



# CITY OF LONG BEACH

DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

333 West Ocean Boulevard • Long Beach, CA 90802 • (562) 570-6194 FAX (562) 570-6068

August 21, 2014

CHAIR AND PLANNING COMMISSIONERS  
City of Long Beach  
California

## RECOMMENDATION:

Find the projects listed in the Proposed Fiscal Year 2015 Capital Improvement Program (FY 2015 CIP) in conformity with the General Plan and accept Categorical Exemption 14-070. (Citywide)

APPLICANT: Long Beach Department of Public Works  
333 West Ocean Boulevard, 9<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Long Beach, CA 90802  
(Application No. CIP-15)

## DISCUSSION

The Capital Improvement Program (CIP) is a schedule of expenditures to build and maintain the public infrastructure throughout the City. Each year staff updates the CIP to adjust priorities, delete completed projects, add new ones, and present the CIP to the City Council as part of the annual budget. The CIP represents a comprehensive and direct statement of how the City will maintain and enhance its infrastructure for the future.

The Long Beach City Charter, Section 1002(e), confers to the Planning Commission the responsibility to review the City's long range CIP solely for the purpose of ensuring that it is consistent with the City's General Plan. The intent of this section is to ensure that the General Plan directs all land use decisions and remains an effective tool for managing resources and projects. All project proposals in the CIP must be found to conform to the maps and policies of the General Plan. On July 22, 2014, the City Council referred the Proposed Fiscal Year 2015 Capital Improvement Program (FY 2015 CIP) to the Planning Commission for review of its consistency with the General Plan (Exhibit A – FY 2015 CIP).

The Department of Public Works was responsible for developing the FY 2015 CIP. Public Works, in conjunction with other departments, reviewed the City's capital needs and prioritized project submittals based on established criteria. This process for identifying which capital projects would best meet anticipated demands has resulted in \$84.6 million in new capital investment for FY 2015 being proposed for funding by the City Council as part of the overall FY 2015 budget.

The FY 2015 CIP is divided into eleven major sections according to the category of capital investment:

- Marinas, Beaches and Waterways
- Parks and Recreation & Marine
- Public Facilities
- Storm Drains
- Street Rehabilitation
- Transportation Enhancements
- Airport
- Water
- Gas and Oil
- Harbor
- Successor Agency

The Harbor, Gas & Oil, Successor Agency and Water Departments each develop a separate infrastructure plan and report to a separate independent commission and/or are an enterprise fund, but are included here for informational purposes. For each major section, there is a list of programs. For each program receiving new FY 2015 funding allocations, there is a narrative description of the program.

### **GENERAL PLAN CONSISTENCY FINDINGS**

The Department of Development Services has reviewed the FY 2015 CIP for conformity to the General Plan. The General Plan consists of eleven elements: Land Use, Open Space, Transportation, Noise, Historic Preservation, Conservation, Local Coastal Program, Housing, Air Quality, Public Safety, and Seismic Safety and Historic Preservation. Each element of the General Plan carries the same authority concerning land use issues.

The Land Use Element provides the most specific test for General Plan consistency. The guidelines for the CIP consistency test instruct that:

Capital Improvement Plan/Program are [sic] “consistent” when they conform, explicitly or implicitly, to the land use district policies or other policies of the Land Use Element or other elements of the General Plan. All CIP projects which are intended to maintain/preserve the infrastructure and other capital investments in Long Beach are held to be “consistent” with the policies of the Plan. Proposals for new infrastructure or capital projects shall be examined for consistency on the basis of their ability to implement the goals of the Plan.

Most of the projects listed in the FY 2015 CIP fall into the maintenance and repair of existing facilities category.

An analysis of the consistency of each item receiving new funding allocations and the relevant elements of the General Plan is provided in Exhibit B. Staff has identified the General Plan goals and/or policies that pertain to each project. The Land Use Element includes the fifteen goals and objectives from *Long Beach 2000: The Strategic Plan* for setting a determined course for Long Beach (see Exhibit C – General Plan Goals). These goals and objectives are itemized in Exhibit C. It should be explained that, while specific policies are noted for each project, there may be additional General Plan policies that apply.

