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TO: Planning Commission
FROM: Kimberly Springer, Capital Budget Manager
DATE: June 21, 2011
SUBJECT: Fiscal Year 2012 Draft CIP Plan Document

The following documents are key components of the Fiscal Year 2012 Draft Capital Improvements Program (CIP) Plan document and serve as partial back-up to the agenda item asking for your recommendation on the CIP Plan. The documents include the draft recommendation letter written by the CIP Committee and the staff written Executive Summary.

You have been provided hard copies of these documents because the full CIP Plan is a very large document, totaling over 500 pages. The full CIP Plan document is available on the Planning Commission website for your review:

http://www.ci.austin.tx.us/cityclerk/boards_commissions/meetings/40_1.htm.

A printed hard copy of the plan can be provided to you at your request. If you have any questions about the CIP Plan or would like a printed copy, please contact Kimberly Springer in the Capital Planning Office at 974-2924 or kimberly.springer@ci.austin.tx.us.

Thank you.

To: Austin City Council
From: The City of Austin Planning Commission
Date: June 28, 2011
Re: Planning Commission Recommendation on 2011-12 Five-Year CIP Plan

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Austin

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Mayor, Mayor Pro-Tem, City Council, and City Manager,

As you know, one role of the Planning Commission is to make an annual recommendation to you on the Capital Improvements Program (CIP) Plan. The Commission supports the City Manager's proposed five-year CIP Plan with the addition of some principles and specifics described below.

This year the Planning Commission CIP Subcommittee met with the newly formed Capital Planning Office to review city department requests and the prioritized lists from adopted neighborhood plans. The CIP Subcommittee has been very happy to see the Capital Planning Office formed, and to see the attention directed at mapping neighborhood plan priorities to the plans for various departments. We are also glad to see projects suggested in the neighborhood plans added to the CIP.

In recent years the Planning Commission has supported a range of very specific projects and a list of general principles. Specific project to which we drew attention last year were the historic Norwood House and the Liz Carpenter Fountain in Butler Park. In previous years we had suggested specific key sidewalk and bike-lane improvements. This year we wish to explicitly highlight the following projects:

- If money can be found to meet the unfunded requests for security and several infrastructure requests by the Library Department then this should be considered;
- Infrastructure improvements have been planned in Hyde Park at the Duval and 43rd intersection and were included in earlier adopted CIP Plans but never implemented, this should be considered for future programming; and
- The Commission is anxious to see infill development on East 12th that bring jobs and services to the local area as per the adopted Central East Austin Neighborhood Plan. The Commission is also looking forward to more mixed use infill development around the Capital Metro Redline stations; in particular near Saltillo Plaza, Highland Mall, and Kramer Station areas. If any CIP projects such as utility improvements, sidewalk improvements, or redevelopment plans directed by Economic Growth and Redevelopment Services Office (EGRSO) can be created to further this goal, then the Commission would be supportive.

As we have in past CIP recommendation letters, we again wish to restate general principles that we believe should guide the CIP process:

1. Where discretion exists, the Planning Commission believes spending should be guided by the priority action items listed in adopted neighborhood plans and citizen requests in neighborhoods not yet covered by a neighborhood plan, and the principles for compact urban growth laid out in the Imagine Austin Comprehensive Plan development phases.
2. We encourage the Austin Water Utility to focus efforts on providing appropriate water pressure and sewage collection on key infill areas including Downtown, Central East Austin (including E. 12th St), the UNO district, core transit corridors, transit station areas, and the SH 130 corridor to facilitate new development, to meet fire codes, and to prioritize service following principles for compact urban growth laid out in the Imagine Austin Comprehensive Plan development phases, specifically focusing service priorities to the City's Desired Development Zone.

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3. We strongly support continued capital spending to advance Information Technology applications and hardware that can reduce City labor costs and improve public safety and customer service.
4. Wherever possible, City facilities intended for public visitation such as libraries, office buildings, recreation centers, etc., should be part of integrated or vertical mixed use projects and outdoor amenities such as parks and trails should be part of integrated mixed use projects. In plain language, users should be able to walk from nearby places to reach City facilities, the objectives being to reduce the demand for parking and the amount of driving. Green roofs should be considered on new public structures.
5. With the same objectives in mind, transportation connectivity for bicyclists, pedestrians, and motorists should be a major consideration during design and construction of all City projects.

