

City of Alexandria, Virginia

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3-23-10

MEMORANDUM

DATE: MARCH 11, 2010

TO: THE HONORABLE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF CITY COUNCIL

FROM: JAMES K. HARTMANN, CITY MANAGER *J*

SUBJECT: CONSIDERATION OF AUTHORIZATION OF RECOMMENDED CAPITAL PROJECT ALLOCATIONS AND PLANNED EXPENDITURES

ISSUE: City Council authorization of the recommended capital project allocations and planned expenditures.

RECOMMENDATION: That City Council authorize \$2,527,047 for capital project allocations and planned expenditures for the capital projects as detailed in the Capital Improvement Expenditure Summary (Attachment).

DISCUSSION: This docket item provides a summary of Capital Improvement Program planned expenditures (Attachment). It includes projects reflected in the City's Fiscal Year 2010 Capital Budget approved by City Council, or approved in capital budgets prior to FY 2010 with a CIP budget document page reference in the Attachment. A project title listing appears on the next page and a detailed summary appears in the Attachment.

Allocations are recommended for the following projects:

Streets, Bridges, and Pedestrian Improvements (\$832,047)	
Washington Street Repaving	\$350,000
Safe Routes to School	\$482,047
Sewers (\$1,550,000)	
Sanitary Sewer Reconstruction and Extensions	\$1,250,000
Mitigation of Combined Sewer Overflows (CSO's)	\$300,000
IT Plan (\$145,000)	
Human Resources / Payroll System	\$45,000
Alexandria Justice Information System (AJIS)	\$100,000
Total Allocations Requested for March 2010	\$2,527,047

ATTACHMENT: Capital Improvement Program Planned Expenditures

STAFF:

Mark Jinks, Deputy City Manager
Bruce Johnson, Chief Financial Officer
Michael Stewart, Analyst, Office of Management and Budget

**Attachment: Capital Improvement Program (CIP) Planned Expenditures
March 23, 2010 Report, Docketed March 23, 2010**

This attachment provides summary information on capital improvement program projects for which work will be initiated and expenditures incurred during the upcoming months. Except as noted, funding for all of the projects discussed below is included in the City's Approved FY 2010 Capital Improvement Program (CIP) budget or in prior year capital budgets.

PROJECT NUMBER	INDEX CODE/ SUB-OBJECT	PROJECT TITLE	REQUESTED ALLOCATION	CIP PAGE NUMBER
011-129	245214-2121	Streets and Bridges (Washington Street Paving)	\$350,000 (General Obligation Bonds)	p. 6-106 (FY 2010 Approved)
<p>The Washington Street Paving project was included in the Virginia revenue sharing program for 2009. As a result, the City received \$1 million to help offset the \$2.15 million in total costs associated with this project (leaving \$1.15 million City share).</p> <p>This allocation of \$350,000 will complete the City's funding obligation for this project and will be used to complete the project's final phases. Specifically, this work includes some final traffic signal work and road striping that has been delayed due to the snowier than usual winter weather.</p> <p>The total scope of this project included the rehabilitation and repaving of VA 400/Washington Street between First Street to the north and the Church Street to the south (1.59 miles), as well as the replacement of aging traffic signals along this corridor. The paving portion of this project was completed in Summer/Fall of 2009 and the final portions of the signal and striping work are expected to be completed by late Spring of 2010.</p>				

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PROJECT NUMBER	INDEX CODE/ SUB-OBJECT	PROJECT TITLE	REQUESTED ALLOCATION	CIP PAGE NUMBER
011-233	245660-2121	Streets, Bridges, and Pedestrian Improvements (Safe Routes to School)	\$482,047 (Special Revenue Funds)	p. 6-98 (FY 2010 Approved)
<p>This project provides funding for necessary pedestrian and bicycle safety infrastructure improvements in school zones. Typical infrastructure enhancements include pedestrian safety improvements, such as staggered medians, illumination and signalization improvements, or raised walkways in high traffic areas to improve visibility of children who walk.</p> <p>This allocation of \$482,047 is fully funded by Federal Safe Routes to School grants as provided through the Virginia Department of Transportation. Funding will be used to provide pedestrian countdown timers in locations City-wide, intersection safety improvements and sidewalks at Charles Barrett, George Mason, Cora Kelly and Polk Elementary Schools and bicycle parking at schools City-wide.</p> <p>This allocation request is for City Council-supported programs for reducing reliance on single-occupant vehicles, particularly in neighborhoods where school-related traffic contributes to morning congestion.</p>				

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PROJECT NUMBER	INDEX CODE/ SUB-OBJECT	PROJECT TITLE	REQUESTED ALLOCATION	CIP PAGE NUMBER
013-501	255133-2121	Sanitary Sewers (Reconstructions & Extensions)	\$1,250,000 (Sanitary Sewer Fee Revenue)	p. 6-115 (FY 2010 Approved)

This \$1,250,000 allocation will fund the reconstruction of the sanitary sewers located under the following streets: Forrest Street and Groves Avenue from Commonwealth Avenue to Hickory Street; Hickory Street from Groves Avenue to Forrest St., Sycamore Street from Mt. Ida Avenue to Landover Street, and a short length of sewer in Diagonal Road between Daingerfield Rd and King St. These lines are undersized, cracked and broken, are maintenance problems, and in need of replacement.

