

# Board of Ethics and Government Accountability

**begs.dc.gov**  
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**Table AG0-1**

Description	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	% Change
	Actual	Actual	Approved	Approved	from FY 2021
OPERATING BUDGET	\$2,307,398	\$2,471,078	\$3,134,276	\$3,705,105	18.2
FTEs	15.3	15.2	20.5	24.0	17.1
CAPITAL BUDGET	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	N/A
FTEs	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	N/A

The District of Columbia's Board of Ethics and Government Accountability (BEGA) is responsible for overseeing the Office of Government Ethics and the Office of Open Government. The Office of Government Ethics administers and enforces the District of Columbia Code of Conduct. The Office of Open Government enforces government-wide compliance with the D.C. Freedom of Information Act and the Open Meetings Act.

## Summary of Services

Specifically, BEGA is responsible for:

- Investigating alleged violations of the Code of Conduct, holding adversarial hearings and, where appropriate, levying sanctions;
- Issuing Advisory Opinions, providing “safe-harbor” for good-faith reliance on these opinions;
- Issuing Advisory Opinions on its own initiative;
- Conducting mandatory ethics training for District government employees;
- Updating and maintaining the District Ethics Manual;
  - Receiving and reviewing public financial disclosure statements from public officials and certification statements from Advisory Neighborhood Commissioners;
  - Overseeing compliance of certain government employees who must file confidential financial disclosure statements with their agency heads;
- Receiving and auditing lobbyist registration forms and lobbyist activity reports;
- Issuing binding opinions on compliance with the Open Meetings Act;
- Monitoring and providing advice on District agencies' compliance with the Freedom of Information Act; and
- Assisting government agencies in the implementation of open government policies and practices.

The agency's FY 2022 approved budget is presented in the following tables:

## FY 2022 Approved Gross Funds Operating Budget and FTEs, by Revenue Type

Table AG0-2 contains the approved FY 2022 budget by revenue type compared to the FY 2021 approved budget. It also provides FY 2019 and FY 2020 actual data.

**Table AG0-2**

(dollars in thousands)

	Dollars in Thousands						Full-Time Equivalents					
	Actual FY 2019	Actual FY 2020	Approved FY 2021	Approved FY 2022	Change from FY 2021	% Change*	Actual FY 2019	Actual FY 2020	Approved FY 2021	Approved FY 2022	Change from FY 2021	% Change
<b>Appropriated Fund</b>												
<b>GENERAL FUND</b>												
Local Funds	2,255	2,471	2,953	3,517	564	19.1	15.3	15.2	19.5	23.0	3.5	17.9
Special Purpose Revenue Funds	53	0	181	188	7	3.6	0.0	0.0	1.0	1.0	0.0	0.0
<b>TOTAL FOR GENERAL FUND</b>	<b>2,307</b>	<b>2,471</b>	<b>3,134</b>	<b>3,705</b>	<b>571</b>	<b>18.2</b>	<b>15.3</b>	<b>15.2</b>	<b>20.5</b>	<b>24.0</b>	<b>3.5</b>	<b>17.1</b>
<b>GROSS FUNDS</b>	<b>2,307</b>	<b>2,471</b>	<b>3,134</b>	<b>3,705</b>	<b>571</b>	<b>18.2</b>	<b>15.3</b>	<b>15.2</b>	<b>20.5</b>	<b>24.0</b>	<b>3.5</b>	<b>17.1</b>

\*Percent change is based on whole dollars.

**Note:** If applicable, for a breakdown of each Grant (Federal and Private), Special Purpose Revenue type and Intra-District agreement, please refer to **Schedule 80 Agency Summary by Revenue Source** in the **FY 2022 Operating Appendices** located on the Office of the Chief Financial Officer's website.

## FY 2022 Approved Operating Budget, by Comptroller Source Group

Table AG0-3 contains the approved FY 2022 budget at the Comptroller Source Group (object class) level compared to the FY 2021 approved budget. It also provides FY 2019 and FY 2020 actual expenditures.