In reviewing the currently proposed CIP Plan, we offer the following general recommendations:

1. **Affordable Housing (AH):** The Planning Commission supports raising the fee-in-lieu for not including 65 percent MFI housing in UNO to \$1.00 or more. The Planning Commission supports the application of the 2006 Affordable Housing Bond balance to Permanent Supportive Housing.
2. The spending on sidewalks, while relatively small in terms of total CIP, is of great importance to the citizens. The 2010 bonds provide new money for pedestrian and bike infrastructure; the 2006 bonds provided \$8 M for sidewalk maintenance; city ordinances provide a fee in lieu of private sidewalk construction; fiscal surety posted but unspent by past developments may provide another funding resource; by City policy, street reconstruction projects will add sidewalks if costs are not excessive. City staff has developed a matrix scoring tool to provide a means to spend these moneys in the most effective, efficient, and proper manner practical, and the Planning Commission supports this integrated approach. The Commission recommends giving a high weight to neighborhood plan priorities for sidewalks. The Commission also supports the following specific elements of a sidewalk plan:
 - a. Use maintenance money to remove barriers to sidewalk use. A sidewalk may require no actual "repair" and yet still have its usefulness compromised by illegal parking, illegal dumpster placement, overgrown brush, or other obstacles. State Law explicitly prohibits persons from blocking sidewalks, but enforcement is not effective. If inexpensive structural improvements such as metal poles and chains or decorative plants in planters can keep vehicles off of sidewalks, then these should be funded with maintenance money.
 - b. Other physical changes can improve pedestrian mobility. Crosswalks, traffic islands, signage, and maps can also improve walking and wheelchair-use transportation. We encourage the City to think broadly about the most effect ways to spend money dedicated to pedestrians.

Thank you for your attention, and we look forward to discussing any of these items or related issues with you at your convenience.

Sincerely,

Richard Hatfield
Chair CIP Subcommittee

Dave Sullivan
Chair Planning Commission

Planning Commission Recommendations for Fiscal Year 2012 Neighborhood Plan CIP Priorities

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Plan Name	Action Item/ Recommendation #	Action Item/Recommendation	Primary Resource	Secondary Resource	Estimated Cost (as of April 2011)	CIP Committee Recommendation Category
Crestview Wooten	QL3.2	Increase appropriate street lighting.	Austin Energy	--	34,500	Recommend without ranking
Crestview Wooten	T1.1	Construct priority sidewalk in Crestview along Grover Avenue between Morrow Street and Justin Lane (either side).	Public Works	--	360,000	Recommend without ranking
Crestview Wooten	T1.5a	Arterial Sidewalk along Burnet Road between Anderson & Justin (east side)	Public Works	--	540,000	Recommend without ranking
Crestview Wooten	T1.6a	Repair the sidewalks on Justin Lane between Burnet Lane and Woodrow Avenue.	Public Works	--	480,000	Recommend without ranking
Hyde Park	23a	Complete the sidewalk system on both sides of Speedway.	Public Works	--	180,000	Recommend without ranking
Hyde Park	23c	Complete (and repair) the sidewalk system on both sides of Guadalupe.	Public Works	--	1,080,000	Recommend without ranking
Hyde Park	28a	Install additional lighting along the major pedestrian routes of 43rd Street (with tree trimming as needed).	Austin Energy	--	12,000	Recommend without ranking
North Lamar Combined	75	Construct Americans with Disabilities Act-compliant ramps at all intersections with sidewalks.	Public Works	--	25,200	Recommend without ranking
North Lamar Combined	105	Provide better [pedestrian] lighting at or near Capital Metro bus stops within the NLCNPA.	Austin Energy	Capital Metro	46,000	Recommend without ranking
North Lamar Combined	110.B.	Construct new curbs and gutters along Turner Drive, between Grady Drive and Applegate Drive.	Public Works	Watershed Protection Dept	4.2M	Recommend without ranking
North Lamar Combined	116.D.	Install streetlights at the east end of Longspur Boulevard.	Austin Energy	--	21,000	Recommend without ranking
North Lamar Combined	70.A.	Construct new sidewalks along the south side of Applegate Drive, between North Lamar Boulevard and Brownie Drive.	Public Works	--	336,000	Recommend without ranking
North Lamar Combined	70.D.	Construct new sidewalks along the north side of West Grady Drive, between North Lamar Boulevard and Georgian Drive.	Public Works	--	204,000	Recommend without ranking
North Lamar Combined	70.E.	Construct new sidewalks along the entire north side of Powell Lane.	Public Works	--	540,000	Recommend without ranking
North Lamar Combined	70.J.	Construct new sidewalks along either side of Turner Drive, between West Grady Drive and West Applegate Drive.	Public Works	--	114,000	Recommend without ranking
North Lamar Combined	70.N.	Construct new sidewalks along the south side of East Wonsley Drive, between Georgian Drive and the I-35 frontage road.	Public Works	--	252,000	Recommend without ranking
Crestview Wooten	QL1.4	Consider finding an appropriate location to develop a public park in the Crestview Neighborhood.	PARD	Austin Energy	TBD	Consider in future years
Crestview Wooten	T1.3e	Construct a sidewalk along Yates Avenue between Dartmouth Avenue to Pasadena Drive (east side).	Public Works	--	156,000	Consider in future years

