

Capital Improvements Program Kicks off Budget Season

J. Michael Joyal
City Manager, City of Dover

In October, I presented the City's annual Capital Improvements Program (CIP) during a joint workshop session of the Planning Board and City Council. That presentation kicked off a series of additional meetings and public hearings on the 2019-24 CIP, a key tool of our budget process.

We assemble and present the CIP each fall. The CIP prioritizes all capital spending of \$25,000 or more for items with a useful life of three years or longer. Based on City Council financing policy, funding for these items includes bonding, the annual operating budget or other types of financing. This six-year program links infrastructure spending to the goals and values outlined in the City's Master Plan. Through this process, we identify projects within the six-year timeline, based on the priorities established in our Master Plan.

Once adopted, the first year of the adopted CIP is built into the proposed citywide operating budget, which I will present to the City Council in March of next year.

Many of the items included in the CIP are annual, ongoing capital projects, such as improvements to streets and sidewalks, wastewater and water system maintenance and improvements, police cruisers, facility maintenance and more.

The 2019-24 CIP, as well as many additional resources about the CIP process, are available online here: <http://go.usa.gov/xkzxC>