



**CITY OF BOULDER
CITY COUNCIL AGENDA ITEM**

MEETING DATE: August 14, 2012

AGENDA TITLE

Consideration of a motion to accept the summary of the Aug. 14, 2012 Study Session on the Draft 2013-2018 Capital Improvement Program (CIP).

PRESENTERS:

Jane S. Brautigam, City Manager

JR Clanton, Financial Projects Manager

Chris Meschuk, Planner II

Don Ingle, Director of Information Technology

Glenn Magee, Facility Design and Construction Manager

Jeff Dillon, Parks Superintendent

Annie McFarland, Visitor Access Program Coordinator

Molly Winter, Director of Downtown & University Hill Management Division/Parking Services

Annie Noble, Greenways Coordinator

Steve Buckbee, Engineering Project Manager

Michael Sweeney, Transportation Planning and Operations Coordinator

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of the August 14 Study Session was to present the Draft 2013-2018 CIP, present the recommendations made by boards and commissions upon their review of the document, and receive council's feedback on the following five themes covered in this year's CIP:

- The 2011 Capital Improvement Bond and progress made to date on constructing the projects
- The CIP guiding principle of sustaining or improving maintenance of our existing assets before investing in new assets

- Efforts made across the list of improvements to coordinate among departments, cultivate partnerships with other agencies and organizations, and leverage funding from other sources
- Examples of projects expected to be constructed in 2013
- Previews of projects expected to be constructed between 2014 and 2018.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Suggested Motion Language:

Staff requests council consideration of this matter and action in the form of the following motion:

Motion to accept the study session summary of the Aug. 14, 2012 Study Session included in this agenda item as **Attachment A**.

BACKGROUND

The background information for this topic can be found in the [CIP document](#) and [Study Session memo](#).

NEXT STEPS

Based on input at the study session, staff will prepare answers to be presented at the Tuesday, October 2, 2012 public hearing on the 2013 Recommended Annual Budget.

ATTACHMENT

- A. Summary of the August 14, 2012 City Council Study Session

Study Session Summary
August 14, 2012
Draft 2013-2018 CIP

PRESENT

City Council: Mayor Matt Appelbaum, Council members Suzy Ageton, K.C. Becker, Macon Cowles, Suzanne Jones, George Karakehian, Tim Plass, and Ken Wilson.

Staff Members: Jane S. Brautigam, City Manager; Paul J. Fetherston, Deputy City Manager; James Clanton, Finance; Chris Meschuk, Comprehensive Planning; Maureen Rait, Public Works; Bob Eichen, Finance; Tracy Winfree, Public Works / Transportation; Susan Richstone, Community Planning and Sustainability; Eric Nickell, Finance; Jeff Arthur, Public Works / Utilities; Don Ingle, Information Technology; Molly Winter, DUHMD; Larry Donner, Fire; Mark Beckner, Police; Mike Patton, Open Space and Mountain Parks; Frank Young, Fire; Jeff Dillon, Parks & Recreation; Joe Castro, Facilities and Asset Management; Bob Harberg, Public Works / Utilities; Tim Head, Public Works / Airport; Annie Noble, Public Works / Utilities & Greenways; Mike Orosel, Open Space and Mountain Parks; Stephany Westhusin, Public Works / Transportation.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this Study Session was to present the Draft 2013-2018 Capital Improvement Program (CIP) to the City Council. The study session provided Council with an opportunity to ask questions and comment on recommended capital projects in the Draft 2013-2018 CIP prior to the City Manager's submission of the 2013 Recommended Budget to the City Council in September.

PRESENTATION OVERVIEW

Introduction

City Manager Jane Brautigam opened the meeting by giving a brief introduction to the CIP. She then began by introducing JR Clanton and Chris Meschuk as presenters and explained that the CIP presentation would be a video presentation.

The video presentation began with a brief introduction of the agenda for the presentation. The agenda included the following elements:

- Introduction to CIP
- Discussion of the CIP Themes of:
 - Capital Improvement Bond
 - Maintaining Existing Assets
 - Coordination and Partnerships
 - Leveraging Funds
- 2013-2018 CIP Highlights

Background on CIP

Chris Meschuk reviewed the Purpose of the CIP, total proposed funding in the CIP, the annual CIP timeline, the Planning Board motion recommending the CIP to City Council, and new features of this year's CIP.

