

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

As the City of Round Rock looks to the future, City leaders and staff envision a community that has planned for growth and development and provides its citizens with quality services and programs. Based on the 2000 census, the City of Round Rock is the 9th fastest growing city in the U.S. and the fastest growing city in the nation with a population over 25,000. As one of the fastest growing cities in the U.S., the City of Round Rock must meet the challenges of growth by providing adequate capital improvements for the citizens of Round Rock. Capital improvement projects are a major component in planning for the future of the City.

The backbone of any community comes from its infrastructure -- a City cannot sustain growth without adequate public facilities and transportation and utility systems. The City's capital improvement program plays a major role in how the City will function in the future as a sustainable community. Many of these improvement projects have a significant impact on the City's plans to stimulate growth in the local economy.

The City of Round Rock has systematically developed the Capital Improvement Program (CIP) using the City's Strategic Goals as a starting point. The Strategic Goals form the policy basis for preparing the City's master planning documents. The master planning documents provide near-term planning horizons for selecting projects to be included in the multiyear CIP, which is a minimum of five years in length. Project management tools and sound business practices establish well-defined project requirements, schedules and cost estimates for properly planning and executing the CIP. These tools and practices also include project reporting during the execution and over the useful life of the improvement.

Strategic Planning

The City approaches its planning and operations strategically. Goals for the City and its operating departments are developed in relation to the City's Strategic Plan and provide a common vision for where the City's efforts and resources are to be directed over the next five years and beyond. The City's goals, developed within the Strategic Plan, provide direction for developing the Capital Improvement Program. Specific goals relating to capital improvements include:

Goal #2		Review the General Plan with emphasis on the Northeast Quadrant of the city to provide for educational, business, residential and retail uses.
	2.1	Develop a plan to identify future land uses, major transportation routes, utility requirements and a comprehensive park system for the Northeast Quadrant.
Goal #3		Improve the image and appearance of Round Rock.
	3.4	Develop a corridor beautification plan for arterials, including significant entryways. This addresses "edges."
Goal #4		Plan and facilitate the City's transportation systems, at the local and regional level, to improve traffic flow and personal mobility.
	4.1	Plan the City's transportation systems.
	4.2	Implement transportation projects and systems.

	4.3	Maintain and operate City's transportation systems.
	4.4	Protect the function of the city's arterial roadway system by adopting land use and access policies that concentrate high intensity land uses, minimize strip development, and limit direct driveway access and curb cuts along major roadways.
Goal #5		Plan and implement effective and efficient services within the City's financial capacity to meet the needs of residents, customers and employees.
	5.1	Ensure city services, facilities and equipment meet the needs of residents, customers and employees through the development of annual departmental goals, objectives and strategic budgeting.
	5.3	Provide a safe environment by promoting a high quality, cost efficient public safety program.
	5.4	Provide a high quality, cost efficient public water and wastewater utility system that complies with all applicable state and federal standards and regulations.
	5.6	Establish partnerships among the City, other local governments, local businesses and social service providers to address regional issues and provide improved services.

Master Planning

With the Strategic Goals as the policy direction, the City of Round Rock uses a comprehensive approach to master planning. Planning is driven by the demand of the community, which is created by the growth and development of the City. The City is committed to providing outstanding service by supporting and promoting growth and economic development in the community.

The master planning environment includes assessing the needs of the community through citizen and customer surveys, researching technological innovation, demographic trend analysis and observation of other factors affecting the community, assessing the needs of each City department for its area of responsibility, and making informed assumptions concerning the community's general needs for an ultimate growth scenario. Ultimate growth is based on the total development of land within the present city limits and the extra territorial jurisdiction (ETJ). Once compiled, this needs assessment is combined with the City Council's direction and staff's view of the City's business purpose to provide a foundation for master planning, and this guides the City's efforts for up to 50 years into the future.

Typically, the City will update its planning documents every ten years with a major amendment at the five-year midpoint. To keep pace with development and growth, the City will make additional amendments to the plans on an as needed basis. The updates and amendments are presented to the public in formal hearings and the City Council adopts the changes by ordinance. The planning documents include a:

- General Plan

- Comprehensive Transportation Master Plan – Planning horizons of 2010, 2020 and ultimate build out.
- Water Master Plan – Planning horizons of 10 and 20 years and ultimate build out for infrastructure and beyond 30 years for water reserves.
- Wastewater Master Plan – Planning horizon of 10 years and ultimate build out.
- Parks and Open Space Plan – Planning horizon of five years and ultimate build out.
- Citywide Trails Master Plan – Planning horizon of ultimate build out.

