

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PLAN

CITY OF AMES, IOWA
2025-2030

*Celebrating
our past*



CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PLAN

**CITY OF AMES, IOWA
2025-2030**



*We're celebrating,
and we want
everyone to know it!*

It's been a whirlwind few years, packed with anniversaries and

achievements that remind us about the amazing community that is Ames! Whether it's the timeless tunes of the Ames Municipal Band hitting the century mark or the shade-filled memories of Brookside Park's upcoming 100th in 2025, there's plenty to cheer about.

Did you know that Inis Grove and Emma McCarthy Lee Parks turned 75 this year? These gems continue to be the go-to nature space for everything from sunny summer picnics to action-packed pickleball showdowns.

Meanwhile, our Water Pollution Control Facility celebrated its 35th birthday, proving

that even wastewater can have a glow-up. And Old Town Park, always a charmer, marked its 40th year. Plus, the Ames Human Relations Commission hit the big 5-0. That's a half a century of fostering connection and understanding!

Looking ahead to 2025, the spotlight will shine on Ames City Hall's 35 years in its current home (formerly Ames High School). It's a big anniversary for the Arnold O. Chantland Resource Recovery System, which hits the half-century mark. The facility continues to shift its focus from energy production to waste reduction. It's all reduce, reuse, recycle! Also, let's not forget River Valley Park and Nutty Woods, each celebrating six decades of outdoor adventure.

Some milestones sneak up on you, like this year's 20th anniversary of Ada Hayden Heritage Park (dedicated Aug. 28, 2004). Can you believe we've had 15 years of splash-tacular fun at Furman Aquatic Center (opened on May 29, 2010)? Also, we're celebrating a decade since the Ames Public Library's shiny new addition (ribbon-cutting on Sept. 14, 2014). This is on top of the entire Library celebrating 120 years. Time flies when you're having fun, right?

Even our drop-off recycling center—just a baby at one year old—deserves a shoutout. What started as a grassroots effort and a limited pilot project now diverts paper, plastic, metal, cardboard, clothing, and food waste from the landfill. Talk about a birthday with impact!

This is the time to toast some of Ames' most incredible milestones. These anniversaries are more than numbers; they're a testament to Ames' spirit and resilience. By celebrating our past, we strengthen our present and dream big for the future. So, here's to us! We are a community worth celebrating over and over again.





July 1, 2025

Mayor and Ames City Council Members:

Attached is the approved Capital Improvements Plan (CIP) for FY 2025/26 through FY 2029/30. This five-year plan reflects expenditures totaling \$458,545,990, which are supported by various funding sources highlighted below.

Expenditures:

Public Safety	\$6,814,747
Utilities	282,792,000
Transportation	156,685,224
Culture & Recreation	11,004,019
Community Development	875,000
General Government	375,000

Total **\$458,545,990**

Funding Sources:

Debt Service (GO Bonds & State Revolving Loans)	\$269,207,006
General Fund	180,000
Council Priorities Capital Fund	1,750,000
Local Option Sales Tax	10,869,440
Road Use Tax	12,071,304
Electric Utility Fund	30,278,800
Water Utility Fund	22,102,000
Sanitary Sewer Utility Fund	16,565,000
Stormwater Utility Fund	8,800,000
Resource Recovery Utility Fund	1,674,000
Transit Capital Reserve Fund	6,786,749
Airport Improvement Fund	565,000
Ice Arena Capital Reserve Fund	120,000
Outside Funding (federal/state grants and donations)	77,576,691

Total **\$458,545,990**

The Capital Improvements Plan document reflects the financing, location, and timing of permanent structural changes to City property or assets to prolong the asset's life, increase its value, or enhance its capabilities. Many of the projects included in the CIP are needed to renovate our deteriorating infrastructure, accommodate growth within our city with new or expanded infrastructure, or achieve a City Council goal.

To help better understand the major projects in the attached CIP, the following summary is provided.

Fire - \$3,564,747

To automate the process of alerting and dispatching fire personnel and apparatus to emergency incidents as quickly as possible, the City uses a **Station Alerting System** (page 37). It enables 911 dispatchers to automatically and instantaneously dispatch the most appropriate emergency response vehicles from any of the three fire stations. Additionally, it is used in partnership with Mary Greeley Medical Center for ambulance services. The current system, which is 17 years old and has reached the end of its service life, both in terms of equipment and technology, is scheduled in this CIP to be replaced. If Fire Station #2 is relocated after the completion of this project, most of the station alerting hardware will be transferable to the new facility.

This CIP includes the replacement/refurbishment of our fire apparatus, which are at the end of their operational lives. The **Fire Apparatus Replacement Program/Fire Engine #2** project (page 38) will replace this frontline apparatus, purchased in 2010, and refurbish the existing unit to replace a unit purchased in 1996 as a reserve pumper. In addition, the **Fire Apparatus Replacement Program/Fire Engine #4** (page 39) anticipates the addition of a fourth frontline unit if, or when, a fourth fire station is constructed in the future as the city expands its boundaries in accordance with our Ames 2040 Comprehensive Plan.

The **Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA)** project (page 40) highlights an essential piece of equipment used by firefighters to enter hazardous environments to rescue trapped occupants and mitigate hazards. To ensure compliance with Occupational Safety and Health Association respiratory protection safety regulations, SCBAs have a 15-year replacement cycle. The current SCBAs and related equipment are approaching the end of their 15-year life cycle, and replacements will be introduced in the fifth year of the CIP.

Animal Control - \$3,250,000

Our existing Animal Control Shelter was constructed in 1994. The building has proven unsuitable for long-term sheltering and control operations. The current facility has poor insulation, temperature control problems, water leaks, and insufficient space to serve the animals' needs.

The City has purchased an existing building almost four times the size of our current shelter with the intent to renovate it into a modern facility. It is believed that the **Animal Shelter Relocation** project (page 42) will meet the operational needs with a larger facility, offer expansion capabilities, and adhere to state code requirements for animal care. Funding for this project is anticipated to come from a combination of sources. Current funding estimates for this new facility include 33% in private donations and 66% in prior General Fund savings, presently held in the Council Priorities Capital Fund.

It should be emphasized that the cost estimates reflected in the CIP for this facility were generated by City staff and, therefore, should be considered preliminary. As a result, a consultant has been hired to verify these totals. The cost estimates and required funding totals likely will be revised following the completion of the consultant's analysis.

Electric Utility - \$175,410,000

Our long-range plan for the Electric Utility is grounded in three overriding principles: providing service reliability, mitigating customer cost, and promoting environmental sustainability. To this end, this five-year plan devotes \$19,175,000 to transmission improvements, \$8,720,000 to distribution improvements, and \$141,115,000 to electric production improvements to the existing infrastructure.

Of particular note are five significant new initiatives. The **New Thermal Generation** (page 61) will allow for three new generating units to be constructed at the Coal Yard. These investments are necessary to replace Unit #7 and meet customers' demands as they transition to higher electrical consumption, as envisioned in the City's Climate Action Plan. The **Prairie View 161 kV Substation** (page 52), **Prairie View 161 kV Line Expansion** (page 53), and **Boone Junction 161 kV Line Improvements** (page 54) projects will improve reliability and maintain electric service in the event we lose our other two major tie lines, as was the case during the 2020 Derecho. Finally, the **New Renewable Energy** project (page 71) calls for adding an estimated 50 MW of wind power to our energy portfolio, thereby increasing our renewables from 15% to 31% in our quest to accomplish the Council's Climate Action Plan goal to reduce carbon emissions.

These five new projects account for the significant increase in our investment in the Electric Utility when compared to last year's five-year CIP total. With the exception of the New Renewable Energy project, it is estimated that funding for the other projects in the CIP can be covered by operational savings realized when we no longer have to purchase large amounts of natural gas to burn Refuse Derived Fuel (RDF) in our Power Plant boilers.

Water Utility - \$34,953,000

The CIP projects for the Water Utility continue to emphasize efficiency, resiliency, security, and preventive maintenance. The investments that will assure reliable service to our water customers include: **Water Plant Facilities Improvements** (page 74), **Well Field Standby Power** (page 75), **Physical and Cyber Security Improvements** (page 76), **SAM Pump Station Improvements** (page 77), **Wellhead Rehabilitation** (page 79), **Lime Lagoon Improvements** (page 80), and **Water Treatment Plant Pump/Drives** (page 81).

The most expensive project for the Water Utility is the **Prairie View Industrial Center Elevated Tank** (page 78), which is reflected in the third year of the plan, but will be advanced or delayed depending on the pace of development and water demand in this industrial area.

Our water distribution system also continues to receive attention in the CIP with the **Water System Improvements** (page 92) program, which will allow us to replace older water mains in areas experiencing rusty water, frequent water main breaks, and low pressure/circulation.

Sanitary Sewer Utility - \$53,925,000

The CIP for the Sanitary Sewer Utility is once again dominated by the Iowa Department of Natural Resources' mandate, which requires the largest wastewater facilities in the state to install process changes that will meet their nutrient removal targets. In response to this state mandate, the **Nutrient Reduction Modifications** (page 85) project devotes \$33,490,000 in the Plan's first two years towards the estimated total cost of \$62,517,000 for Phase 1.

We hope to go beyond our on-site efforts by supporting the **Watershed-Based Nutrient Reduction** project (page 87). In addition to realizing the environmental benefits, incentivizing watershed-based best practices will yield the ancillary benefits of flood risk reduction, drought control, increased recreational opportunities, and bankable credits to offset any future federal or state requirements imposed on our facility.

Maintaining our existing infrastructure remains a priority with the **WPC Plant Facility Improvements** (page 88), **Lift Station Improvements** (page 89), and **Clarifier Maintenance** (page 90) programs.

The **Cogeneration System Maintenance** project (page 86) is an important component of implementing the City's Climate Action Plan. The project will result in the construction of a new fats, oil, and grease receiving station that will enhance our ability to accept food waste diverted to the Water Pollution Control Plant to produce on-site electricity rather than being processed through the Resource Recovery plant and landfilled.

As is the case in the Water Utility, the **Sanitary Sewer System Improvements** program (page 94) focuses on the collection system and reconstructing deficient sewer lines and manholes. The locations for this work were identified through previous field investigations utilizing smoke testing and televising. The project's goal is to eliminate the inflow/infiltration of clean water flowing to the Water Pollution Plant that does not need to be subject to the costly treatment process.

Stormwater Utility - \$9,950,000

Results from our annual Resident Satisfaction Survey consistently highlight the importance of Stormwater Utility projects to Ames residents. These priorities stem from the direct impacts of overland flooding on their properties, the effects of bank destabilization to waterway quality, and the influence on available developable land reflected in the City's growth plans.

To mitigate the impact from the expansion of impervious surfaces related to development, a series of initiatives are included in the CIP. Programs such as **Stormwater Erosion Control** (page 97), **Stormwater Improvements** (page 98), **Stormwater Quality Improvements** (page 99), **Low Point Drainage Improvements** (page 100), and **Stormwater Detention/Retention Maintenance** (page 101) serve to mitigate this impact.

One unique project, **South Skunk River Improvements** (page 102), will stabilize the banks between South 16th Street and East Lincoln Way and armor them to protect a major north/south bike path planned for this area.

Resource Recovery Utility - \$8,554,000

The Resource Recovery Utility is on the brink of a significant change in our solid waste management model, which will take place over the next five years. Since 1975, garbage collected in most of Story County has been received and processed at the Resource Recovery Plant, where some recyclable materials have been removed. Much of the remaining materials have been converted into refuse-derived fuel (RDF) for use as a supplemental fuel source in the Power Plant.

Changes in federal regulations will make burning RDF in the Power Plant infeasible entering the 2030s, and the combination of the age of the equipment and the harsh environment resulting from burning RDF have caused staff to propose an alternative waste disposal strategy. The City is pursuing a new partnership with an alternative landfill. Additionally, staff is developing a concept for a **Resource Recovery and Recycling Campus** (page 104). This new transfer facility would receive solid waste and recyclables separately. The solid waste would be screened to remove additional recyclable materials before being transported in consolidated loads to a landfill. The recyclable materials would be transported to recyclers based on the best available market prices.

Anticipating this change, the **Resource Recovery System Improvements** program (page 105) has been adjusted to reduce some preventive maintenance and repairs at the existing facility. Further adjustments will be made in this utility as the transition to the new transfer facility occurs.

Transportation - \$156,685,224

Once again, the results of our annual Resident Satisfaction Survey indicate that our residents place a high priority on transportation and traffic improvement projects. As a result of this feedback, the CIP supports a significant investment in projects that offer multi-modal opportunities that increase efficient movement throughout the city and decrease carbon emissions. Fortunately, Public Works and CyRide staff have done an excellent job in securing grant funding for these important projects. The CIP anticipates this success to continue with 43% of these expenditures over the five-year plan supported with federal and state grant funds.

Streets and Traffic - \$85,939,000

The **Asphalt Street Pavement** (page 109), **Concrete Pavement** (page 110), **Seal Coat Pavement** (page 111), **Collector Street Pavement** (page 112), **Alley Pavement** (page 113), **Right of Way Restoration** (page 115), and **Arterial Street Pavement** (page 116) programs, as well as the **Downtown Street Pavement** (page 114), **CyRide Route Pavement** (page 117), and **Campustown Public Improvements** (page 118) programs reflect a significant investment in street and traffic CIP projects, influenced by resident input.

While the majority of the projects listed above call for the total reconstruction of existing infrastructure, the **Pavement Restoration** program (page 132) involves less invasive preventive and proactive maintenance activities on our street system. Activities such as slurry sealing, asphalt patching, and joint sealing serve to prolong the life of the roadway before more costly reconstruction is required.

Commitment to our street improvements is a double-edged sword. On the one hand, our customers should be happy that we are fixing our deteriorated street infrastructure. On the other hand, to accomplish this task, our residents are inconvenienced over a long period of time as contractors work to accomplish this road work. As you know, in many instances, we hear of residents' frustration with being inconvenienced outweighing the satisfaction of experiencing a new street.

Since Ames is situated at the intersection of two rivers, it is important that we inspect the many bridges within the city every two years. The **Lincoln Way Bridge Replacement** project (page 135) has been inserted into the CIP as a result of the latest 2024 inspection program. It is important to note that our consultant has indicated that this bridge is safe to travel on, but we should begin to prepare for full replacement within the life of this five-year plan.

The **Traffic System Capacity Improvements** program (page 125) will address capacity issues at various intersections throughout the city identified in the 2045 Long Range Transportation Plan. The **Traffic Signal Program** (page 127) will serve as a complementary program calling for the replacement of older traffic signals and the installation of newer ones throughout our street system.

