

CIP GUIDING PRINCIPLES

The City of Boulder develops a Capital Improvement Program (CIP) that addresses the ongoing major business needs and maintenance and repair of city assets as well as enhancements and expansion called for in the Boulder Valley Comprehensive Plan and city Master Plans. The CIP is a strategic document that assures that the municipal organization maintains a strong bond rating, implements community values, and has fiscal integrity. The city prioritizes its investments both across and within funds, based on the following guiding principles:

- 1. Capital Improvement Programs should be consistent with and implement Council-accepted master plans and strategic plans.**
- 2. Capital Improvements should achieve Sustainability Framework Goals:**
 - Accessible and Connected Community: improve and maintain mobility systems, infrastructure networks, and access to information
 - Economically Vital Community: provide infrastructure and amenities supporting employers and economic diversity
 - Environmentally Sustainable Community: promote natural resource and energy conservation; employ sustainable construction practices; and utilize renewable resources
 - Healthy and Socially Thriving Community: provide recreational, cultural, educational, and social opportunities that support physical and mental well-being; and facilitate inclusive community engagement
 - Livable Community: provide safe and well-maintained public infrastructure and services and enhance neighborhood livability
 - Safe Community: ensure timely response to emergencies and natural disasters; foster a climate of safety, maintaining and improving public safety and security
 - Good Governance: utilize effective and efficient use of public funds, maintaining a strong fiscal foundation; leverage external investments; promote community partnerships; and promote stewardship of human, information and physical assets.
- 3. As potential capital investments are identified, the city must demonstrate in the CIP process that there are sufficient funds to operate and maintain the project or program.**
- 4. Capital Improvement Programs should provide enough capacity and flexibility in our long-term planning to be able to respond to emerging, unanticipated needs.**
- 5. Capital Improvement Programs should maintain and enhance the supporting city-wide “business systems”, such as information and finance systems, for the city over the long term.**
- 6. Capital Improvement Programs should focus on capital investments for sustaining or improving maintenance of existing assets based on consistent asset assessment principles and practices, as well as balance needed investments for enhancements or new facilities to support levels of service outlined in master plans.**
- 7. Capital programming should maximize efficiency of investments demonstrated by measurable cost/benefit analyses and coordination of projects across departments within and across funds.**