



SHAKER HEIGHTS

Memorandum

To: Members of the Finance Committee

From: William M. Ondrey Gruber, Director of Law

cc: David E. Weiss, Mayor
Jeri E. Chaikin, Chief Administrative Officer
John Potts, Director of Finance

Date: May 15, 2023

Re: **Request for Approval of Budget-Neutral Transfer of Funds from Police Budget to Law Department Budget for Outside Counsel Expenses**

The Law Department budget for special legal counsel was set at \$80,000 for 2023, the same as last year.

There were a significant number of invoices for labor counsel costs received for 2022 in early 2023, and significant expenses for such counsel in early 2023 as well. These depleted much of the Department's budgeted amount for legal counsel services.

In addition, the City has faced a number of issues in 2023 that were not anticipated that may require legal assistance.

Upon the recommendation of the Finance Director, I am requesting approval of a budget-neutral transfer of \$80,000 from the Police Patrol Compensation budget to the Law Other Expenses budget for special legal counsel.

The Police Department budget included funds to fully staff the Department as of January 1, 2023, but the Department is not yet at full staffing, so that there will be available funds in the Police Department budget not needed for such staffing through at least the first quarter of 2023.

It is requested that the Committee recommend to Council the transfer of the funds to meet current budget needs in the Law Department.