
CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PROGRAM PROJECTS HIGHLIGHTS

Since all projects identified in the Capital Improvements Plan for funding in FY 07-08 were evaluated during the FY 06-07 CIP process; the CIP Committee did not meet to review projects for FY 07-08. Projects are evaluated against established criteria which includes mandates and timing, health and safety issues, board policies, service improvement, and impacts on the local economy and the county's operating budget.

COUNTY BUILDING CONSTRUCTION FUND -

DSS High Point Building: The department of Social Services requests that an architect be retained to study the space and program needs of the department in High Point and propose solutions to the inefficient and overcrowded conditions of the building currently used. The building is out of compliance with NC Administrative Code 10A NCAC 67A.0103, which states that a minimum of 80 square feet should be provided to staff who interview clients in their offices and a minimum of 56 square feet should be provided for staff not required to interview clients in their offices. Many of the staff cubicles do not meet this minimum requirement nor do they provide confidentiality to the clients being interviewed in them. Although programs are accessible to all clients, some areas of the building are not handicap accessible. There are interview offices that can only be reached by using stairs and the EBT Office is located on the 4th floor. In instances where the elevator is not operational, the only means of getting to the office is by use of the stairs. The waiting area is overcrowded at times resulting in inadequate space for clients to wait to be seen by a worker. Old client records are stored in the basement. This is a non-secure area resulting in the confidentiality of records and information contained in them being completely compromised. **Proceeds from the Sale of 2/3 bonds sold in Spring 07 is slated for this project.**

Countywide Technology: Guilford County has embarked on a path for the use of technology: a) empower staff in the performance of their duties (productivity); b) provide better service and information to the community (enhanced service delivery); and c) provide tools and the necessary infrastructure to departments to fulfill their individual missions and decision as well as the mission of the county (overall government effectiveness-value added services for tax dollars). Only through an ongoing commitment to funding in software and hardware releases and models can technology provide this advantage. Funding in the capital improvement plan each year for countywide technology assures that Guilford County is committed to working more efficiently through the use of technology.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PROGRAM PROJECTS HIGHLIGHTS

EMS & Fire Co-location: Currently EMS responds from limited fixed facilities countywide. There is a departmental need to decentralize resources to provide a more timely response to the citizenry. By co-locating, the county stands to realize a significant decrease in building costs as the Fire Departments continue expansion. Funding this project would allow the EMS Division to continue decentralization of ambulances throughout the City of Greensboro without capital investment in facilities. The Greensboro Fire Division (GFD) has proposed “buying-in” to their expanded facilities. **Projected date for funding is FY 09.**

NW EMS Facility – Airport/68 Area: Expansion of Piedmont Triad International Airport is anticipated to foster growth along the NC 68 corridor and create potential access concerns to airport property. This facility would allow for more rapid response into this potentially congested area, as well as along the I-74 corridor. **Proceeds from sale of 2/3 bonds sold in Spring 07 is slated for this project.**

E/S Maintenance Facility: The existing facility is inadequate for the size of vehicles being serviced. It requires the use of portable floor jacks and stands for units weighing greater than 15,000 pounds. There is no opportunity for lifts, due to height restrictions within current facility. Funding for this project would allow for maintenance employees to have efficient facilities for the maintenance of emergency vehicles, as well as all county vehicles with adequate safety equipment to ensure a safe workplace. **Projected date for funding is FY 09.**

Mainframe System Replacements: The inflexible legacy applications are so aged and difficult to maintain that a replacement investment must be addressed over the next three years. Although the intent is to move away from the mainframe and migrate to a standard technology architecture (i.e., server/client), the level of effort is such that it will impact the departments remaining on the mainframe in resources expended to locate replacements, data conversion costs, and testing needed in order to eliminate the mainframe. Some systems required by departments are so unique that an off-the-shelf solution does not exist without substantial changes to our business practices. This has prolonged the life of some inadequate, harder to use mainframe systems, especially since the funding to replace them is not available. If the funding continues to be such that all of the systems cannot be replaced and moved to other computer platforms within two years, the mainframe operating system software must undergo a major upgrade, and since the new operating system will not work on the existing mainframe, a used mainframe, at least, must be acquired to prolong its usefulness and vendor support. **The county’s tax system is the next majority system to be removed from mainframe which is scheduled for upcoming fiscal year.**

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PROGRAM PROJECTS HIGHLIGHTS

Prison Farm Improvements: Design work and preliminary infrastructure improvements needed to support a temporary inmate housing unit.