As planning has become a critical component of the City's work structure, staff continually look for new and innovative ways to combine sound solutions with the clear and consistent business principles that meet the ever-changing needs of the citizens -- thus allowing the City to create a sound business plan and roadmap for the City's future.

Project Selection

Round Rock's capital improvement project selection process is systematic and deliberate. Typically, the steps are:

1. **Defining eligible projects.** The master planning process and documents provide potential projects to be included in the multiyear Capital Improvement Program (CIP), which is a minimum of five years in length. Round Rock also uses a general definition for eligible projects as items generally costing greater than \$50,000, provides a fixed asset or equipment and has a life span of at least five years. Some common examples of capital improvements include streets and arterial roadways, public libraries, water and wastewater lines, and park and recreation facilities.
2. **Developing a priority ranking system.** The master planning process and documents establish near-term planning horizons for initially ranking capital improvement projects. City staff determines the timing, cost and priorities for each individual project to further refine project ranking, which is coordinated with the City Manager to aid in translating Council priorities into project priorities. The ranking process then begins a formal process, which may include public hearings, and consideration or approval by a board, citizen task force and/or City Council. In the case of a general obligation bond, approval must be obtained from the voters.
3. **Identifying, assessing and coordinating potential funding sources.** Key elements of developing, assessing and coordinating potential internal and external funding sources is identifying the funding sources, assessing the City's financial condition and its ability to service existing and new debt and coordinating the best source of funds for needed capital improvements. This evaluation process is performed by the Director of Finance and is used to provide the foundation for the proposed CIP.
4. **Preparing the Spending Plan.** Based on the prioritized list of needed improvements and the assessment of sources and availability of funding, the CIP spending plan is prepared. The plan identifies the capital improvements that are programmed (to be constructed) in the next fiscal year. After preparation, the CIP

spending plan is presented to the government body for ratification, and becomes the official and legal policy of the City. The approved funding plan is the authority required for City staff to execute projects.

Project Management

The City of Round Rock strives to execute projects that meet the needs of the citizens within schedule and cost constraints. To achieve these objectives, City staff uses a comprehensive method for managing projects, which begins during the master planning process and continues through project close out.

The project management process starts with translating the needs of the citizens and the City into the project's technical requirements or scope. With the scope established, a preliminary project cost estimate, a reasonable schedule and an annual operating cost estimate are developed. The estimates and schedules are used as a key element in the priority ranking process. Developing annual operating cost estimates is not only critical in evaluating the project during the ranking process, but it provides important information, such as personnel requirements, maintenance costs, etc., which is used to plan and develop future budgets.

As the project transitions from planning into execution, City staff actively manages the project by monitoring the project scope to prevent scope changes during the project and refining the scope, if needed, to adjust for unforeseen challenges. The cost estimates and schedules developed during the planning process are also refined and adjusted as the project moves through the design process, so accurate cash flows are available for determining the timing and size of expenditures. In the case of general obligation bonds, accurate timing and size of the issuance can reduce issuance costs and the net ad valorem tax impact to property owners.

The City of Round Rock is constantly striving to improve the Capital Improvement Program by implementing best practices for project management. In the future, the City will continue to diligently manage the CIP to enhance the quality of life for the citizens of Round Rock and keep projects on time and within budget.

Project Reporting

The City of Round Rock considers external and internal communication as an important element of good government and good project management. Throughout the Capital Improvement Program process, City staff maintains open lines of communication with the public, the City Council, the City Manager and the City Directors through the use of public meetings, presentations, progress and status reports and the Capital Improvement Program web pages. Project managers are also readily available to address any issues or challenges that may occur during project execution. Regularly scheduled reporting cycles require the project managers to continuously monitor project progress/status and result in a reduction in unexpected delays.

