



MEMORANDUM OF MERIT

TO: Financial Services Unit
FROM: Howard S. Lazarus, City Administrator
DATE: November 3, 2017
SUBJECT: GFOA Distinguished Budget Presentation Award

I am honored to forward to you the notification that the Financial Services Unit has received the "Distinguished Budget Presentation Award" from the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA). This recognition from the GFOA celebrates the extraordinary commitment of our finance staff to the values of Accountability, Commitment to Excellence, Integrity, Stewardship, and Teamwork that lie at the core of our Organizational Strategic Plan. In an age where public confidence in government is shaken, the actions of the Financial Unit continue the Ann Arbor tradition of building trust with our community.

As we look forward to recognizing your achievement publicly, please accept my heartiest congratulations and appreciation for the Financial Services Unit staff continuing to lead the way in delivering exceptional service to our City.

2 Attachments

GFOA Notification Letter
Draft Press Release

DISTRIBUTION

Mayor and Council
Service Area Administrators and Direct Reports



Government Finance Officers Association

203 North LaSalle Street, Suite 2700

Chicago, Illinois 60601-1210

312.977.9700 fax: 312.977.4806

October 12, 2017

Howard Lazarus
City Administrator
City of Ann Arbor
301 East Huron
Ann Arbor, MI 48104

Dear Mr. Lazarus:

We are pleased to notify you that City of Ann Arbor, Michigan, has received the Distinguished Budget Presentation Award for the current budget from Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA). This award is the highest form of recognition in governmental budgeting and represents a significant achievement by your organization.

When a Distinguished Budget Presentation Award is granted to an entity, a Certificate of Recognition for Budget Presentation is also presented to the individual(s) or department designated as being primarily responsible for its having achieved the award. This has been presented to:

Financial Services

We hope you will arrange for a formal public presentation of the award, and that appropriate publicity will be given to this notable achievement. A press release is enclosed for your use.

We appreciate your participation in GFOA's Budget Awards Program, and we sincerely hope that your example will encourage others to achieve and maintain excellence in governmental budgeting.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Todd Buikema". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Todd Buikema
Acting Director, Technical Services Center

Enclosure

Washington, DC Office

Federal Liaison Center, 660 North Capitol Street, NW, Suite 410 • Washington, DC 20001 • 202.393.8020 fax: 202.393.0780

www.gfoa.org



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 12, 2017

For more information, contact:

Technical Services Center

Phone: (312) 977-9700

Fax: (312) 977-4806

E-mail: budgetawards@gfoa.org

(Chicago, Illinois)--Government Finance Officers Association is pleased to announce that **City of Ann Arbor, Michigan**, has received GFOA's Distinguished Budget Presentation Award for its budget.

The award represents a significant achievement by the entity. It reflects the commitment of the governing body and staff to meeting the highest principles of governmental budgeting. In order to receive the budget award, the entity had to satisfy nationally recognized guidelines for effective budget presentation. These guidelines are designed to assess how well an entity's budget serves as:

- a policy document
- a financial plan
- an operations guide
- a communications device

Budget documents must be rated "proficient" in all four categories, and in the fourteen mandatory criteria within those categories, to receive the award.

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There are over 1,600 participants in the Budget Awards Program. The most recent Budget Award recipients, along with their corresponding budget documents, are posted quarterly on GFOA's website. Award recipients have pioneered efforts to improve the quality of budgeting and provide an excellent example for other governments throughout North America.

Government Finance Officers Association is a major professional association servicing the needs of more than 19,000 appointed and elected local, state, and provincial-level government officials and other finance practitioners. It provides top quality publications, training programs, services, and products designed to enhance the skills and performance of those responsible for government finance policy and management. The association is headquartered in Chicago, Illinois, with offices in Washington D.C.

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