The much-anticipated **Intelligent Transportation System** (page 126) will be completed in the second year of the CIP. Once completed, this new system will provide real-time data that will help us optimize traffic and pedestrian flow at signalized intersections through our major arterial corridors.

Shared Use Path Improvements - \$7,030,000

The City Council has established a goal to invest an annual average of \$1,200,000 in our trail system. This CIP exceeds that goal when taking into account the **Shared Use Path System Expansion** (page 121), **Multi-Modal Roadway Improvements** (page 122), and **Shared Use Path Maintenance** (page 123) programs, coupled with various other street, traffic, and bridge projects that incorporate path improvements. The average annual total for these shared use path projects is \$1,633,000. The recently accepted Walk Bike Roll Plan influenced the projects reflected for these improvements.

Airport - \$37,105,000

Of the \$37,105,000 earmarked for the James Herman Banning Ames Municipal Airport projects, we expect to obtain \$33,266,250 (90%) from federal and state funding. **Airport Airside Improvements** (page 143) represents a commitment to resurfacing and/or expanding the Airport's runways, taxiways, and aprons. This project will allow us to reconstruct Runway 01/19 and Taxiway B and rehabilitate Runway 13/31 and Taxiway A.

The projects included in the **Airport Facility Improvements** program (page 144) include relocating the National Weather Service Automated Observing System and the Fuel Farm.

The **Airport Entryway Improvements** project (page 145) will expand paved parking at the Airport and enhance landscaping in the central entrance area.

Transit - \$26,611,224

Public transportation is critical to a city by providing a low-cost transportation option to needed services and employment centers for those without vehicles. For those with vehicles, utilization of this service can help reduce carbon emissions consistent with the goals of our Climate Action Plan. For this five-year plan, we again are anticipating success in securing outside funding. Of the \$26,611,244 of expenditures reflected for Transit, we hope to obtain \$19,824,475 (75%) in federal and state funding.

It is imperative that we continue to upgrade the age of our fleet to guarantee reliability and accomplish the carbon reduction planned for in our Climate Action Plan. Therefore, over the next five years, our **CyRide Vehicle Replacement/Rehabilitation** program (page 137) will replace twenty 40-foot buses with new buses, and exchange five 40-foot buses with five battery-operated buses.

As our route system continues to grow and more battery electric buses (BEB) become part of our fleet, it is time to focus attention on **CyRide Facility Improvements** (page 138). The improvements include installing safety enhancements to reduce fire safety risks related to BEBs. In addition, we plan to initiate architectural and engineering services related to our next building expansion. Finally, we intend to replace and upgrade our fueling system with one that is faster, has less waste, and is more environmentally sustainable.

The **CyRide Technology Improvements** program (page 141) will continue to invest in technology to improve the rider experience. Real-time information regarding arrival times will be installed in key bus stop locations, and infotainment systems in our buses will display upcoming stops.

Culture and Recreation - \$11,004,019

Parks and Recreation - \$10,854,019

Great cities are defined not only by the quality of their public works and utility infrastructure, but also by the quality-of-life features that exist in the community. This CIP dedicates a significant amount of funding to this end.

The first year of the five-year plan reflects the final installment in the new \$28,300,000 **Fitch Family Indoor Aquatic Center** (page 149), which is scheduled to open in January 2026. This multi-purpose facility will fill a void created by the demolition of the old Municipal Pool, which made way for the new Ames High School.

The **Playground Equipment Improvements** program (page 152) will allow us to replace thirteen pieces of equipment in thirteen parks throughout the city. The **Park System/Facility Improvements Program** (page 151) will facilitate the renovation of several existing outdoor restrooms, shelters, parking lots, drinking fountains, canoe /kayak access, sound/lighting systems at the Auditorium, flooring in the Community Center, and upgrades to Tom Evans Plaza.

The crown jewel of the Ames Park System, **Ada Hayden Heritage Park** (page 153), is scheduled to receive the second and final phase of a conversion from a 10-foot asphalt to a 12-foot concrete trail system. Equally exciting is that a water detention area located in the northwest section of the park along the upland trail will be transformed into a new child-friendly fishing location in the third year of the Plan.

Funding for a new pedestrian bridge has been incorporated for **Moore Memorial Park** (page 155). The new bridge will link the City trail system across loway Creek south to the Ontario path through ISU property.

For those of you who play golf at our popular **Homewood Golf Course** (page 156), the existing bridge on Hole #9 will be replaced to safely handle the growing number of golfers who are using our golf carts and must now take a circuitous route to avoid the existing bridge which was not designed to accommodate golf carts.

The City Council's goal of providing an inclusive community will be furthered with the allocation of funds to implement **ADA Transition Plan Improvements** (page 154). The projects pursued each year will be selected based on the assessment of the park/facilities system completed in FY 2022/23.

Cemetery - \$150,000

The **Cemetery Improvements** (page 160) program will install a more decorative fence at the City's Ontario Cemetery site and purchase three additional columbaria to accommodate the growing demand for cremations at the Ames Municipal Cemetery.

Community Development - \$875,000

The City Council also understands that great communities must have great neighborhoods, both residential and commercial. Therefore, this five-year plan continues support for the **Downtown Façade Program** (page 165), **Campustown Façade Program** (page 166), and **Neighborhood Improvement Program** (page 167).

General Government - \$375,000

The City Hall's mechanical, electrical, sprinkler, and other support systems were installed in 1990. The **City Hall Improvements** (page 171) program allocates funds each of the next five years to respond to equipment, system, or sidewalks/parking lot needs for the City Hall building and the Veterans Memorial.

Prioritization of New Projects

Based on the feedback I received from the City Council, a new Animal Control Shelter has been incorporated into this five-year plan. This action leaves the following four projects to be prioritized in future CIPs.

Fire Station #2 Relocation

Relocating Station #2 to Iowa State University property on the west side of State Avenue is being considered as the preferred site. When compared to the current Welch Avenue site, this location improves city-wide response times and eliminates the safety concerns associated with emergency vehicles navigating the heavily congested Campustown Business District. In FY 2024/25, funds have been allocated to hire a consultant to develop preliminary cost estimates for the proposed new station.

Ontario Park Development

Following the recent acquisition of approximately 50 acres of land along Ontario Road for a new western community park, there is a need to develop key amenities such as trails, shelters, restrooms, bridges, and other recreational facilities. To support this effort, funds have been allocated in FY 2024/25 to hire a consultant to prepare preliminary cost estimates for the park's development.

Indoor Recreation Center

With just one City gymnasium and limited access to Ames School District gym spaces, we are unable to accommodate the community's growing demand for indoor recreation facilities. A new facility equipped with amenities such as indoor basketball and pickleball courts, volleyball courts, a soccer pitch, a running/jogging/walking track, and play areas would provide desired recreational opportunities for both youth and adults. This addition would align Ames with the amenities offered in many other communities, larger and smaller. Funding has been included in the FY 2025/26 budget to hire a consultant to prepare preliminary cost estimates for this proposed facility.

Fire Station #4

As the City expands in accordance with the Ames 2040 Plan, an additional fire station will help maintain adequate emergency response times. The exact timing of the need for this new station will depend on the pace of the City's growth.

Special Thanks!

As always, I want to thank our Department Heads and staff members, who did their best to identify projects that respond to the City Council's stated priorities and to the input provided by our residents regarding the CIP.

In addition, our budget team comprised of our Finance Director, Corey Goodenow, our Budget Manager, Nancy Masteller, our Budget Analyst, Patti Lehman, our Finance Secretary, Bre Van Sickle, and our two Assistant City Managers, Brian Phillips and Pa Vang Goldbeck deserve recognition for their work in reviewing the department project recommendations, helping develop long-range revenue and expenditure projections, and coordinating the compilation of the CIP document.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Steve".

Steven L. Schainker
City Manger

CITY OF AMES, IOWA
FIVE-YEAR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PLAN
2025-2030

TABLE OF CONTENTS

How to Use the CIP Document	14
Project Index	15
Projection of Debt Capacity	20
Summary of Major Bond Issues	21
City-Wide Summary	29
Capital Improvements – By Program	
Public Safety	35
Utilities	45
Transportation.....	107
Culture and Recreation	147
Community Development.....	163
General Government	169

How to Use the CIP Document

The 2025-2030 Capital Improvements Plan for the City of Ames is organized according to the City's program structure of services. This format allows decision makers to consider proposed improvements in much the same manner as the annual operating budget. First-year portions of these projects can also be identified in the annual operating program budget.

1. The **Description/Justification** section outlines the basic work to be done and the intended outcome or result of the project, outlines the reasons behind the proposal of the project, and also the advantages to the City of undertaking the project. The section may also describe the disadvantages to the City of either waiting to do the project, or of disapproving it altogether.
2. The **Comments** section outlines any additional information related to the project, including status changes from a previous year, its relationship to other projects or future developments, impacts on operating budgets and others.
3. The **Location** section lists a street location or various locations for each project. Specific locations for Public Works projects can also be found on the City of Ames website at:
<https://gis.cityofames.org/images/apps/cipmaps.html>

In addition to the above information, the bottom of each page lists the types of costs (planning, construction, etc.) which will be associated with the project for each year of the present CIP. Below that is shown the source of financing for the project in each year.

Index to 2025-2030 Capital Improvements Plan

City of Ames, Iowa

	Page
Public Safety:	35
Fire	36
Station Alerting System	37
Fire Engine #2 Replacement	38
Fire Engine #4	39
Self Contained Breathing Apparatus	40
Animal Control	41
Animal Shelter Relocation	42
 Utilities:	 45
Electric Services Summary	47
Electric Administration	
Advanced Metering Infrastructure	49
Electric Vehicle Infrastructure	50
Electric Transmission	
69 kV Transmission Reconstruction	51
Prairie View 161 kV Substation	52
Prairie View 161 kV Line Expansion	53
Boone Junction 161 kV Line Improvements	54
Electric Distribution	
Streetlight and Line Relocations	55
Vet Med Substation Switchgear Upgrade	56
Fiber Optic Fiber Replacement	57
Mortensen Road Transformer Protection	58
Distribution Management System	59
Dayton Avenue Substation Upgrade	60
Electric Production	
New Thermal Generation	61
Coal Yard Reclamation	62
Power Plant Building Heat	63

Index to 2025-2030 Capital Improvements Plan City of Ames, Iowa

Utilities - Continued	Page
Electric Production	
Power Plant Load Centers/Breakers	64
Power Plant Relay/Control Replacement	65
Turbine/Generator Major Overhaul	66
Power Plant Building Modifications	67
Combustion Turbine Generation Improvements	68
Distributed Controls System Upgrade	69
Clear Water Pond Cleanup	70
New Renewable Energy	71
Water Production/Treatment	72
Technical Services Complex Renovation	73
Water Plant Facility Improvements	74
Well Field Standby Power	75
Physical/Cyber Security Improvements	76
SAM Pump Station Improvements	77
Prairie View Industrial Center Elevated Tank	78
Wellhead Rehabilitation	79
Lime Lagoon Improvements	80
Water Treatment Plant Pumps/Drives	81
MAC Elevated Tank Repainting	82
Ada Hayden Water Quality Study	83
Water Pollution Control	84
Nutrient Reduction Modifications	85
Cogeneration System Maintenance	86
Watershed-Based Nutrient Reduction	87
WPC Plant Facility Improvements	88
Lift Station Improvements	89
Clarifier Maintenance	90

Index to 2025-2030 Capital Improvements Plan City of Ames, Iowa

Utilities - Continued	Page
Water Distribution	91
Water System Improvements	92
Sanitary Sewer System	93
Sanitary Sewer System Improvements	94
Clear Water Diversion	95
Stormwater	96
Stormwater Erosion Control Program	97
Stormwater Improvement Program	98
Stormwater Quality Improvements	99
Low Point Drainage Improvements	100
Stormwater Detention/Retention Maintenance	101
South Skunk River Improvements	102
Resource Recovery	103
Resource Recovery and Recycling Campus	104
Resource Recovery System Improvements	105
Transportation:	107
Street Improvements	108
Asphalt Street Pavement Improvements	109
Concrete Pavement Improvements	110
Seal Coat Pavement Improvements	111
Collector Street Pavement Improvements	112
Alley Pavement Improvements Program	113
Downtown Street Pavement Improvements	114
Right-of-Way Restoration	115
Arterial Street Pavement Improvements	116
CyRide Route Pavement Improvements	117
Campustown Public Improvements	118

Index to 2025-2030 Capital Improvements Plan City of Ames, Iowa

Transportation - Continued	Page
Shared Use Paths	119
Shared Use Path System Expansion	121
Multi-Modal Roadway Improvements	122
Shared Use Path Maintenance	123
Traffic Improvements	124
Traffic System Capacity Improvements	125
Intelligent Transportation System Program	126
Traffic Signal Program	127
Accessibility Enhancements Program	128
Regional Transportation Count Program	129
Metropolitan Transportation Plan Update	130
Street Rehabilitation	131
Pavement Restoration	132
Neighborhood Curb Replacement Program	133
Streetscape Enhancements	134
Lincoln Way Bridge Replacement	135
Transit System	136
CyRide Vehicle Replacement	137
CyRide Facility Improvements	138
CyRide Shop/Office Equipment	139
Bus Stop Improvements	140
CyRide Technology Improvements	141
Airport	142
Airport Airside Improvements	143
Airport Facility Improvements	144
Airport Entryway Improvements	145

Index to 2025-2030 Capital Improvements Plan

City of Ames, Iowa

	Page
Culture and Recreation:	147
Parks and Recreation	148
Fitch Family Indoor Aquatic Center	149
Park System/Facility Improvements	151
Playground Equipment Improvements	152
Ada Hayden Heritage Park	153
ADA Transition Plan Improvements	154
Moore Memorial Park	155
Homewood Golf Course	156
Furman Aquatic Center	157
Ames/ISU Ice Arena	158
Cemetery	159
Cemetery Improvements	160
 Community Development:	 163
Neighborhood Improvements	164
Downtown Façade Improvement Program	165
Campustown Façade Improvement Program	166
Neighborhood Improvement Program	167
 General Government:	 169
Facilities	170
City Hall Improvements	171

Projection of Debt Capacity

	2023/24 Actual	2024/25 Budgeted	2025/26 Projected	2026/27 Projected	2027/28 Projected	2028/29 Projected	2029/30 Projected
1. Total Actual Valuation	5,541,171,438	6,561,140,157	6,631,161,731	6,830,096,583	7,034,999,480	7,246,049,464	7,463,430,948
2. State Mandated Debt Limit	277,058,572	328,057,008	331,558,087	341,504,829	351,749,974	362,302,473	373,171,547
3. City Reserve (25% of Limit)	69,264,643	82,014,252	82,889,522	85,376,207	87,937,494	90,575,618	93,292,887
Un-Reserved Debt Capacity	207,793,929	246,042,756	248,668,565	256,128,622	263,812,480	271,726,855	279,878,660
4. Outstanding Debt	67,035,000	74,205,000	64,545,000	55,275,000	46,920,000	39,145,000	31,760,000
5. Proposed Issues	-	-	14,490,195	21,331,756	13,084,302	12,041,544	14,896,996
6. Balance of Proposed Issues	-	-	(964,354)	11,103,238	29,044,699	37,801,702	44,351,428
Total Debt Subject to Limit	67,035,000	74,205,000	78,070,841	87,709,994	89,049,001	88,988,246	91,008,424
7. Available Un-Reserved Debt Capacity (\$)	140,758,929	171,837,756	170,597,724	168,418,628	174,763,479	182,738,609	188,870,236
8. Available Un-Reserved Debt Capacity (%)	67.74%	69.84%	68.60%	65.76%	66.25%	67.25%	67.48%
9. Total Debt Capacity (\$)	210,023,572	253,852,008	253,487,246	253,794,835	262,700,973	273,314,227	282,163,123
10. Total Debt Capacity (%)	75.80%	77.38%	76.45%	74.32%	74.68%	75.44%	75.61%

Notes:

1. Total assessed valuation plus utility valuation growth assumption is 3.0% per year.
2. State of Iowa statutory debt limit is 5% of total actual valuation.
3. City Policy reserves 25% percent of available debt capacity.
4. Current outstanding debt subject to limit at Fiscal Year End includes all debt in which property taxes are pledged.
5. Debt issues subject to limit proposed are part of Capital Improvement Plan.
6. Debt Balance on Issues in Capital Improvement Plan.
7. Debt capacity available after deducting the reserved capacity.
8. Percentage of debt capacity available after deducting the reserved capacity.
9. Debt capacity available prior to deducting the reserved capacity.
10. Percentage of debt capacity available prior to deducting the reserved capacity.