Future Project Operating Costs

As mentioned previously, annual operating cost estimates are developed by the project manager during the master planning process and are used as an important element in ranking project priority. Annual operating costs can include personnel, scheduled repair and maintenance and utilities in the case of buildings. To prepare for the future and avoid shortfalls, the City uses the annual operating cost estimates to plan and develop future budgets. If practical, the City will establish new programs tailored specifically to repair and maintain similar capital improvements, like streets and utilities. One such program is the annual Street Maintenance Program, which was established to improve the integrity and service life of the existing City's streets using sealcoat, crack seal and overlay. A pavement management system has been established to protect the City's investment in the approximate 1,028 lane-mile street system. The objective of the City's pavement management system is to provide serviceable streets in the most cost-effective way possible. To meet this goal, the street conditions are surveyed and then combined with the data on the streets' maintenance history, original design, and traffic uses. This information is used to determine whether maintenance is needed and what type of resurfacing is appropriate. The annual project typically encompasses approximately one-eighth of the lane miles of asphalt concrete paving. The amount of lane miles increases annually due to the construction of new roads and streets and development of subdivisions and commercial properties.

Five-Year Capital Improvement Program Project Summary

The Capital Improvement Program (CIP) is a multiyear plan covering a minimum of five years that forecasts spending for all anticipated capital projects. The plan addresses repair and replacement of existing infrastructure, as well as the development or acquisition of new facilities, property, improvements and capital equipment to accommodate future growth. As a planning tool, it enables the City to identify needed capital projects and coordinate facility financing, construction, operation and scheduling. The Capital Improvement Program encompasses three distinct components.

General Government - These projects include municipal facilities, parks and park improvements, sidewalks, landscaping, traffic signals, street, regional detention, drainage improvements, public safety capital equipment and facilities. Projects in this component are funded from general government resources such as property tax, sales tax and the issuance of authorized bonds. Regional detention projects are primarily funded through developer fees.

Transportation - In August 1997, the Citizens of Round Rock authorized the adoption of an additional sales and use tax within the City at the rate of one-half of one percent, with the proceeds thereof to be used for arterial roadways and other related transportation system improvements. The additional revenue is not part of the City's general operating budget but is budgeted and spent by a non-profit economic development corporation established expressly for the above purpose with the approval of the Round Rock City Council. Since 1998, the Round Rock Transportation System Development Corporation (RRTSDC) and the City have utilized the sales tax revenue to leverage other sources of funding and maximize the number of transportation projects in the City of Round Rock.

Water and Wastewater Utility - These projects are major water and wastewater repairs, replacements and the development or acquisition of new facilities. Water and wastewater utility projects are funded from the sale of water and wastewater services, utility impact fees and the issuance of revenue bonds.

General Government

The General Government component includes projects in the categories of public service facilities, park projects and park improvements, sidewalks, landscaping, traffic signals, street and drainage improvements, public safety capital equipment and facilities. Funding for general government projects is derived from general government resources such as property tax, sales tax, issuance of authorized bonds and developer fees.

Public Service Facilities

- Business Center Complex
- City Hall Policy Center
- Southwest Downtown Area Infrastructure Improvements
- Public Works Master Plan
- Vehicle Maintenance Expansion
- Downtown Redevelopment Plan
- City Gateway Entrances
- Library Radio Frequency ID System
- Citywide Strategic Plan Phase Two

These projects address a rapidly increasing need for public service facilities as the City's population grows and quality of life expectations increase. City staff will grow with these expectations. Planned municipal facilities include the Business Center Complex and the City Hall Policy Center, which will provide the unique and specific requirements of a city. The Downtown Redevelopment Plan will be addressing integrated land use, transportation and economic issues. City Gateway Entrances will provide for a community entry sign along IH35. The City Library will begin to implement the radio frequency ID system which allows books to be "tagged" for increased efficiency and friendliness on an automated self check out/in system. The system also secures books against theft.

The Southwest Downtown Area Infrastructure Improvements provide the capacity for the City to contain a 13-acre municipal office campus, a trailhead park and greenbelt along Lake Creek, and potentially more commercial and residential use in the downtown area. Improvements consist of streets, sidewalks, drainage, utilities and streetscapes.

