



Council on Asian Pacific Minnesotans

Presentation to the
State and Local Government and Veterans
Committee
January 28, 2025



Enabling Statute

Minn. Stat. § 15.0145

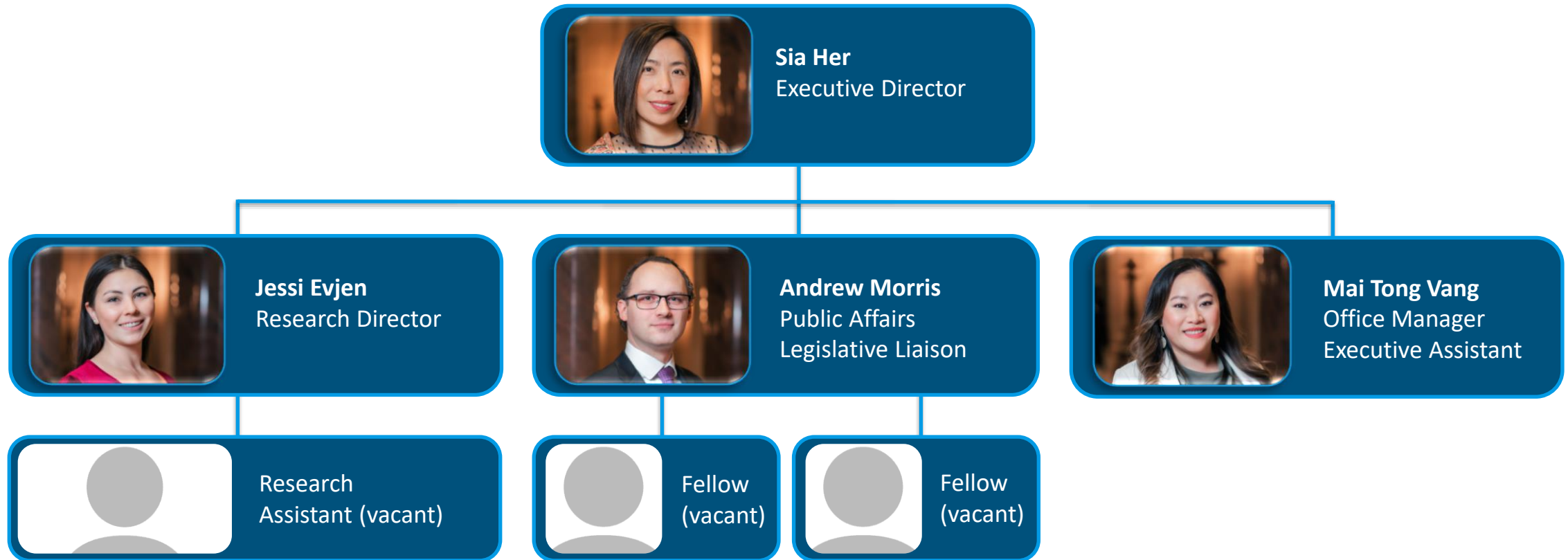
Subdv. 6. Duties of council.

“(a) A council must work for the implementation of economic, social, legal, and political equality for its constituency.”

Key Provisions:

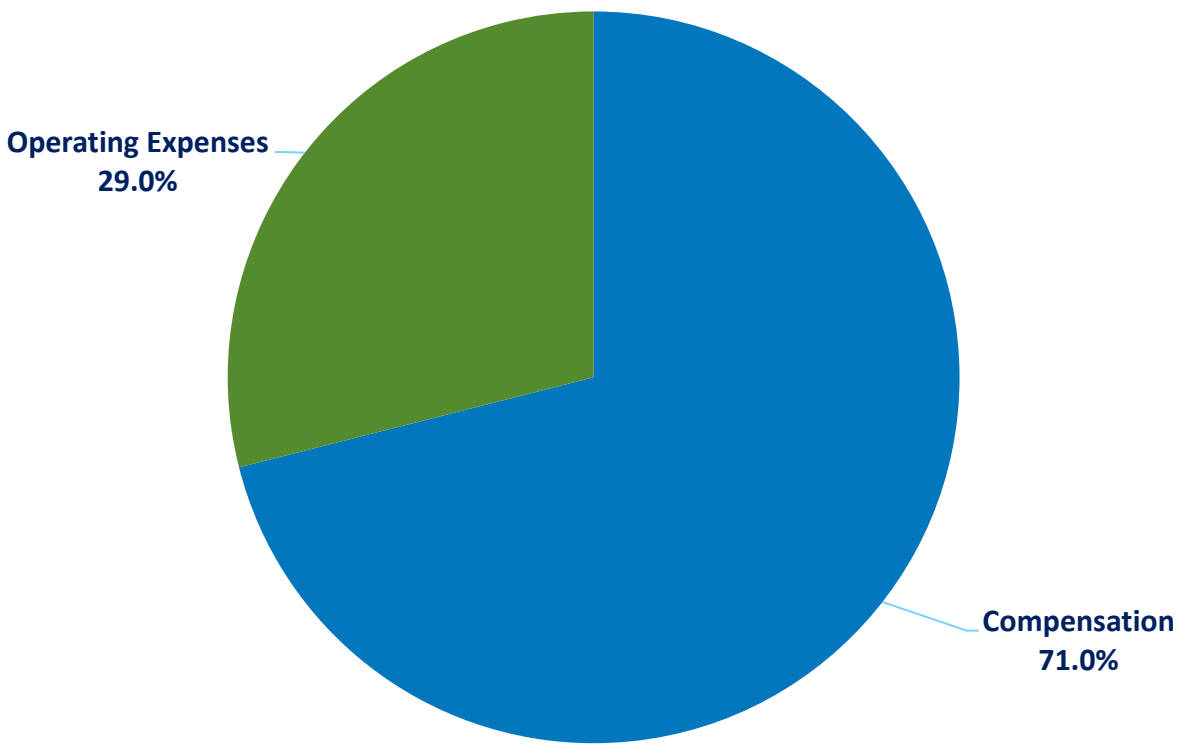
- 15-member voting board
 - 11 community members appointed by the Governor
 - 4 legislative members appointed by legislative leadership
- **Advise** the Governor and the Legislature on issues confronting the constituency of the Council
- **Advocate** for administrative and legislative changes needed to improve the economic and social condition of the constituency of the Council
- **Serve as a liaison** between state government and organizations that serve the constituency of the Council