Summary of Major Bond Issues

City of Ames, Iowa
Capital Improvements Plan

General Obligation Bonds	Project Total	Category Total	% Project G.O. Funded	Other Sources of Funding
2025/26:				
Fire:		211,905		
Fire Station Alerting System	211,905		73%	General Fund
Street Improvements:		9,950,000		
Asphalt Street Pavement Improvements	4,000,000		100%	
Concrete Pavement Improvements	3,800,000		100%	
Seal Coat Pavement Improvements	1,000,000		100%	
Collector Street Pavement Improvements (Bloomington Road)	500,000		42%	MPO/STP Funds
Alley Pavement Improvements	400,000		100%	
Downtown Street Pavement Improvements	250,000		100%	
Traffic Improvements:		1,887,540		
Traffic System Capacity Improvements	1,520,000		50%	Road Use Tax/Grants
Intelligent Transportation System	367,540		13%	Road Use Tax/Grants
Airport Improvements:		860,750		
Airport Airside Improvements	531,750		5%	Grants
Airport Facility Improvements	329,000		37%	Grants
Parks and Recreation:		700,000		
Ada Hayden Heritage Park	700,000		100%	
2025/26 Total		13,610,195		

Summary of Major Bond Issues, continued

City of Ames, Iowa
Capital Improvements Plan

General Obligation Bonds	Project Total	Category Total	% Project G.O. Funded	Other Sources of Funding
2026/27:				
Street Improvements:		14,400,000		
Asphalt Street Pavement Improvements	2,340,000		100%	
Concrete Pavement Improvements	3,300,000		100%	
Seal Coat Pavement Improvements	900,000		100%	
Collector Street Pavement Improvements (West Street)	1,400,000		100%	
Arterial Street Pavement Improvements (East Lincoln Way)	1,260,000		30%	MPO/STP Funds
CyRide Route Pavement Improvements (Lincoln Way)	3,800,000		100%	
Campustown Public Improvements	1,400,000		100%	MPO/STP Funds
Traffic Improvements:		178,756		
Intelligent Transportation System	178,756		13%	Road Use Tax/Grants
Airport:		753,000		
Airport Airside Improvements	753,000		5%	Grants
2026/27 Total		15,331,756		

Summary of Major Bond Issues, continued

City of Ames, Iowa
Capital Improvements Plan

General Obligation Bonds	Project Total	Category Total	% Project G.O. Funded	Other Sources of Funding
2027/28:				
Fire:		1,144,302		
Fire Engine #2 Replacement	1,144,302		100%	
Stormwater Improvements:		600,000	100%	
South Skunk River Improvements	600,000			
Street Improvements:		10,490,000		
Asphalt Street Pavement Improvements	3,900,000		100%	
Concrete Pavement Improvements (6th Street)	1,525,000		100%	
Seal Coat Pavement Improvements	750,000		100%	
Collector Street Pavement Improvements (Wheeler Street)	1,200,000		100%	
Alley Pavement Improvements	400,000		100%	
Arterial Street Pavement Improvements (East 13th Street/Duff Avenue)	990,000		35%	MPO/STP Funds
CyRide Route Pavement Improvements (Bloomington Road)	1,725,000		100%	
Airport:		850,000		
Airport Airside Improvements	450,000		9%	Grants/Airport Improvements
Airport Entryway Improvements	400,000		100%	
2027/28 Total		13,084,302		

Summary of Major Bond Issues, continued

City of Ames, Iowa
Capital Improvements Plan

General Obligation Bonds	Project Total	Category Total	% Project G.O. Funded	Other Sources of Funding
2028/29:				
Fire:		1,331,544		
Fire Engine #4	1,331,544		100%	
Street Improvements:		8,900,000		
Asphalt Street Pavement Improvements	4,000,000		100%	
Concrete Pavement Improvements (7th Street)	1,200,000		100%	
Seal Coat Pavement Improvements	1,000,000		100%	
Alley Pavement Improvements	400,000		100%	
Arterial Street Pavement Improvements (Duff Avenue)	800,000		31%	MPO/STP Funds
CyRide Route Pavement Improvements (16th Street)	1,500,000		100%	
Traffic Improvements:		1,000,000		
Traffic System Capacity (24th Street/Grand Avenue)	1,000,000		67%	Road Use Tax
Airport:		810,000		
Airport Airside Improvements	260,000		8%	Grants/Airport Improvements
Airport Entryway Improvements	550,000		100%	
Collector Street Pavement Improvements (Wheeler Street)				
2028/29 Total		12,041,544		

Summary of Major Bond Issues, continued

City of Ames, Iowa
Capital Improvements Plan

General Obligation Bonds	Project Total	Category Total	% Project G.O. Funded	Other Sources of Funding
2029/30:				
Fire:		796,996		
Self Contained Breathing Apparatus	796,996		100%	
Street Improvements:		10,350,000		
Asphalt Street Pavement Improvements	3,700,000		100%	
Concrete Pavement Improvements (13th Street)	900,000		100%	
Seal Coat Pavement Improvements	2,800,000		100%	
Alley Pavement Improvements	400,000		100%	
Arterial Street Pavement Improvements (East 13th/East Lincoln Way)	1,350,000		28%	MPO/STP Funds
CyRide Route Pavement Improvements (Dickinson Avenue/Steinbeck Street)	1,200,000		100%	
Street Rehabilitation:		3,750,000		
Lincoln Way Bridge Replacement	3,750,000		71%	Grants
2029/30 Total		14,896,996		
Total General Obligation Bonds		68,964,793		

Summary of Major Bond Issues, continued

City of Ames, Iowa
Capital Improvements Plan

Abated General Obligation Bonds	Project Total	Category Total	% Project Bond Funded	Other Sources of Funding
2025/26:				
Resource Recovery:		880,000		
Resource Recovery and Recycling Campus	880,000		100%	Revenue abated G.O. Bonds
2026/27:				
Resource Recovery:		6,000,000		
Resource Recovery and Recycling Campus	6,000,000		100%	Revenue abated G.O. Bonds
Total Abated General Obligation Bonds		6,880,000		

Summary of Major Bond Issues, continued

City of Ames, Iowa
Capital Improvements Plan

Electric Revenue Bonds	Project Total	Category Total	% Project Bond Funded	Other Sources of Funding
2025/26:				
Electric Services:		5,527,500		
Prairie View 161 kV Substation	3,320,000		83%	Iowa State University
Prairie View 161 kV Line Expansion	207,500		83%	Iowa State University
New Thermal Generation	2,000,000		100%	
2025/26 Total		5,527,500		
2026/27:				
Electric Services:		10,942,500		
Prairie View 161 kV Line Expansion	3,942,500		83%	Iowa State University
New Thermal Generation	7,000,000		100%	
2026/27 Total		10,942,500		
2027/28:				
Electric Services:		50,000,000		
New Thermal Generation	50,000,000		100%	
2027/28 Total		50,000,000		
2028/29:				
Electric Services:		75,000,000		
New Thermal Generation	25,000,000		100%	
Renewable Energy	50,000,000		100%	
2028/29 Total		75,000,000		
Total Electric Revenue Bonds		141,470,000		

CITY-WIDE PROGRAM SUMMARY



1990-2025
AMES CITY HALL
35
YEARS



CITY-WIDE
PROGRAM SUMMARY

Total Capital Improvements Plan Expenditures and Funding Sources

City of Ames, Iowa
Capital Improvements Plan

	Total	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30	Page
Expenditures by Program:							
Public Safety	6,814,747	3,541,905	-	1,144,302	1,331,544	796,996	35
Utilities	282,792,000	49,973,000	40,975,000	79,711,000	95,731,000	16,402,000	45
Transportation	156,685,224	37,840,563	42,621,641	26,578,069	25,730,259	23,914,692	107
Culture and Recreation	11,004,019	6,810,079	1,173,500	1,139,380	894,280	986,780	147
Community Development	875,000	175,000	175,000	175,000	175,000	175,000	163
General Government	375,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	169
Total Expenditures	458,545,990	98,415,547	85,020,141	108,822,751	123,937,083	42,350,468	
Funding Sources:							
Debt	269,207,006	49,797,908	40,078,256	73,979,302	87,041,544	18,309,996	
City	111,762,293	23,717,417	21,235,221	22,700,914	26,080,485	18,028,256	
Other	77,576,691	24,900,222	23,706,664	12,142,535	10,815,054	6,012,216	
Total Funding Sources	458,545,990	98,415,547	85,020,141	108,822,751	123,937,083	42,350,468	

Capital Improvements Plan Expenditure Summary By Program

City of Ames, Iowa
Capital Improvements Plan

	Total	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30	Page
Public Safety:							35
Fire Safety	3,564,747	291,905	-	1,144,302	1,331,544	796,996	36
Animal Control	3,250,000	3,250,000	-	-	-	-	41
Total Public Safety	6,814,747	3,541,905	-	1,144,302	1,331,544	796,996	
Utilities:							45
Electric Services	175,410,000	11,790,000	16,275,000	57,985,000	84,060,000	5,300,000	47
Water Production/Treatment	21,003,000	4,760,000	1,370,000	11,374,000	2,985,000	514,000	72
Water Pollution Control	43,325,000	27,134,000	9,915,000	1,452,000	986,000	3,838,000	84
Water Distribution	13,950,000	2,050,000	2,500,000	3,900,000	2,750,000	2,750,000	91
Sanitary Sewer System	10,600,000	400,000	2,550,000	2,550,000	2,550,000	2,550,000	93
Stormwater Management	9,950,000	2,500,000	1,900,000	2,200,000	2,150,000	1,200,000	96
Resource Recovery	8,554,000	1,339,000	6,465,000	250,000	250,000	250,000	103
Total Utilities	282,792,000	49,973,000	40,975,000	79,711,000	95,731,000	16,402,000	
Transportation:							107
Streets Improvements	62,890,000	10,975,000	17,605,000	12,650,000	10,985,000	10,675,000	108
Shared Use Path System	7,030,000	1,560,000	1,220,000	1,050,000	1,250,000	1,950,000	119
Traffic Improvements	14,699,000	6,620,000	2,254,000	1,525,000	2,775,000	1,525,000	124
Street Rehabilitation	8,350,000	530,000	580,000	580,000	830,000	5,830,000	131
Transit System	26,611,224	6,510,563	5,252,641	5,373,069	6,140,259	3,334,692	136
Airport	37,105,000	11,645,000	15,710,000	5,400,000	3,750,000	600,000	142
Total Transportation	156,685,224	37,840,563	42,621,641	26,578,069	25,730,259	23,914,692	

Capital Improvements Plan Expenditure Summary By Program, continued

City of Ames, Iowa
Capital Improvements Plan

	Total	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30	Page
Culture and Recreation:							147
Parks and Recreation	10,854,019	6,735,079	1,173,500	1,064,380	894,280	986,780	148
Cemetery	150,000	75,000	-	75,000	-	-	159
Total Culture and Recreation	11,004,019	6,810,079	1,173,500	1,139,380	894,280	986,780	
Community Development:							163
Neighborhood Improvements	875,000	175,000	175,000	175,000	175,000	175,000	164
Total Community Development	875,000	175,000	175,000	175,000	175,000	175,000	
General Government:							169
Facilities	375,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	170
Total General Government	375,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	
Total Expenditures	458,545,990	98,415,547	85,020,141	108,822,751	123,937,083	42,350,468	

Capital Improvements Plan Funding Source Summary

City of Ames, Iowa
Capital Improvements Plan

	Total	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30
Debt:						
G.O. Bonds	68,964,793	13,610,195	15,331,756	13,084,302	12,041,544	14,896,996
G.O. Bonds (revenue abated)	6,880,000	880,000	6,000,000	-	-	-
G.O. Bonds (previously issued)	3,540,213	3,540,213	-	-	-	-
Electric Revenue Bonds	141,470,000	5,527,500	10,942,500	50,000,000	75,000,000	-
State Revolving Fund Loans	48,352,000	26,240,000	7,804,000	10,895,000	-	3,413,000
Total Debt Funding	269,207,006	49,797,908	40,078,256	73,979,302	87,041,544	18,309,996
City:						
General Fund	180,000	180,000	-	-	-	-
Council Priorities Capital Fund	1,750,000	1,750,000	-	-	-	-
Local Option Sales Tax	10,869,440	2,215,500	2,123,500	2,169,380	2,194,280	2,166,780
Road Use Tax	12,071,304	2,951,460	2,029,844	2,030,000	2,530,000	2,530,000
Electric Utility Fund	30,278,800	5,150,000	4,466,500	7,473,025	8,552,275	4,637,000
Water Utility Fund	22,102,000	5,108,000	3,391,000	4,454,000	5,810,000	3,339,000
Sewer Utility Fund	16,565,000	1,837,000	4,965,000	3,752,000	3,286,000	2,725,000
Stormwater Utility Fund	8,800,000	2,150,000	1,950,000	1,650,000	1,800,000	1,250,000
Resource Recovery Fund	1,674,000	459,000	465,000	250,000	250,000	250,000
Transit Capital Reserve Fund	6,786,749	1,796,457	1,469,377	852,509	1,597,930	1,070,476
Airport Improvements Fund	565,000	120,000	275,000	50,000	60,000	60,000
Ice Arena Capital Reserve Fund	120,000	-	100,000	20,000	-	-
Total City Funding	111,762,293	23,717,417	21,235,221	22,700,914	26,080,485	18,028,256