The CIP is a six year plan for maintaining and enhancing the capital assets of the community to ensure the city's infrastructure meets service deliver standards. There are four major steps to the annual CIP process:

1. Internal city coordination
2. Boards and commissions feedback
3. Study Session with City Council
4. Budget adoption

Planning Board reviewed the CIP in a public hearing on July 19, 2012 and recommended the Draft 2013-2018 CIP in a 6-0 vote.

The city is always striving for continuous improvement. This year, the CIP continued the implementation of the CIP Guiding Principles and enhanced the financial information delivered through the document.

Themes Present in Draft 2013-2018 CIP

JR Clanton discussed themes present in the CIP, including highlights of the 2011 Capital Improvement Bond; overview of maintenance of existing assets; and a review of coordination, partnerships, and leveraged funding in the CIP.

The 2011 Capital Improvement Bond was approved by voters in November of 2011 as a \$49 million bond measure to address a specific list of 26 categories of capital improvement needs in the city. The 26 categories were identified by a 16 person, resident committee. As of the Study Session date, 89 individual projects were included in these categories, with three already completed and 13 currently under construction. The bond projects are spread geographically throughout the city and cover a wide variety of project types.

The theme of maintaining existing assets allows the city to get the largest return on its capital investments that it can through proper maintenance and strategic enhancements. This maintenance extends the life of facilities. Approximately 57 percent of the funding recommended in the draft CIP is dedicated to maintaining existing assets.

The theme of coordination, partnerships, and leveraged funding allows the city to maximize the return it gets on capital projects by achieving multiple goals, saving money, and shortening the impact to residents caused by capital work. Examples included Valmont Bike Park, various Greenways projects, and significant leveraged funding in the transportation capital program.

Highlights of Draft 2013-2018 CIP Projects

Chris Meschuk reviewed project highlights of the proposed for funding in 2013 and proposed for funding in 2014-2018.

The first year of the CIP is adopted as part of the 2013 annual budget. The CIP has 61 projects recommended for funding in 2013. Some highlights of these projects include:

- **Elks Neighborhood Park:** A \$1.6 million new neighborhood park currently under design. Construction will begin in 2013 and will be coordinated with the Fourmile Canyon Creek multi-use path and flood improvements.

- **Baseline Underpass:** A new underpass that will be located on Baseline Road, between Broadway and 27th Way, replacing the current at through grade pedestrian crossing. In addition to the underpass, sidewalks and multi-use paths in the vicinity will be improved, and 20 new bicycle parking spaces will be provided.
- **Wonderland Creek Greenway:** A \$5.4 million project that will include flood improvements, environmental restoration, bicycle and pedestrian underpass at 28th Street, and multi-use path connections from Kalmia to Winding trail.
- **Sunshine Transmission Pipe:** The Utilities division will be rehabilitating the Sunshine Transmission Pipe, which carries treated water from the Betasso Water Treatment Facility to the City of Boulder. This \$1.1 million project will also include rehabilitation of the pressure reducing valve and hydroelectric station that are a part of this pipeline.

The CIP also includes projected allocations for capital projects for years 2014 to 2018. Although these are not adopted this year, it is important for planning purposes to look at projects planned in future years.

- **Valmont Road:** Improvements to the intersection of Valmont Road and 29th Street include constructing a new traffic signal, installing left turn lanes, and reconstructing bike lanes and sidewalks.
- **Betasso Water Treatment Facility:** This \$17.5 million project will fund significant upgrades, construction, and major rehabilitation to the aging electrical and mechanical equipment, and improve the capabilities of the existing pretreatment capacities.
- **Boulder Junction Pocket Park:** Significant public improvements are occurring in Boulder Junction now, and one of the later projects projected for funding will be the construction of a new $\frac{3}{4}$ acre pocket park for this new neighborhood in 2018.
- **Carter Lake Pipeline:** The pipeline is considered the best long-term solution to water quality, operational, and security vulnerability issues related to drawing water from the Boulder Feeder Canal and Boulder Reservoir. This project will also allow for hydroelectric generation.