**Table AG0-3**

(dollars in thousands)

Comptroller Source Group	Actual FY 2019	Actual FY 2020	Approved FY 2021	Approved FY 2022	Change from FY 2021	Percentage Change*
11 - Regular Pay - Continuing Full Time	1,328	1,454	2,039	2,468	428	21.0
12 - Regular Pay - Other	172	177	177	181	4	2.3
13 - Additional Gross Pay	2	73	0	0	0	N/A
14 - Fringe Benefits - Current Personnel	317	389	478	614	136	28.4
15 - Overtime Pay	8	0	0	0	0	N/A
<b>SUBTOTAL PERSONAL SERVICES (PS)</b>	<b>1,827</b>	<b>2,094</b>	<b>2,694</b>	<b>3,262</b>	<b>568</b>	<b>21.1</b>
20 - Supplies and Materials	50	7	20	12	-8	-40.8
31 - Telecommunications	1	4	0	0	0	N/A
40 - Other Services and Charges	420	366	421	426	6	1.4
70 - Equipment and Equipment Rental	11	0	0	5	5	N/A
<b>SUBTOTAL NONPERSONAL SERVICES (NPS)</b>	<b>481</b>	<b>377</b>	<b>440</b>	<b>443</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0.6</b>
<b>GROSS FUNDS</b>	<b>2,307</b>	<b>2,471</b>	<b>3,134</b>	<b>3,705</b>	<b>571</b>	<b>18.2</b>

\*Percent change is based on whole dollars.

## FY 2022 Approved Operating Budget and FTEs, by Division/Program and Activity

Table AG0-4 contains the approved FY 2022 budget by division/program and activity compared to the FY 2021 approved budget. It also provides FY 2019 and FY 2020 actual data. For a more comprehensive explanation of divisions/programs and activities, please see the Division/Program Description section, which follows the table.

**Table AG0-4**

(dollars in thousands)

Division/Program and Activity	Dollars in Thousands					Full-Time Equivalents				
	Actual FY 2019	Actual FY 2020	Approved FY 2021	Approved FY 2022	Change from FY 2021	Actual FY 2019	Actual FY 2020	Approved FY 2021	Approved FY 2022	Change from FY 2021
<b>(1000) OFFICE OF OPEN GOVERNMENT</b>										
(1100) Office of Open Government	439	493	798	970	173	3.0	3.7	6.0	7.0	1.0
<b>SUBTOTAL (1000) OFFICE OF OPEN GOVERNMENT</b>	<b>439</b>	<b>493</b>	<b>798</b>	<b>970</b>	<b>173</b>	<b>3.0</b>	<b>3.7</b>	<b>6.0</b>	<b>7.0</b>	<b>1.0</b>
<b>(2000) BOARD OF ETHICS</b>										
(2010) Board of Ethics	1,868	1,979	2,337	2,735	398	12.3	11.5	14.5	17.0	2.5
<b>SUBTOTAL (2000) BOARD OF ETHICS</b>	<b>1,868</b>	<b>1,979</b>	<b>2,337</b>	<b>2,735</b>	<b>398</b>	<b>12.3</b>	<b>11.5</b>	<b>14.5</b>	<b>17.0</b>	<b>2.5</b>
<b>TOTAL APPROVED OPERATING BUDGET</b>	<b>2,307</b>	<b>2,471</b>	<b>3,134</b>	<b>3,705</b>	<b>571</b>	<b>15.3</b>	<b>15.2</b>	<b>20.5</b>	<b>24.0</b>	<b>3.5</b>

(Change is calculated by whole numbers and numbers may not add up due to rounding)

**Note:** For more detailed information regarding the approved funding for the activities within this agency's programs, please see **Schedule 30-PBB Program Summary by Activity** in the **FY 2022 Operating Appendices** located on the Office of the Chief Financial Officer's website. "No Activity Assigned" indicates budget or actuals that are recorded at the division/program level.

