Capital Plan Commission Regular Meeting
Meeting Minutes
Monday, March 24, 2025 at 6:01 PM.

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1. **Call to Order**

The regular meeting of the City of Derby Capital Plan Commission was called to order at 6:01 p.m.

2. **Pledge of Allegiance**

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

3. **Roll Call**

Present were Mayor Joseph DiMartino, Alderman Hyder, Alderman George Kurtyka, Alderwoman Wadomski, and Mr. Jim Gildea. Ms. Ezzo was noted as expected to arrive late. A quorum was present.

4. **Adoption of Agenda**

No additions or changes to the agenda were presented.

5. **Public Portion**. Anybody from the public like to speak? Is there anyone from the public who would like to speak? Third and final time, would anybody from the public like to speak.

> **Karen Kemesis**, 25 John Street -Thrilled to see that you're having a capital planning meeting. I have been trying to be quiet because I know that all that Brian Hall has been putting everything together and figuring out where he's going to get the money from. So I figured that any of my complaints would fall on deaf ears because there's just he needed time. That said, I'm thrilled to see that you're finally doing this, that you have money for this whole routine of doing Zoom so that hopefully I'll be seeing you in the near future versus just seeing the words capital planning. And I hope also that you can move forward with all the other projects that are there. As always, I ask about the fire trucks because it takes two to three years to get them actually physically in the town. We have to get moving forward. So you have comments about talking about a referendum. If that is the reasoning for the referendum, I encourage you to do so. And other than that, I say thank you.
>
> All right. Thank you, Karen. Appreciate it. Anybody else from the public like to speak? Anybody else in the public? Third and final time. Anybody else in the public? Hearing none, public portion is now closed.

6. **Review, Approval, and Recommendation to the Board of Aldermen/Alderwomen Regarding Updated 2024-2025 LoCIP Allocations and Capital Expenditure Line Items**

The Commission reviewed the updated 2024-2025 LoCIP allocations and capital expenditure plan as recommended by Mayor Joseph DiMartino.

Motion: Mr. Jim Gildea moved to approve the updated 2024-2025 LOCIP allocations and capital expenditure plan and recommend the same to the Board of Aldermen/Alderwomen. Alderman George Kurtyka seconded the motion.

During discussion, a member requested that, when Finance Director Brian Hall returned, the Commission receive follow-up information regarding available road bond funds and potential school roadway-related projects, including Little Raider University at Derby High School and the area from the former auto shop to the technical education shop.

The record reflected that Ms. Ezzo arrived at 6:05 p.m.

Vote: The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

7. **November 2025 Bond Referendum Amounts and Expense Items for Capital Needs — Discussion Only**

The Commission discussed potential capital needs for inclusion in a November 2025 bond referendum. The discussion included the overall estimated capital needs list, the possible size of a referendum, the city's borrowing capacity, existing debt obligations, and the need to understand the tax and financial impact of various bonding amounts over time.

Commission members and attendees discussed prioritization of capital needs, including fire department apparatus, ambulance corps needs, public works vehicles, fire department air-pack bottles, and radio infrastructure. Several speakers emphasized that emergency apparatus and equipment have long lead times, rising costs, and safety implications for both responders and residents.

The Commission discussed the importance of identifying priority items rather than a general wish list and noted that a unified approach among affected departments could assist in explaining the need for a referendum to residents. It was further noted that residents should receive sufficient information regarding the city's borrowing capacity, debt coming off the books, total cost of borrowing, and the projected impact of any proposed bond package.

Additional discussion addressed fire apparatus replacement schedules, industry standards, equipment age, ISO rating considerations, and the need for updated cost estimates due to pricing changes. Representatives also discussed rescue services, existing agreements, training considerations, and the need to review any applicable agreement between the Fire Department and Ambulance Corps.

The Commission requested additional information for a future meeting, including: the city's ability to borrow; debt obligations expected to end; borrowing-cost scenarios at different referendum amounts; an updated capital needs list with priorities; supporting details for major vehicle and equipment requests; and broader financial considerations, including potential WPCA-related impacts.

No formal action was taken on this item.

8. **Adjournment**

Mr. Jim Gildea moved to adjourn the meeting. Alderman George Kurtyka seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

The meeting adjourned at 6:34 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Jennifer Desroches