Capital Improvements Plan Funding Source Summary, continued

City of Ames, Iowa
Capital Improvements Plan

	Total	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30
Other:						
Federal/State Grants	62,916,125	20,233,356	20,010,664	9,845,560	8,197,329	4,629,216
MPO/STP Funds	8,685,000	1,090,000	2,880,000	1,835,000	2,160,000	720,000
Iowa State University	3,461,200	1,062,500	816,000	461,975	457,725	663,000
Donations	2,514,366	2,514,366	-	-	-	-
Total Other Funding	77,576,691	24,900,222	23,706,664	12,142,535	10,815,054	6,012,216
Total Funding Sources	458,545,990	98,415,547	85,020,141	108,822,751	123,937,083	42,350,468

PUBLIC SAFETY



1989-2024
WATER POLLUTION
CONTROL FACILITY



Public Safety

City of Ames, Iowa
Capital Improvements Plan

	Total	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30	Page
Expenditures:							
Fire Safety	3,564,747	291,905	-	1,144,302	1,331,544	796,996	36
Animal Control	3,250,000	3,250,000	-	-	-	-	41
Total Expenditures	6,814,747	3,541,905	-	1,144,302	1,331,544	796,996	
Funding Sources:							
Debt:							
G.O. Bonds	3,484,747	211,905	-	1,144,302	1,331,544	796,996	
City:							
General Fund	80,000	80,000	-	-	-	-	
Council Priorities Capital Fund	1,750,000	1,750,000	-	-	-	-	
Total City Funding	1,830,000	1,830,000	-	-	-	-	
Other:							
Donations	1,500,000	1,500,000	-	-	-	-	
Total Funding Sources	6,814,747	3,541,905	-	1,144,302	1,331,544	796,996	

Public Safety - Fire

City of Ames, Iowa
Capital Improvements Plan

Project/Funding Source	Total	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30	Page
Project:							
Station Alerting System	291,905	291,905	-	-	-	-	37
Fire Engine #2 Replacement	1,144,302	-	-	1,144,302	-	-	38
Fire Engine #4	1,331,544	-	-	-	1,331,544	-	39
Self Contained Breathing Apparatus	796,996	-	-	-	-	796,996	40
Total Project Expenditures	3,564,747	291,905	-	1,144,302	1,331,544	796,996	
Funding Sources:							
Debt:							
G.O. Bonds	3,484,747	211,905	-	1,144,302	1,331,544	796,996	
City:							
General Fund	80,000	80,000	-	-	-	-	
Total Funding Sources	3,564,747	291,905	-	1,144,302	1,331,544	796,996	

Station Alerting System

Project Status:

Advanced/Cost Change

City of Ames, Iowa
Capital Improvements Plan

Description/Justification

In 2008 the Ames Fire Department purchased an automatic station alerting system from Locution Systems Inc. It was installed at all three fire stations and the City's Public Safety Communications Center. This system also dispatches Mary Greeley Medical Center (MGMC) ambulances. The automatic station alerting system automates the process of alerting and dispatching fire personnel and apparatus to emergency incidents. The system integrates directly into the Public Safety Communication Center's computer aided dispatch system, allowing 911 dispatchers to dispatch the most appropriate emergency response vehicle(s) automatically and instantaneously. The automatic station alerting system utilizes lights, increasing volumes and wall mounted information centers throughout the stations to alert and dispatch specific staff and units, leaving non-responding stations and units ready to respond to the next incident.

It was discovered during a planned replacement of one of the station's automatic alerting system computers that individual dorm room wall mounted controls and information centers would no longer function. The vendor informed us that our wall mounted controls and information centers were obsolete and would not function within any new Windows operating versions other than Windows CE, which officially ended in 2018. The station continues to receive audio dispatches but no longer receives the visual display of the incident address. Additionally, the 17-year-old system operates on a single network connection and does not have a secondary backup connection with the Public Safety Communications Center. This leaves the system vulnerable to network interruptions caused by damaged fiber during construction or even a power outage at the switching station, which could result in delayed emergency responses.

Comments

This project has been advanced due to increasing reliability concerns with the current system. Costs have also been adjusted to reflect refined plan design with current year pricing versus future year pricing estimates. Replacing the current system with newer equipment and technology will improve reliability, security, and utilization of available technology to improve overall emergency response times. Additionally, some of the station alerting hardware can be transferred if Fire Station #2 is relocated after the completion of this project.

Location

Fire Station #1, 1300 Burnett Avenue, Fire Station #2, 132 Welch Avenue, Fire Station #3, 2400 South Duff Avenue,
Public Safety Communications Center, 515 Clark Avenue

	Total	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30
Cost:						
Replace Station Alerting System	211,905	211,905				
Total	211,905	211,905				
Financing:						
G.O. Bonds	211,905	211,905				
General Fund	80,000	80,000				
Total	291,905	291,905				

Program - Activity:

Public Safety - Fire

Department:

Fire

Account Number:

386-2265-429

Description/Justification
Fire apparatus are essential for structural firefighting. The Fire Apparatus Replacement Program ensures replacement of fire apparatus at the end of their operational lives. The City maintains two frontline engines (Engine 1 and Engine 2) and one ladder truck (Tower 1). The City maintains its current fleet very well, which facilitates keeping frontline fire apparatus for a maximum of 15 years. Our goal is to then refurbish and retain those apparatus for an additional 10 years each as reserve apparatus. Reserve apparatus are used frequently for training academies or anytime a frontline apparatus requires service. Reserve apparatus are also used during large scale incidents by recalled firefighters, to respond to the scene or additional incidents that occur during the same time.

One of the current reserve apparatus is an engine purchased new in 1996. It has now reached the end of its reserve service life. Current Engine 2 is eligible for refurbishment and would make an excellent reserve engine. It would replace the current 1996 reserve engine and add additional safety features like driver and passenger-side airbags.

Engine 2 (purchased new in 2010) is currently in good condition but requires more maintenance and repairs as it ages. The estimated cost is \$1,019,302. The estimated refurbishment cost for Engine 2 is \$125,000.

Comments
On April 23, 2024, City Council awarded a contract to Reliant Fire Apparatus, Inc., utilizing Sourcewell, for the purchase of a new fire engine 2 for \$1,019,302. Payment for this engine will not be due until delivery of the apparatus to the City, which is not expected until Fiscal Year 2027/28. For this reason, the purchase of Engine 2 has been delayed from FY 2025/26 to FY 2027/28. There is also a cost change to reflect the actual purchase price and estimated refurbishment cost for current Engine 2 after delivery of new Engine 2 from \$1,071,499 to \$1,144,302, an increase of \$72,803.

Iowa State University continues to partner with the City of Ames by funding 25% of the debt service for this project.

Location
Fire Station #2, 132 Welch Avenue (Engine 2)

	Total	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30
Cost:						
Replace Engine #2	1,019,302			1,019,302		
Refurbish Engine #2 for Reserve Status	125,000			125,000		
Total	1,144,302			1,144,302		
Financing:						
G.O. Bonds	1,144,302			1,144,302		
Total	1,144,302			1,144,302		
Program - Activity:		Department:	Account Number:			
Public Safety - Fire		Fire				

Fire Apparatus Replacement Program/Fire Engine #4

Project Status: No Change

Description/Justification

Fire apparatus are essential for structural firefighting. The City maintains one frontline apparatus for each fire station. The frontline apparatus are two fire engines and one ladder truck. The City has three fire stations, with one of the three corresponding frontline apparatus operating out of each station.

Additionally, the City now maintains three reserve apparatuses, a 1996 fire engine, a 2005 fire engine, and a 2002 recently refurbished (2023) ladder truck. Reserve apparatus are used frequently for training academies or anytime a frontline apparatus requires service. Reserve apparatus are also used during large scale incidents by recalled firefighters, to respond to the scene or additional incidents that occur during the same time. The City recently disposed of a reserve apparatus, a 1989 fire engine, that was maintained until it was no longer sustainable.

With the realization that the City will require a fourth fire station in the near future to meet the expected growth of the Ames 2040 Plan, and to address increasing response times, it is time to start planning for the addition of a fourth frontline fire engine. Additionally, Vehicle costs across all markets have experienced a dramatic price increase due to continued supply chain issues and delays, which is not expected to subside anytime soon. Emergency vehicle buildout times have also been increased due to these issues and are currently averaging around 40 months from contract execution to vehicle delivery.

The purchase of a fourth fire engine is in anticipation of opening a fourth fire station. The engine purchase can be delayed or advanced as more information becomes available. However, even if the construction of a fourth fire station is delayed, this new engine would allow the department to maintain two reserve engines.

The purchase price of a new fire engine, with like capabilities to the City's current fire fleet and corresponding equipment necessary to place the vehicle into service is \$1,331,544.

Iowa State University continues to partner with the City of Ames by funding 25% of the debt service for this project.

Comments

Emergency vehicle prices continue to be volatile and are expected to increase at 6% per year over the next five years. Additionally, in January 2027, the EPA's Low-NOx Emissions Rule will go into effect, further regulating emissions for which emergency vehicles are non-exempt. The new EPA rule will limit diesel motor options for fire engine manufactures and will increase the overall fire engine cost by \$100,000.

Location

Future Fire Station #4

		Total	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30
Cost:							
Engine #4		1,331,544				1,331,544	
	Total	1,331,544				1,331,544	
Cost:							
G.O. Bonds		1,331,544				1,331,544	
	Total	1,331,544				1,331,544	
Program - Activity:		Department:		Account Number:			
Public Safety - Fire		Fire					

Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus

Project Status: New

Description/Justification

Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) are essential personal protective equipment utilized by Ames Firefighters to protect against toxic environments. Ames Firefighters often enter areas filled with smoke, toxic gases, and other harmful substances, and SCBAs provide a breathable air supply to ensure their safety, and aid in their ability to rescue others. The use of SCBAs enhances operational capability, allowing firefighters to focus on rescue and firefighting efforts without the immediate concern of harmful air quality. SCBAs enable rapid response; fires can escalate quickly, and having this equipment allows firefighters to act immediately without needing to assess air quality first. Overall, SCBAs are an indispensable tool that enhances the safety and effectiveness of firefighters in their critical roles.

Additionally, SCBAs ensure compliance with safety regulations, as their use is mandated by OSHA (Occupational Safety and Health Association) 29 CFR 1910.134 respiratory protection, through NFPA (National Fire Protection Association) 1981 standards for firefighting, promoting best practices and protecting firefighter health.

The current SCBAs and associated equipment, such as supplied air units for confined space rescue and rapid intervention rescue kits, are reaching their 15-year life expectancy and need to be replaced. The air compressor used to fill SCBA cylinders at Fire Station 3 will also be replaced as part of this project. These compressors are specifically designed to provide clean, breathable air and meet stringent safety standards for quality and pressure. The compressor at Station 3 will be 28 years old at the time of replacement.

The cost to replace the SCBAs and associated equipment is estimated at \$796,996.

Comments

SCBA's are an essential piece of personal protective equipment used by firefighters multiple times throughout a shift. This crucial equipment enables firefighters to effectively perform their duties while protecting their respiratory health and enhancing their ability to save lives.

Location

Fire Station #1, 1300 Burnett Avenue, Fire Station #2, 132 Welch Avenue, Fire Station #3, 2400 South Duff Avenue

	Total	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30
Cost:						
Replace Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus	796,996					796,996
Total	796,996					796,996
Financing:						
G.O. Bonds	796,996					796,996
Total	796,996					796,996
Program - Activity:		Department:	Account Number:			
Public Safety - Fire		Fire				

Public Safety - Animal Control

City of Ames, Iowa
Capital Improvements Plan

Project/Funding Source	Total	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2027/28	2029/30	Page
Project:							
Animal Shelter Relocation	3,250,000	3,250,000	-	-	-	-	42
Total Project Expenditures	3,250,000	3,250,000	-	-	-	-	
Funding Sources:							
City:							
Council Priorities Capital Fund	1,750,000	1,750,000	-	-	-	-	
Other:							
Donations	1,500,000	1,500,000	-	-	-	-	
Total Funding Sources	3,250,000	3,250,000	-	-	-	-	

Animal Shelter Relocation

Project Status: New

City Of Ames, Iowa
Capital Improvements Plan

Description/Justification

The existing Animal Shelter facility, located at 325 Billy Sunday Road, was constructed in 1994. It is a metal building totaling 3,337 square feet. The building has proven to be unsuitable for long-term animal sheltering and control operations. It is poorly insulated, leading to moisture and temperature problems including water leaks and occupant discomfort. Additionally, the current space is insufficient for the population of animals served by the facility, making it difficult to isolate animals for disease control and comfort.

The City has obtained a purchase option to acquire the site at 2715 Dayton Avenue, which formerly housed a childcare facility. The building contains over 12,700 square feet of interior space and has existing office space, visitor areas, storage, kitchen and laundry amenities, parking, and exterior yard space. The building also contains plumbing throughout, and several large rooms each containing exterior doors. A consultant evaluation of the facility will be completed in FY 2024/25 and will produce estimates for the cost to renovate the building to meet the shelter’s operational needs and applicable state codes regarding animal care. The renovation approach is anticipated to save considerable time and cost compared to constructing a purpose-built Animal Shelter.

Comments

Funding from the FY 2024/25 adjusted budget (\$100,000) and the Council Priorities Capital Fund will be used for initial expenses occurring in FY 2024/25. Once the existing Animal Shelter at 325 Billy Sunday Road is vacated, most of that property will be sold to replenish the funding in the Council Priorities Capital Fund.