Information Technology

- Fiber Optic Networking
- Information Technology Assessment
- Financial Information Services

The Fiber Optic Networking project will cover the construction of lateral connections from various City facilities to the RRISD ring system. It will also provide the equipment necessary to light the connections for use in the data/telecommunications network system serving the City. The City is nearly complete on the Information Technology Assessment which reviewed the types of technology used in all departments. It also captured the data and information flow between City departments and divisions. The assessment will provide valuable information in planning Citywide technology strategies and purchases for

increased efficiency in data communication. Updating the Financial Information Services will serve our current and future needs for comprehensive finance software.

Public Safety Equipment and Facilities

- Police CAD Program Upgrade
- Quint Fire Apparatus

Fire engines will be purchased according to the Fire Apparatus Replacement Schedule. This will ensure a coordinated replacement cycle when engines reach their aging capacity. The Police Department's Computer Aided Dispatch Program will need updates in order to maintain the highest level of services for officers and citizens.

Parks and Recreation

- City Wide Trails
- Brushy Creek East Gap Trail
- Old Settler's Sports Complex
- West Side Recreation Center
- Old Settler's Park Practice Fields

The development of City Wide Trails is to encourage walking and biking in the community and to support local and regional transportation systems. Several trail projects have been completed.

In the City's commitment to the development of Old Settler's Park, there is a continuation of building out the park to provide more diversified programs and recreational facilities. The park has seen the installation of a new playground, new ball field lights, ball fields, parking lots and soccer fields. With the focus on the City of Round Rock as the "Sports Capital of Texas" many of the projects have expanded the ability to offer abundant and attractive sports facilities. The Old Settler's Sports Complex is nearly complete and includes 25 state of the art ballfield complexes. The complex also contains a new Tennis Pro Shop, practice fields and restrooms.

A West Side Recreation Center is scheduled to meet the overwhelming response in memberships the City has received since opening our first recreation center in July 2000. This will allow for growing memberships along with new and current programs.

Sidewalks, Landscapes and Traffic Signals

- Downtown Parking and Transit Facility

Downtown Parking and Transit Facility is designed to meet the needs of the downtown area with parking facilities, traffic control, and pedestrian paths, as well as provide increased safety at busy intersections. An underground parking garage has been completed and is located under the Baca Senior and Activity Center.

Streets, Drainage and Storm Water Control

- Meister Lane Improvements
- Street Seal Coat Program
- Pavement Management Software
- Policy Center Street Improvements
- Creekbend Boulevard
- Chisholm Trail Reconstruction
- Chisholm Parkway Extension
- Sam Bass Road
- Little Oaks Subdivision
- Ledbetter Street
- Messick Loop-Hanlac Trail Channel Improvements
- Eggers Acres-Dennis Drive Improvements
- Storm Water Master Plan Assessment

These projects will cover a myriad of infrastructure needs such as repair, relocation, replacement and reconstruction of major and local roadways. These projects will include the accompanying drainage and underground utilities. This will greatly improve and enhance the mobility of citizens and decrease congestion. New and improved streets will provide better road safety and access to key areas.

The Street Seal Coat Program is an annual preventative maintenance program designed to systematically seal coat city streets. Areas of the city are designated each year depending on the existing age of the seal coat. The pavement management system will track the condition of the City's streets. The system will produce detailed and accurate reports of the streets to use in conjunction with annual seal coating and other repairs.

Stormwater channels require "wet" maintenance and are often overgrown with weeds, erosion and silting. Channel improvements will correct these safety concerns and eliminate higher maintenance costs.

Transportation

In 1997 the citizens of Round Rock voted to authorize an additional one half cent sales tax for the specific purpose to build roads and major arterials. The Transportation component of the Capital Improvement Program covers those projects funded through this additional sales tax.

Transportation Projects

- Arterial A
- County Road 113-Kiphen Road-Old Settlers Blvd.
- FM 1460-North Grimes Blvd.
- RM 620
- Traffic Signals
- US Highway 79-from FM1460 to CR195

- Transportation Consulting
- IH-35 Area Improvements
- Hester's Crossing Bridge Replacement
- Wyoming Springs Drive
- Red Bud Lane Phase Four
- Arterial M-North Mays Extension
- US 79 at North Mays
- Arterial M-5
- Arterial M-4
- Cypress Cove Extension
- South Mays at Gattis School Rd.
- Arterial L-2
- Arterial M-3
- FM 3406
- AW Grimes Blvd. South
- Round Rock Ave. Realignment
- Arterial C

Transportation projects are new road and road betterments as planned through the City's Comprehensive Transportation Master Plan. This Master Plan has elements to provide an adequate future transportation system, identify environmentally sensitive areas, and develop roadway design standards. Transportation is an important concern of the citizens and the administration of Round Rock. The projects listed above have been approved and are on the City's Transportation Capital Improvement Program. The TCIP is a short term view of the City's needs for transportation. Some of the projects above are approved for design costs only as the City continues to monitor the priorities of a growing City and its transportation needs.