The construction cost of these projects are estimated as follows:

- Forrest St., Hickory St and Groves Ave: \$660,000
- Sycamore St.: \$225,000
- Diagonal Road: \$150,000

The funding request is for construction estimate plus 20% contingencies. A total of \$830,050 in unallocated FY 2010 balances would remain available for sanitary sewer reconstructions and extensions after this allocation.

These projects are currently under design, and are scheduled for construction in the summer and fall of 2010.

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PROJECT NUMBER	INDEX CODE/ SUB-OBJECT	PROJECT TITLE	REQUESTED ALLOCATION	CIP PAGE NUMBER
013-101	255208-2102	Sanitary Sewers (Combined Sewer - VPDES Compliance Permit Work)	\$300,000 (Sanitary Sewer Fee Revenue)	p. 6-114 (FY 2010 Approved)

The requested allocation of \$ 300,000 is for implementing monitoring, and water quality analysis of overflows and receiving streams, modeling, and annual reporting. Money may also be needed to address issues that may be identified by VDEQ through review of the reports that have been submitted to the VDEQ by the City or any announced or unannounced inspections that VDEQ may conduct.

The City maintains a VPDES (Virginia Pollutant Discharge Elimination System) Permit from Virginia Department of Environmental Quality for its combined sewer system and associated combined sewer overflows. This permit allows discharge of combined sewer overflows from the four permitted outfalls. The current permit became effective on January 17, 2007 and is valid for five years. This project is a State and Federal regulatory requirement.

The requirements of the permit includes but is not limited to extensive monitoring, water quality analysis of overflows and receiving streams, annual reporting over the permit cycle, and implementation of nine minimum controls. The requirements span over the permit duration of 5 years.

Subsequent to this allocation, \$1.5 million in FY 2010 funds would remain unallocated to cover additional combined sewer mitigation efforts.

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PROJECT NUMBER	INDEX CODE/ SUB-OBJECT	PROJECT TITLE	REQUESTED ALLOCATION	CIP PAGE NUMBER
015-511	265686-2102	IT Plan (Payroll / Human Resources System)	\$45,000 (Cash Capital)	p. 7-22 (FY 2010 Approved)

The City plans to proceed with an RFP for a replacement Human Resources and Payroll system, which is at the end of its useful life.

This allocation of \$45,000 will enable the City to move forward with a Needs Assessment. Following this allocation, this project will have a remaining unallocated balance of \$850,000 in FY 2010 funds. An additional \$2,150,000 is planned in FY 2011 to complete this project. These remaining funds will be largely used to fund the software procurement and installation. The actual cost of this project will be determined once specific proposals are received and a contract is negotiated with the selected vendor.

This Needs Assessment has the potential to save the City money, time and effort in guiding us toward making the right purchase. Additionally, by assuring the City's HR / Payroll System needs are accurately described in a request for proposals, the City has a much better chance of receiving proposals from a wider spectrum of vendors.

Before proceeding with an RFP for a replacement system, the City has engaged an IT consulting services vendor to perform a Needs Assessment in order to assist in re-validating our system requirements (which are now 4 years old) as well as identifying feasible, cost effective strategies for sequencing system implementation. This vendor has many years experience with system implementations and understands the enterprise software market, and is currently performing an Information Technology efficiency study under contract with the City.

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PROJECT NUMBER	INDEX CODE/ SUB-OBJECT	PROJECT TITLE	REQUESTED ALLOCATION	CIP PAGE NUMBER
015-540	265950-2314	IT Plan (AJIS Enhancements)	\$100,000 (Cash Capital)	p. 7-31 (FY 2010 Approved)

The City is currently migrating most of the City's servers to a virtual server, VMware environment. This environment allows for a more flexible, powerful, reliable and cost effective server structure than the current single-purpose, standalone servers currently in use throughout the City.

This \$100,000 allocation would fund the migration of the Alexandria Justice Information System (AJIS) servers to the VMware environment. The move to VMware has the potential to increase the reliability of AJIS by allowing more efficient load management, maintenance and flexibility because a VMware configuration is easier to configure and manage than separate, standalone servers of varying configurations and capabilities. Following this allocation, an unallocated balance of \$91,000 in FY 2010 funds will remain for additional maintenance or enhancements to AJIS.

This transition will require the purchase of new equipment and operating software, some of which includes a Storage Area Network (SAN), Windows licenses, Uninterruptable Power Supply (UPS), Power Distribution Unit (PDU), switches, and cables.

Server end-of-life cycle and warranty expirations are approaching. With or without the transition to VMware, the City will need to replace the existing servers and operating software this calendar year. The City expects to purchase the equipment as soon as the Spring of 2010. After the equipment purchase has been completed, the new equipment would require a lengthy and thorough testing phase before the new VMware environment goes into full production. The City envisions that many AJIS servers will be transitioned to VMware in Summer 2010.