2024/25	1,105,000	Property acquisition (funding from Council Priorities Capital Fund)
	100,000	Site investigation and conceptual design (funding from General Fund savings included in adjusted FY 2024/25 budget)
2025/26	<u>3,250,000</u>	Design, renovation/construction, and FF&E (\$1,500,000 from donations and the balance from the Council Priorities Capital Fund)
	4,455,000	

Location

2715 Dayton Avenue

	Total	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30
Cost:						
Design	250,000	250,000				
Renovation/Construction	2,750,000	2,750,000				
Furnishings, Fixtures, and Equipment	250,000	250,000				
Total	3,250,000	3,250,000				
Financing:						
Council Priorities Capital Fund	1,750,000	1,750,000				
Donations	1,500,000	1,500,000				
Total	3,250,000	3,250,000				

Program - Activity:	Department:	Account Number:
Public Safety - Animal Control	Police	078-2577-429
		344-2577-429

This Page Intentionally Left Blank

UTILITIES



1904-2024
AMES PUBLIC
LIBRARY
120
YEARS



Utilities

City of Ames, Iowa
Capital Improvements Plan

	Total	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30	Page
Expenditures							
Electric Services	175,410,000	11,790,000	16,275,000	57,985,000	84,060,000	5,300,000	47
Water Production/Treatment	21,003,000	4,760,000	1,370,000	11,374,000	2,985,000	514,000	72
Water Pollution Control	43,325,000	27,134,000	9,915,000	1,452,000	986,000	3,838,000	84
Water Distribution	13,950,000	2,050,000	2,500,000	3,900,000	2,750,000	2,750,000	91
Sanitary Sewer System	10,600,000	400,000	2,550,000	2,550,000	2,550,000	2,550,000	93
Stormwater Management	9,950,000	2,500,000	1,900,000	2,200,000	2,150,000	1,200,000	96
Resource Recovery	8,554,000	1,339,000	6,465,000	250,000	250,000	250,000	103
Total Expenditures	282,792,000	49,973,000	40,975,000	79,711,000	95,731,000	16,402,000	

Funding Sources:

Debt:

G.O. Bonds	600,000	-	-	600,000	-	-
G.O. Bonds (revenue abated)	6,880,000	880,000	6,000,000	-	-	-
Electric Revenue Bonds	141,470,000	5,527,500	10,942,500	50,000,000	75,000,000	-
State Revolving Fund Loans	48,352,000	26,240,000	7,804,000	10,895,000	-	3,413,000
Total Debt Funding	197,302,000	32,647,500	24,746,500	61,495,000	75,000,000	3,413,000

Utilities, continued

City of Ames, Iowa
Capital Improvements Plan

Project/Funding Source	Total	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30
Funding Sources:, continued:						
City:						
Electric Utility Fund	30,278,800	5,150,000	4,466,500	7,473,025	8,552,275	4,637,000
Water Utility Fund	21,727,000	5,033,000	3,316,000	4,379,000	5,735,000	3,264,000
Sewer Utility Fund	16,190,000	1,762,000	4,890,000	3,677,000	3,211,000	2,650,000
Stormwater Utility Fund	8,550,000	2,100,000	1,900,000	1,600,000	1,750,000	1,200,000
Resource Recovery Fund	1,674,000	459,000	465,000	250,000	250,000	250,000
Total City Funding	78,419,800	14,504,000	15,037,500	17,379,025	19,498,275	12,001,000
Other:						
Federal/State Grants	3,609,000	1,759,000	375,000	375,000	775,000	325,000
Iowa State University	3,461,200	1,062,500	816,000	461,975	457,725	663,000
Total Other Funding	7,070,200	2,821,500	1,191,000	836,975	1,232,725	988,000
Total Funding Sources	282,792,000	49,973,000	40,975,000	79,711,000	95,731,000	16,402,000

Utilities - Electric Services

City of Ames, Iowa
Capital Improvements Plan

Project/Funding Source	Total	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30	Page
Project:							
Administration:							
Advanced Metering Infrastructure	6,000,000	2,000,000	2,000,000	2,000,000	-	-	49
Electric Vehicle Infrastructure	400,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	-	50
Transmission:							
69 kV Transmission Reconstruction	8,450,000	2,000,000	-	1,750,000	2,300,000	2,400,000	51
Prairie View 161 kV Substation	4,000,000	4,000,000	-	-	-	-	52
Prairie View 161 kV Line Expansion	5,000,000	250,000	4,750,000	-	-	-	53
Boone Junction 161 kV Line Improvements	1,725,000	-	-	-	225,000	1,500,000	54
Distribution:							
Streetlight and Line Relocations	500,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	55
Vet Med Substation Switchgear Upgrade	1,100,000	-	200,000	-	900,000	-	56
Fiber Optic Fiber Replacement	770,000	-	100,000	335,000	335,000	-	57
Mortensen Road Transformer Protection	2,500,000	-	-	800,000	1,700,000	-	58
Distribution Management System	2,100,000	-	-	900,000	900,000	300,000	59
Dayton Avenue Substation Upgrade	1,750,000	-	-	250,000	1,500,000	-	60
Production:							
New Thermal Generation	84,000,000	2,000,000	7,000,000	50,000,000	25,000,000	-	61
Coal Yard Reclamation	1,250,000	250,000	-	-	1,000,000	-	62
Power Plant Building Heat	1,240,000	40,000	1,200,000	-	-	-	63
Power Plant Load Centers/Breakers	850,000	850,000	-	-	-	-	64
Power Plant Relay/Control Replacement	425,000	200,000	125,000	100,000	-	-	65

Utilities - Electric Services, continued

City of Ames, Iowa
Capital Improvements Plan

Project:

	Total	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30	Page
Production (continued):							
Turbine/Generator Major Overhaul	1,100,000	-	400,000	700,000	-	-	66
Power Plant Building Modifications	1,150,000	-	150,000	-	-	1,000,000	67
Combustion Turbine Generation Improvements	150,000	-	150,000	-	-	-	68
Distributed Controls System Upgrade	700,000	-	-	700,000	-	-	69
Clear Water Pond Cleanup	250,000	-	-	250,000	-	-	70
New Renewable Energy	50,000,000	-	-	-	50,000,000	-	71
Total Project Expenditures	175,410,000	11,790,000	16,275,000	57,985,000	84,060,000	5,300,000	

Funding Sources:

Debt:

Electric Revenue Bonds	141,470,000	5,527,500	10,942,500	50,000,000	75,000,000	-
------------------------	-------------	-----------	------------	------------	------------	---

City:

Electric Utility Fund	30,278,800	5,150,000	4,466,500	7,473,025	8,552,275	4,637,000
-----------------------	------------	-----------	-----------	-----------	-----------	-----------

Other:

Iowa State University	3,461,200	1,062,500	816,000	461,975	457,725	663,000
Federal/State Grants	200,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	-

Total Other Funding	3,661,200	1,112,500	866,000	511,975	507,725	663,000
---------------------	-----------	-----------	---------	---------	---------	---------

Total Funding Sources	175,410,000	11,790,000	16,275,000	57,985,000	84,060,000	5,300,000
------------------------------	--------------------	-------------------	-------------------	-------------------	-------------------	------------------

Advanced Metering Infrastructure

Project Status: Scope Change Cost Change

City Of Ames, Iowa
Capital Improvements Plan

Description/Justification

The Utility’s current electric metering system does not have the functional capability to allow for modern utility activities. These include activities like load management for energy peak reductions, outage identifications, real-time feeder and transformer studies, remote disconnection of services, and time-of-use rate design. This project will allow for the selection of an advanced metering system and provide a multi-year activity to systematically replace customers’ meters as these new services are implemented.

In FY 2024/25, a consultant was hired to assess the system needs of the utility, developing a request for proposal and assisting in selecting an Advanced Metering Infrastructure vendor. With a vendor selected, the communication web will be installed in FY 2024/25. The remaining budgeted funds will be spent on new advanced meters, allowing the City to replace nearly all of the existing meters within a shorter period of time than originally planned, causing the cost increase. This meter reading system will be compatible with the system implemented by the water utility.

Comments

Previously, only half of the meters were planned to be replaced through this project, with the remaining meters being replaced through operating budget funds. Funds have been added to change out all meters within a 3-year period. Rather than changing out the meters through the next decade using only Electric staff, an outside company will be used to change out all meters. This will allow the benefits of the AMI system to be available to all electric customers much more quickly.

2022/23	100,000	Engineering
2023/24	700,000	Materials & Software
2024/25	700,000	Materials & Software
2025/26	2,000,000	Materials & Labor
2026/27	2,000,000	Materials & Labor
2027/28	<u>2,000,000</u>	Materials & Labor
	7,500,000	

Location

Various

	Total	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30
Cost:						
Engineering/Meters	6,000,000	2,000,000	2,000,000	2,000,000		
Total	6,000,000	2,000,000	2,000,000	2,000,000		
Financing:						
Electric Utility Fund	6,000,000	2,000,000	2,000,000	2,000,000		
Total	6,000,000	2,000,000	2,000,000	2,000,000		
Program - Activity:		Department:	Account Number:			
Utilities - Electric Administration		Electric Services	530-4803-489			

Electric Vehicle Infrastructure

Project Status: Cost Decrease

City Of Ames, Iowa
Capital Improvements Plan

Description/Justification

As the adoption of electric vehicles continues to grow in the coming years, Electric Services needs to continue to add charging infrastructure.

There are 3 levels of EV charging:

- Level 1 charging operates at 120V AC, supplying between 1.2 – 1.8 kW. This is the level provided by a standard household outlet and can provide approximately 40–50 miles of range overnight.
- Level 2 charging operates at 240V AC, supplying between 3.6 – 22 kW. This level includes charging stations that are commonly installed in homes, workplaces, and public locations and can provide approximately 25 miles of range per hour of charging.
- Level 3 (or DC Fast Charger) operates between 400 – 1000V AC, supplying 50 kW and above. DC Fast Chargers, which are generally only available in public locations, can typically charge a vehicle to 80% in approximately 20-30 minutes.

This project is for the addition of at least two Level 2 and one DC Fast charger within the Ames community annually for the next four years. The project assumes grant funding will be available in the latter years.

Comments

Utility investment into this project is being decreased with the anticipation of private infrastructure development in the later years. \$100,000 was added to FY 2028/29 with the intention that this would be the last year Electric provides significant funding to EV charging. Staff anticipates the infrastructure available throughout the city will continue to be built out by local businesses and private developers.

Location

Various locations are being considered such as 13th Street and Interstate 35 or Highway 30/South Dakota for DC Fast Chargers; and near the mall, Main Street, and other populated areas for Level 2 chargers.

	Total	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30
Cost:						
Engineering/Meters	400,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	
Total	400,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	
Financing:						
Electric Utility Fund	200,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	
Grant Funding	200,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	
Total	400,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	
Program - Activity:		Department:	Account Number:			
Utilities - Electric Administration		Electric Services	530-4806-489			

69 kV Transmission Reconstruction

Project Status:

Cost Increase

Scope Change

City Of Ames, Iowa
Capital Improvements Plan

Description/Justification

This multi-year project will allow reconstruction of deteriorated portions of 69 kV transmission pole lines, replacing between one and two line-miles of 69 kV transmission line each year. The actual length and cost per mile will vary by terrain, accessibility, and attachments.

Comments

Line replacement candidates include: 1) the original MidAmerican 69 kV tie line that connects the Ames Plant switchyard to the MidAmerican 69 kV source point located south of Ames on Highway 69, 2) the Ames Plant to the Top-O-Hollow line, 3) the Top-O-Hollow line to the Stange Road Substation line, 4) and the Vet Med line to the Mortensen Road Substation line. The total project will require at least five years and will reconstruct approximately 11 miles of deteriorated 69 kV line.

Capacity and reliability improvements will include the reconstruction of distribution lines that are underbuilt on existing transmission lines and/or adding new distribution under-build along the same construction route line. Iowa State University's share of the project is based on a load-ratio-share at the time of implementation. For budgetary purposes, staff assumes the ISU load-ratio-share to be 17%.

After working with an engineering firm, it was discovered the totals provided in the previous CIP were significantly lower than actual values seen today for labor and materials needed to perform the scope within this project. As a result, a total of \$8,450,000 has been included over the five-year plan to align with the engineering firm's estimates.

Because transmission assets can be used for the benefit of other utilities, the City receives revenues from MISO for all investments in transmission assets.

Location

Various locations

	Total	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30
Cost:						
Engineering	600,000	325,000		75,000	100,000	100,000
Construction	7,850,000	1,675,000		1,675,000	2,200,000	2,300,000
Total	8,450,000	2,000,000		1,750,000	2,300,000	2,400,000
Financing:						
Electric Utility Fund	7,013,500	1,660,000		1,452,500	1,909,000	1,992,000
Iowa State University	1,436,500	340,000		297,500	391,000	408,000
Total	8,450,000	2,000,000		1,750,000	2,300,000	2,400,000
Program - Activity:		Department:	Account Number:			
Utilities - Electric Transmission		Electric Services	530-4856-489			

Prairie View 161 kV Substation

Project Status: New

Description/Justification

ITC (an independent transmission company) is building a new 161kV substation in the Prairie View Industrial Center on the south side of Lincoln Way adjacent to Ames’ 161 kV line. ITC has requested to interconnect to Ames’ existing 161 kV line. The purpose of this substation is for ITC to provide Alliant Energy with the necessary capacity to service Alliant’s anticipated new customers in this vicinity and to transfer some of its existing distribution load to the transformer(s) planned as part of this substation.

This CIP project is to fund a 1/3 share of this substation in order for Ames to secure capacity and transmission path rights as a joint owner in this substation. The project will also fund the professional services necessary to support this interconnection effort which will require replacement of relays at the Ames Plant 161 kV substation and design review of ITC’s plans for metering, relaying, controls, and transmission line modifications necessary to complete this interconnection.

Ames’ reliability will be enhanced as Alliant adds an additional 161 kV line from its Fernald substation. Under the interconnection and Joint Ownership Agreements, MidAmerican Energy Company will remain as Ames’ Transmission Operator.

Comments

Iowa State University’s share of the project is based on a load-ratio-share at the time of implementation. For budgetary purposes, staff assumes the ISU load-ratio -share to be 17%.

Because transmission assets can be used for the benefit of other utilities, the City receives revenues from MISO for all investments in transmission assets.

Location

3700 East Lincoln Way

	Total	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30
Cost:						
Construction	4,000,000	4,000,000				
Total	4,000,000	4,000,000				
Financing:						
Electric Revenue Bonds	3,320,000	3,320,000				
Iowa State University	680,000	680,000				
Total	4,000,000	4,000,000				
Program - Activity:						
Utilities - Electric Transmission						
Department:						
Electric Services						
Account Number:						
534-4828-489						

Prairie View 161 kV Line Expansion

Project Status: New

City Of Ames, Iowa
Capital Improvements Plan

Description/Justification

With the changes in Waste-to-Energy occurring within the next three years, Electric needs to enhance its grid reliability with increased transmission interconnections. ITC is developing a new 161 kV substation which provides a reasonable cost option to provide a new transmission source.

