

CITY COUNCIL AGENDA TOPIC

Transportation Capital Investment Program and Neighborhood Safety, Connectivity and Congestion Levy update

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Transportation Department

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**INFORMATION
ONLY**

The 7-year (2023-2029) Capital Investment Program (CIP) allocates \$327 million to Transportation and Mobility projects. Staff will share an update on major projects that have recently been completed or are nearing construction and provide an update on the status of TIFIA-funded projects along with Neighborhood Safety, Connectivity and Congestion Levy projects.

RECOMMENDATION

N/A

BACKGROUND/ANALYSIS

Many transportation projects have recently been completed or are under construction, including major projects in the BelRed area, that have supported growth and transit-oriented development envisioned by the 2009 BelRed Subarea Plan.

This year marks the beginning of construction for the final of a series of projects funded in part by a USDOT Transportation Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (TIFIA) Loan that was originally executed in June 2017. This low-interest loan has funded significant transportation investments in the BelRed area that support increased density and provide multimodal transportation connections to the newly opened 2 Line and other transit.

The following major projects are either already under construction or will begin construction this summer:

- 130th Avenue NE, from NE BelRed Road to NE 20th Street: one of several recent transportation investments in the BelRed areas that will improve mobility for freight and people who walk, roll, take transit and drive. (PW-R-170; \$14.2M construction cost)
- 124th Avenue NE Corridor – NE Ichigo Way to Northup Way: improvements will enhance access and circulation for cars, transit, freight, pedestrians and bicycles between downtown, Wilburton and BelRed. (PW-R-191; \$23.1M construction cost)
- Bridge and Pavement Preservation projects:
 - 2024 Overlay Program: locally funded pavement resurfacing at various locations citywide (PW-M-1; \$6.6M construction cost)
 - Downtown NHS Overlay: grant funded paving on Bellevue Way, NE 4th Street, NE 8th Street (PW-M-1; \$6.7M estimated construction cost)

Several more projects are starting construction this summer season and other projects are well

underway in the design phase that will construct new sidewalks and bicycle lanes, provide capacity improvements for vehicles and transit, and preserve existing transportation infrastructure.

In addition to major CIP projects, there are many Levy-funded projects in design across the city. The 2016 voter-approved Neighborhood Safety, Connectivity and Congestion Levy supplements existing safety, sidewalk, maintenance, traffic management and bicycle facilities programs, helping the city address a backlog of important projects. It also supports a new program aimed at easing motor vehicle congestion in neighborhoods. Levy funding is identified in the CIP with projects identified under two separate programs: PW-R-198 (Neighborhood Congestion Reduction Program) and PW-R-199 (Neighborhood Safety and Connectivity). The annual funding for PW-R-198 is \$2,000,000 while it's \$7,110,000 for PW-R-199 (in 2024). Through 2023, over \$33 million has been invested via approximately 70 Levy-funded projects that have been delivered in every Bellevue neighborhood. Projects funded by the Levy often include blended funding from grants and other city sources. In doing so, projects can enlarge in scale creating greater community benefit/impact and further fiscal stewardship through strategic collaboration between city projects.

While Levy-funded projects can vary in scale and budget, there are many larger-scale projects that are planned for construction in 2024. While relative few projects were constructed in 2023—as a result of project complexity and staffing changes—there's considerable advancement planned for projects in 2024 that will help to reduce carry-forward budget and bring noticeable improvements to Bellevue neighborhoods. Some notable projects that are planned for construction or major design completion in 2024 include, but are not limited to, (CIP funding program; levy funding contribution; and neighborhood location listed in parentheses):

- NW Bellevue Walkways Improvement Project: over one mile of new sidewalk/shared-use walkway and crosswalk improvements (PW-R-199; approximately \$5,000,000; Northwest Bellevue).
- Lake Hills Boulevard/156th Avenue NE Signal: conversion of existing all-way stop to new traffic signal to reduce congestion and improve safety for people walking (PW-R-198; \$2,150,000; Lake Hills).
- 123rd Avenue SE Sidewalk Project: project to fill in sidewalk gap on west side of 123rd Avenue SE south of SE 60th Street (PW-R-199; \$1,400,000; Newport).
- NE 8th Street Pedestrian Improvement Project: project to improve safety for pedestrians crossing the I-405 ramps along NE 8th Street by marking crosswalks, adding rapid rectangular flashing beacons (RRFBs) and signalizing crossings at select locations (PW-R-199; \$1,150,000; Downtown and Wilburton).
- 150th Avenue SE Mobility Project: completion of final design of project to reduce travel time delay on 150th Avenue SE from Landerholm Circle to SE 37th Street (PW-R-198, \$2,500,000; Eastgate).

It's expected that the momentum will continue into 2025-2026. Many projects slated to begin construction in the next biennium have begun scoping and design, including a project in Bridle Trails to improve crossings for people walking and reduce vehicle speeds; a maintenance project along Coal Creek Parkway to replace aging retaining walls; and, multiple new and/or upgraded crosswalks in Cougar Mountain/Lakemont.

On the communications front, a progress report detailing major Levy accomplishments and investments is expected to be included as an insert into the October issue of *It's Your City*. Additionally, a modernization of the interactive map of Levy projects is expected late 2024 or early 2025.

POLICY & FISCAL IMPACTS

Policy Impact

The adopted budget sets the scope, schedule and budget for projects within the CIP. Amendments to the budget require Council approval via ordinance. Ordinance No. 6698, adopted on November 21, 2022, approved the 2023-2029 Capital Investment Program (CIP) Plan, establishing the project and program spending plan for the 7-year CIP budget. Through the adoption of an ordinance, Council may modify the CIP to recognize new revenues (i.e. grants) and/or adjust project or program budgets from time to time.

Fiscal Impact

There is no fiscal impact associated with this update.

OPTIONS

N/A

ATTACHMENTS

N/A

AVAILABLE IN COUNCIL LIBRARY

N/A