
**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY
TAMPA, FLORIDA 33601**

BOARD POLICY - SECTION NUMBER: 03.02.02.00

SUBJECT: POLICY FOR CAPITAL BUDGET AND CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

EFFECTIVE DATE: JANUARY 17, 2001

SUPERSEDES: DECEMBER 17, 1984

Purpose: The purpose of this policy is to establish Board of County Commissioners guidelines and requirements for the submission of an annual Capital Budget and the biennial development of a Six-Year Capital Improvement Program (CIP) that will be county-wide in scope and administer the implementation framework for an adequate capital projects foundation to serve the needs of the residents of Hillsborough County. The CIP is designed to balance the need for public facilities and infrastructure as expressed by the County's Comprehensive Plan with the fiscal capability of the County to meet those needs. The CIP serves as a general planning guide for the construction of general purpose and utility facilities in the County. The CIP process provides a framework for careful development of reliable capital expenditure and revenue estimates and the timely scheduling of short and long-term debt issues.

Definitions: For the purpose of the Hillsborough County Capital Improvement Program:

1. **A Capital Project** is a set of activities, with related expenditures and schedule which includes one or more of the following:
 - a. delivery of a distinct capital asset or improvements to an existing asset, which will become an asset owned by Hillsborough County and be recorded on the financial records of the County as a capital asset under generally accepted accounting principles,
 - b. any contribution by Hillsborough County to other governmental or not-for-profit entities for the purpose of delivering a capital improvement. In situations where the improvement is not nor will it become an asset of the County, it will be included in the Capital Improvement Program as a contribution,
 - c. any project, including equipment, which is funded from the Community Investment Tax (CIT),
 - d. any engineering study or master plan necessary for the delivery of a capital project, and
 - e. major repair, renovation or replacement of existing facilities.

The cost and timing of these Capital Improvements are to be identified in the Capital Improvement Program. The project scope, schedule, and costs are approved by the Board of County Commissioners. A Project Manager is identified for managing each capital project.

2. **A Major Repair, Renovation or Replacement Capital Project** is a project which is primarily intended to preserve or enhance the operational condition of the existing facility and may increase the capacity of the facility. Facilities undergoing major repair and replacement may include existing buildings, roads for resurfacing purposes, wastewater treatment facilities, etc. A project will be considered for the Major Repair, Renovation or Replacement Capital Project category if it has an estimated cost of \$100,000 or greater, or extends its useful life by at least five years, or adds capacity or square footage to an existing facility, or will require more than a twelve-month period to deliver. A project which does not extend the useful life of the asset by at least five years,

or does not add capacity or square footage to an existing facility and will be delivered within a twelve-month period will be included in the County's routine repair and replacement program.

3. **The Capital Improvement Program** is the Board's approved financial plan of Capital Projects. The Capital Improvement Program will include "new" Capital Projects and Major Repair, Renovation or Replacement Capital Projects. "New" Capital Projects include the acquisition of new capital facilities through either purchase or construction, or assets acquired through public/private partnerships. The Capital Improvement Program should include any new facility or any existing facility which is being changed to either extend the useful life by at least five years, increase capacity, increase square footage, increase the level of service to the community, or change the function of the facility.
4. **Project Costs** represent the purchase price or construction costs of a project, including other capitalizable costs incurred such as feasibility studies, cost-benefit analysis, site acquisition, legal and title costs, appraisal and surveying fees, architect and accounting fees, design and engineering services, initial fixtures and equipment, and transportation charges necessary to place the completed asset in its intended location and condition for use.

Policy: During the first year of the County's biennial budget Hillsborough County will develop and implement a comprehensive Capital Budget and a six-year Capital Improvement Program. The first two years of the Capital Program will represent the Capital Budget with the remaining four years representing the Capital Plan. During the second year of the County's biennial budget there will be a one year Capital Budget and a four-year Capital Plan.

