



City of Huntington Beach Planning and Building Department
STAFF REPORT

TO: Planning Commission
FROM: Scott Hess, AICP, Director of Planning and Building
BY: John P. Ramirez, AICP, Contract Planner *JPR*
DATE: August 25, 2015

SUBJECT: GENERAL PLAN CONFORMANCE NO. 15-004 (CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM FOR FISCAL YEAR 2015/16)

APPLICANT: City of Huntington Beach, Public Works Department, 2000 Main Street, Huntington Beach, CA 92648

PROPERTY OWNER: City of Huntington Beach, 2000 Main Street, Huntington Beach, CA 92648

LOCATION: Citywide

STATEMENT OF ISSUE:

- ◆ General Plan Conformance No. 15-004 request:
 - Evaluate Capital Improvement Program for Fiscal Year 2015/16 for compliance with the General Plan.
- ◆ Staff's Recommendation: Approve General Plan Conformance No. 15-004 based upon the following:
 - The proposed projects conform to the goals, objectives, and policies of the General Plan.

RECOMMENDATION:

Motion to:

“Adopt Resolution No. 1689, approving General Plan Conformance No. 15-004, with findings (Attachment Nos. 1 and 2).”

ALTERNATIVE ACTION:

The Planning Commission may take alternative actions such as:

- A. “Deny General Plan Conformance No. 15-004 with findings for denial.”
- B. “Continue General Plan Conformance No. 15-004 and direct staff accordingly.”

PROJECT PROPOSAL:

General Plan Conformance No.15-004 represents a request, pursuant to Section 65401 of the California Government Code, by the City of Huntington Beach to determine if the 2015/16 Capital Improvement Program (CIP) is in conformance with the goals, objectives, and policies of the General Plan. The 2015/16 CIP is a list of proposed projects recommended for planning, initiation, or construction during the next fiscal year.

ISSUES:

General Plan Conformance:

The only issue to consider as part of this request is if the proposed CIP for fiscal year 2015/16 is in conformance to the City’s General Plan. The CIP conforms to the following goals, objectives, and policies of the General Plan:

I. FACILITY IMPROVEMENTS

A. Planned Projects:

1. City Attorney’s Office Remodel
This project will replace and reconfigure dated offices to accommodate existing staffing.
2. City Hall HVAC Improvements
This project will provide for more efficient operations of the HVAC system.
3. Central Library Entrance Doors
This project will replace all entry doors to modernize and improve function and appearance.
4. City Hall Roof Replacement
Replace the existing roof at Public Works Wing of City Hall.

B. General Plan Policies:

Land Use Element 13.1.1 Allow for the continuation of existing public and private institutional, cultural, educational, and health uses at their present locations and development of new uses in areas designated on the Land Use Plan Map in accordance with Policy 7.1.1.

Public Facilities and Public Service Element 6.1.3 Maintain or improve the governmental facilities and services in order to meet the adopted levels of service and standards established in the Growth Management Element.

II. NEIGHBORHOOD IMPROVEMENTS

A. Planned Projects

1. Nichols Street Rehabilitation
This project will rehabilitate the asphalt and any adjacent sidewalk and curbs as needed.
2. Residential Curb Ramp Program
This project will install ADA compliant curb ramps at various locations within Maintenance Zone 12.

B. General Plan Policies:

Circulation Element 2.1.3 Identify and improve roadways and intersections that are approaching, or have reached, unacceptable levels of service.

Circulation Element 7.10 Ensure that bicycle and pedestrian facilities within the City comply with accessibility provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

III. PARKS AND BEACHES

A. Planned Projects

1. Bartlett Park Improvements
This project will provide improvements including, signage, split rail fencing, parking lot improvements, trash enclosure and a tot lot.
2. Beach Playground
This project will construct an ADA compliant playground on the beach near 9th Street.
3. Clegg-Stacy Park Playground
This project will provide improvements including ADA compliant play unit, new surfacing and landscaping.
4. Sand Replenishment – Huntington Harbour
This project will replenish sand at the various beaches in Huntington Harbour.
5. Sunset Vista RV Campground Expansion
This project will provide additional spaces and other amenities at the Sunset Vista RV Campground.

B. General Plan Policies:

Recreation and Community Services Element 4.1 Improve and modernize existing parks and facilities to overcome existing design deficiencies and deteriorated conditions.

