

## Information Pages: Capital Financing Policy

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The City of Ann Arbor believes that sound financial management principles require that sufficient funds be set aside by the City to provide for future capital repairs/replacements of existing City assets. In order to do so, the City needs to establish a cash reserve sufficient to fund capital cash flows of the City when capital repairs/replacements are needed. This policy has been adopted by resolution of the City Council of Ann Arbor, Michigan and replaces all previous capital financing policies or resolutions.

**Purpose** The purpose of this policy is to provide a basis for funding future capital repair/replacement of existing assets. This policy excludes Enterprise Funds capital as their future needs for capital are captured in the rate-setting process.

This policy is crucial to the financial health and sustainability of the City's current programs. The goals of this policy include:

1. Creating awareness of the cost of maintaining or replacing existing City assets;
2. Eliminating the deferral of capital and/or maintenance items due to lack of funding;
3. Saving for future regulatory costs for City assets;
4. Ensuring prioritization of adequately funding our obligations on current City assets on an annual basis;
5. Investing funding on a level basis annually to eliminate "crisis" replacements; and
6. Creating intergenerational equity for replacement of long-lived City assets.

**Scope** The scope of this policy includes existing City-owned buildings and infrastructure not supported by Enterprise Funds. This policy is not intended to replace the internal service fund replacement process for Fleet vehicles or Information Technology hardware/software. City-owned buildings and infrastructure included in the scope of this policy include, but are not limited to: City Hall, Justice Center, Fire Stations, Wheeler Center, City-owned dams, and Park facilities and amenities such as tennis/basketball courts, trails and pathways, playgrounds, bridges and parking lots.

This policy is intended to govern the financing of the future needs of these existing facilities and is intended to complement the outcome of the Capital Improvement Process (CIP). The scope of the policy spans the entire life of the asset showing potential future funding needs as opposed to the CIP that prioritizes specific projects that may benefit from this funding policy. The policy also provides for funding for items that do not qualify for the CIP (projects valued under \$100,000).

### Policy

1. Finance, in conjunction with participating service units, will review the data for each building or infrastructure component to determine if the correct useful life and replacement funding amount is being used. This review will determine the appropriate level of funding needed each budget year to be set aside for future replacement. If 100% of identified funding cannot be budgeted, prioritization will be given to the assets with the worst condition assessment (see #2 below). This data will be stored in a database created by the Information Technology Services Unit.
2. Each service unit will be responsible for evaluating the condition of the assets under the purview of this policy. The condition assessment may take the form of a stoplight evaluation (Green=Good, Yellow=Showing Wear and Tear, Red=Needs Replacement). The assessment should also consider

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- how critical the asset is to operations when performing this assessment.
3. When it becomes time to replace the building component, as part of the budget process, the appropriate unit manager will determine whether the building component's useful life could be extended or if the component should be replaced. At this time, Finance and the appropriate service unit, will prepare a cost evaluation of repair vs. replacement for the component.
  4. If there is a separate revenue source that can be identified, the capital funding set aside from the General Fund will be reduced for those separate revenue streams.
  5. For replacement of capital items with a separately identified funding source (i.e. Wheeler Center Internal Service Fund), a separate funding schedule will be created and funded by its unique funding source.
  6. Finance, along with the participating service units, will meet at least annually to review the data and ensure that all applicable assets are being considered.