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After a review of all the elements of the General Plan, none of the proposed projects in the CIP are found to be inconsistent with the goals and policies of the City's General Plan.

Lastly, the recently adopted Mobility Element guided the preparation of the FY 2015 CIP. For example, all resurfacing projects identified in the Major and Secondary Highway Program will be designed as complete streets.

**ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW**

In accordance with the Guidelines for Implementation of the California Environmental Quality Act, Categorical Exemption 14-070 was issued (Exhibit D – Categorical Exemption). However, the potential environmental impacts associated with the projects in the FY 2015 CIP will be assessed in separate environmental documents prepared for each individual project at the time of implementation.

Respectfully submitted,



JEFFREY WINKLEPLECK  
ACTING PLANNING ADMINISTRATOR



AMY J. BODEK, AICP  
DIRECTOR of DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

AJB:JW:IB

- Exhibits:
- A) Fiscal Year 2015 Capital Improvement Program
  - B) General Plan Findings for Fiscal Year 2015 CIP Improvement Program
  - C) General Plan Goals
  - D) Categorical Exemption

**General Plan Findings for  
Fiscal Year 2015 Capital Improvement Program**

The Fiscal Year 2015 (FY 2015) Capital Improvement Program is divided into eleven major sections according to the category of capital investment. The Index Page of each category of investment lists the programs that received new funding allocations in FY 2015 as well as the programs with carryover funding. However, only those programs that have new FY 2015 funding receive a narrative description of each project. Each program receiving new funding in the CIP is reviewed for conformance with goals, objectives, and relevant elements of the *General Plan*. Please reference Appendix C for a description of each goal and objective. Based on this review of the below goals and policies, staff finds the proposed FY 2015 CIP consistent with the Long Beach General Plan.

**I. Marinas, Beaches, & Waterways**

Two assets that attract people to live, work, and play in Long Beach are its beaches and marinas. New funds were allocated to improve coastal access, water quality and recreational activity.

- Colorado Lagoon
- Belmont Pool and Pier Improvements
- Beach Restroom and Concession Rehabilitation
- Beach Maintenance Yard Improvements
- Tidelands Critical Facilities

*General Plan Finding: Consistent with Facilities Maintenance and Quality Services Goals of the General Plan.*

Also consistent with the following Local Coastal Program policies:

- "...that the outdoor swimming facilities just east of the Pool (Belmont Plaza Pool) be restored maintained" (Area C);
- "The Belmont Pier should be upgraded and the existing restaurant remodeled to offer a panoramic view of the area" and "Consideration should be given to construction of the lifeguard headquarters in the general area of Belmont Plaza Pool" (Area C);
- Colorado Lagoon "Water quality, not water level, shall dictate the duration and frequency and regimens of tidal gate operation. Flushing by tidal action shall be optimized by the removal of the tidal gates and by increasing tidal flows and water circulation." (LCP Resources Management Plan – Colorado Lagoon)

## II. Parks & Recreation

There is a constant effort to address and balance the issues of aging facilities, demographic changes, and the uneven distribution of park acreage throughout the City. In a period of budget constraint, the City has managed to add park acreage and improve existing facilities. New funds were allocated for Park Bike Path Replacements.

- Park Bike Path Replacement

Bicycle Master Plan Policy 7.1: *Ensure ongoing efforts that support the Bicycle Master Plan in relation to maintenance and monitoring.*

## III. Public Facilities

No additional funding has been appropriated for FY 15.

## IV. Storm Drains

Storm water is removed from city streets through a network of drains that channel the water into the ocean through the City's harbors, rivers, and bays. New funds have been allocated for storm drain system repairs and improvements.

