

Principles of Sound Capital Improvement Planning

1. The Board of Supervisors' goals and the adopted Comprehensive Plan, specifically the Land Use Plan and the Policy Plan, are the basis for capital planning in Fairfax County. The Capital Improvement Program (CIP) shall execute the goals and objectives of the adopted Comprehensive Plan for Fairfax County.
2. Pursuant to Section 15.2-2239 of the Code of Virginia, the Planning Commission shall review and recommend annually the County's Capital Improvement Program based on the adopted Comprehensive Plan for the consideration of the governing body. Public participation in the CIP process is essential and shall continue to be encouraged.
3. Criteria consistent with the Comprehensive Plan, and with the principles stated herein, shall be established to guide the selection and prioritization of CIP projects.
4. The development of the CIP shall be guided by the principles of life cycle planning to ensure that long-term maintenance, renewal and replacement requirements are adequately addressed to protect the County's investment and maximize the useful life of facilities. The County shall allocate an appropriate amount of its general operating, special revenue, enterprise and other funds to finance ongoing infrastructure maintenance, renewal and replacement of facilities. Facilities are defined to include all fixed installations constructed and/or maintained with public funds, including buildings and structures, utilities and related improvements.
5. The CIP shall include the fiscal impact of each project and identify unfunded capital requirements to adequately anticipate resource requirements and capacity to provide services beyond the planning period.
6. The CIP shall support the County's efforts to promote economic vitality and high quality of life. The CIP should recognize the revenue generating and/or cost avoiding value of making public infrastructure improvements to spur private reinvestment and revitalization in support of County land use policy.
7. The CIP shall support the County's efforts to encourage the development of affordable and effective multi-use public facilities as feasible.
8. The CIP shall be developed to provide facilities that are cost effective, consistent with appropriate best practice standards, community standards and expectations of useful life.
9. The County will endeavor to execute the projects as approved and scheduled in the CIP. Value Engineering principles will continue to be applied to appropriate capital projects. Changes in project scope, cost and scheduling will be subject to close scrutiny.
10. The CIP shall be guided by the County's adopted Ten Principles of Sound Financial Management.