### Program Description

The Board of Ethics and Government Accountability operates through the following 2 programs:

**Office of Open Government** – Receives and resolves all Open Meetings Act complaints against public bodies; oversees compliance of public bodies and enforces all requirements of the Open Meetings Act; issues advice to public bodies on compliance with the Open Meetings Act; issues advice to District government agencies on compliance with the Freedom of Information Act; conducts mandatory trainings for the Open Meetings Act and Freedom of Information Act; and provides policy recommendations to government agencies on transparency best practices.

**Board of Ethics** – Receives, investigates, assesses, and adjudicates violations of the Code of Conduct; provides mandatory ethics training; issues rules and regulations governing the ethical conduct of employees and public officials; provides ethics guidance and safe harbor advice to government employees; provides for anonymous and confidential receipt of information related to violations of the Code of Conduct or other information with regard to its administration or enforcement; oversees all lobbyist registration and activity in the District; and oversees and enforces all Financial Disclosure Statement filing by District public officials and government employees.

### Program Structure Change

The Board of Ethics and Government Accountability has no program structure changes in the FY 2022 approved budget.

## FY 2021 Approved Budget to FY 2022 Approved Budget, by Revenue Type

Table AG0-5 itemizes the changes by revenue type between the FY 2021 approved budget and the FY 2022 approved budget. For a more comprehensive explanation of changes, please see the FY 2022 Approved Budget Changes section, which follows the table.

**Table AG0-5**

(dollars in thousands)

DESCRIPTION	DIVISION/PROGRAM	BUDGET	FTE
<b>LOCAL FUNDS: FY 2021 Approved Budget and FTE</b>		<b>2,953</b>	<b>19.5</b>
No Change		0	0.0
<b>LOCAL FUNDS: FY 2022 Recurring Budget</b>		<b>2,953</b>	<b>19.5</b>
Increase: To align personal services and Fringe Benefits with projected costs	Multiple Programs	143	-0.5
Decrease: To offset projected adjustments in personal services costs	Multiple Programs	-143	0.0
Enhance: Ethics Learning Management System	Board of Ethics	126	0.0
<b>LOCAL FUNDS: FY 2022 Mayor's Proposed Budget</b>		<b>3,079</b>	<b>19.0</b>
Enhance: To support additional FTE(s)	Multiple Programs	418	4.0
Enhance: To support a new training portal	Office of Open Government	20	0.0
<b>LOCAL FUNDS: FY 2022 District's Approved Budget</b>		<b>3,517</b>	<b>23.0</b>
<b>SPECIAL PURPOSE REVENUE FUNDS: FY 2021 Approved Budget and FTE</b>		<b>181</b>	<b>1.0</b>
Increase: To align budget with projected revenues	Board of Ethics	7	0.0
<b>SPECIAL PURPOSE REVENUE FUNDS: FY 2022 Mayor's Proposed Budget</b>		<b>188</b>	<b>1.0</b>
No Change		0	0.0
<b>SPECIAL PURPOSE REVENUE FUNDS: FY 2022 District's Approved Budget</b>		<b>188</b>	<b>1.0</b>
<b>GROSS FOR AG0 - BOARD OF ETHICS AND GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY</b>		<b>3,705</b>	<b>24.0</b>

(Change is calculated by whole numbers and numbers may not add up due to rounding)

## FY 2022 Approved Operating Budget Changes

Table AG0-6 contains the approved FY 2022 budget by fund compared to the FY 2021 approved budget.

**Table AG0-6**

Appropriated Fund	FY 2021 Approved	FY 2022 Approved	% Change from FY 2021
Local Funds	\$2,952,892	\$3,517,217	19.1
Special Purpose Revenue Funds	\$181,384	\$187,888	3.6
<b>GROSS FUNDS</b>	<b>\$3,134,276</b>	<b>\$3,705,105</b>	<b>18.2</b>

### Recurring Budget

The Board of Ethics and Government Accountability's budget proposal reflects no change from FY 2021 approved budget to the FY 2022 recurring budget.

