



Community & Economic Development Department

Planning Division

3900 Main Street, Riverside, CA 92522 | Phone: (951) 826-5371 | RiversideCA.gov

PLANNING COMMISSION HEARING DATE: MAY 11, 2023
AGENDA ITEM NO.: 6

PROPOSED PROJECT

Case Number	PR-2023-001501 (General Plan Consistency)
Request	Review of the City of Riverside's Capital Improvement Program (CIP) for FY 2023/2024 for consistency with General Plan 2025
Applicant	City of Riverside Finance Department
Project Location	Citywide
Wards	Citywide
Staff Planner	Daniel Palafox Assistant Planner 951-826-5985; dpalafox@riversideca.gov

RECOMMENDATIONS

Staff recommends that the Planning Commission:

1. **DETERMINE** that the City of Riverside's Capital Improvement Program for FY 2023/24 is not subject to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) review pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15061(b)(3) as this action is not considered a "project" as defined by Section 15378(b)(4), and a determination of consistency has no potential to result in a direct or indirect physical change in the environment;
2. **FIND** that the capital improvement projects added for FY 2023/24 are consistent with the City's General Plan 2025; and
3. **REPORT to the City Council** that the capital improvement projects added for FY 2023/24 are consistent with the City's General Plan 2025.

BACKGROUND

California Government Code Section 65401 requires that the Planning Commission review the City's Capital Improvement Program (CIP) for the upcoming fiscal year to evaluate conformity with the General Plan and report its findings to the City Council. The City of Riverside Charter and the Riverside Municipal Code also require that the Planning Commission review the City's proposed CIP and report its findings to the City Council. It is anticipated that City Council will consider the FY 2023/24 budget and CIP in June 2023.

The Planning Commission's determination of General Plan consistency does not indicate that the Commission is approving or endorsing the projects. Individual projects will undergo further planning, design and review prior to approval or implementation. The City Council ultimately has the discretion in deciding final CIP projects.

The Planning Commission reviewed the FY 2022/2024 CIP on April 28, 2022 and reported its findings to the City Council that the projects were consistent with the General Plan.

PROPOSAL

Staff is requesting that the Planning Commission review the CIP projects added for FY 2023/24 and determine that the new projects are consistent with the City's General Plan 2025 (General Plan).

The CIP project list for FY 2023/24 includes: twenty-two (22) projects not previously reviewed by the Planning Commission for General Plan consistency and one hundred (100) projects previously reviewed that are continuing (Exhibit 1).

PROJECT ANALYSIS

The CIP is updated every fiscal year with some projects carrying over to the next budget period, some projects modified, and some added. The Planning Commission is responsible for reviewing only those CIP projects that have been added or modified.

Exhibit 1 includes a list of all capital improvement projects anticipated for fiscal year 2023/2024 and identifies:

- 1) Projects previously reviewed by the Planning Commission; and
- 2) New projects requiring a determination of consistency (detailed project descriptions are included in Exhibit 2).

The Planning Division reviewed the new projects to assess consistency with the General Plan and found that the new projects are consistent with the following Overarching Objectives and Policies from General Plan.

OVERARCHING OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES

Policy LU-10.2: Review the Capital Improvement Program of the City and local public works projects of other local agencies within the corporate boundaries of Riverside annually for consistency with this General Plan, pursuant to Government Code Sections 65401 et. seq. and Municipal Code Title 19, 19.050.030 (B).

Policy LU-10.3: Time the provision of capital improvements to ensure that all necessary public services and facilities for an area planned for new urban development are in place when development in the area occurs.

The 2023/2024 Reference Numbers of each project in Exhibit 2 are identified for each of the specific General Plan Objectives and Policies for which they are consistent as summarized below.

MUNICIPAL BUILDINGS AND FACILITIES – PROJECTS 33, 34, 35, 36, 38, 39, 41, 42 AND 44

Objective PF-6: Provide affordable, reliable and, to the extent practical, environmentally sensitive energy resources to residents and businesses.

Policy PF-7.9: Continue to work with Riverside Public Utilities and private telecommunications infrastructure operators and owners to ensure that Riverside has state-of-the art internet and telecommunication facilities, system upgrades, features and coverages.

Objective LU-26: Ensure that a network of modern, effective and adequate community facilities are equitably distributed across the entire City.

Policy LU-78.4: Enhance and celebrate Heritage House as a historic and cultural landmark.

Objective AC-6: Ensure that all museums in the City are supported in order to provide inclusive organizations and authentic, tangible and accessible resources that respond to the diverse and changing needs of Riverside's dynamic community of learners.