Water and Wastewater Utility

The final component of the City of Round Rock's Capital Improvement Program is the Water and Wastewater Utility. This includes projects in the categories of major water and wastewater lines, processing facilities, water transmissions, water storage, and water operations. This includes major repairs, replacements and new development. Funding for water and wastewater projects is derived from the sale of water and wastewater services, utility impact fees and the issuance of revenue bonds.

Water Utility

- Ground Water Filtration
- Manville/CR 122 Water Improvements
- RM 1431 2MG Elevated Tank
- CR 112 24" Waterline
- Asbestos Pipe Replacement Program
- 2010 Water Treatment Plant Rehabilitation
- 1.5MG Clearwell at Water Treatment Plant
- West Side Recreation Center Offsite Utilities
- Round Rock Ranch/High Country Waterline Replacement
- Annexation Utility Improvements-Variou Locations
- 2010 PRV Installation
- Regional Water Transmission Line-Segment 3
- FM 1460 Waterline

Water system lines, storage improvements and system improvements are ongoing capital repairs or betterments. These projects improve, strengthen or increase the City's water utility system to provide the level of service required by our citizens and businesses. Expanding water services is necessary to accommodate the City's current and future growth. Major renovations and repairs keep the water system running efficiently and effectively. With completion of the pump upgrades and a larger raw water transmission line from Lake Georgetown, the water treatment plant is being re-rated from its original capacity of 48 million gallons per day (MGD) to 52 MGD. The plant is currently rehabilitating components within to ensure it continues to perform at top efficiency and capacity. A new 1.5 MG clearwell is being constructed at the plant site to maximize the storage of treated water to be readily available during higher demand periods.

Reuse Water Utility

- Brushy Creek Regional Wastewater Plant Reuse Water Treatment Facilities
- Old Settler's Park 24" Reuse Water Transmission Line

Recycling the treated wastewater is an environmentally friendly, economical and safe solution for large irrigation. The City is in the planning and design phase of constructing facilities at the wastewater treatment plant to treat and pump ultimately up to 10 MGD of reuse water to various areas of the City. The first phase is to irrigate Old Settler's Park with reuse water to alleviate the City's demand on potable water for irrigation. The City received a grant from the Bureau of Reclamation to help with costs of building the facilities and transmission lines.

Regional Water

- Lake Travis Regional Water Supply

The City of Round Rock completed a study in September 2005 that evaluated alternatives for use of the water rights in Lake Travis owned by the City. The study concluded that a joint project with Cedar Park would offer economic benefits to both cities. The City of

Leander is also participating in this regional system to obtain additional capacity. The regional system will ultimately provide 105.8 MGD of treated water capacity, with Cedar Park receiving 15 MGD, Round Rock receiving 40.8 MGD and Leander receiving 50 MGD. Phase I of the project is scheduled for completion in the summer of 2012. It will consist of a regional water treatment plant, new raw water intake structure and pipelines, and new treated water transmission lines that will service the three cities. The system will be owned and operated by the Brushy Creek Regional Utility Authority (BCRUA), a local government corporation, which was created by the three participating cities.

Wastewater Utility

- Wastewater Basin Inspection and Rehabilitations
- McNutt Creek Wastewater Improvements
- West Side Recreation Center Offsite Utilities
- Forest Creek Wastewater Study
- Brushy Creek Wastewater Improvements
- Lake Creek Wastewater Improvements
- Annexation Utility Improvements-Variou Locations

Wastewater system line improvements are line extensions to serve a growing customer base, ongoing capital repairs or betterments. Completed repairs and renovations provide significant treatment cost reductions in the future by preventing ground water from seeping into collector lines.

Regional Wastewater

The Brushy Creek Regional Wastewater Plant recently completed an expansion that gave the City of Round Rock 17.1 MGD capacity at the plant.