

# Capital Improvement Program (CIP)

## Frequently Asked Questions

### 1. What is the Capital Improvement Program (CIP)?

- A six-year funding plan for municipal capital projects.
- A framework for decisions on future local bond and state grant requests.
- Proposed by the Mayor and approved by the Assembly annually. [The CIP Includes, but does not program, the latest federal funding plan proposed in the Anchorage Metropolitan Area Transportation Solutions (AMATS) Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)].
- Includes all departments in the general government part of the Municipality.

### 2. How are capital project needs identified?

- Phone calls and emails from residents.
- Community Council responses to the annual Capital Improvement Program survey.
- Recommendations from the Traffic Department and Street Maintenance.
- Communication with Assembly Members and Legislators.
- Comments during the bond and CIP public hearings.
- Road Improvement Districts.
- Coordination with Anchorage Water and Wastewater Utility (AWWU).

### 3. How does each department prioritize projects?

- Each department uses criteria for evaluating, scoring, and ranking all projects in their department. Project Management and Engineering (PM&E) uses 12 criteria to evaluate road, drainage, pedestrian, and safety projects.
- Projects in Girdwood, Chugiak Birchwood Eagle River Rural Road Service Area (CBERRSA), and other Rural/Limited Road Service Areas are prioritized based on the input of the local road boards and community councils.

### 4. Where does capital project funding come from?

- Bonds: the primary funding source is voter approved bonds for the Anchorage Roads and Drainage Service Area (ARDSA).
- Mill levies: Local neighborhoods such as the Anchorage Hillside and Chugiak/Eagle River/Birchwood area (CBERRSA) residents approve special taxes that fund road and parks projects, following priorities established by their local road and park boards.
- State: Legislative grants provide funding based on state budget status.
- Federal: Federal funding is programmed through the AMATS TIP.

### 5. What is the typical schedule for development of the CIP?

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
Prepare project status, need, and scope for all projects on needs list that still require funding, and submit to OMB	█	█										
OMB provides community council surveys for project prioritization			█	█	█	█						
Projects evaluated and ranked					█	█						
Develop draft Capital Improvement Program (CIP) with input from public works departments, Community Council survey results					█	█	█					
Input data into OMB CIP database of projects						█	█					
Draft CIP reviewed by administration and edits made								█	█			
CIP submitted to Assembly for introduction										█		
Planning and Zoning Commission makes Title 21 required recommendation, including public hearing										█		
CIP approved by Assembly following public hearings											█	
Legislative project requests submitted to CAPSIS	█	█										