III. STREETS AND TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENTS

A. Planned Projects

1. Edinger Avenue Widening
This project will widen the south side of Edinger Avenue (Parkside Ln. to Beach Blvd.) in order to extend the existing right turn lane at Beach Blvd.
2. Traffic Signal Modification Projects
Modify the traffic signals at the intersections of Brookhurst/Indianapolis, Goldenwest/Heil, Gothard/Center, Gothard/Slater, and Newland/Ellis, to provide more efficient operation.
3. Southeast Area Interconnect and Newland Traffic Signal Synchronization
Provide communication and operational upgrades for greater system reliability to improve flows.

B. General Plan Policies:

Circulation Element 1.2.1 Enhance circulation system standards for roadway and intersection classifications, right-of-way width, pavement width, design speed, capacity and associated features such as medians and bicycle lanes.

Circulation Element 1.2.3 Maintain primary truck routes that sustain an effective transport of commodities while mitigating the negative impacts on local circulation and on noise sensitive land.

Circulation Element 2.1.1 Maintain a city-wide level of service (LOS) not to exceed LOS "D" for intersections during the peak hours.

Circulation Element 2.1.2 Maintain a city-wide level of service (LOS) for links not to exceed LOS "C" for daily traffic with the exception of Pacific Coast Highway south of Brookhurst Street.

Circulation Element 2.1.3 Identify and improve roadways and intersections that are approaching, or have reached, unacceptable levels of service.

Circulation Element 6.1.10 Implement appropriate traffic devices and operational programs throughout the community to ensure that conflicts between pedestrians, bicycles, and vehicles are minimized and safety enhanced.

The Capital Improvement Program (CIP) ensures that City facilities are improved and enhanced and continue to be adequately accessible and maintained in order to provide services to residents and visitors. The CIP ensures that an adequate amount of new circulation and access improvements are developed and maintained to support existing and future development. CIP projects will provide continued improvements to streets, bike lanes and traffic signals, while reducing conflicts between pedestrians, bicycles and vehicles and enhancing safety for all modes of transportation. The CIP ensures that existing parks and facilities are maintained in the best condition for optimal and enjoyable use by both residents and visitors within the City. Capital improvements maintain an essential and integral circulation infrastructure allowing the movement of people and goods throughout the City.

Zoning Compliance: Not applicable.

Urban Design Guidelines Conformance: Not applicable.

Environmental Status:

The General Plan conformance review is categorically exempt pursuant to Section 15306, Class 6 of the California Environmental Quality Act, which states that information collection which does not result in major disturbance to an environmental resource is exempt from any environmental review.

Coastal Status: Not applicable.

Design Review Board: Not applicable.

Subdivision Committee: Not applicable.

Other Departments Concerns and Requirements:

The Public Works Department, acting as applicant for General Plan Conformance No. 15-004, has reviewed and is processing the Capital Improvement Program request through the City Council. There are no concerns from other departments.

Public Notification:

General Plan Conformances are non-public hearing items and do not require legal public notification.

Application Processing Dates:

DATE OF COMPLETE APPLICATION:
July 16, 2015

MANDATORY PROCESSING DATE(S):
August 26, 2015 (within 40 days of submittal)

ANALYSIS:

The Government Code of the State of California, Section 65401, requires that a local planning agency review a list of proposed projects recommended for planning, initiation, or construction during the ensuing fiscal year for conformance with the local General Plan. This list of proposed projects is contained in the Capital Improvement Program (CIP). The Public Works Department has submitted a CIP for fiscal year 2015/16. The role of the Planning Commission in reviewing a CIP is to ensure the conformity of each project with the goals, objectives, and policies of the General Plan. The benefits and funding source for individual projects listed in the CIP will then be reviewed and approved by the City Council.

Staff has identified goals, objectives, and policies that are applicable to the CIP in the General Plan Conformance section of this staff report. Because the proposed projects further the goals, objectives, and policies of the General Plan, staff recommends the Planning Commission approve General Plan Conformance No. 15-004 finding that the proposed CIP is in conformance with the General Plan.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Suggested Findings of Approval – GPC No. 15-004
2. Draft Planning Commission Resolution No. 1689

SH:JJ:JPR:kdc

ATTACHMENT NO. 1

FINDINGS FOR APPROVAL

GENERAL PLAN CONFORMANCE NO. 15-004

FINDINGS FOR PROJECTS EXEMPT FROM CEQA:

The Planning Commission finds that the proposed project will not have any significant effect on the environment and is exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Section 15306 of the CEQA Guidelines because the project involves information collection which does not result in major disturbance to an environmental resource.