### **Mayor's Proposed Budget**

**Increase:** BEGA's FY 2022 Local funds budget proposal includes an increase of \$143,315 to reflect projected salary steps, Fringe Benefits costs across multiple programs. This adjustment includes a reduction of 0.5 Full-Time Equivalent.

In Special Purpose Revenue funds, the agency proposes an increase of \$6,504 to align resources with projected revenues in the Board of Ethics program.

**Decrease:** In Local funds, the budget proposal reflects a decrease of \$143,315 across multiple programs to offset the projected increase in personal services.

**Enhance:** An increase of \$126,000 in the Board of Ethics program will support the Ethics Learning Management System.

### **District's Approved Budget**

**Enhance:** BEGA's approved budget reflects an increase of \$418,325 and 4.0 FTEs across multiple programs. This funding will support a Chief of Staff, a Human Resource Specialist, a Paralegal Specialist, and the reclassification of existing positions. In addition, the Office of Open Government program includes an increase of \$20,000 to support a new training portal.

## Agency Performance Plan\*

The Board of Ethics and Government Accountability (BEGA) has the following strategic objectives for FY 2022:

### Strategic Objectives

Strategic Objectives describe what the agency will do, at a high level, to achieve its mission. These are action-based sentences that define what an agency does for its customers, whether the customers are residents or other District agencies, and how that improves the District.

### Objectives

1. Issue ethics advice in an expeditious and consistent fashion.
2. Conduct timely and appropriate investigations and enforcement actions.
3. Conduct mandatory training on the Code of Conduct and produce ethics training materials.
4. Create and maintain a highly efficient, transparent, and responsive District government.

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### ACTIVITIES

Activities include the work that happens on a daily basis to help achieve the Strategic Objectives. Activity names come from the budget line items. This is further divided into “daily services” (ex. sanitation disposal), and long-term “key projects” that are high profile, one-time and span several years, (ex. redevelopment of Walter Reed Army Medical Center). Many agencies will mostly have daily services, whereas some agencies that have more of their budget come from capital funding will have several key projects.

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#### 1. Issue ethics advice in an expeditious and consistent fashion. (1 Activity)

Activity Title	Activity Description	Type of Activity
Render Timely Advice. Respond to requests for informal ethics advice in a substantive and useful manner.	Work with staff to ensure that ethics guidance is provided to government employees who seek ethics guidance.	Daily Service

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#### 2. Conduct timely and appropriate investigations and enforcement actions. (1 Activity)

Activity Title	Activity Description	Type of Activity
Monitor and support ongoing investigations to ensure timely completion.	Track progress throughout the year and work with staff to ensure movement.	Daily Service

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#### 3. Conduct mandatory training on the Code of Conduct and produce ethics training materials. (1 Activity)

Activity Title	Activity Description	Type of Activity
Increase Training Sessions. Increase number of trainings available to District government employees.	Allocate staff time to ensure availability when requests are made from client agencies.	Daily Service

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#### 4. Create and maintain a highly efficient, transparent, and responsive District government. (1 Activity)

Activity Title	Activity Description	Type of Activity
Ensure that every request for advice or information is acknowledged within 24 hours of receipt.	Work with staff to ensure that either a substantive response is provided or, where that is not possible, an acknowledgment that the request is under review.	Daily Service

## KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

Key Performance Indicators measure how well an agency is achieving its Strategic Objectives. They are outcome-oriented and should be used to answer the question, “What does the agency need to measure to determine success?”