Electric is planning to interconnect its existing Ames Plant-Northeast Ankeny (NEA) 161 kV line to ITC's planned 161 kV Prairie View Industrial Center (PVIC) substation. The joint funding of this substation and initial interconnection are proposed within a separate CIP project. Following the construction of and interconnection with ITC's PVIC 161 kV substation, this project will construct a second 161 kV line between Ames Plant and PVIC substation. This will improve system reliability by providing an additional contingency source to Ames in the event of the concurrent loss of two transmission lines, a required MISO contingency planning condition that must be met. This project will require route planning, acquisition of additional easements, design, and construction. Because this line will be built entirely within Ames corporate limits, this second line will not require an additional franchise with the state of Iowa.

Comments

Iowa State University's share of the project is based on a load-ratio-share at the time of implementation. For budgetary purposes, staff assumes the ISU load-ratio-share to be 17%.

Because transmission assets can be used for the benefit of other utilities, the City receives revenues from MISO for all investments in transmission assets.

Location

Prairie View Industrial Center

	Total	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30
Cost:						
Engineering	250,000	250,000				
Construction	4,750,000		4,750,000			
Total	5,000,000	250,000	4,750,000			
Financing:						
Electric Revenue Bonds	4,150,000	207,500	3,942,500			
Iowa State University	850,000	42,500	807,500			
Total	5,000,000	250,000	4,750,000			
Program - Activity:		Department:	Account Number:			
Utilities - Electric Transmission		Electric Services	534-4826-489			

Boone Junction 161 kV Line Improvements

Project Status: New

City Of Ames, Iowa
Capital Improvements Plan

Description/Justification

This project will install Optical Ground Wire (OPGW) on the existing 161 kV transmission line between Ames Stange Road 161 kV substation and Central Iowa Power Cooperative's (CIPCO) Boone Junction 161 kV substation. OPGW is fiber optic cable enclosed in a metallic conductor installed at the top of the transmission structures as a replacement for the existing stranded shield conductor. The conductor will both enhance the existing line protection and secure a reliable communication path for data from the Boone Junction Substation.

It is anticipated that several aged structures and/or hardware will require replacement during the OPGW installation. Funds are included to replace approximately 15% of the structures during this project, which will enhance the reliability of this important transmission line.

Comments

Alliant has indicated it intends to retire its radio system, which Ames is currently relying on to transmit transmission data. Therefore, an alternate communications form will be needed. A dedicated fiber path would not be susceptible to radio interference and would allow use of the much faster current-differential scheme similar to the protection scheme used in Ames' other 161 kV lines.

Iowa State University's share of the project is based on a load-ratio-share at the time of implementation. For budgetary purposes, staff assumes the ISU load-ratio-share to be 17%.

Because transmission assets can be used for the benefit of other utilities, the City receives revenues from MISO for all investments in transmission assets.

Location

Boone Junction/Ames 161 kV Transmission Route

	Total	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30
Cost:						
Engineering	225,000				225,000	
Construction	1,500,000					1,500,000
Total	1,725,000				225,000	1,500,000
Financing:						
Electric Utility Fund	1,431,750				186,750	1,245,000
Iowa State University	293,250				38,250	255,000
Total	1,725,000				225,000	1,500,000
Program - Activity:		Department:	Account Number:			
Utilities - Electric Transmission		Electric Services				

Streetlight and Line Relocations

Project Status: Cost Decrease

Description/Justification

This work is coordinated with Public Works Street improvement projects that require the relocation of various electric facilities, including streetlights, services, and distribution lines. Locations for streetlight and line relocations will be coordinated each year with Public Works Street improvement projects.

Comments

The overall five-year cost is lower compared to the previous CIP, given the availability of money carried over from the previous years.

Locations

Various

	Total	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30
Cost:						
Construction	500,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000
Total	500,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000
Financing:						
Electric Utility Fund	500,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000
Total	500,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000
Program - Activity:		Department:	Account Number:			
Utilities - Electric Distribution		Electric Services	530-4823-489			

Vet Med Substation Switchgear Replacement

Project Status: No Change

City Of Ames, Iowa
Capital Improvements Plan

Description/Justification

This project will replace the original 13.8 kV metal-clad distribution switchgear at the Vet Med Substation. The Vet Med substation expansion in 2011 installed two new transformers and switchgear, but the metal-clad switchgear was not upgraded at that time. This project will replace the metal-clad switchgear to add a main breaker and update older existing relays to current standards. The original “stacked” formation switchgear will be replaced with a much safer “single-level” arrangement.

Comments

The addition of a main breaker will improve safety for workers and improve system reliability. The use of low-maintenance breakers and relays will provide protection that operates quickly and selectively. These upgrades are consistent with electric utility industry engineering practices.

Location

Vet Med Substation, South Riverside Drive

		Total	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30
Cost:							
Engineering		200,000		200,000			
Construction		900,000				900,000	
	Total	1,100,000		200,000		900,000	
Financing:							
Electric Utility Fund		1,100,000		200,000		900,000	
	Total	1,100,000		200,000		900,000	
Program - Activity:			Department:	Account Number:			
Utilities - Electric Distribution			Electric Services				

Fiber Optic Hardware Replacement

Project Status: Delayed

City Of Ames, Iowa
Capital Improvements Plan

Description/Justification

In 2006, Electric Services installed a fiber optic network to provide communications to its substations to support protection functions and provide Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) communications to all substations. The electronic communication hardware is reaching the end of its useful life and there is limited availability of replacement parts for the original system components. While the current system is growing obsolete, advancements in fiber optic communication equipment offers operational and security enhancements. Additionally, it is important for the system replacements to be coordinated to avoid incompatibilities between old and new hardware system components. Therefore, it is necessary to replace the hardware components entirely, rather than simply piece-meal the upgrade. This replacement requires an engineering effort to plan the upgrade and to specify and procure the hardware and installation services.

Comments

Iowa State University shares in the cost of transmission expenses. ISU's projected share of transmission-only costs is approximately 17%, ISU's share for this project will be half of that, as the fiberoptic hardware system is utilized for both transmission and distribution functions. ISU's share of this project is therefore estimated to be 8.5% for its share of the transmission system.

Because transmission assets can be used for the benefit of other utilities, the City receives revenues from MISO for all investments in transmission assets.

Location

Various (Substations, Power Plant)

	Total	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30
Cost:						
Engineering	170,000		100,000	35,000	35,000	
Construction	600,000			300,000	300,000	
Total	770,000		100,000	335,000	335,000	
Financing:						
Electric Utility Fund	704,550		91,500	306,525	306,525	
Iowa State University	65,450		8,500	28,475	28,475	
Total	770,000		100,000	335,000	335,000	
Program - Activity:		Department:	Account Number:			
Utilities - Electric Distribution		Electric Services				

Description/Justification
This project is for the addition of a 69kV breaker, relays, and controls to replace the fuse protection on this distribution transformer. It also includes the replacement of two obsolete oil circuit breakers with low-maintenance gas breakers, replacing the existing transformer with 25% more capacity, and installing perimeter security enhancements to the substation.

Comments
The use of gas breakers for transformer protection is consistent with recommended engineering practices in the electric utility industry and will minimize damage to the transformer and surrounding facilities while providing better worker safety in the event of a fault. They will also reduce maintenance and provide fast, reliable operation.

Iowa State University's (ISU) share of the project is based on a load-ratio-share at the time of implementation. For budgetary purposes, staff assumes the ISU load-ratio-share to be 17% of the 69 kV-related costs (excluding the distribution transformer).

The project was previously delayed two years because of long lead times, and the budgeted amount was previously increased by \$1,200,000 because materials have doubled in cost since first forecasting this project, and additional funds are needed to move the existing 69kV bus structures to accommodate the future addition of a second transformer. The transformer replacement is needed for additional capacity to serve load growth in the vicinity of Mortensen Road and South Dakota Avenue.

2024/25	200,000	Engineering
2027/28	800,000	Materials & Construction
2028/29	1,700,000	Materials & Construction
	<u>2,700,000</u>	

Location
Mortensen Road Substation, 3040 Mortensen Road

		Total	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30
Cost:							
Construction		2,500,000			800,000	1,700,000	
	Total	2,500,000			800,000	1,700,000	
Financing:							
Electric Utility Fund		2,364,000			664,000	1,700,000	
Iowa State University		136,000			136,000		
	Total	2,500,000			800,000	1,700,000	
Program - Activity:			Department:	Account Number:			
Utilities - Electric Distribution			Electric Services				

Distribution Management System

Project Status: New

City Of Ames, Iowa
Capital Improvements Plan

Description/Justification

The planned implementation of an Automated Metering Infrastructure (AMI) system will involve setting up a radio frequency (RF) communications network. This network will support additional features for managing the electric distribution system, such as controlling capacitors and switches remotely, detecting faults, and other functions offered by a Distribution Management System (DMS).

This project focuses on developing the data models, integrations, and software needed to implement the DMS, which is a central system for managing the distribution network. The DMS will collect data from existing systems like the Geographic Information System (GIS), Engineering Analysis System, and Outage Management System. By using this data, the DMS will help operators control distribution equipment and automate tasks, improving the current SCADA system.

The DMS gives operators better visibility and control over key equipment such as capacitors, switches, and fault indicators. It also models the power flow in the network to help make quicker decisions about switching operations and restoring power during outages. Over the years, Ames Electric Services has built a strong GIS, engineering model, and outage management system, making it well-positioned to implement a DMS for advanced distribution automation and management.

Before starting the installation of distribution equipment, it's important to first integrate the DMS data, set up the necessary software, and establish the AMI communications network. The installation of distribution automation (DA) equipment can be done gradually, so it's not necessary to install everything at once. The initial phase can begin with a small pilot program that installs capacitors first, followed by some switches and fault indicators. The funds for this project will cover the installation of new capacitor controls, along with sensors and fault circuit indicators (FCIs) at the capacitor locations

Comments

Location

System-Wide within Electric Service Territory

		Total	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30
Cost:							
Software/Modeling/Integration		1,800,000			900,000	900,000	
Cap Banks/Sensors/FCI's -		300,000					300,000
Materials and Construction							
	Total	2,100,000			900,000	900,000	300,000
Financing:							
Electric Utility Fund		2,100,000			900,000	900,000	300,000
	Total	2,100,000			900,000	900,000	300,000
Program - Activity:			Department:	Account Number:			
Utilities - Electric Distribution			Electric Services				

Description/Justification

This project will upgrade two existing 13.8 kV distribution metal-clad switchgear lineups at the Dayton Avenue Substation. The oldest switchgear has obsolete air blast breakers, no main breaker, and electro-mechanical relays. This switchgear needs to be replaced with all new switchgear with vacuum interrupter breakers, a main breaker, and microprocessor relays. The second switchgear has vacuum interrupter feeder breakers, which do not need to be replaced, but has no main breaker and uses older style relays. This project will provide for the addition of a main breaker and replacement of existing distribution relays with modern, microprocessor-based relays.

Comments

These upgrades are consistent with recommended electric utility industry engineering practices. The addition of a main breaker will improve safety for workers and improve system reliability using low-maintenance breakers and relays.

The project was previously delayed three years because of long lead times, and the budgeted amount increased by \$400,000 because materials have doubled in cost since first forecasting this project.

2027/28	250,000	Engineering
2028/29	1,500,000	Materials & Construction
	1,750,000	

Location

Dayton Avenue Substation, Pullman Street

	Total	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30
Cost:						
Engineering	250,000			250,000		
Construction	1,500,000				1,500,000	
Total	1,750,000			250,000	1,500,000	
Financing:						
Electric Utility Fund	1,750,000			250,000	1,500,000	
Total	1,750,000			250,000	1,500,000	
Program - Activity:		Department:	Account Number:			
Utilities - Electric Distribution		Electric Services				

New Thermal Generation

Project Status: New

City Of Ames, Iowa
Capital Improvements Plan

Description/Justification

Unit 7 started producing electricity in 1967 with an original design life of 30 years. In 1975, the boiler was modified to be able to also burn Refuse Derived Fuel (RDF). With the unit being in production for almost 60 years and burning RDF, the unit is showing several signs of its age and is no longer capable of providing the efficiency and reliability that is required for today's environment. A project is currently underway to assess the health of both Unit 7 and Unit 8 to gain more information, but Electric Staff anticipates Unit 7 needing to be retired within the next 5 years.

The Electric Utility is required to retain generating capability to serve its electric load at any time. Purchasing capacity on the market exposes the utility to high and volatile pricing. Owning the capacity reduces the reliance on outside utilities, limits the risk for rate increases, and allows the City greater control over operating decisions. New generation can more quickly start and stop, providing better opportunity to fill in gaps when green generation is not available.

This project is for the construction of three Reciprocating Internal Combustion Engines (RICE) with a roughly 20 MW rating each. These engines can start and produce full load within 15 minutes, are highly efficient, operate on multiple fuels, and have a straightforward design that allows for easy maintenance. This total capacity will replace Unit 7's capacity of 35 MW and provide additional capacity to cover anticipated growth from beneficial electrification.

Comments

2025/26	2,000,000	Engineering
2026/27	7,000,000	Building/Infrastructure
2027/28	50,000,000	Construction of Unit 1 and 2
2028/29	<u>25,000,000</u>	Construction of Unit 3
	84,000,000	

Location

Existing Coal Yard

	Total	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30
Cost						
Engineering	2,000,000	2,000,000				
Construction/Materials	7,000,000		7,000,000			
Construction/Materials	50,000,000			50,000,000		
Construction/Materials	25,000,000				25,000,000	
Total	84,000,000	2,000,000	7,000,000	50,000,000	25,000,000	
Financing:						
Electric Revenue Bonds	84,000,000	2,000,000	7,000,000	50,000,000	25,000,000	
Total	84,000,000	2,000,000	7,000,000	50,000,000	25,000,000	
Program - Activity:		Department:	Account Number:			
Utilities - Electric Production		Electric Services	534-4880-489			

Coal Yard Reclamation

Project Status: Cost Increase Advanced

City Of Ames, Iowa
Capital Improvements Plan

Description/Justification

In spring 2016, the Power Plant was converted from coal-fired to natural gas-fired generation. This project is to reclaim the old coal yard, demolish the existing equipment and associated buildings, remove the residual coal that is still on the site, and fill the retention basins. The restored space will be used by the Electric Department as a site for future generation equipment.

