



Financial Services
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MEMORANDUM

Date: July 3, 2024

To: Mayor and City Councilmembers

Through: Kelly DiMartino, City Manager

Travis Storin, Chief Financial Officer

From: Lawrence Pollack, Budget Director

Subject: June 25, 2024 Work Session Summary: Development of the 2025-2026 Budget

BOTTOM LINE

The purpose of this memo is to document the summary of discussions during the June 25, 2024 Work Session on the development of the 2025-2026 Budget. All Councilmembers were present. Councilmember questions, comments and guidance will be helpful for the executive team as they start their work in July to finalize decisions for the Recommended Budget.

DISCUSSION SUMMARY

Staff presented a summary of the underlying financials and the associated assumptions being included in the Recommended Budget. These assumptions were previously reviewed with the Council Finance Committee during their April meeting. Additional context was provided around the inflationary impacts the City is experiencing and the impacts on the 2025-26 Budget. Council expressed a challenge to staff to look for anachronistic programs that could be phased out to shift investments to higher City and Council priorities.

A summary of the 2050 Tax appropriations for 2024 and budget requests submitted for consideration in the 2025-2026 Budget were reviewed for the applicable areas of City operations. The conversation included the proposed SE Community Center and applicable funding options being considered for the collaborative project with Poudre School District and the Poudre River Public Library. This project will be discussed in detail during the September Council Finance Committee meeting.

The topic wrapped up with a summary of public engagement on the budget and the online resources available for the public to view the budget requests being considered, along with additional information on the performance data associated with those requests.

NEXT STEPS

Narratives of the budget requests (aka offers) have been posted on fcgov.com/budget and public engagement will be occurring over the next few months. The City Manager's 2025-2026 Recommended Budget will be delivered at the end of August and then budget process will shift into conversations with City Council as they transition the Recommended Budget into the community's budget, which is scheduled for adoption prior to November 30th, as required by City Charter.

FOLLOW-UP ITEMS

1. Staff will provide more detail via separate memo on the specific drivers of the proposed rate increases in Light & Power, as well as the three wet utilities.
2. More detail on the General Fund reserve balances will be presented to the Finance Committee at its September 5th meeting, along with all other Funds of the City.


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WORK SESSION MEMORANDUM

Date: June 26, 2024

To: Mayor and City Councilmembers

Through: Kelly DiMartino, City Manager
Tyler Marr, Deputy City Manager
Caryn Champine, PDT Director

From: Brad Buckman, City Engineer

Subject: **June 25, 2024, Work Session Summary: Highlight Current Capital Projects in the City**

The purpose of this memo is to document the summary of discussions during the June 25, 2024, Work Session. All Councilmembers were present.

1. In this update to Council we highlighted 17 capital projects, 5 recently completed and 12 in progress this year (and beyond). These 17 projects crossed multiple services areas, including projects addressing utilities (water resources), streets resurfacing, new parks, trails (connections and underpasses), intersection improvements, and roadway corridor improvements. These projects represent a cost of \$166M to \$186M.
2. In general, Council had very positive remarks concerning the projects, and the execution of the recently completed ones, for example the Harmony resurfacing project (from Timberline to I-25) which was completed in June well ahead of schedule. The question was asked if we recycled the milled asphalt in this project. City staff verified with our Streets personnel that this project (and all City Streets resurfacing projects) did utilize recycled asphalt via the Hoffman mill.
3. The question was raised regarding wildlife corridors and if accommodation is given to enabling wildlife crossings in capital projects. City staff does review potential wildlife crossings in the design process, with assistance from environmental consultants, and responded to Council that current and future projects with this component will be addressed in the design process and presented to Council as needed and/or requested.
4. The question was raised regarding the Vine and Timberline intersection improvement project, as to whether the project included mitigation of the adjacent railroad tracks. City staff responded that this project would install traffic signals at the intersection and interconnect with the BNSF railroad signals, but it will be a surface improvement and delays due to the railroad crossing would still impact the intersection. City staff is currently scoping

a design of an overpass at this intersection through the Railroad Crossing Elimination (RCE) grant program. If we're successful with this grant process through the design and construction process, an overpass project at this location could potentially be executed in our 10-year Transportation Capital Improvement Program (TCIP).

5. The question was raised regarding traffic closures and alternate routes as a result of these projects, specifically regarding the College and Trilby intersection improvements project. Project information for College and Trilby can be found at the following website: <https://www.fcgov.com/engineering/college-trilby>. Information regarding current construction projects in general can be found at the following website: <https://www.fcgov.com/pdt/construction>.
6. Council was very supportive of the Utilities project updates – these projects have major impact to the City and are often “unsung”. Future tours with Council can be organized, especially for the \$42.9M Oak Street Stormwater project.
7. Council supported the idea that this presentation could be given on an annual basis; City staff will plan accordingly moving forward.

Items for Follow Up:

The question was asked regarding our trails projects: how do we think about and handle wildlife impacts and how close the trail is generally constructed to the water? Also, what is the restoration and planting plan? City Staff from the Parks Dept. will be following up with a memo by early next week.