PARKS PROJECTS

The citizen of Guilford County approved a \$ 25 million dollar bond referendum in November, 2004, below is a listing of those projects that are underway based on the approved bonds.

Southwest Park: Land for this park was purchased with proceeds from the 1988 Parks and Recreation bond issue. The property is located along the headwaters of proposed Randleman Reservoir. Since the reservoir is not complete, the park has not been initiated. It is anticipated that the reservoir will be filled by 2005. Proceeds from the 2000 Parks and Recreation bond issue have been identified to engineer and begin construction of the park, but additional funding will be needed to complete the facilities.

Byran Park – Guilford County: Land for this park was donated to Guilford County and the City of Greensboro by the Bryan Foundation in 1998. A master plan has been completed and Phase 1 improvements have been engineered. In order to make the property accessible for public use, the City and County will need to jointly fund these improvements. The park site is over 500 acres in size and will provide both active recreation opportunities and an extensive trail system. Approval of bond funds for this project will allow the park to become a reality.

School – Parks: The School Park program in Guilford County dates to 1995 and has resulted in the construction nearly 20 soccer and softball fields in many locations. All of these facilities have been built on school property where they can be used by students during the day and by all residents after school and on weekends. Success of this program was due, in part, to the ability of Guilford County to partner with the Guilford County Schools as it built new schools following the 2000 school bond issue. With the success of the most recent bond issue, the county anticipates that there will continue to be partnership opportunities in the future.

Greenway Expansion: The 1988 and 2000 parks and recreation bond issues funded construction of Bicentennial Greenway linking Greensboro and High Point. While not yet complete, there is sufficient funding to continue construction. In recent years, two major greenway initiatives have emerged: Lake Brandt Greenway and Piedmont Greenway. Lake Brandt Greenway will link Greensboro, the Town of Summerfield and Stokesdale, while Piedmont Greenway will connect Greensboro to Winston-Salem. Both will be cooperative

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PROGRAM PROJECTS HIGHLIGHTS

efforts involving local governments, NCDOT and private funding. Having bond funds available for these two projects will allow Guilford County to form partnerships and move construction ahead.

Preservation of Open Space: Nationally and in Guilford County, preservation of open space is one of the greatest concerns on the minds of residents. As development consumes farmland and forest, there is a strong desire to keep some areas open in perpetuity. Several years ago, Guilford County appointed an Open Space Committee that produced a plan for preservation. The plan was adopted by the Board of Commissioners, and is being implemented in a variety of ways. Authorization to expend bond funds for critical tracts will accelerate the rate at which the plan is implemented. Lands purchased will be focused on stream corridors and will provide protection of water quality; flood control; groundwater recharge; noise and visual buffers; wildlife habitat; and connections to existing open spaces. The Guilford County Open Space Committee, formed by the County Commissioners in 2000 to help preserve open space in the county, will coordinate the acquisition of these lands using the funds made available by this bond issue.

Northeast Park: Land for Northeast Park was acquired with funds from a bond issue approved by the voters in 1988. Another bond issue approved in 2000 provided some of the funds needed for construction. A master plan for the park, involving many residents from Northeast Guilford County, was completed in 2002 and construction of infrastructure was completed in 2004. Included in the plan is construction of a park ranger residence, picnic shelters, maintenance building, equestrian building, hiking and biking trails, horse trails, living history farm, playgrounds, soccer fields, baseball fields, community building, leisure pool with bath house and concession building with restrooms. The park will be the only public recreation facility in Northeast Guilford County.

WATER & SEWER CONSTRUCTION FUNDS

The water and sewer projects identified for funding are based on health recommendations and will be funded by water and sewer revenues as well as proceeds from sale of two-third bonds.