Comments

It is anticipated that Resource Recovery will be converted to a transfer station within the next two years. When the Power Plant is no longer burning Refuse Derived Fuel (RDF), the coal handling buildings and RDF bin can be removed.

It is anticipated that there will be two major contracts for the work:

- 2025/26 Earthwork restoration including scraping the surface to remove coal and filling in the retention basins (\$250,000)
- 2028/29 Demolition of the RDF bin, coal handling equipment, and associated buildings (\$1,000,000)

Location

Power Plant, 200 East Fifth Street

	Total	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30
Cost:						
Engineering	75,000	25,000			50,000	
Construction	1,175,000	225,000			950,000	
Total	1,250,000	250,000			1,000,000	
Financing:						
Electric Utility Fund	1,250,000	250,000			1,000,000	
Total	1,250,000	250,000			1,000,000	
Program - Activity:		Department:	Account Number:			
Utilities - Electric Production		Electric Services	530-4895-489			

Power Plant Building Heat

Project Status: New

Description/Justification

The Power Plant uses natural gas fired boilers to generate steam for power production. When the boilers are operating, some of the steam created in the boiler is used to heat the building, ensuring that interior spaces, piping, and associated equipment is kept above freezing temperatures. During cold weather, when the boilers are not operating, alternative heating methods are required. When the City discontinues burning Refuse-Derived Fuel (RDF), the Power Plant boilers may no longer be operated on the same near-continuous basis they currently operate. A separate boiler heating system will be used to heat the Power Plant when the plant is not producing electricity.

Comments

There are critical areas and equipment in the Power Plant that need to be kept from freezing. Supplemental heating is needed when the plant is not operating.

2025/26	40,000	Design
2026/27	1,200,000	Construction
	1,240,000	

Location

Power Plant, 200 East Fifth Street

	Total	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30
Cost						
Engineering	40,000	40,000				
Construction	1,200,000		1,200,000			
Total	1,240,000	40,000	1,200,000			
Financing:						
Electric Utility Fund	1,240,000	40,000	1,200,000			
Total	1,240,000	40,000	1,200,000			
Program - Activity:		Department:	Account Number:			
Utilities - Electric Production		Electric Services	530-4885-489			

Power Plant Load Centers and Breaker Replacement

Project Status: No Change

City of Ames, Iowa
Capital Improvements Plan

Description/Justification

The six load centers in the Power Plant are used to take power off the generator bus bar and distribute it out to the different equipment in the plant. The active load centers are original and are built for old, outdated breakers. The load centers do not currently have up-to-date equipment built in that would allow them to be operated safely and more efficiently. This project involves replacing the six load centers over a three-year period.

The existing 4160-volt breakers are very old and outdated, making it very difficult to find replacement parts and maintain a reliable electric source.

Comments

2023/24	500,000	Design & Begin Construction
2024/25	500,000	Consolidate three load centers into two
2025/26	850,000	Four load centers and breakers
	1,850,000	

Location

Power Plant, 200 East Fifth Street

		Total	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30
Cost							
Materials/Parts		850,000	850,000				
	Total	850,000	850,000				
Financing:							
Electric Utility Fund		850,000	850,000				
	Total	850,000	850,000				
Program - Activity:							
Utilities - Electric Production							
Department:							
Electric Services							
Account Number:							
530-4855-489							

Power Plant Relay/Control Replacement

Project Status: Delayed

City Of Ames, Iowa
Capital Improvements Plan

Description/Justification

This project will replace existing electro-mechanical 13.8 kV feeders and 4.16 kV bus differential relays in the Power Plant. The existing relays are obsolete electro-mechanical devices which are becoming difficult to maintain and repair since replacement parts are no longer manufactured. By installing modern programmable relays and updated controls in this location, long-term reliability can be improved by eliminating the obsolete, maintenance-intensive, electro-mechanical relays. This project will likely take three years to complete.

Comments

These upgrades are consistent with recommended electric utility industry engineering practices.

2025/26	200,000	Construction
2026/27	125,000	Construction
2027/28	100,000	Construction
	<u>425,000</u>	Construction

Location

Power Plant, 200 East Fifth Street

	Total	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30
Cost:						
Construction	425,000	200,000	125,000	100,000		
Total	425,000	200,000	125,000	100,000		
Financing:						
Electric Utility Fund	425,000	200,000	125,000	100,000		
Total	425,000	200,000	125,000	100,000		
Program - Activity:		Department:	Account Number:			
Utilities - Electric Production		Electric Services	530-4862-489			

Turbine/Generator Major Overhaul

Project Status: Scope Change

City Of Ames, Iowa
Capital Improvements Plan

Description/Justification

Unit 8 turbine-generator will be disassembled, inspected, and repaired as necessary after seven to eight years of cyclical operation. This work is required to replace worn parts, as well as to inspect the turbine and generator for repairs that may be needed to prevent unplanned downtime. The timeframe for this overhaul is recommended by the turbine manufacturer and follows accepted industry standards.

Comments

Because of the limited time to perform the work, spare parts must be ordered and delivered before the work begins. The parts ordered are either high wear parts or have been suggested for replacement from previous overhauls when the next major overhaul is performed. These parts are very specialized and can have very long lead times requiring them to be ordered up to a year in advance.

Staff anticipates that Unit 7 will need to be replaced with new generation equipment within the next five years. Therefore, the Unit 7 overhaul has been eliminated as the unit approaches retirement.

Unit 8:		
2026/27	400,000	Materials/Parts
2027/28	<u>700,000</u>	Labor
	1,100,000	

Location

Power Plant, 200 East Fifth Street

		Total	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30
Cost:							
Engineering		400,000		400,000			
Construction		700,000			700,000		
	Total	1,100,000		400,000	700,000		
Financing:							
Electric Utility Fund		1,100,000		400,000	700,000		
	Total	1,100,000		400,000	700,000		
Program - Activity:			Department:	Account Number:			
Utilities - Electric Production			Electric Services				

Power Plant Building Modifications

Project Status: Scope Change

City Of Ames, Iowa
Capital Improvements Plan

Description/Justification

This project brings much-needed improvements to the Power Plant. The Power Plant has gone through several changes over the last 50 years. Several of the Power Plant roofs are in poor repair and need to be replaced. This multi-year project is to make the building more energy efficient and prolong the life of the building.

Comments

The window replacement project in FY 2026/27 was removed because this project can be completed with savings from other Power Plant CIP projects.

A project to replace the roof vent fans over the turbine deck and over other portions of the plant in FY 2026/27 was added. Multiple vent fan assemblies have stopped working and need to be wrapped in plastic during cold months to hold building heat.

Roof replacement over the turbine deck and auxiliary bay has been added for FY 2029/30. There are numerous leaks in the roof; repairs will be made where possible and full replacement where necessary.

2026/27	150,000	Replaced roof vent fan assemblies
2029/30	<u>1,000,000</u>	Repair roof over turbine deck
	1,150,000	

Location

Power Plant, 200 East Fifth Street

	Total	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30
Cost						
Engineering	150,000		50,000			100,000
Construction	1,000,000		100,000			900,000
Total	1,150,000		150,000			1,000,000
Financing:						
Electric Utility Fund	1,150,000		150,000			1,000,000
Total	1,150,000		150,000			1,000,000
Program - Activity:		Department:	Account Number:			
Utilities - Electric Production		Electric Services				

Combustion Turbine Generation Improvements

Project Status: Delayed

City Of Ames, Iowa
Capital Improvements Plan

Description/Justification

The program includes three distinct projects.

Project 1: The current outdated controls on both Combustion Turbine 1 (CT1) and Combustion Turbine 2 (CT2) need to be replaced with updated controls. The original controls for CT1 were upgraded in 2007 but have several components that are now obsolete and no longer supported by the Original Equipment Manufacturer (OEM). The controls for CT2 are original to the unit when it was installed in 2005 and are also no longer supported by the OEM.

Project 2: The CT1 remote terminal unit, meters, and protective relays are original to the 1972 unit and must be updated with more modern equipment.

Project 3: There are currently multiple small enclosures housing different auxiliary equipment at the Combustion Turbine site. These enclosures are outfitted with individual unit heaters to keep equipment from reaching freezing temperatures. There is also piping between the enclosures that are heat heat-traced to prevent them from freezing. If one of the enclosure heaters malfunctions and the temperature drops below freezing, equipment will be damaged and require costly repairs or replacement. Keeping the individual heating systems maintained and constantly monitoring the climate status has proved difficult, especially since the unit is located at a remote site from the main power plant. To remove most of this risk, an insulated weather protection building will be erected that will enclose this equipment and be heated to maintain a proper climate.

Comments

Projects 1 and 2 are currently in process but are projected to take longer than initially anticipated. Project 3 has been delayed until FY 2026/27 to allow for the completion of Projects 1 and 2.

2023/24	750,000	Engineering and beginning construction for projects 1 and 2 - Replace outdated controls on CT1 and CT2
2024/25	140,000	Construction of Projects 1 and 2 - Replace remote terminal unit, meters, and protective relays
	600,000	Replace outdated controls on CT1 and CT2
2026/27	150,000	Project 3 - Install combustion turbine weather protection
	<u>1,640,000</u>	

Location

Combustion Turbine Site, 2300 Pullman Street

	Total	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30
Cost:						
Engineering/Design/Construction	150,000		150,000			
Total	150,000		150,000			
Financing:						
Electric Utility Fund	150,000		150,000			
Total	150,000		150,000			
Program - Activity:		Department:	Account Number:			
Utilities - Electric Production		Electric Services				

Distributed Controls System Upgrade

Project Status: New

City Of Ames, Iowa
Capital Improvements Plan

Description/Justification

The Distributed Controls System (DCS) is the main control system for equipment throughout the Power Plant. The DCS was upgraded and greatly modified during the natural gas conversion in 2016. The DCS software and hardware were updated in 2021 to stay current and incorporate new technology. It is standard industry practice to update software and hardware every five years. This project is to continue that practice of updating every five years to stay current.

Comments

The existing software (Ovation 3.8.0) will be replaced with Ovation 4.X Evergreen. Most hardware will also be updated including the Domain Controller/Database Server, Operator Workstations, Root Switches, printers, and router. This software and hardware are highly specialized for Power Plant equipment control and are on a standalone system to maintain security protection.

Location

Power Plant, 200 East Fifth Street

	Total	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30
Cost						
Hardware/Software Upgrade	700,000			700,000		
Total	700,000			700,000		
Financing:						
Electric Utility Fund	700,000			700,000		
Total	700,000			700,000		
Program - Activity:		Department:	Account Number:			
Utilities - Electric Production		Electric Services				

Clear Water Pond Cleanup

Project Status: New

City Of Ames, Iowa
Capital Improvements Plan

Description/Justification

The Power Plant currently uses two ponds, a pump supply pond and a clear water pond, for an ash removal sluicing system. The clear water pond collects ash from the burning of Refuse Derived Fuel (RDF) in Unit 7 or 8. The ash is removed from this pond on a regular basis and hauled to a landfill. Once RDF is no longer being burned at the Power Plant, the ponds will need to be drained and dredged of all remaining ash. The Power Plant plans to continue using these ponds for collecting sump water from the Power Plant.

Comments

When RDF is not being burned in Unit 7 or 8, the remaining RDF ash in these two ponds will need to be removed.

Location

Ash Pond, East 13th Street

		Total	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30
Cost							
Ash removal and pond cleanup		250,000			250,000		
	Total	250,000			250,000		
Financing:							
Electric Utility Fund		250,000			250,000		
	Total	250,000			250,000		
Program - Activity:			Department:	Account Number:			
Utilities - Electric Production			Electric Services				

New Renewable Energy

Project Status: New

City Of Ames, Iowa
Capital Improvements Plan

Description/Justification

Ames Electric Services serves 90% of the electric load within the City limits and is powered from a mix of renewable and non-renewable sources. Adding additional renewable energy such as wind and solar can significantly decrease emissions in the community. Investing in individual and community wind and solar power will decrease emissions from homes, businesses, electric vehicles, etc.

Currently Ames Electric has 30 MW of wind that is purchased through a PPA (Power Purchase Agreement) that expires prior to 2030, and 2 MW of solar through a PPA. Overall, approximately 15% of the utility's annual electric usage comes from wind, about 0.5% from solar, and 4% of energy is produced from the combustion of refuse derived fuel (RDF).

Staff is developing a Memo of Understanding with a wind developer to develop a project in the area. The estimated size of the project could have a nameplate rating of 38 MW and could provide up to 20% of the electric consumption of the city. Currently, staff is reviewing the options of ownership versus PPA. This proposed project has several steps: wind studies, land procurement, siting and permits, a review process through Mid-Continent Independent System Operator (MISO), and construction. The MOU will outline the developer/city relationship and will not bind the City to final project acceptance until pricing is known and a formal contract is signed by both parties. All upfront costs will be borne by the developer.

Comments

Staff will continue to explore other options to develop wind and solar projects.

		Total	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30
Cost							
Engineering							
Construction		50,000,000				50,000,000	
	Total	50,000,000				50,000,000	
Financing:							
Electric Revenue Bonds		50,000,000				50,000,000	
	Total	50,000,000				50,000,000	
Program - Activity:							
Utilities - Electric Production							
Department:							
Electric Services							
Account Number:							

Utilities - Water Production/Treatment

City of Ames, Iowa
Capital Improvements Plan

Project/Funding Source	Total	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30	Page
Project:							
Technical Services Complex Renovation	1,680,000	1,680,000	-	-	-	-	73
Water Plant Facility Improvements	1,894,000	1,128,000	145,000	279,000	82,000	260,000	74
Well Field Standby Power	1,757,000	1,757,000	-	-	-	-	75
Physical/Cyber Security Improvements	248,000	46,000	-	-	-	202,000	76
SAM Pump Station Improvements	149,000	149,000	-	-	-	-	77
Prairie View Industrial Center Elevated Tank	11,449,000	-	554,000	10,895,000	-	-	78
Wellhead Rehabilitation	771,000	-	671,000	100,000	-	-	79
Lime Lagoon Improvements	100,000	-	-	100,000	-	-	80
Water Treatment Plant Pumps/Drives	1,474,000	-	-	-	1,474,000	-	81
MAC Elevated Tank Repainting	1,429,000	-	-	-	1,429,000	-	82
Ada Hayden Water Quality Study	52,000	-	-	-	-	52,000	83
Total Project Expenditures	21,003,000	4,760,000	1,370,000	11,374,000	2,985,000	514,000	
Funding Sources:							
Debt:							
State Revolving Fund Loans	11,449,000	-	554,000	10,895,000	-	-	
City:							
Sewer Utility Fund	840,000	840,000	-	-	-	-	
Water Utility Fund	7,730,000	2,936,000	816,000	479,000	2,985,000	514,000	
Other:							
Federal/State Grants	984,000	984,000	-	-	-	-	
Total Funding Sources	21,003,000	4,760,000	1,370,000	11,374,000	2,985,000	514,000	

Technical Services Complex Renovation

Project Status: Scope Change

City Of Ames, Iowa
Capital Improvements Plan

Description/Justification

This project will renovate the interior of the Technical Services Complex (TSC). The renovation will include: replacing the failed HVAC system; replacing damaged and stained ceiling tiles in the laboratory; replacing the disparate light fixtures; replacing select windows; and a general refresh of flooring and wall coverings throughout the building. Depending on the ultimate cost estimates, an elevator may be added to the building. The project does not include the addition of a new conference room that was shown in previous years.