Planning Commission Recommendations for Fiscal Year 2012 Neighborhood Plan CIP Priorities

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Plan Name	Action Item/ Recommendation #	Action Item/Recommendation	Primary Resource	Secondary Resource	Estimated Cost (as of April 2011)	CIP Committee Recommendation Category
Crestview Wooten	T1.3f	Construct a sidewalk along Watson Street between Anderson and Morrow Street (either side)	Public Works	--	180,000	Consider in future years
Crestview Wooten	T2.6b	Add six-foot bike lanes to Lamar Boulevard from Morrow Street to Airport Boulevard by expanding the width of the street or reconfiguring current lanes to accommodate bike travel (currently no new pavement required).	Public Works	Austin Transportation Dept	70,000	Consider in future years
Crestview Wooten	T2.6c	Convert the outside traffic lanes of Lamar Boulevard from Airport Boulevard to Justin Lane to fifteen foot-wide curb lanes that accommodate bike routes along this corridor, and provide appropriate signage (currently no new pavement required).	Public Works	Austin Transportation Dept	5,000	Consider in future years
Hyde Park	50	Develop a Guadalupe corridor plan through the future Smart Growth corridor planning effort including the following elements: all stakeholders in the planning process; transportation enhancements; land use, zoning, historic resources; support local businesses; and state property.	Planning and Development Review	Austin Transportation Dept	TBD--dependent on scope	Consider in future years
Hyde Park	NEW PRIORITY -not in adopted plan	Create bike and pedestrian crossing over "Red line" at Airport, 51st, 53rd, and Clarkson. Add no turn signs.	Public Works	Austin Transportation Dept	200,000	Consider in future years
Hyde Park	NEW PRIORITY - From Prior CIP Plan	Intersection improvements at 43rd and Duval	Austin Transportation Dept	--	TBD	Consider in future years
North Lamar Combined	39	Install additional drinking fountains at Barrington Park.	PARD	AISD Facilities Mgmt.	TBD	Consider in future years
North Lamar Combined	45	Find and allocate land for a new park within the NLCNPA.	PARD	Contract & Land Management Dept.	TBD	Consider in future years
North Lamar Combined	49	Incorporate into the park's design a gazebo or other performance-type venue that will allow for a variety of culturally-related performances, including music and dance.	PARD	--	TBD	Consider in future years

Planning Commission Recommendations for Fiscal Year 2012 Neighborhood Plan CIP Priorities



