City of Council Bluffs

Capital Improvement Program

Fiscal Years

FY20 through FY24

City Council Adoption:

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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SECTION I - INTRODUCTION

1. PURPOSE OF THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

Capital expenditure decisions represent some of the most significant policy choices made by the City of Council Bluffs. Almost all departments within the City face the need for capital expenditures. Capital improvement programing and budgeting involves the development of a long-term plan for capital expenditures for the City. The Capital Improvement Program includes expenditures that are of significant value and have a long-term useful life such as, streets, sewers, land and major equipment.

The Capital Improvements Program (CIP) lists each proposed project to be undertaken, the year in which it will be started, the amount expected to be expended for the project, and the proposed method of financing these expenditures. Based on this information, summaries of capital projects by department can be prepared as well as summaries of financial requirements, such as amounts of general obligation bonds to be issued or amount of general/special revenue funds required.

The CIP identifies the City's most critical capital improvement needs and the general policies under which decisions are made. The CIP was developed for the following purposes:

- To address and prioritize the City's improvements needs in a comprehensive manner;
- To permit careful consideration, design, and scheduling of individual projects through advanced planning;
- To allow for financial planning over a long period; and
- To provide continuity in improvement programs with changes in City Council and Staff.

The development of CIP is the process of deciding what capital projects should be done, when they should be done, and how they will be financed. In its simplest form, CIP is a listing of improvement projects by priority, including a cost estimate and funding source. The adoption of the CIP by the City Council does not, by itself, guarantee or commit the City to a given set of projects. It is however, a critical step in the general obligation bonding process. Major improvement projects are authorized on an individual basis in accordance with state laws and municipal ordinances. However, the plan does provide the City Council with a framework upon which to base improvement decisions, provides the City staff with direction as to its work effort, and provides the citizens with information about the City's future intentions. The latter is particularly important because of the impact public facilities can have on business and development decisions.

2. CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT DEFINED

The term capital improvements normally refer to expenditures for capital items of long-term in nature. Minor capital needs and repairs and maintenance, which occur from time to time, are best handled through the annual operating budgets.

3. RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER PLANS AND DOCUMENTS

It is the function of the CIP to plan the construction of the community's physical improvements in a manner consistent with the City's overall goals. These goals are expressed in a number of different fashions, including the comprehensive plan, neighborhood plans, and many other less formal expressions of community policy. These goals established over the years, define the basic functions the City has decided to undertake, set minimum levels of service, and determine financing methods. More specifically, the goals of this process include establishing an improvement program which:

- Defines a realistic level of financial resources which can be committed to the City's improvement needs;
- Prioritizes the City's need for allocation of limited resources;
- Addresses the basic facility needs of the community in the most cost effective manner (basic service being defined as streets, sewers, drainage, and water);
- Recognizes the role of the City facilities in the development process and the need for the City to make improvements which promote the economic stability and orderly growth of the community;
- Recognizes the total scope of City services and allocates a portion of the City resources to those amenities which improve the quality of life and public safety;
- Encourages acquisition of outside funding to supplement City resources.

SECTION II – CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM GOALS

1. OVERALL GOALS OF CIP

The FY20 – FY24 Capital Improvement Program was based on the following goal statements:

Planning and Community Growth

The City will use the CIP process to establish a five-year program that is consistent with the Comprehensive Plan and shall function as a major tool for implementing its adopted goals and policies.

The CIP shall encourage further infill development and redevelopment of existing developed areas of the community by implementing the conservation, rehabilitation, and reconstruction of aging facilities. The City will follow a philosophy of rebuild it first and build it second.

The CIP will promote the renovation and extension of public services and facilities in priority areas of the community including the Missouri River levee system, West Broadway, River's Edge, East Beltway, and the Entertainment District.

The City will use the CIP process to construct new and preserve existing components of infrastructure systems that provide the level of service expectations of the public in an efficient and effective manner, recognizing the limited resources available.

The City will use the CIP to construct infrastructure that attracts additional economic activity into the community.

Public Safety

Priority will be placed on activities that prevent or protect the community from unreasonable exposure to dangerous and life threatening events.

Fiscal Considerations

CIP will support the long-range economic and fiscal stability of Council Bluffs. The CIP will structure annual debt service payments consistent within anticipated revenues.

Sales tax proceeds and Road use funds will be used in compliance with State Code and City ordinance.

General obligation bond proceeds will be utilized by projects that provide revitalization, result in additional tax base, or enhance community protection.

Operational Considerations

CIP projects will be evaluated for effects on annual operational and maintenance budgets.

New construction shall be designed to emphasize sustainability and constructed to a quality that minimizes maintenance and operational costs.

