



Office of the City Controller
Inter Office Correspondence

TO: Mayor Sylvester Turner
City Council Members

DATE: April 28, 2016

FROM: Chris B. Brown, City Controller

SUBJECT: Proposed 2017
Controller's Office Budget

I am pleased to present the proposed Fiscal Year 2017 budget for the Office of the City Controller. The mission of the Controller's Office is to protect the financial integrity of Houston's City government. To accomplish this, the office:

- manages all payroll and vendor payments;
- conducts audits;
- manages investments and debt;
- prepares accurate and timely financial statements;
- provides leadership on policy issues pertaining to the City's financial health;
- has the independent authority to conduct performance reviews of the City bureaucracy;
- assesses the City's future financial condition with accurate forecasts of projected revenues and expenses and the area's economic outlook.

The FY 2017 CTR budget totals \$8,886,974 which compares to FY 2016 budget of \$8,730,585. Budget increases and decreases are described below:

- Target Budget for FY'17 is \$8,886,974;
- FTE's remain the same from FY'16 to FY'17 at 64.5;
- We have a vacancy rate of 5%;
- We have deleted a position in Operations in order to add an Assistant City Auditor III position to allow the Audit Division more staff to complete internal audits;
- We have included the FY'17 Hope Allowance (\$58,592) in the budget;
- We decreased our budget in supplies in FY'17 to \$116,098 from FY'16 \$129,098;
- Pension for FY' 17 has increased from FY' 16 of \$1,351,340 to FY' 17 \$1,469,716;
- Health Ins. also increased from FY' 16 of \$459,722 to FY'17 \$476,572;
- The restricted accounts total increase for FY'17 is \$156,390.

I am pleased to report that in FY 2016 the Treasury Division refinanced three bond packages, saving the City \$183.4 million without extending the terms of debt; the Controller's 2016 Audit Plan had 24 projects listed, eight of which have been completed and resulted in \$2.5 million in identified savings.