Plan Name	Action Item/Recommendation #	Action Item/Recommendation	Primary Resource	Secondary Resource	Estimated Cost (as of April 2011)	CIP Committee Recommendation Category
North Lamar Combined	79	Conduct a traffic-calming study to determine possible design changes to the NLCNPA street network to facilitate traffic flow and reduce hazards throughout the neighborhood. If warranted, implement the recommendation(s) from the traffic-calming study. Special emphasis should be placed on the following thoroughfares: Grady Drive, Masterson Pass-Diamondback Trail, Powell Lane, Georgian Drive (Between US Highway 183 and Rundberg Lane), East Drive, Beaver Street	Austin Transportation Dept	--	TBD	Consider in future years
North Lamar Combined	86	Study the feasibility of constructing pedestrian refuge islands, such as raised medians, along North Lamar Boulevard.	TxDOT	Austin Transportation Dept	N/A	Consider in future years
North Lamar Combined	111.C.	Examine flooding issues at the intersection of Shepard Drive and Cooper Drive.	Watershed Protection Dept	Public Works	TBD	Consider in future years
Upper Boggy	89	This action item was removed from the main part of the plan and placed in Appendix A. 8/2009 Neighborhood Plan Contact Team is asking for reconsideration of the following recommendation: Complete the installation of the perimeter posts to prevent unauthorized vehicles from driving into Patterson Park, especially along the west side near the picnic tables. Car traffic compacts the soil and threatens the health and vitality of the large trees surrounding the park and exacerbates the erosion problems at the park.	PARD	--	TBD	Consider in future years
Hyde Park	36	Large trucks should be prohibited from using 38th street at all times. Appropriate signage at access points should be installed. It is understood that this road functions as an arterial. Truck traffic on 45th and IH-35 is preferred.	Austin Transportation Dept	--	N/A	Infeasible
Hyde Park	43a	NEW PRIORITY-- Bus shelters are complete at 39th/Guadalupe. Need to provide crosswalks to get safely to the shelters.	CapMetro	Austin Transportation Dept	N/A	Infeasible
Upper Boggy	63	Improve traffic circulation and provide a safer traffic crossing for vehicles turning left from Airport Boulevard (northbound & southbound) onto Parkwood and Crestwood Roads. Refer to plan for suggestions.	Austin Transportation Dept	--	N/A	Infeasible

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CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PROGRAM

FIVE YEAR PLAN – FISCAL YEAR 2011-2012

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY



On September 23, 2010, City Manager Marc Ott created the Capital Planning Office (CPO), with the mission of making the City's Capital Improvements Program (CIP) best managed through effective planning, coordination and implementation. A key objective of CPO is to create a strategic and integrated CIP plan that supports City goals and priorities. The Fiscal Year 2011-2012 Capital Improvements Program Plan took several steps to provide expanded information on the capital program for improved transparency as well as illustrate linkages between department capital programs and key planning and service priorities. Further enhancements to the Plan, and the capital program as a whole, are expected in upcoming years.

The following provides a summary of the Fiscal Year 2011-2012 Capital Improvements Program Plan including an overview of the plan, highlights for the upcoming fiscal year, the plan's relationship to the Comprehensive Plan, capital funding sources, and details of how the plan is organized.

PLAN OVERVIEW

The City of Austin regularly undertakes projects to improve public facilities and infrastructure assets for the benefit of its citizens. Projects include the construction of city facilities such as recreation centers and libraries as well as the reconstruction of streets, replacement of water/wastewater lines and provision of power for City of Austin residents. Collectively, these projects are referred to as the City of Austin Capital Improvements Program (CIP). These improvements are an investment in the future of the organization and Austin. As such, emphasis is placed on anticipating capital needs well in advance and full-integrating them with service and financial projections.

The capital planning and decision-making process in Austin is guided by the CIP Plan document. Produced annually, the CIP Plan outlines the City's projected major capital improvements over the next five years. It includes both the general government departments and the various enterprises that the City operates, and has a section that describes the City's debt position. Using the CIP Plan as a source, the Annual revenue and expenditures for both the operating and capital budgets are included in the City's five year Financial Forecast. The CIP Plan allows the City of Austin to appropriately plan for its current and future capital needs.