2. CIP CATEGORICAL GOALS

Five specific categories were identified by the Capital Improvements Program. These include public facilities, parks and recreation, public safety, utilities transportation, and community development. The goals, policies and capital improvement efforts by category are outlined as follows:

a. Utilities and Environment

Objective – Provide sanitary and storm sewer systems and levee system improvements that meet the needs of the public and comply with state and federal regulations.

Capital Improvement Efforts

- Update the City's sanitary sewer treatment facilities and pump stations to current environmental standards and to allow for additional residential and business development in the community.
- Improve the current sanitary sewer and storm water infrastructure within the community to preserve existing development and to encourage redevelopment of existing residential, commercial, and industrial areas.
- Extend sanitary sewer to identified growth areas to encourage new residential, commercial, and industrial development within or adjacent to the community.
- Implement improvements to the City's levee system to meet FEMA accreditation and the USACE standards for federal levees.
- Implement storm water management practices and projects to comply with the requirements of the EPA NPDES Phase II permit.
- Maintain and improve existing public facilities and develop new facilities based upon need.

b. Transportation

Objective – Proactively preserve and upgrade our existing transportation system throughout the City for the safe and efficient movement of people, goods, and services.

Objective – Coordinate transportation planning and improvements with the planning and development of other elements of the community, including other transportation means, public utilities, community facilities, and commercial and industrial areas.

Capital Improvement Efforts

- Continue a program of pavement resurfacing which extends the service life of existing streets.
- Improve the current street system within the community through reconstruction, combined with other utility improvements to preserve existing development and to encourage the redevelopment of residential, commercial, and industrial areas.
- Construct street extensions or reconstruct streets, which will result in new residential, commercial, or industrial development.

c. Public Safety

Objective – Provide for the equitable distribution of community facilities to meet the public safety needs of the community.

Objective – Provide adequate safety and crime prevention systems in Council Bluffs.

Capital Improvement Efforts

- Continue the program to upgrade and maintain current Fire Department facilities to plan and provide future facilities in locations that will ensure service coverage of future City growth.

- Maintain a program to plan and purchase Fire Department equipment to ensure current and future levels of service and take advantage of technological advances.
- Upgrade the firing range to meet public safety needs.

d. Community Development

Goal – The City will continue to play a leadership role in the strategic development of community growth.

Objective – Complete infrastructure and upgrades in key areas of community growth.

Goal – The City shall encourage further infill development and redevelopment of existing development areas of the community by implementing the conservation, rehabilitation, and reconstruction of aging facilities that are coordinated with redevelopment investments.

Objective – Remove or redevelop dilapidated structures and sites requiring environmental remediation in the community. Encourage infill development and redevelopment of existing developed areas of the community.

<u>Capital Improvement Efforts</u>

- Implement the recommendations contained in the Mid-City Neighborhood Strategy Area Plan.
- Continue the multi-year effort to redevelop West Broadway and First Avenue.
- Continue development of River's Edge and the Entertainment District.
- Continue a program of systematically acquiring and redeveloping dilapidated structures.
- Provide public facility improvements to ongoing neighborhood redevelopment efforts.

e. Parks and Recreation

Goal – Provide and maintain an equitable system of parks, open spaces, trails and recreational facilities to meet the cultural, educational, social, and recreational needs of the community and pursue opportunities to provide public facilities that attract regional use and function as economic generators.

Objective – Provide, renovate and maintain parks and open spaces that uniquely relate to the City's environment, history, and art/culture, or represent new trends and non-traditional leisure interests.

Capital Improvement Efforts

- Continue to plan, improve, and enhance the existing parks and recreation, aquatics, golf, historical and service delivery facilities.
- Continue Implementation of the Parks System and Recreation Facilities Master Plan.
- Develop the Missouri River Riverfront.
- Acquire, plan and develop new park and recreational facilities in development areas and in areas, which have insufficient park and recreational opportunities.
- Optimize grant funding opportunities for trails by programming annual City funding for trail renovation and the construction of new trails.
- Continue implementation of the Council Bluffs Recreational Trail and Bikeway Plan.

f. Public Facilities

Goal – Provide and maintain the City's buildings and associated amenities to service the needs of the community and employees.

Objective – Construct, renovate and maintain the City's buildings utilized for maintenance, public safety, operations and administrative functions.

Capital Improvement Efforts

- Undertake accessibility improvements necessary to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act.
- Develop and secure funding to implement a City Wide Public Facility Improvement Master Plan, which would identify capital maintenance projects, renovations and new facilities and recommend buildings for demolition or sale.
- Maintain and upgrade the City's maintenance, public safety, operational and administrative buildings and their public amenities (parking lots, lighting, landscaping, etc.).

Objective – Construct, renovate, and maintain the City's public, cultural, and entertainment related buildings and their amenities.

Capital Improvement Efforts

- Maintain and upgrade as necessary City owned entertainment facilities including the Mid America Center, the Entertainment District parking lot and the Entertainment District signage.