Capital Improvement Program (CIP)

Questions & Answers

What is the Capital Improvement Program? The Capital Improvement Program, or CIP, is a plan which identifies required capital projects, provides a planning schedule and financing plan. All CIP projects are approved City Council. The City of Lethbridge is currently in the process of planning for its next CIP (2018-2027).

What City resources are available to assist in CIP planning?
Community groups interested in applying for CIP funding should connect with their regular City of Lethbridge representative to assist in the planning process. If you are not sure who to contact, please email budget@lethbridge.ca. Assistance from the City will help you determine if the CIP is an appropriate source of funding for your project or if there are other possible grant opportunities that might be a better fit.

How do I submit a project to be considered for the City of Lethbridge’s CIP? Your City of Lethbridge representative will help you complete the CIP application form. This form outlines the information required and timelines for submission.

What are the approximate timelines for the CIP process?
June 2016 – Begin to accept applications
October 14, 2016 – Application window closes
November 2016 – Internal evaluation and prioritization
February 2017 – Presentations to City Council
April 2017 – Community engagement/information
May 2017 – City Council deliberations
June 2017 - City Council approves the CIP
What can I expect? The reality is, there will be far more requests for CIP funding than there are dollars available. Given these limited resources, community organizations are encouraged to consider their capital needs beyond the next four year CIP and begin planning for the next 10 years and beyond.

How are CIP projects chosen?
CIP decisions are made by City Council. A CIP prioritization criteria for community project has been established and approved by Council. This criteria aligns with the City’s major planning strategies and will be used by City staff to evaluate community projects before they are presented to City Council.

What will give my project the best chance for success?
Be certain your CIP application form is fully complete and in alignment with the outlined criteria and other City planning documents. Work with your City representative to ensure all the information required is collected and presented in an accurate manner. Working with City staff also gives you the opportunity to explore other possible funding streams such as the City’s Community Capital Projects Grant (CCPG).

What CIP projects have been approved in the past?
The City of Lethbridge relies heavily on provincial and federal grant money to fund capital project. These grants have allowed for the completion projects such as CASA, upgrades to the Nature Centre and most recently, phase one of ATB Centre (Crossings Leisure Complex). These and many other CIP projects are helping to enhance the quality of life for all Lethbridge residents.

A full list of the current capital projects can be found at http://www.lethbridge.ca/living-here/Projects-Initiatives/Current-Projects/Pages/default.aspx

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