The Fiscal Year 2012 CIP Plan includes expanded information on each department's capital improvement program, including information on the priorities being met by the capital improvements, the process through which capital needs are identified, as well as new project requests designed to further address departmental and organizational priorities.

A key component of CIP Plan development is citizen input to ensure that community needs and priorities are considered. In addition to the CIP plan being considered and recommended by the Planning Commission as per City charter, departments review their proposed capital improvement program with their respective boards and commissions to obtain more specific feedback from their stakeholders.

The Capital Budget, proposed in July, will contain the first year of required appropriations from the CIP Plan. The Operating Budget, also proposed in July, contains operating costs associated with CIP facilities coming on-line during the next fiscal year. The City Council then holds public hearings on the Operating and Capital Budgets and General Obligation Bond Sale in August.

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The entire CIP process culminates with the City Council's approval of the Operating and Capital Budgets in September, for the fiscal year beginning in October. From October on, staff is involved in the spending-to-goal and schedule-to-goal monitoring and reporting.

FISCAL YEAR 2012 CIP PLAN: HIGHLIGHTS

The Fiscal Year 2012 CIP Plan includes \$4.7 Billion in appropriations for projects, including \$3 Billion already appropriated for ongoing projects and another \$1.7 Billion for new projects or projects that are continuing in the Fiscal Year 2012 to 2016 planning horizon. The plan also includes \$421 Million in unfunded project requests to meet identified capital improvement needs.

The departmental summaries highlight several of the key projects that were completed or showed significant progress in Fiscal Year 2011, including the Pfluger Bridge extension, the Joint Public Safety Training Facility, and Austin Energy's System Control Center. It should be noted that due to the preparation schedule of this CIP Plan, the accomplishments for Fiscal Year 2011 only represent the first two quarters of the fiscal year.

In November 2010, voters approved the 2010 Mobility Bond Program. The program includes \$90 million for mobility enhancements, street reconstruction, pedestrian, bikeway and signals projects. The Austin City Council approved a Capital Budget amendment on January 27, 2011 in the amount of \$56.29 million as the first phase of the bond program implementation. The remaining \$33.71 million is requested through the CIP Plan and will be included in the Fiscal Year 2012 Proposed Capital Budget to be presented to Council in July.

The City continues to make progress on the 2006 Bond Program, with approximately \$316.4 million in voter-approved funding being expended and encumbered as of early June 2011. The largest project remaining from the 2006 Bond Program is the New Central Library project, which is currently in the design phase and anticipated to be completed in Fiscal Year 2015.

As the department summaries show in the following pages, the City's capital improvement program strives to balance priorities of maintaining existing facilities, making investments to support community and economic development, and creating sufficient capacity to meet changing and growing service demands. The City is facing the challenge of balancing these priorities in the midst of decreasing revenues and budgetary reductions at the local, State, and Federal levels of government.

As the City continues to work on balancing its operating budget in the current economic climate, it must not only consider the capital improvement and investment needs of the community-at-large but must also be prudent in assessing the impact of capital projects on the recurring operating and maintenance costs to the City of Austin. Such impacts are taken into account through the development of the capital budget and operating budget for the coming fiscal year. The Capital Planning Office will work with the Budget Office and City departments on long-term planning and impact analysis of operating and maintenance costs related to capital program implementation.

Looking forward, the City will strive to make continued progress on completing the current bond programs underway so that other capital needs can be met in the future. The City will also be monitoring availability of external funding opportunities and any subsequent impacts to the capital improvement program.