PARKS, RECREATION, AND COMMUNITY SERVICES – PROJECTS 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52 AND 53

Policy HE-4 Thriving Neighborhoods: Facilitate and encourage a variety of new housing types, including both single- and multi-family and missing middle housing, and the necessary public amenities to support a sense of community that results in equitable and sustainable neighborhoods.

Policy PR-EJ-1.0 Parks and Recreation: Distribute recreational facilities equitably throughout Riverside's neighborhoods.

Policy PS-3.3-2 Pedestrian and Bicyclist Safety: Implement phased infrastructure improvements that enhance pedestrian and bicycle safety as identified in the City's Capital Investment Program.

Policy CCM-EJ-1.0 Active Transportation: Promote physical activity and active transportation to address negative health outcomes, particularly among environmental justice communities.

Objective CCM-10: Provide an extensive and regionally linked public bicycle, pedestrian and equestrian trails system.

Policy CCM-10.4: Identify and seek to eliminate hazards to safe, efficient bicycle or pedestrian movement citywide.

Policy CCM-10.5: Promote the health benefits of using a bicycle or walking as a means of transportation.

Objective PR-1: Provide a diverse range of park and recreational facilities that are responsive to the needs of Riverside residents.

Policy PR-2.6: Provide greater amenities at access points and trail hubs, including identification and directional signs, marked parking stalls, water facilities for equestrians, cyclists and pedestrians, hitching posts, shade and trash receptacles. Additional amenities at trail hubs could include picnic tables and rest rooms.

Objective PF-10: Meet the varied recreational and service needs of Riverside's diverse population.

STORM DRAIN – PROJECTS 82 AND 83

Objective PF-3: Maintain sufficient levels of wastewater service throughout the community.

Policy PF-3.3: Pursue improvements and upgrades to the City's wastewater collection facilities consistent with current master plans and the City's Capital Improvement Program.

Policy PF-4.1: Continue to fund and undertake storm drain improvement projects as identified in the City of Riverside Capital Improvement Plan.

Policy PF-4.3: Continue to routinely monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of the storm drain system and make adjustments as needed.

TRANSPORTATION – PROJECTS 101 AND 108

Policy PSE-3 – Transportation: Minimize the risk of potential hazards associated with air and ground transportation.

Objective CCM-2: Build and maintain a transportation system that combines a mix of transportation modes and transportation system management techniques, and that is designed

to meet the needs of Riverside's residents and businesses, while minimizing the transportation system's impacts on air quality, the environment and adjacent development.

Policy CCM-2.1: Complete the Master Plan of Roadways shown on Figure CCM-4 (Master Plan of Roadways).

STRATEGIC PLAN ALIGNMENT

This project contributes to the Envision Riverside 2025 City Council Strategic Priority No. 6 – Infrastructure, Mobility & Connectivity (Goal 6.2 – Maintain, protect and improve assets and infrastructure within the City's built environment to ensure and enhance reliability, resiliency, sustainability, and facilitate connectivity and Goal 6.4 - Incorporate Smart City strategies into the planning and development of local infrastructure projects).

This item aligns with the following Cross-Cutting Threads:

1. Community Trust: The proposed project will be reviewed at a public meeting held by the City Planning Commission and the public is able to provide comments.
2. Equity: The proposed project identifies infrastructure needs consistent with the City's General Plan.
3. Fiscal Responsibility: All project costs will be analyzed relative to desired public improvements and the City's financial resources.
4. Innovation: The proposed project will ensure the timely repair of aging infrastructure.
5. Sustainability and Resiliency: All infrastructure updates will be required to meet the current Building Code.

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

This proposal is not subject to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) review under CEQA Guidelines Section 15061(b)(3) because the consistency review is not a "project", per 15378(b)(4), and because a determination of consistency has no potential to result in a direct or indirect physical change in the environment.

APPEAL INFORMATION

Actions by the City Planning Commission, including any environmental finding, may be appealed to the City Council within ten calendar days after the decision. Appeal filing and processing information may be obtained from the Planning Division, 3rd Floor, City Hall.

EXHIBITS LIST

1. CIP Project Summary List for FY 2023/24
2. CIP New Project Descriptions

Prepared by: Daniel Palafox, Assistant Planner

Reviewed by: Matthew Taylor, Principal Planner

Approved by: Maribeth Tinio, City Planner

Concurs with: Edward Enriquez, Interim Assistant City Manager/Chief Financial Officer/Treasurer