

AGENDA ITEM No. 3

August 18, 2022

CHAIR AND PLANNING COMMISSIONERS
City of Long Beach
California

RECOMMENDATION:

Find the projects listed in the proposed Fiscal Year 2023 Capital Improvement Program (FY 2023 CIP) in conformity with the General Plan.
(Citywide)

APPLICANT: City of Long Beach
Department of Public Works
411 W. Ocean Blvd
Long Beach, CA 90802
(Application No. 2207-06) (GPC22-004)

DISCUSSION

The Capital Improvement Program (CIP) provides a comprehensive program to plan, design, construct, maintain, and repair City of Long Beach (City) facilities and infrastructure over the fiscal year. Each year, the Public Works Department updates and presents the CIP to the City Council as part of the Annual Budget. The CIP provides a comprehensive program delineating how the City will maintain and enhance its infrastructure for the future. The CIP also serves as a financial tool, which identifies funds for the broad range of mid- and longer-term capital projects, as well as a planning tool to ensure capital projects are consistent with the City's General Plan.

The CIP identifies the current expenditures and details the proposed new allocation of funding for the upcoming fiscal year. The strategic capital investment in the City's infrastructure includes major enhancements and repairs to critical public assets and infrastructure that is integrated into daily life. The proposed CIP investments are for critical assets such as parks, marinas and beaches, buildings, streets, traffic signals, storm drains, sidewalks, bus stops, bridges, water and sewer facilities, and upgrades consistent with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). The proposed CIP also includes investments in



Harbor and Airport facilities to improve goods movement and economic development, as well as to meet the long-term travel needs of City residents and businesses.

In compliance with the Long Beach City Charter (Section 1002) and California Government Code (Section 65401), the Planning Commission must review the City's CIP (Attachment - A - FY 2023 CIP) for the purpose of determining whether it is consistent with the City's General Plan. The intent of this review is to ensure that the General Plan directs all land use decisions and remains an effective tool for managing City resources and projects. A summary of the CIP report is provided in Attachment - B - FY 23 CIP: Summary. All projects in the CIP must be found to conform to the maps and policies of the General Plan.

The Public Works Department, in conjunction with other City departments, reviewed the City's capital needs and prioritized project submittals based on funding availability. The City is continuing to face economic challenges due to the COVID-19 pandemic, and within those constraints, the proposed Fiscal Year 2023 (FY 23) CIP (FY 2023 CIP) focuses on community investments that aim to improve the economic vitality and quality of life throughout the City. The selected capital projects determined to best meet anticipated demands, resulted in a \$176.6 million total CIP program being proposed for FY 23 to the City Council, as part of the FY 23 Budget.

The FY 23 CIP is divided into seven major sections according to the category of capital investment.

- Airport
- Beaches and Marinas
- Harbor
- Mobility
- Parks
- Public Facilities
- Utilities (Storm Drains, Water, Gas and Oil)

The Harbor, Energy Resources, and Water Departments each develop separate infrastructure plans and report to separate, independent commissions. These improvements are funded by enterprise sources but are, nonetheless, included in the CIP for informational purposes. The CIP contains a list of major programs receiving new FY 23 funding allocations, and a narrative description of each program. The CIP program totals \$500.7 million when including projects of the Harbor Department.

GENERAL PLAN CONSISTENCY FINDINGS

The Development Services Department Staff has reviewed the FY 23 CIP for conformance to the General Plan's Elements: Air Quality, Conservation, Historic Preservation, Housing, Land Use, Mobility, Noise, Open Space and Recreation, Public Safety, Seismic Safety,

Urban Design, and the Local Coastal Program. Each Element carries the same authority concerning land use issues.

The General Plan Land Use Element (LUE) requires all CIP projects to be consistent with the policies and objectives stated in the LUE. All CIP projects, which are intended to maintain/preserve the infrastructure and other capital investments in Long Beach, are required to be consistent with the policies of the General Plan. Most of the projects listed in the FY 23 CIP fall into the category of maintenance and repair of existing facilities. An analysis, or Consistency Findings, of each CIP category receiving new funding allocations, and the relevant policies of the General Plan is provided (Attachment C - General Plan Consistency Findings).

Staff has identified the General Plan goals and/or policies that pertain to each project. The LUE includes nine overarching goals and corresponding strategies and policies (Attachment D - General Plan LUE Goals and Objectives); consistency must be found with one or more of these goals, strategies and policies as well as those of the other General Plan elements. While specific policies are noted, there may be additional General Plan policies that apply.

The Mobility Element continues to guide the preparation of the FY 23 CIP. The Mobility Element has as one of its central themes achieving a balanced, multi-modal transportation network that enhances connectivity and supports existing development patterns. Designing roadways under the Complete Streets framework, facilitates improved pedestrian safety, bicycling, and public transit accessibility. A total of \$9.9 million for ADA Curb Ramp Improvements are allocated for FY 23. The following Complete Street Projects will start construction in FY 23: Anaheim Street Improvements between LA River and Pacific Coast Highway, South Street Improvements between Dairy Avenue and Atlantic Avenue, and Traffic Signal Improvements at eight signalized intersections throughout the City.

The LUE contains a suite of sustainability related policies and strategies that have been further refined through development of the City's Climate Action and Adaptation Plan (CAAP), a plan required by the LUE. The CAAP calls for identifying opportunities to better align the annual city budget, CIP, and other expenditures with CAAP mitigation and adaptation objectives and actions. Through this process, the City will seek opportunities to invest in projects that improve infrastructure and health, with a focus on low-income communities most impacted by climate change. The proposed FY 2023 CIP programs help to modernize and electrify City facilities, increase local water supplies, improve multi-modal mobility and access, and increase access to parks and green space, are all examples of investments that help implement CAAP objectives. The FY 23 CIP is consistent with the City's recently developed CAAP.

Overall, the CIP makes major investments in the City's infrastructure that are consistent with the goals and vision established within the General Plan. After a review of all the elements of the General Plan, the proposed projects in the CIP are found to be consistent with the goals and policies of the City's General Plan.

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

In accordance with Section 15061(b)(3) of the Guidelines for Implementation of the California Environmental Quality Act, this action is not subject to environmental review as there is no potential for causing a significant impact to the physical environment. The action before the Planning Commission is a consistency finding on a budget document, not the design, approval or construction of any of the projects listed within the CIP. However, the potential environmental impacts associated with the actual construction of the projects in the FY 2023 CIP will be assessed in separate environmental documents prepared for each individual project at the time of approval or implementation, as appropriate.

Respectfully submitted,



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PROJECT PLANNER



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Attachments:

- Attachment A - FY 23 Proposed CIP
- Attachment B - FY 23 CIP: Summary
- Attachment C - General Plan Consistency Findings
- Attachment D - General Plan LUE (2019) Goals and Objectives