

**City Council
Agenda Memo**



**City Council
Meeting Date: 06/12/2014**

TO: Larry D. Gilley, City Manager

**FROM: Jon James, AICP
Director of Planning & Development Services**

SUBJECT: Public Hearing and Possible Vote on the 2014-2018 Capital Improvements Program.

GENERAL INFORMATION

The 2014-2018 Capital Improvements Program (CIP) is a five-year plan that identifies needed capital projects and coordinates the financing and timing of these projects. The first year of the CIP (2014) is referred to as “Capital Budget” and it represents the City Manager’s recommendation for expenditure of funds and annual Certificate of Obligation (C.O.) sale. Projects scheduled for subsequent years are approved for planning purposes only and do not receive expenditure authority until they are part of the Capital Budget. Qualifying projects include those with a minimum cost of at least \$25,000 and that have a minimum useful service life of at least 15 years. Examples of typical CIP projects include street and drainage improvements, building construction, purchase of land, installation of water/sewer lines, and repair/replacement of facilities/equipment.

The program began in October of 2013 with City Staff soliciting suggestions for projects from the public. This included web announcements, a news release, notices on City Cable Channel 7, a public hearing at the P&Z, a special public forum, and an on-line survey. City Departments then developed project proposals. Department Directors narrowed the list of projects and issued a progress report to the P&Z in February 2014. In March, the P&Z forwarded a recommendation to the City Manager in accordance with the City Charter.

Significant Changes/Notes

Project #7310-01-14 Elm Creek Pedestrian Bridge (NEW) Reports of hazardous mixing of pedestrians and high speed traffic along Clack St. where a bridge crosses Elm Creek and a significant number of reported vehicle strikes to guard rails near this area have prompted the MPO and City Staff to determine that a separate pedestrian bridge is needed in this location. Project funding will be split over two fiscal years (2014 & 2015).

Project #7110-01-12 Rec Center Foundation Repair (SCOPE CHANGE) Earlier in the 2014 CIP process \$200,000 had been requested to deal with repairs to Chavez Recreation Center (CRC) in 2014. Deterioration at this facility has been recently determined to be so extensive that the building will be permanently closed. Previously allocated funds for this project will now only be used at Rose Park facilities. The \$200,000 previously requested for CRC are now being requested for use in the Elm Creek Pedestrian Bridge project.

Project #7010-01-14 Maxwell Renovation and Repair (NEW) Asphalt paving completed in the 60’s and 70’s at this facility is in need of repair in various places. Repair and renovation to the clubhouse interior will replace various dilapidated elements (sheetrock, ceiling tiles, lights, etc) and improve the functionality of the building for tournaments and group usage.

7010-01-06 Ball Field Concession Buildings (Delay) To accommodate the foundation work identified in Project #7110-01-12 new ball field concession buildings have been recommended for delay by one year.

73020-02-07 Bicycle Plan Implementation (Delay) An update to the City’s Bicycle Plan has not been completed as anticipated. A delay of capital improvements to support this plan for one year has therefore been recommended.

FUNDING/FISCAL IMPACT

The CIP “Capital” Budgets for years 2011-2013 were funded using excess reserve funds rather than through the issuance of Certificates of Obligations. On Feb 27, 2014 the City Council again approved the use of excess reserve funds for the proposed 2014 “Capital” budget. Using cash to fund this \$1.7 million rather than certificates of obligation (C.O.’s) will save the City significantly by avoiding issuance and interest charges over the life of a debt issuance.

BOARD OR COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION

The Planning and Zoning Commission conducted a public hearing on this item on March 3, 2014 and unanimously forwarded their recommendation for projects to the City Manager.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

The City Manager recommends approval as shown.

Report Prepared by:

Name: Edward S. McRoy
Title: Assistant Director,
Planning and Development
Services

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Disposition by City Council

- Approved Ord/Res# _____
- Denied _____
- Other _____

City Secretary

RESOLUTION NO. _____

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF ABILENE APPROVING AND ADOPTING THE 2014- 2018 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PROGRAM.

WHEREAS, the City of Abilene strongly supports the use of a Capital Improvements Program (CIP) as a budgetary tool; and

WHEREAS, Article VI, Section 84 of the Abilene City Charter requires the Planning and Zoning Commission to submit annually to the City Manager, not less than 90 days prior to the beginning of the budget year, a list of capital improvements found necessary or desirable during the forthcoming five-year period; and

WHEREAS, the City of Abilene Planning and Zoning Commission on March 3, 2014 conducted a public hearing and approved a recommendation for the 2014-2018 Capital Improvements Plan; and

WHEREAS, upon full consideration of the matter including a public hearing, the City Council made such changes to the Proposed CIP which in their judgment are warranted and in the best interests of the residents of the City of Abilene.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ABILENE, TEXAS THAT:

- PART 1. The Capital Improvements Program (CIP) for 2014-2018, as submitted by the City Manager and adjusted by the City Council, containing estimates of resources and proposed expenditures for each planned project, is hereby approved and adopted.

- PART 2. The City Manager or designee is hereby authorized in accordance with City policy and State Law to expend funds and issue indebtedness through Certificates of Obligations as indicated in the attached Exhibit A for the funding of identified projects in the 2014 Capital Budget.

ADOPTED this 12th day of June 2014.

ATTEST:

Danette Dunlap, City Secretary

Norm Archibald, Mayor

APPROVED:

Dan Santee, City Attorney

Exhibit A

2014-2018 CIP Binder

(Insert pdf. of 3-Ring Binder materials)