- Storm Drain Pump Station Repair & Certification
- Storm Drain Refurbishment – Telemetry
- Storm Drain System and Water Quality Improvements

*General Plan Finding: Consistent with Facilities Maintenance and Quality Services Goals, and Areas of the City Subject to Flooding requirements for “the design of floor control facilities [to be] tailored to manage those eventualities” of the General Plan.*

## V. Street Rehabilitation

The Street Rehabilitation section is designed for neighborhood street repairs. Several projects were awarded new budget allocations including Major and Secondary Highway improvements, residential street repairs, and sidewalk improvements.

- Proposition A Transit Related Improvements
- Major and Secondary Highway Program
- Bridge Rehabilitation & Seismic Retrofit
- Citywide Residential Street Repair
- Citywide Infrastructure Improvements (Sidewalks)
- ADA Response Program

*General Plan Finding: Consistent with Functional Transportation, Facilities Maintenance and the Quality Services Goals of the General Plan.*

Consistent with the context-sensitive street classification system and complete street policies ( MOP 1-1 to MOP 1-18) of the recently adopted Mobility Element.

## **VI. Transportation Enhancements**

This category is designed for projects that enhance access and add capacity to City roadways. Bikeway and pedestrian improvements and traffic mitigation programs are new projects that were included in the Fiscal Year 2015 Capital Improvement Program.

- Sustainable Transportation Improvements
- Traffic Mitigation Program
- Traffic & Pedestrian Signals
- Light Rail Transit Related Improvements

*General Plan Finding: Consistent with Managed Growth, Facilities Maintenance and the Quality Services Goals of the General Plan:*

*Bicycle Master Plan Objective 1.0: Develop a comprehensive Bikeway network; Bicycle Master Plan Finding: Consistent with Medium and Long-Term proposed bike facilities.*

Consistent with the Bike Plan Map (Map 14) and Transit-Priority Street (Map 15) of the recently adopted Mobility Element.

## **VII. Airport**

The Long Beach Airport offers a variety of services required by commercial and general aviation users. Funding for airport-related improvements comes from Federal Aviation Administration grants, airport fees and facility charges, loans, and bonds. Improvements are intended to accommodate the needs of 41 commercial flights and over three million passengers annually. The only improvements that received new funding in FY 2015 were:

- Airport Terminal Area Improvements
- Airport Parking Structure
- Rental Car Facility

*General Plan Finding: Consistent with Economic Development, Neighborhood Emphasis, Facilities Maintenance and Quality Services Goals of the General Plan and the Land Use District Number 12 (Harbor/Airport).*

## **VIII. Gas and Oil**

The Long Beach Energy natural gas pipeline is a City asset with a \$400 million replacement value. A primary objective of the Department is to maintain the highest standards of pipeline integrity. These projects are administrated by Long Beach Energy.

## **IX. Harbor**

The Harbor Department develops a separate CIP and reports to an independent commission. However, their key projects include terminal expansion and development; bridge and railway construction; and land acquisition.

## **X. Successor Agency**

With the dissolution of the Long Beach Redvelopment Agency (RDA), the Successor Agency is responsible for completing "in progress" bond funded projects or other projects deemed to be pre-existing enforceable obligations.

## **XI. Water**

The Water Department develops a separate CIP and reports to an independent commission. However, their key projects include Potable Water Facility Upgrades, Reclaimed Water System Expansion, and Sanitary Sewer Collection System Improvements.

*GENERAL PLAN GOALS  
FOR THE YEAR 2000*

**Managed Growth:** Long Beach accepts the population and economic growth anticipated through the year 2000, and intends to guide that growth to have an overall beneficial impact upon the City's quality of life.

**Economic Development:** Long Beach will pursue economic development, which focuses upon international trade, while maintaining and expanding its historic economic strengths in aerospace, biomedicine and tourism.

**Downtown Revitalization:** Long Beach will build its downtown into a multi-purpose activity center of regional significance, emphasizing a quality physical environment, a pedestrian focus, and a wide variety of activities and architectural styles.

