by \$3,000,000 to \$6,655,906.**

Defer to the Syracuse City School District on impact of funding reduction.