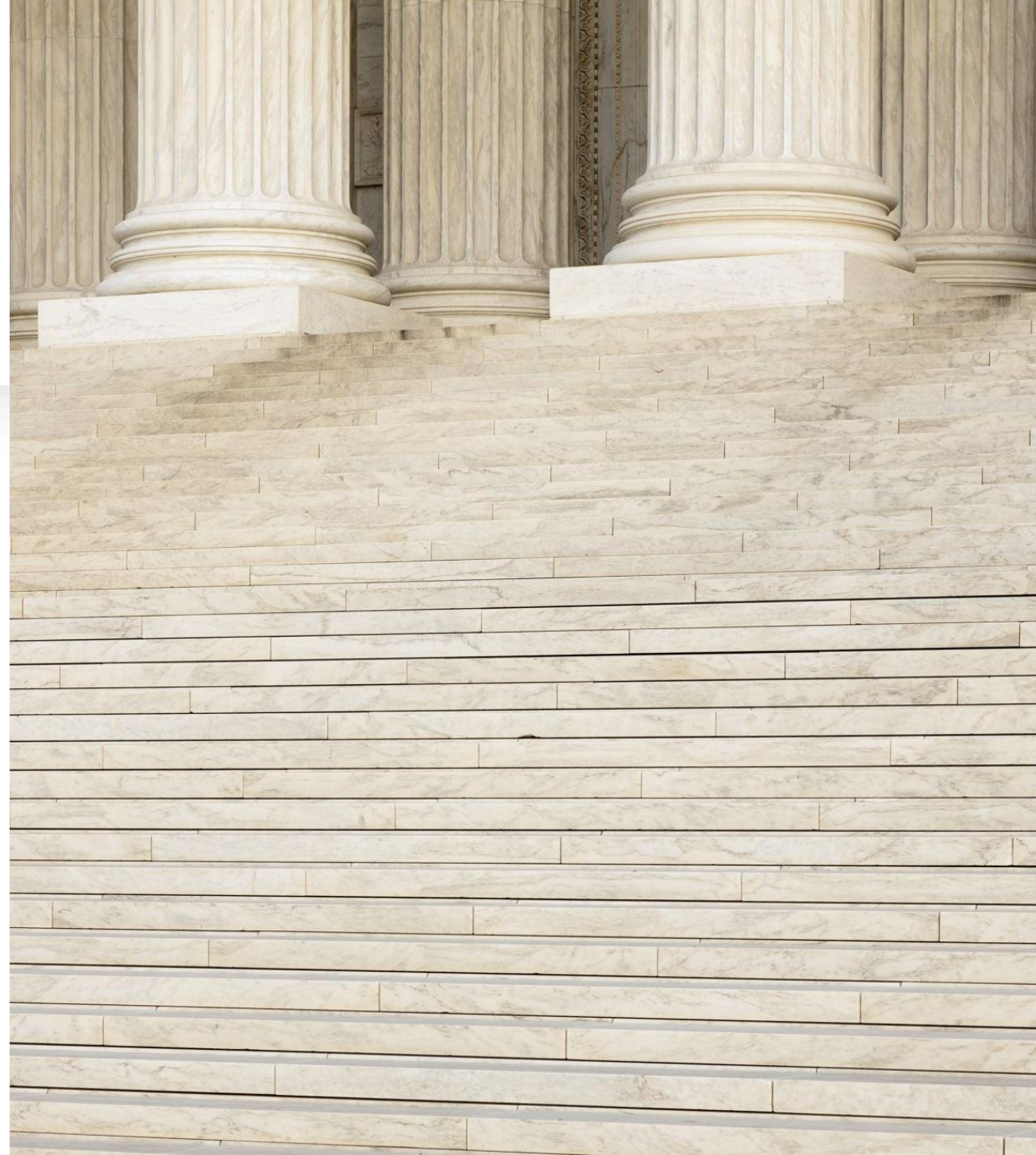# City Attorney's Office – Civil
FY26 Budget

- Ryan Sudbury – City Attorney for Civil Services

- Susan Aaberg – Chief Civil/Administrative City Attorney

- Tim DeFors – Deputy City Attorney

- Aislinn Airhart – Management Analyst

CAO – Civil

HIGHTLIGHTED PRIORITY WORK

Ongoing Litigation

- 17 Open Cases Involving the City in FY25
  - Victory in the Western Montana Landlords case
  - Initial Success in East Missoula Litigation

Priority Project In-House Legal Support

- Riverfront Triangle and Southgate Crossing Development
- Water Rights – Clark Fork Basin Adjudication & HVIC Change Applications
- RCA Park Acquisition
- Land Use Plan and Code Reform Project
- Code Enforcement Support

City-Affiliated Agency Support

- Missoula Housing Authority – Continued Expansion
- MUTD – CAO-Supported Arbitration Victories

CAO – Civil

Workload Status

Open Litigation Involving the City

2021 – 10
2022 – 9
2023 – 15
2024 – 19
2025 – 17

Public Records/CCJI Requests Processed

FY22 – 9
FY23 – 23
FY24 – 40
FY25 – 36

Documents Reviewed (as a general proxy for workload)

FY19 – 655
FY21 – 637
FY22 – 599
FY23 – 1083

FY24 – 1602
FY25 – 1665

CAO – Civil

Budget Status

Current Baseline Budget Overview

Salary & Benefits	FY25 $583,931	FY26 $630,873
Supplies	FY25 $3,036	FY26 $2,350
Services, Dues & Training	FY25 $18,050	FY26 $18,800
		FY26 $650,023

Historic Budget Totals

FY22 $561,022
FY23 $645,359
FY24 $726,646
FY25 $605,017

Austerity Measures and Avenues for Savings

- Voluntarily Reduced FY25 Non-Salary Allocation by 9%
- Limited FY25 Spending to Mission-Critical Expenditures (On track for $7,000 in savings)
- Reclassifying Civil Chief Attorney Position to Deputy City Attorney

CAO – Civil

On the Horizon for FY26

- Retirement and Recruitment
- Increased Litigation and Water Rights Load
  - Record Number of Open Civil Cases
  - Historic Preservation Commission Litigation
  - Clark Fork Basin Adjudication & Final Decree
- Case Management Software
- Employment and Collective Bargaining Training
- Managing Increased Workload from New MHA-Managed Units

MISSOULA