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

The Capital Improvements Program is part of the City's comprehensive planning process. A comprehensive plan provides broad-level guidance on how Austin will grow and develop in the future. It is a guide for the management of change, a reflection of community values and aspirations, the foundation for policies, strategies and actions, and essentially, the community's "to do" list. The City's current plan, the Austin Tomorrow Comprehensive Plan (ATCP), was adopted in 1979 and has continued to serve as the City's comprehensive plan of record. The ATCP was subsequently amended each time a neighborhood plan was adopted by Council. Over the past 30 years the City of Austin has gone through a tremendous amount of change and growth. Therefore, the need for a new comprehensive plan was expressed by neighborhood groups, community advocates, and city officials alike. In 2009, the City of Austin began the extensive process of creating a new comprehensive plan,

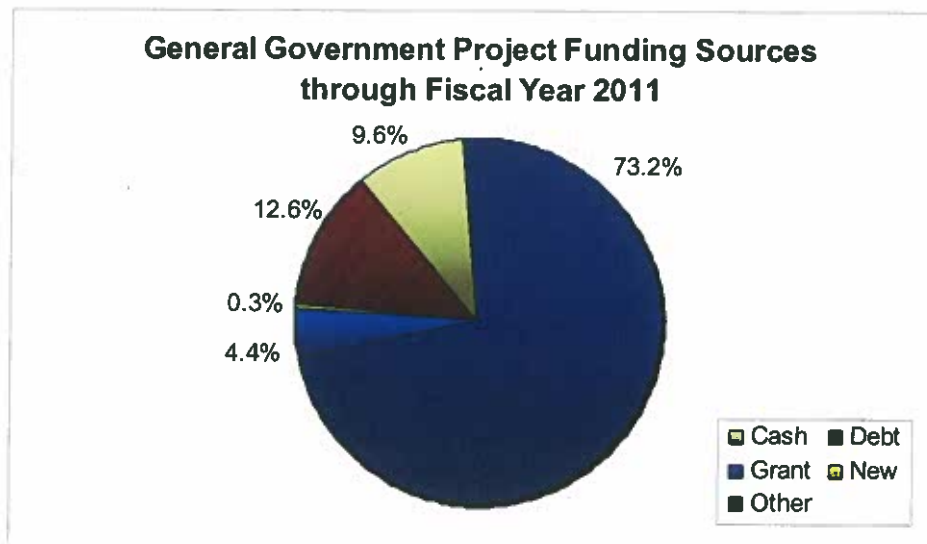
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referred to as Imagine Austin. The final version of Imagine Austin comprehensive plan is expected to go before the City Council in Fiscal Year 2012.

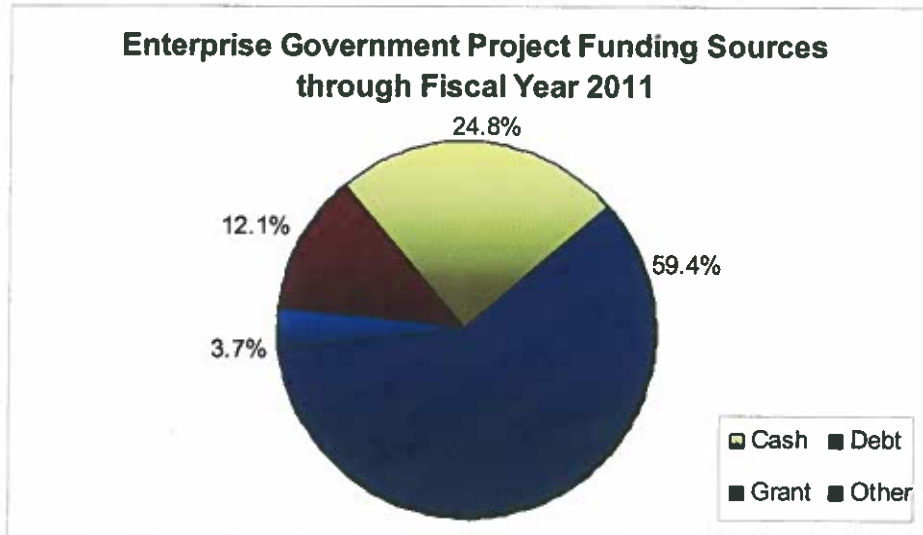
The Capital Planning Office is working closely with the Planning and Development Review Department and other City departments to ensure that the capital improvement program is aligned with the City's comprehensive plan and its related, approved plans.