The Planning Commission, Constitutional Officers, Environmental Protection Commission, County Administrator and their departments, other agencies which provide services to Hillsborough County residents, and organized citizen groups, will have the opportunity to provide input to the Capital Improvement Program process. Capital project financing will be derived from various funding sources including, but not limited to, bonds, short term loans and notes, fuel taxes, federal and State grants, community investment tax (Local Government Infrastructure Surtax,) enterprise revenue, impact fees and the levy of ad Valorem taxes and non-ad Valorem assessments as determined by the Board of County Commissioners.

The Capital Improvement Program will comply with the Laws of Florida, (specifically Section 125.85(2), Florida Statutes,) the Florida Administrative Code, Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP), necessary to assure proper accounting and fiscal management techniques and any County Ordinance, Policy and Procedure which relates to Capital Improvements and does not prohibit or restrict compliance with Section 218.33, Florida Statutes.

A list of priority categories for the Capital Improvement Program will be established by the Board of County Commissioners. This list will determine initial consideration of proposed projects for the Capital Improvement Program and provide a basis for evaluation and subsequent funding. Conformance with Board priority categories will aid in assuring the worthiness of a capital improvement project in relation to factors such as public health, safety, welfare, impact on the operational cost for government services and the implications for concept of growth management.

Additions or deletions of projects in the adopted Capital Improvements Program shall be by a Resolution of the Board of County Commissioners amending the Capital Improvements Program Resolution. Such additions or deletions shall be submitted to the Planning Commission for review of the change's impact upon the adopted level of service at least ten calendar days prior to the Board of County Commissioners' meeting at which the amendment is to be considered.

Changes in the cost of a current year project, advancing projects into the current year or delaying them from the current year to a future year in the adopted Capital Improvements Program shall be handled pursuant to the budget amendment procedure contained in Section 129.06, Florida Statutes.

Changes in the cost of a current year project that are less than 10% or less than \$100,000, whichever is least, of the project's all years budget (including all funding sources), can be adjusted with the approval of the County Administrator under the Administrative Budget Amendment process. The Board of County Commissioners will be provided with a quarterly report of all such administrative adjustments.

Emergency additions to the Capital Improvements Program shall be made pursuant to the County Administrator's emergency purchasing authorization in the Hillsborough County Purchasing Manual with appropriate amendments to the Capital Improvements Program to be made as soon as reasonably possible thereafter.

In addition to the Capital Budget and the Capital Improvement Program, an annual update will be prepared, as identified in the Comprehensive Plan for Unincorporated Hillsborough County.

Specifically, an annual update will be provided for:

- a. public facilities requirements related to standards set for potable water, sanitary sewer, solid waste, stormwater management, parks and recreation facilities, and arterial and collector roads; and
- b. revenue forecasts and analysis of financial capacity, as related to the above-listed public facilities.

Responsibilities: It is the responsibility of the Management and Budget Department under the direction of the County Administrator to prepare and submit to the Board of County Commissioners for its approval and adoption:

- a. a Capital Improvement Budget; and
- b. a Capital Improvement Program for Hillsborough County.

The Management and Budget Department is also responsible for preparing and submitting the annual update for the unincorporated area.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
PRIORITY CATEGORIES FOR THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

The following criteria, which is not presented in any sequence, will be used to establish priority for making decisions related to capital projects to be funded in the Capital Improvement Program:

- Projects which are necessary to conform to state or federal laws or court rulings.
- Projects eligible for restricted revenues such as state and federal grants.
- Projects necessary in carrying out Hillsborough County's Comprehensive Plan for unincorporated Hillsborough County.
- Major repair and replacement capital projects.
- Projects which reduce future operating costs or improve effectiveness of operation of county services.
- Projects which are essential to the health, safety and welfare of the community.
- Projects which stimulate private investment or otherwise effect measurable neighborhood and economic improvement.
- Projects which involve inter-agency cooperation.
- Projects which will improve the cultural and recreational activities of the community.
- Projects which provide measurable environmental benefit.
- Projects which improve accessibility to County facilities to all citizens.