



BOARD/COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION

Planning Commission

Recommendation Number: 20150428-C15: Recommendations on the Capital Improvement Program, per City Charter, Article X. Planning, Section 4. Part (4).

WHEREAS, the City of Austin Charter requires that the Planning Commission submit annually to the City Manager a list of recommended capital improvements, which in the opinion of the commission are necessary or desirable to implement the adopted comprehensive plan during the forthcoming five-year period; and

WHEREAS, there are capital improvement program needs across the city related to service demands, capital renewal, urgent needs, and strategic investments that outweigh available funding for capital projects; and

WHEREAS, capital investment is one prong of the five-pronged implementation approach for the City's comprehensive plan.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Planning Commission, after review of the FY 2015-16 Long-Range CIP Strategic Plan, makes the following recommendations on the Capital Improvement Program:

1. Ongoing capital investment in upkeep of existing facilities and infrastructure will continue to be a key driver for capital program needs into the future.
2. The City will continue to seek additional resources to address the need for upfront infrastructure master planning to ensure a strategic and effective use of capital funding.
3. The Strategic Investment Areas Overlay Analysis indicated several areas of potential capital investment coordination opportunities that fall within Imagine Austin Comprehensive Plan centers and corridors, indicating focus areas for further analysis.
4. Capital renewal needs are apparent across several asset categories, including mobility and parks infrastructure as well as city facilities. Such ongoing programs may require additional funding in the next few years to continue progress in addressing capital renewal and service demand drivers.
5. The City has made initial investments in planning and/or preliminary engineering for several projects that have included substantial community engagement and would require additional funding for subsequent phases of work; such projects should be a priority for funding opportunities that become available.

6. Opportunities have been identified to coordinate new projects with prior improvements to create improved outcomes, such as those related to mobility and connectivity. Such projects should also be given consideration as new funding opportunities exist.

The Planning Commission also recommends the use of the FY 2015-16 Long-Range CIP Strategic Plan document, which can be found at <http://austintexas.gov/strategicplan>, in infrastructure planning and to guide policy decisions regarding capital investments.

Date of Approval: April 28, 2015

Record of the vote: Approved on a 7-0 vote, with Commissioner Oliver off the dais and Commissioner Roark absent.

Attest: _____



Alfonso Hernandez, Chair Planning Commission Capital Improvement Program Committee