Conclusion

Chris Meschuk discussed how the Draft 2013-2018 CIP includes funding for projects across multiple service areas, across the city geographically, and across a number of years. He also thanked Council for a spirit of continued investment and directed viewers to bouldercolorado.gov/CIP to view an electronic version of the CIP.

DISCUSSION

Following the video presentation, City Council asked a series of questions related to the CIP that were addressed by staff. Questions not fully answered at the Study Session will be answered in the council agenda item memos for the Tuesday, October 2, 2012 public hearing on the 2013 Recommended Annual Budget. The following questions from Council are paired with staff responses:

- Councilmember Ken Wilson asked if the city got a grant for the Carter Lake Pipeline project. Bob Harberg answered yes.
- Councilmember Ken Wilson asked if Carter Lake Pipeline could be cheaper without the hydro element. Bob Harberg answered that a study conducted closer to the project start date would consider that element.

- Councilmember Macon Cowles asked about the status of the Downtown Parking Signs. Molly Winter reported that planning on the sign project was being conducted and that work should be started by September. Councilmember Macon Cowles then asked why the sign project was delayed. Molly Winter answered that the delay was due to the complexity of the project.
- Mayor Matt Appelbaum asked if a 30 year lease would allow the Flatirons Events Center's renovation project to be completed by the tenant. Jeff Dillon answered yes.
- Mayor Matt Appelbaum asked if the Flatirons Golf Course was a revenue generator for the city, and if so, how much more additional revenue over cost did the golf course generate. Jeff Dillon answered that the golf course generated around 14%-20% more than cost, but that he'd have to research the topic more for a specific answer.
- Mayor Matt Appelbaum asked if the city's investments in Boulder Junction would be paid back. Susan Richstone answered that the 2011 Capital Investment Bond proceeds invested into Boulder Junction would not be paid back, but that staff would confirm exactly which other city funding would be paid back.
- KC Becker asked about the funding directed to the disc golf course at Valmont Park. Jeff Dillon answered that the project addresses one of the largest needs in park facilities at this time.
- Councilmember George Karakehian asked why Pearl Street funding had been shifted to Valmont Park. Jeff Dillon answered that the decision to move Pearl Street funding was possible because Pearl Street work would not be using all of the funds in the first year and the transfer did not disrupt any investments in Pearl Street.
- Suzy Ageton commented on the advisory board recommendations regarding the CIP. City Manager Jane Brautigam elaborated on the role of each board in the CIP process.
- Councilmember Tim Plass asked if the document management software listed in the Information Technology Section would be available to Council. Don Ingle answered yes.
- Councilmember Tim Plass asked if there was communication between Boulder's Energy Future and Utilities. Bob Harberg answered that he expected Utilities to be working with the Boulder's Energy Future team as that project gets underway.
- Councilmember Suzanne Jones asked about civic area planning coordination, and how the Arapahoe Avenue reconstruction relates to Sustainable Streets and Centers. Chris Meschuk answered that projects are being coordinated.
- Councilmember Suzanne Jones asked about artificial vs. real turf fields. Jeff Dillon answered that there are pros and cons to both, but artificial turf fields increase playability time.
- Councilmember Suzy Ageton asked if there were plans on how the 2011 Capital Improvement Bond premium would be used. City Manager Jane Brautigam explained that it would be put into contingency that could be used for cost overruns and perhaps additional projects.
- Councilmember Suzy Ageton asked about why the Open Space Board of Trustees recommended a specific dollar amount, and whether the amount matches what is being recommended in the CIP. Mike Patton answered yes.
- Mayor Appelbaum asked whether projects in the Draft 2013-2018 CIP have major impacts on the amount of funding needed for ongoing maintenance in the city. City Manager Jane Brautigam said that staff would provide follow up information on this question.
- Suzy Ageton asked if a list of outside capital funding received by the city could be provided. City Manager Jane Brautigam said that it could.