

# CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN (CIP) FACT SHEET



Capital Improvement Plan 2017-2021

Fall 2016

## What is a CIP?

A CIP is a short-range plan, usually four to ten years, that provides a strategic path, a budget and a funding mechanism for future improvements that enhance quality of life for the community and ensures that these improvements will be properly maintained.

## Other Common Questions:

### **Q: Why do a Capital Improvement Plan?**

A: The Municipality has never had a strategic plan for facilities and equipment capital improvement or maintenance. To that end, there has not been necessary significant maintenance (roof, wiring, HVAC, etc.) to Municipal property in decades. In addition much-needed infrastructure repair and equipment replacement has been very limited. A CIP is the mechanism to facilitate planned and necessary large scale improvements to Municipality infrastructure and facilities and equipment replacement. The CIP is created to identify capital project priorities through an evaluation of needs and the associated investment required, community input and guidance by Municipal Council. The intent is to create a thriving community through:

- Improved infrastructure (i.e. roads, bridges, parks, etc.);
- Enhancement of Municipal operations to ensure reliable vehicles and equipment are available to provide prompt emergency response by public safety and reliable maintenance and service delivery by public works
- Facility improvements to provide safe and useful public office and meeting spaces (i.e. Municipal Hall improvements and development of a combined Police/Recreation center)
- Economic initiatives that encourage development and optimizes the Municipality's development potential via strategic property acquisition

### **Q: Will my taxes go up?**

A: No, the CIP will not be funded by a tax increase.

### **Q: How will this CIP be funded?**

A. Primary funding will be achieved by re-financing the Municipality's current debt obligations and secured loans. This is a typical approach to funding CIP projects by fiscally sound government operations. Timely execution of the Municipality's bond repayment plan for the past several years has resulted in an opportunity to restructure the bond debt without increasing bond payments. The road improvement plan funding is secured by existing liquid fuels allocation received from the Commonwealth. Neither of these paths is anticipated to increase the Municipality's budget.

### **Q: How will projects be chosen?**

A: The CIP covers a broad range of categories including Roads Improvements, Economic Development Initiatives, Facility Improvements, Park Improvements and Equipment Acquisition. Each category captures the needs of the Municipality by identifying projects and resources. Citizen input will be obtained through a series of public meetings. The results of these meetings—along with staff analysis and recommendations—will be provided to Municipal Council for evaluation. Based on their evaluation and deliberations, Municipal Council will determine project priorities and authorize the final plan for execution and funding.



Norristown's 2017-2021 CIP: Planning Today for a Better Tomorrow!

## Why get Involved?

To create a comprehensive Capital Improvement Plan that reflects the interests of all citizens, it is important to have input from all members of the community.

Residents are encouraged to provide their feedback on what should be included in the CIP.