

HAMPTON VA

NEWS RELEASE

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Hampton breaks out proposed capital spending

April 30, 2014 - Hampton's Planning Commission will hold a public hearing on the city's proposed capital budget on Thursday, May 1. The capital plan covers five years, with the first year to be approved as part of the city's budget and the remaining four as planning years. Of the \$224 million total over the five years, 37% of the funds are projected to come from general tax dollars, 33% from bonds, 23% from specialized user fees for stormwater and wastewater, 6% from the state and 1% federal funds.

The larger items in the five-year plan include:

- \$46.4 million for maintenance, renovation and technology for the city schools.
- \$21 million for waterways projects. Many are stormwater and drainage projects required to meet new regulations; many are also designed to reduce flooding. Funding for Salt Ponds dredging is included for FY15 and FY17.
- \$31.6 million for upgrades to the city's wastewater infrastructure (also mandated).
- \$4 million to continue land purchases in the Langley Air Force Base Clear Zone.
- \$13 million for maintenance and improvements of city buildings.
- \$12 million for maintenance and improvements at city parks.
- \$10 million for master plan area investments.
- \$3 million in later years for renovation of the city's old courthouse.
- \$1.2 million to potentially design an as-yet-undecided youth sports tourism facility and to redesign Briarfield and Gosnold's Hope parks is earmarked in FY15, but no construction funds are specified in the long-range plan.
- \$3.9 million for commercial blight abatement and \$1.2 million for blighted property acquisition and demolition.
- \$5.5 million for a new fire station in the Wythe area (mostly FY17)
- \$30 million for road resurfacing.
- \$22.9 million for road projects, including continuing improvements to North King Street and Pembroke Avenue, replacement of the Bridge Street bridge and repairs to the Settlers Landing Road bridge, Big Bethel Road/Todds Lane, Newmarket Creek Trail, extending Commerce and Coliseum drives and aligning Freeman Drive in the Coliseum Central area, and improvements in Old Northampton, Sussex and Sunset Creek.

The commission will also hold hearings on two permit applications:

- A daycare on North King Street
- Live entertainment at Grandview Island Grill

The Planning Commission meeting is 3:30 p.m. on Thursday, May 1, in City Council chambers, 8th floor of City Hall, 22 Lincoln St. It will be televised live on the Hampton City Channel (47 on Cox, 23 on Verizon). The commission's votes are largely advisory to the City Council, where the items will next be considered.

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