FINDINGS FOR APPROVAL – GENERAL PLAN CONFORMANCE NO. 15-004:

1. The 2015/16 Capital Improvement Program conforms to the following goals, objectives, and policies of the General Plan:

Land Use Element 13.1.1 Allow for the continuation of existing public and private institutional, cultural, educational, and health uses at their present locations and development of new uses in areas designated on the Land Use Plan Map in accordance with Policy 7.1.1.

Public Facilities and Public Service Element 6.1.3 Maintain or improve the governmental facilities and services in order to meet the adopted levels of service and standards established in the Growth Management Element.

Recreation and Community Services Element 4.1 Improve and modernize existing parks and facilities to overcome existing design deficiencies and deteriorated conditions.

Circulation Element 1.2.1 Enhance circulation system standards for roadway and intersection classifications, right-of-way width, pavement width, design speed, capacity and associated features such as medians and bicycle lanes.

Circulation Element 1.2.3 Maintain primary truck routes that sustain an effective transport of commodities while mitigating the negative impacts on local circulation and on noise sensitive land.

Circulation Element 2.1.1 Maintain a city-wide level of service (LOS) not to exceed LOS “D” for intersections during the peak hours.

Circulation Element 2.1.2 Maintain a city-wide level of service (LOS) for links not to exceed LOS “C” for daily traffic with the exception of Pacific Coast Highway south of Brookhurst Street.

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Circulation Element 6.1.10 Implement appropriate traffic devices and operational programs throughout the community to ensure that conflicts between pedestrians, bicycles, and vehicles are minimized and safety enhanced.

Circulation Element 7.10 Ensure that bicycle and pedestrian facilities within the City comply with accessibility provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

The Capital Improvement Program (CIP) ensures that City facilities are improved and enhanced and continue to be adequately accessible and maintained in order to provide services to residents and visitors. The CIP ensures that an adequate amount of new circulation and access improvements are developed and maintained to support existing and future development. CIP projects will provide continued improvements to streets, bike lanes and traffic signals, while reducing conflicts between pedestrians, bicycles and vehicles and enhancing safety for all modes of transportation. The CIP ensures that existing parks and facilities are maintained in the best condition for optimal and enjoyable use by both residents and visitors within the City. Capital improvements maintain an essential and integral circulation infrastructure allowing the movement of people and goods throughout the City.

RESOLUTION NO. 1689

**A RESOLUTION OF THE PLANNING COMMISSION OF THE
CITY OF HUNTINGTON BEACH FINDING THE CAPITAL
IMPROVEMENTS PROGRAM FOR FISCAL YEAR 2015/2016
IN CONFORMANCE WITH THE GOALS, OBJECTIVES,
AND POLICIES OF THE GENERAL PLAN
(GENERAL PLAN CONFORMANCE NO. 15-004)**

WHEREAS, the Government Code of the State of California, Section 65401, provides that a local planning agency review a list of the proposed public works projects recommended for planning, initiation, or construction during the ensuing fiscal year as to conformity with the local general plan; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Public Works has submitted a coordinated list of all capital projects recommended by City departments for the ensuing fiscal year in the form of a Capital Improvement Projects List for Fiscal Year 2015/2016; and

WHEREAS, staff has indicated applicable General Plan goals, objectives, and policies for each project included in the Fiscal Year 2015/2016 Capital Improvements Program to establish conformance with the General Plan (Exhibit A).

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Planning Commission of the City of Huntington Beach finds the Capital Improvement Program for Fiscal Year 2015/2016 in conformance with the goals, objectives, and policies of the General Plan.

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED by the Planning Commission of the City of Huntington Beach at a regular meeting held on the Twenty Fifth day of August 2015, by the following roll call vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

ATTEST:

Scott Hess, Secretary

Planning Commission Chair

Exhibit A – CIP Projects 2015-2016

Res 1689

ATTACHMENT NO. 2.1

EXHIBIT A

PLANNED PROJECTS AND GENERAL PLAN POLICIES FOR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PROGRAM FY 2015/2016 (GENERAL PLAN CONFORMANCE NO. 2015-004)

The following is a list of planned projects for Fiscal Year 2015/2016 Capital Improvements Program (CIP) that requires General Plan Conformance. The list is divided into categories by subject. Below each project group is a listing of the relative General Plan policies.

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