Our Staff

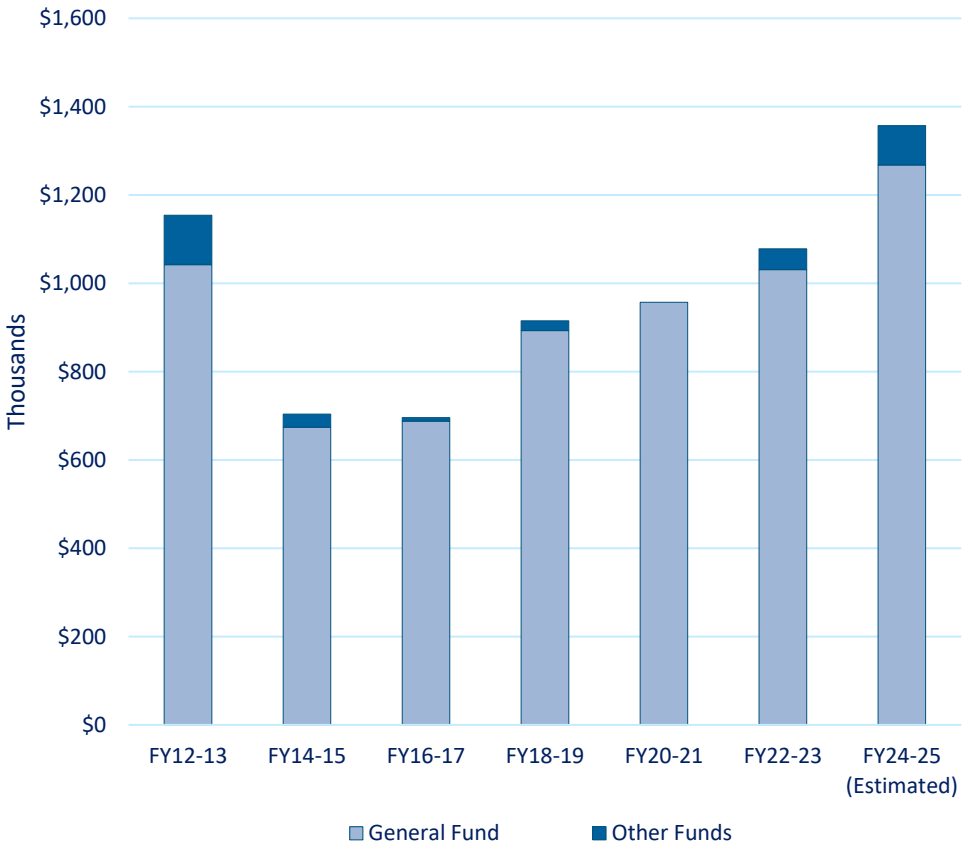


Current Budget Overview

Spending by Category
FY 2024 Actual

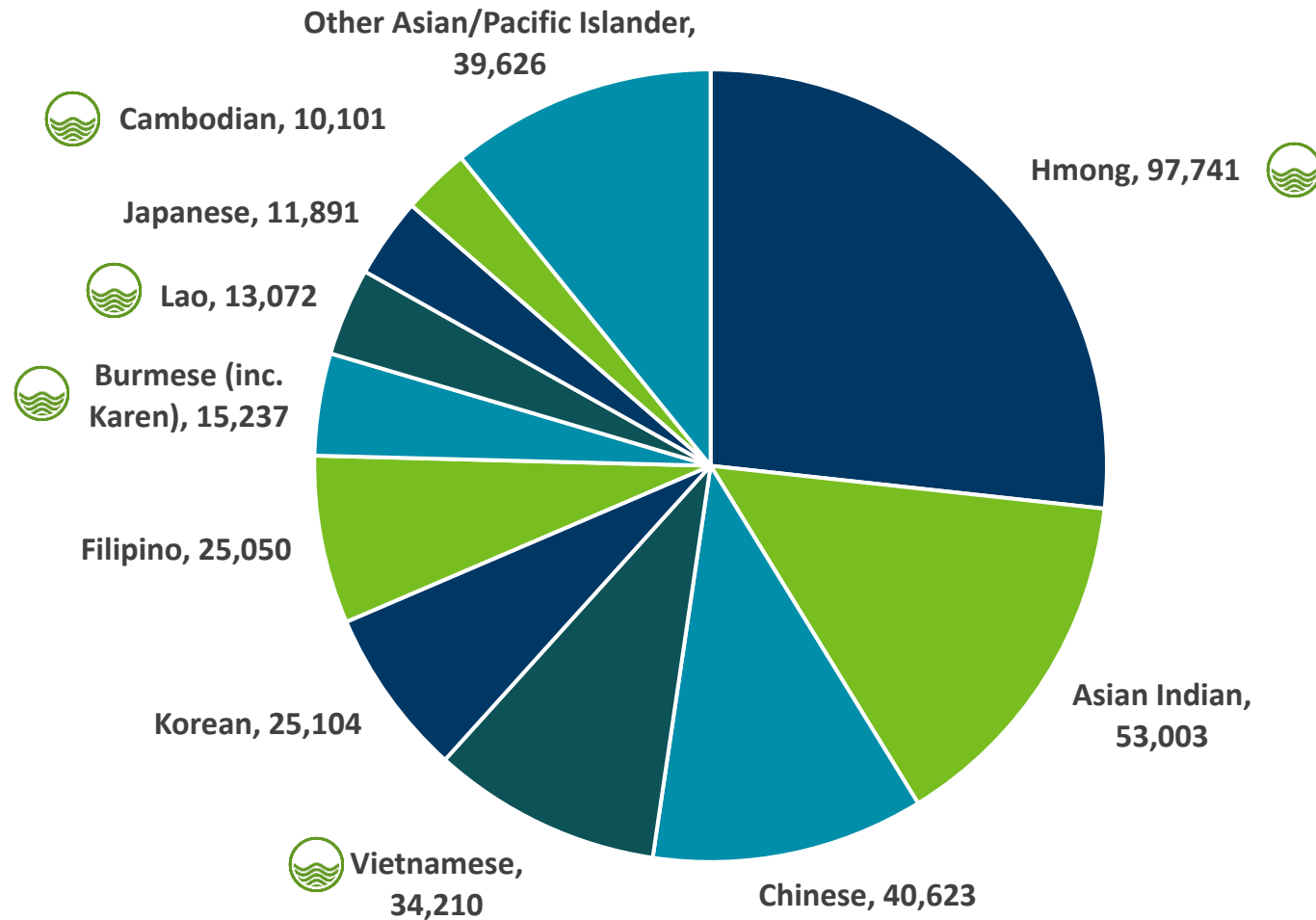


Historical Spending by Biennium



Our Community

**Total Asian Pacific
Minnesotan Population
365,658**



The Council's Work

The Council undertakes numerous initiatives each year to fulfill its statutory role as advisor, advocate, and liaison:

- Produces original research to provide clear, up-to-date understanding of Asian Pacific Minnesotans (APMs)
- Advises on legislative and administrative policies and practices
- Facilitates relationships between legislators and APM communities
- Provides logistical support to Asian-led community-based organizations

The Council's Impact

As a result of the Council's work, our communities are better off for the following:

- Issued the 2024 Community Priorities Survey to identify policy issues of greatest concern to the APM population
- Initiated legislative requests for funding to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the Vietnam War and convened more than 20 planning meetings with Minnesota's Cambodian, Lao, and Vietnamese communities to ensure authentic representation in funding requests and commemorative activities
- Hosted over 700 guests at the 2024 Asian Pacific Minnesotans Leadership Awards Dinner to honor the contributions of APMs to our state and nation
- Liaised with foreign consulates and dignitaries on issues of importance to APM communities including justice, democracy, economic development, trade relations, sister cities, and more
- Coordinated with Asian faith leaders, law enforcement, state government, and the federal Department of Justice in response to organized criminal activity targeting Asian-led places of worship
- See the Council's annual reports for more accomplishments*

Legislative Priorities

The Council determines its legislative agenda through community input:

- Community Priorities Survey
- Community events

2025-2026 Legislative Priorities:

- Access to Healthcare
- Arts, Culture, and Heritage
- Income and Wages
- Home Ownership
- Employment

The Council's Ask

The Council requests an increase over its base budget in FY26-27 to:

- Meet the growing needs of Minnesota's API communities and bring the Council into parity with other ethnic councils through the addition of 1 FTE, a *Special Projects Coordinator*
- Retain contractors with specific skillsets
- Strengthen relationships with Asian Pacific communities in greater Minnesota
- Build on existing bodies of original research
- Account for increased businesses expenses

Questions?



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ASIAN PACIFIC MINNESOTANS**