The mission of the San José City Attorney’s office is to provide excellent legal services, consistent with the highest professional and ethical standards, with the goal of protecting and advancing the City’s interests in serving the people of San José.
CITY ATTORNEY

The City Attorney’s Office provides legal counsel and advice, prepares legal documents, and provides legal representation to advocate, defend, and prosecute on behalf of the City of San José and the Successor Agency to the San José Redevelopment Agency.

The 2017-18 operating expenditures for the City Attorney’s Office totaled $18.7 million, which is comprised of personal and non-personal expenditures. In addition, the City Attorney’s Office was responsible for $17.6 million in other costs, including $17.3 million in general liability claims.

Although staffing increased by two positions from two years prior—it is still much lower compared to a decade ago.

The City Attorney’s Office handled 1,294 new claims and litigation matters in 2017-18 and prepared or reviewed more than 6,100 legal transactions, documents, and memoranda. In 2017-18, litigation-related collections totaled about $13.7 million, while general liability payments totaled about $17.3 million, as noted above.*

*Included in this number is a $10.4 million general liability payment made for a police incident case.