**New Housing Construction:** Long Beach encourages the development of 24,000 new housing units through the year 2000, with emphasis upon filling the gaps which exist or are anticipated in certain sectors of the City's housing market. In the immediate future, such emphasis should be upon for-sale housing for first-time homebuyers and upon upscale residential development in and around the downtown area.

**Affordable Housing:** Long Beach views its existing housing stock as its greatest resource of affordable housing, and will stimulate and support continued maintenance and reinvestment in that housing stock. It will take advantage of every available state and federal program to make its housing affordable to its population, but it will not sacrifice long-term quality for short-term affordability in rehabilitated housing.

**Neighborhood Emphasis:** Long Beach recognizes the strong neighborhood to be the essential building block of a citywide quality living environment, and will assist and support citizen efforts to maintain and strengthen their neighborhoods.

**Quality Services:** Long Beach will emphasize quality in the provision of services to its residents and businesses and will strive to make public services readily accessible to all citizens.

**Citizen Opportunity:** Long Beach finds strength in the increasing diversity of its population, and will seek to ensure that opportunities are available to our new citizens to fully participate in the community and to achieve their personal goals.

**Quality Education:** Long Beach recognizes that quality education is a key ingredient in building a successful community through the year 2000 and it will foster community-wide support of education on all levels and for all age groups.

**Facilities Maintenance:** Long Beach will maintain its physical facilities and public rights-of-way at a high level of functional and aesthetic quality, manifesting the pride of



## **Exhibit C**

the citizens in their City and ensuring that future generations need not bear the burden of deferred maintenance.

**Adequate Water Supply:** Long Beach will continue to take the actions that are necessary to preserve an adequate supply of water for domestic, commercial and industrial purposes.

**Functional Transportation:** Long Beach will maintain or improve the current ability to move people and goods to and from development centers while preserving and protecting residential neighborhoods.

**Art and Culture Support:** Long Beach recognizes art and culture to be necessary ingredients of a quality living environment, and will create and support mechanisms through which private individuals and organizations can expand cultural opportunities for all residents.

**Citizen Participation:** Long Beach will pursue increased opportunities for citizen participation in public decision-making, and will encourage voluntary efforts to provide and improve local facilities and services.

**Financial Stability:** Long Beach will make efforts necessary to maintain stable local government financing; to identify and to prioritize existing and potential financing resources; and to make those fiscal allocations required to meet the goals which have been established through the strategic planning process.



CITY OF LONG BEACH NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENT SERVICES
333 W. OCEAN BLVD., 5TH FLOOR, LONG BEACH, CA 90802
(562) 570-6194 FAX: (562) 570-6068
lbds.longbeach.gov

TO: [ ] Office of Planning & Research
1400 Tenth Street, Room 121
Sacramento, CA 95814

FROM: Department of Development Services
333 W. Ocean Blvd, 5th Floor
Long Beach, CA 90802

[x] L.A. County Clerk
Environmental Fillings
12400 E. Imperial Hwy. 2nd Floor, Room 2001
Norwalk, CA 90650

Categorical Exemption CE- 14-070

Project Location/Address: Citywide

Project/Activity Description: General Plan Conformity Finding for Fiscal Year 2015 Capital Improvement Program.

Public Agency Approving Project: City of Long Beach, Los Angeles County, California

Applicant Name: Chris Kuebart

Mailing Address: 333 West Ocean Blvd

Phone Number: 570-6947

Applicant Signature: [Signature]

BELOW THIS LINE FOR STAFF USE ONLY

Application Number: CIP-15 Planner's Initials: IB

Required Permits: GENERAL PLAN CONFORMITY FINDING

THE ABOVE PROJECT HAS BEEN FOUND TO BE EXEMPT FROM CEQA IN ACCORDANCE WITH STATE GUIDELINES SECTION

Section 15306 Class 6

Statement of support for this finding:

A consistency evaluation that does not directly result the project entitlement or approval of capital project.

Contact Person: Ira Brown

Contact Phone: 562-570-5972

Signature: [Signature]

Date: 8-13-14