

What is a Capital Improvements Program?

Developing a Capital Improvements Program, known as a CIP, is a Planning Board responsibility. This document prioritizes a number of capital projects over a period of six years requested by Departments and Boards of the Town, and determines the overall impact to the tax rate if the projects were funded.

There are multiple benefits of having an updated CIP

Benefits to the Planning Board:

A CIP must be adopted prior to the **adoption of a growth management ordinance**.

A town needs a **CIP in order to adopt impact fees**.

The **CIP can help to determine whether a subdivision is premature** due to the lack of available services.

Benefits to Departments:

Board of Selectmen and Budget Committee: Capital items identified in the CIP are used to **prepare warrant articles**.

The CIP is a **policy document that makes recommendations** to municipal officials regarding capital expenditures.

All Departments: The CIP is a **management tool to help plan future expenditures** for their Department.

Benefits to the Community:

The CIP **schedules improvements over time to effectively manage capital expenditures in a community**.

When implemented, the CIP can **eliminate major fluctuations in municipal expenditures**.

CIP can help **meet the demands placed on municipal services by anticipated growth**.

And, by **identifying what equipment is necessary to maintain the Town, public safety is improved**.

When is your CIP due for its next update?
Contact the Planning Board for more information.