

THE PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY FY 2007-2012 APPROVED CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

3. Comprehensive Ten-Year Solid Waste Management Plan

The County's Approved Comprehensive Ten-Year Solid Waste Management Plan for FY 2002-2011 was adopted by the County Council on October 29, 2002. The Plan is designed to meet the County's present and future needs for solid waste management programs and facilities. It identifies sources of solid wastes, provides for acceptable disposal sites and facilities and explores recycling and resource recovery possibilities. The Plan was developed through close cooperation among County departments and agencies. The CIP includes several projects recommended for implementation by the Solid Waste Plan.

4. Public Land and Facilities Inventory

Provides a computerized and mapped inventory of all land and facilities that are owned by, leased to, or donated to the Prince George's County Government, the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission, the Prince George's Community College, the Prince George's County Board of Education, and the Maryland National Park and Planning Commission.

5. Public Facility Development Program

This program synthesizes policy recommendations from County land use plans and agency studies and plans using a 15-year time horizon. It ensures project conformity to county plans and examines best build alternative with special attention to site requirements.

CIP AS A GUIDE TO PUBLIC ACTION

The CIP provides information needed for short-range land use planning and development decisions and serves as a coordinating device for the planning of government agency facilities and services planning. It represents the County's commitment, and that of the semi-autonomous agencies, to provide public facilities in specific areas within the time period covered by the Program. Projects included in the first two years of the CIP are closely related to current development and can be expected to be carried out essentially as programmed. Projects shown in the later years of the CIP may be subject to modification either in scope or timing, based on the review of needs, the availability of funding, or other circumstances which cannot be predicted with certainty so far in advance.

1. Use of CIP Information in Comprehensive Re-zoning

The majority of re-zoning actions are now carried out through comprehensive re-zoning or the Sectional Map Amendment process. This involves the review of and amendment to the zoning of an entire area at one time. These reviews occur every two to six years and are intended to re-zone sufficient land to meet development needs for the next six to 10 years. Programmed public improvements are an important determinant of which areas will be suitable for developments during the time period covered by the Sectional Map Amendments. Conversely, the review of land requirements may lead to recommendations for public improvements needed to serve a developing area.

2. Subdivision Approvals Based on Adequacy of Public Facilities

The Subdivision Ordinance specifies that "the Planning Board shall not approve a subdivision plan if it finds that adequate public facilities and services do not exist or are not programmed for the area within which the proposed subdivision is located." The purpose of this requirement is to ensure the health, safety and welfare of local residents and to prevent excessive expenditure of public funds. This Ordinance is an important tool to prevent the premature subdivision of land and the resulting pressures to extend public facilities beyond the County's budget capabilities.

3. The CIP's Role in the Coordination of Public Improvements

The County's first CIP was published in 1967. Since that time, one of the objectives of County management has been to refine the CIP to make the programming of projects more precise in scope and timing. The intent is to provide reliable information about the availability of public improvements to both private sector and public sector decision-makers. Another objective is to improve coordination among the governmental bodies that provide and use public facilities. In the newly developing areas particularly, the availability of appropriate support facilities can be critical to the operation of a new project. Likewise, the capacity of existing roads, sewers and water supply lines is an important consideration in building or expanding public facilities in highly developed areas.