CAPITAL FUNDING

The CIP is supported by a number of different funding sources, including debt, cash and various other revenues. The type of funding utilized for a project can vary according to the type of project as well as whether the department is part of the General Government CIP or Enterprise CIP. Debt sources include public improvement bonds (voter approved bond programs), certificates of obligation, contractual obligations, and commercial paper. The use of debt is suitable in capital projects because it promotes intergenerational equity in bearing the costs of the projects in conjunction with enjoying the benefits. The public improvement bonds (PIBs), certificates of obligation (COs) and contractual obligations (KOs) are all secured by the full faith and credit of the City of Austin and secured by its ad valorem taxing power. While PIBs require voter approval obtained through a bond election, COs and KOs do not require voter approval. COs are used for real property purchase and construction and are typically paid for over a 20 year period, similar to PIBs, and KOs are a short-term debt instrument used to finance equipment or vehicles. The City's priority is to fund capital expenditures with cash or voter approved debt. However, by official financial policy, it allows for use of COs and KOs if the capital expenditure is urgent, unanticipated, necessary to prevent an economic loss to the City, revenue generating, or is the most cost-effective financing option. The commercial paper (CP) program is utilized by Austin Energy and Austin Water Utility only. CP is a very short-term debt, usually due within 30 to 45 days, and utilized as an interim financing instruction for capital expenditures that provides for lower interest costs and flexibility. Cash and various other revenue sources for the CIP include transfers from department operating budgets, interest earnings, grants, donations, sale proceeds, interagency agreements, developer contributions, fees, etc. A breakdown of the types of funding used for the Capital Improvement Program through Fiscal Year 2011 is included below:



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In June 1989, the City Council developed financial policies to ensure that the City's financial resources were managed in a prudent manner. These policies are reviewed annually for compliance, and changes and additions to the policies are approved for Council consideration from time to time. Several of the policies have a direct relation to the financing of capital projects. For example, a General Government capital contingency of 3% of capital expenditures is to be budgeted each year. If any of those funds are utilized in a given year, it is required to replace those funds in the following fiscal year. An additional example of a capital related financial policy is that it is the City's priority to fund capital expenditures with cash or voter approved debt. However, non-voter approved debt may be used for capital expenditures as an alternative to lease/purchase or other financing options if the capital expenditure is urgent, unanticipated, necessary to prevent an economic loss to the City, revenue generating or non-voter approved debt is the most cost effective financing option available.

HOW TO READ THIS PLAN

The Fiscal Year 2012 Capital Improvements Program Plan is divided into two volumes. The first volume includes the Planning Commission's recommendation, narratives for each department explaining their capital programs in detail, and a summary of current and requested appropriations. Volume two includes the project "Plan Pages" for each department. Each page contains a description about the project, followed by information on the sub-project(s) that make up the project. Under the description of the project is the list of sub-projects that the department is working on or will be working on within that project. Please note that Plan Pages are not included for the Communications and Technology Management Department (CTM) or Austin Energy. CTM funding plans for its CIP go through a separate process for information technology project planning. Austin Energy's funding strategy is tied to energy industry regulations and market dynamics; therefore, much of this information is treated as proprietary.

The financial information is a roll-up of each sub-project's financial information. This information may represent funding not only from the department who is responsible for the project, but also from other departments. For example, the financial information for many of the Street Reconstruction projects in the Public Works section contains funding both from Public Works as well as Austin Water Utility- since when the City re-constructs a section of road, utility work is also done. This method accurately captures total project costs in one place for the reader.

Spending Plan

Spending plan reflects cash flow, and is highly correlated to project schedule. Each fiscal year, spending plan targets are set and monitored throughout the year.

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Appropriation Plan

Appropriation plan reflects current appropriation levels, as well as future planned appropriations that will be necessary to complete the project. The FY 2012 appropriation plan will become the basis for determining the FY 2012 Proposed Capital Budget.

Funding Plan

Funding plan represents the funding source that supports the current and future appropriation. The most common funding sources are bonds – tax supported for the General Government Departments, and revenue supported for the Enterprise departments, as well as cash transfers from funds.