### 1. Issue ethics advice in an expeditious and consistent fashion. (3 Measures)

Measure	New Measure/ Benchmark Year	FY 2019 Actual	FY 2020 Target	FY 2020 Actual	FY 2021 Target	FY 2022 Target
Percent of advice queries received that were handled as informal rather than formal advice	No	99.4%	10%	99.8%	10%	10%
Percent of formal written Advisory Opinions appealed to the Ethics Board	No	0%	85%	0%	85%	85%
Percent of formal written Advisory Opinions issued within 30 days of receipt of complete information from requester	No	75%	85%	25%	85%	85%

### 2. Conduct timely and appropriate investigations and enforcement actions. (3 Measures)

Measure	New Measure/ Benchmark Year	FY 2019 Actual	FY 2020 Target	FY 2020 Actual	FY 2021 Target	FY 2022 Target
Percent of enforcement actions that result in a sanction	No	100%	85%	100%	85%	85%
Percent of final Ethics Board Orders issued within 45 days of close of hearing record	No	No Applicable Incidents	85%	No Applicable Incidents	85%	85%
Percent of investigations resolved by dismissal, negotiated disposition, or issuance of Notice of Violation within 120 days of initiation	No	56.2%	80%	90.9%	80%	80%

### 3. Conduct mandatory training on the Code of Conduct and produce ethics training materials. (3 Measures)

Measure	New Measure/ Benchmark Year	FY 2019 Actual	FY 2020 Target	FY 2020 Actual	FY 2021 Target	FY 2022 Target
Percent of agency trainings held within 90 days of agency making the request	No	100%	90%	100%	90%	90%
Percent of evaluations completed by attendees with an overall positive rating of “3” or higher on the BEGA training evaluation form	No	97.9%	80%	100%	80%	80%
Percent of off site agency training requests granted	No	100%	90%	Data Forthcoming	90%	90%

## WORKLOAD MEASURES

Workload Measures, also called inputs or outputs, quantify an activity, effort or process that is necessary to make progress towards the Strategic Objectives. They help answer the question; “How much are we doing?”

### 1. Render Timely Advice. Respond to requests for informal ethics advice in a substantive and useful manner.

Measure	New Measure/ Benchmark Year	FY 2018 Actual	FY 2019 Actual	FY 2020 Actual
Number of formal written advisory opinions issued on the agency’s own initiative	No	0	0	0
Number of formal written advisory opinions issued pursuant to a request	No	1	4	1
Number of requests for informal ethics advice	No	805	761	510

### 2. Monitor and support ongoing investigations to ensure timely completion.

Measure	New Measure/ Benchmark Year	FY 2018 Actual	FY 2019 Actual	FY 2020 Actual
Number of complaints received	No	123	144	149
Number of formal investigations dismissed	No	11	4	0
Number of formal investigations initiated on intake	No	9	8	6
Number of formal investigations resolved after an evidentiary hearing	No	0	0	0
Number of formal investigations resolved with a negotiated disposition	No	1	2	2
Number of preliminary investigations converted to formal investigations	No	5	3	0
Number of preliminary investigations dismissed	No	12	31	67
Number of preliminary investigations opened based on information provided by means other than the hotline	No	37	56	0
Number of preliminary investigations opened based on tips to the hotline	No	0	1	0
Number of preliminary investigations resolved after an evidentiary hearing	No	1	0	0
Number of preliminary investigations resolved with a negotiated disposition	No	4	14	7

### 3. Increase Training Sessions. Increase number of trainings available to District government employees.

Measure	New Measure/ Benchmark Year	FY 2018 Actual	FY 2019 Actual	FY 2020 Actual
Number of trainings conducted	No	101	80	52

### 4. Ensure that every request for advice or information is acknowledged within 24 hours of receipt.

Measure	New Measure/ Benchmark Year	FY 2018 Actual	FY 2019 Actual	FY 2020 Actual
Number of formal advisory opinions issued	No	1	3	1

#### Performance Plan Endnotes:

\*For more information about the structure and components of FY 2022 draft performance plans, please see the FY 2022 Approved Budget and Financial Plan, Volume 1, Appendix E.

\*\*Key performance indicators that are new may not have historical data and may only have FY 2022 targets.

\*\*\*To view the final versions of agency FY 2022 performance plans when they become available in December 2021, see the OCA website at <https://oca.dc.gov/>.