

New London Planning Board
Capital Improvement Program (CIP)

2018-2024

Approved By Planning Board November 14, 2017

INTRODUCTION

Annually the Planning Board reviews New London's capital needs and recommends a program of capital improvement projects for a period of at least six years. The CIP document approved by the Planning Board identifies key issues which need to be part of the discussion in the budget preparation process involving the Board of Selectmen and the Budget Review Committee. The recommended capital improvement projects and progress toward same will be considered as part of the annual CIP process in subsequent years.

PROCESS

The CIP process for the years 2017-2018 began with a meeting of the CIP subcommittee on July 13, 2017. Subcommittee members included William Burger, William Dietrich, Paul Gorman (Chair), Janet Kidder, and Rob Prohl. Subsequent meetings were held on Aug. 2, Sept. 6, Sept 20, Oct. 3, and Oct 24 2017. These meetings involved a review of the status of previous CIP recommendations and discussions with town department directors to review with them their capital improvement proposals. A review of the status of the previous CIP recommendations indicates the following status:

- A. Resolution of the 1941 Bldg. discussions. This process was completed involving the Board of Selectmen and the Schools Board which resulted in the demolition of the building.
- B. The Pleasant Lake Dam Project has been successfully completed.
- C. The Sewer Lagoon Project has been successfully completed.
- D. The Parkside Sidewalk Project has been successfully completed.
- E. The Goose Hole Bridge Engineering study remains to be begun.
- F. The Transfer Station Site Study has been funded and the resulting report is imminent.
- G. The increase of funding for sidewalk and bridge projects in the Capital Reserve accounts remains to be addressed.
- H. The recommendations regarding the investment in heavy duty equipment to meet the fire safety, highway maintenance, and trash collection requirements of the town is ongoing.

The CIP Subcommittee also met with the Fire Chief, Police Chief, Recreation Director, a representative of the New London/Springfield Water District, and the President of Colby Sawyer College. Members of the subcommittee also visited the new police station recently completed in the town of Bow.

As a result of these reviews and discussions: the New London Planning Board recommends the following Capital Improvement Projects for consideration as the town develops its FY 2018 budget.

- A. The first priority should be for the town to develop a plan with time lines to facilitate the development of a new facility to house the NL Police Department and New London Dispatch Department. Further discussion should take place with Colby-Sawyer regarding the possible sale of land to the town for the facility.
- B. Subsequent to the review of the Transfer Station Study, a plan should be developed with clear time lines to implement the conclusions of the study.
- C. The proposal of the Dept. of Public Works to complete work on the second Brookside culvert project, the Pingree Rd. bridge project, and the Goosehole Bridge engineering study should be completed.
- D. A review of the Buker annex to Whipple Hall should be completed to indicate how that space and adjacent space in Whipple Hall can be repurposed for use of the Recreation Department once the new Police Department facility is completed.
- E. The town should continue the process of developing a plan for the establishment of a multi-purpose community center for the use of the citizens of the town.

The CIP is an advisory, guiding document, not a funding source. As the needs of the town evolve and projects historically noted in previous CIP documents are completed, this document looks to the future in an effort to identify and prioritize the evolving capital needs of the town. Capital investment shape and define the character, sense of place and economic vitality of this community.