Comments

The Technical Services Complex, which houses the Water Meter Division on the first floor and the Laboratory Services Division on the second floor, was constructed in 1990. The renovation will allow the building to continue to meet the needs of the two divisions.

This project originally appeared in the FY 2022-2027 CIP but was deleted when costs on other projects were increasing dramatically. Now that prices appear to be moderating, this important project has been reinstated. It will be funded equally from the Water Utility Fund and the Sewer Utility Fund.

2024/25	160,000	Design-Water Utility Fund
	160,000	Design-Sewer Utility Fund
2025/26	840,000	Construction-Water Utility Fund
	<u>840,000</u>	Construction-Sewer Utility Fund
	2,000,000	

Effect on Operations

Better temperature control is a requirement for the Laboratory Services Division. Improved energy efficiency is anticipated due to replacing the 35-year-old HVAC and lighting systems.

Location

300 East Fifth Street

	Total	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30
Cost:						
Construction	1,680,000	1,680,000				
Total	1,680,000	1,680,000				
Financing:						
Water Utility Fund	840,000	840,000				
Sewer Utility Fund	840,000	840,000				
Total	1,680,000	1,680,000				
Program - Activity:						
Utilities - Water Meter / Laboratory Services						
Department:						
Water and Pollution Control						
Account Number:						
510-3940-489						
520-3940-489						

Water Plant Facility Improvements

Project Status:

Scope Change

Cost Change

City of Ames, Iowa
Capital Improvements Plan

Description/Justification

This project involves annual equipment repairs, major maintenance activities, replacement, and upgrades at the City's Water Treatment Plant and associated remote facilities such as wells, elevated tanks, and booster pump stations. Each of the identified items are stand-alone projects. The cost and scope will vary from year to year as old projects are completed and new projects are added.

Comments

The schedule for these improvements is as follows:

2025/26	Replace pump at Ada Hayden (\$60,000); add third slaker (\$873,000); Water Plant HVAC controls upgrade (\$90,000); addition to distribution system monitoring network (\$80,000); Arc flash study (\$25,000)
2026/27	Clean both ground storage reservoirs at old plant site (\$145,000)
2027/28	Upsize high service pump station connection to distribution system (\$279,000)
2028/29	Addition to distribution system monitoring network (\$82,000)
2029/30	Routine cleaning of main switchgear (\$31,000); Replace Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) servers and Wonderware software (\$229,000)

Effect on Operations

Many of the individual projects shown will improve the plant operators' flexibility in operating equipment by providing needed redundancy and operational awareness.

Location

300 East Fifth Street and Water Treatment Plant, 1800 East 13th Street

	Total	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30
Cost:						
Engineering	126,000	84,000		42,000		
Construction	1,768,000	1,044,000	145,000	237,000	82,000	260,000
Total	1,894,000	1,128,000	145,000	279,000	82,000	260,000
Financing:						
Water Utility Fund	1,894,000	1,128,000	145,000	279,000	82,000	260,000
Total	1,894,000	1,128,000	145,000	279,000	82,000	260,000

Program - Activity:

Utilities - Water Treatment

Department:

Water and Pollution Control

Account Number:

Various

Well Field Standby Power

Project Status: Cost Change

City Of Ames, Iowa
Capital Improvements Plan

Description/Justification

This project will provide standby electrical power to select wells in the Hunziker Youth Sports Complex. Iowa’s Water Supply Design Standards require that a water system have redundant electrical power available. Installing standby power for critical remote sites was one of the recommendations contained in the utility’s 2020 Physical Security Assessment conducted by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

Comments

The wells located in the Hunziker Youth Sports Complex are among the highest capacity wells in the City’s inventory. Installing standby power to at least some of these five wells would allow the water utility to continue to produce treated water, at a reduced capacity, in the event of a prolonged power outage. As future well fields are developed, standby power will become a standard design element. This includes the North River Valley Well Field currently under construction, which will have the ability to be fed by the emergency generator at the Water Treatment Plant.

This project was originally included in the FY 2021/22 CIP. The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) review process started in January 2022, and the project was not released for design until early 2024. The funding for the Phase 1 design and archaeological study (\$200,000) was carried over into the FY 2024/25 amended budget and is nearly complete. FEMA will need to approve the design before they will issue a grant award for Phase 2 (construction). The engineer’s estimate increased the total project costs by \$484,000, with the City covering the cost increase. The funding shown below is already committed by FEMA, as long as they are able to approve the design. The cost share shown is believed to be the worst case; it is possible that additional grant funds could still be awarded for the project.

Effect on Operations

Having emergency power will allow well water to continue to be delivered to the treatment plant in the event of a wide-spread power outage such as the 2020 derecho event. This will greatly improve the resilience of the treatment process in the event of a natural disaster or other emergency.

Location

Hunziker Youth Sports Complex

	Total	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30
Cost:						
Engineering	135,000	135,000				
Construction	1,622,000	1,622,000				
Total	1,757,000	1,757,000				
Financing:						
Water Utility Fund	773,000	773,000				
Hazard Mitigation Grant - Federal	885,600	885,600				
Hazard Mitigation Grant - State	98,400	98,400				
Total	1,757,000	1,757,000				
Program - Activity:		Department:	Account Number:			
Utilities - Water Production		Water and Pollution Control	510-3953-489			

Physical and Cyber Security Improvements

Project Status: Cost Change Delayed

City of Ames, Iowa
Capital Improvements Plan

Description/Justification

Maintaining the security of the water system is an extremely high priority. As evidenced by numerous breaches at utilities around the country, as well as repeated assertions by foreign bad actors that utilities are a preferred target, continuous upgrades and improvements are essential to stay ahead of threats.

Comments

Cyber protection projects are performed in coordination with the City’s Information Technology staff. The upgrade to the access control system was delayed one year.

- 2025/26 Security fencing at State and Mortensen Pump Station and Elevated Tank (\$46,000)
- 2029/30 Upgrade to the Water Treatment Plant access control system (\$202,000)

Location

Various locations

	Total	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30
Cost:						
Construction	248,000	46,000				202,000
Total	248,000	46,000				202,000
Financing:						
Water Utility Fund	248,000	46,000				202,000
Total	248,000	46,000				202,000

Program - Activity: Utilities - Water Treatment
Department: Water and Pollution Control
Account Number: 510-3975-489

State and Mortensen Pump Station Improvements

Project Status: Cost Change

Description/Justification

This project will install variable frequency drives (VFD’s) and associated controls equipment and programming to two of the existing pumps at the booster pump station located at State Avenue and Mortensen Road (SAM).

Comments

In 2003, the City’s water distribution system was split into two separate pressure zones to accommodate growth in the west and southwest portions of the City. To provide increased pressure to the new western pressure zone, a booster pump station was built at the intersection of State Avenue and Mortensen Road.

When pumps are suddenly started or stopped it causes a change in the water distribution system pressure. The rapid pressure swings contribute to rusty water calls and, if severe enough, can cause water main breaks. By installing VFDs (FY 2025/26, \$149,000) on a pump, the pump speed can be slowly ramped up or down, thereby dampening the pressure swings. It also allows the pump to be run at less than its full speed, allowing the operators to more closely match the demand from customers.

Initially only three pumps were installed in the station, with accommodations for a fourth future pump. As growth in that area continues to increase, a fourth pump will eventually be required. The fourth pump is currently programmed in FY 2031/32 but could be accelerated depending on changes in demand in the west pressure zone.

Effect on Operations

The ability to slowly start and stop pumps is expected to reduce the frequency of water main breaks, reducing the frequency of service interruptions for customers and reducing the distribution system maintenance costs.

Location

Intersection of State Avenue and Mortensen Road

	Total	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30
Cost:						
Engineering						
Construction	149,000	149,000				
Total	149,000	149,000				
Financing:						
Water Utility Fund	149,000	149,000				
Total	149,000	149,000				
Program - Activity:		Department:	Account Number:			
Utilities - Water Pumping		Water and Pollution Control	510-3962-489			

Description/Justification
This project involves the construction of a new one-million-gallon elevated tank (“water tower”) to serve the Prairie View Industrial Center along Lincoln Way east of Interstate 35.

Comments
In order to meet the anticipated water demands in this new area in east Ames, a new elevated tank is required. The tank will help stabilize pressures at the far eastern edge of the City limits, as well as provide the necessary volume for firefighting purposes in what is envisioned as a moderate to heavy industrial area.

The project schedule is unchanged compared to last year’s CIP, and the schedule can be adjusted as needed to meet the pace of development in the industrial park. Cost estimates were updated in October of 2024 to reflect regional increases in the manufacturer’s base costs. The hydraulic model of the distribution system is being updated as development in the industrial park unfolds to determine when the tank will be required.

Location
Intersection of East Lincoln Way and 580th Avenue

		Total	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30
Cost:							
Engineering		554,000		554,000			
Construction		10,895,000			10,895,000		
Total		11,449,000		554,000	10,895,000		
Financing:							
Drinking Water State Revolving Fund		11,449,000		554,000	10,895,000		
Total		11,449,000		554,000	10,895,000		
Program - Activity:			Department:	Account Number:			
Utilities - Water Pumping			Water and Pollution Control				

Wellhead Rehabilitation

Project Status: No Change

City of Ames, Iowa
Capital Improvements Plan

Description/Justification

The City currently has 22 wells, with two new wells under construction. This project involves periodic rehabilitation of the aboveground components of the wellheads. A new scope item has been identified to add a variable frequency drive to Well 22.

Comments

A project was completed in FY 2019/20 that replaced the programmable logic controllers (PLC), segregated the electrical components into separate low and high voltage cabinets, and sandblasted and repainted the aboveground wellheads in 10 wells. A separate project in FY 2021/22 replaced the PLC's and radios in the other 12 wells but did not include the repainting or electrical component segregation.

The FY 2026/27 project will repaint the wellheads and separate the electrical components into high and low voltage cabinets for the 12 wells that were not included in the FY 2019/20 project.

The FY 2027/28 project will install a variable frequency drive on Well 22.

Ongoing PLC replacements are scheduled every 10 years, although the schedule may be adjusted depending on replacement parts availability and technology advancements.

Effect on Operations

Segregating the electrical components into separate high- and low-voltage cabinets improves the safety for maintenance staff. The FY 2027/28 project will allow the plant operators greater control over the volume of water brought into the treatment plant. With the ability to vary the output of Well 22, the operators can better optimize the multiple factors used to determine which well combinations to use at any given time.

Location

Wells located in multiple well fields

	Total	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30
Cost:						
Engineering	16,000			16,000		
Construction	755,000		671,000	84,000		
Total	771,000		671,000	100,000		
Financing:						
Water Utility Fund	771,000		671,000	100,000		
Total	771,000		671,000	100,000		
Program - Activity:		Department:	Account Number:			
Utilities - Water Production		Water and Pollution Control				

Lime Lagoon Improvements

Project Status: Scope Change

Description/Justification

This program includes major maintenance to the lime lagoons, as well as periodic improvements to increase available working capacity.

Comments

Lime residuals from the water softening process are stored and dewatered in large storage lagoons. The material is removed annually in the fall and recycled by applying it to farm fields as an agricultural liming agent. The cost of the annual removal and application is budgeted in the operating budget.

The project planned in FY 2027/28 will either replace an existing decant pump or will tie the two decant lift stations together and eliminate a pump.

Effect on Operations

The modifications will result in improved dewatering of the lime sludge before it is hauled off for disposal. Because that work is bid on a “wet ton” basis, maintaining the effectiveness of the dewatering system is expected to reduce the annual operating budget expense for sludge disposal.

Location

Water Plant lime lagoons, south of East 13th Street, west of the Skunk River

	Total	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30
Cost:						
Engineering						
Construction	100,000			100,000		
Equipment						
Total	100,000			100,000		
Financing:						
Water Utility Fund	100,000			100,000		
Total	100,000			100,000		
Program - Activity:		Department:	Account Number:			
Utilities - Water Treatment		Water and Pollution Control				

New Pumps and Drives at Water Treatment Plant Project Status: No Change

Description/Justification

This project will add two new high service pumps with variable frequency drives to the pump station located at the Water Treatment Plant.

Comments

The Water Treatment Plant was designed to accommodate up to six high service pumps. Only two pumps were installed initially due to piping restrictions on East 13th Street. Over time, the distribution mains on East 13th are planned to be upsized. As that work occurs, new pumps will be added to the pump station. Ultimately, the pumping capacity at the Water Treatment Plant will be increased to mirror the capacity at the pump station located at the site of the old water treatment plant.

Without a specialized drive, the pumps would either run at full speed, or be off. The new pumps will be equipped with variable frequency drives that allow the pumps to be slowed down below their maximum speed. This enables the operators to better match the water demand by customers. It also allows pumps to be slowed during periods of peak electrical demand.

The final two pumps are projected to be needed in FY 2035/36, based on current demand growth patterns.

Effect on Operations

Having additional pumping capacity at the new high service pump station will increase the capacity at the new treatment plant location as well as provide redundancy for the old high service pump station. This will greatly improve the resilience of the treatment works in the event of a natural disaster or other emergency.

Location

Water Treatment Plant, 1800 East 13th Street

	Total	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30
Cost:						
Engineering	164,000				164,000	
Construction	1,310,000				1,310,000	
Total	1,474,000				1,474,000	
Financing:						
Water Utility Fund	1,474,000				1,474,000	
Total	1,474,000				1,474,000	
Program - Activity:		Department:	Account Number:			
Utilities - Water Pumping		Water and Pollution Control				

Mortensen and County Line Elevated Tank Repainting **Project Status:** Cost Change

City Of Ames, Iowa
Capital Improvements Plan

Description/Justification

This project involves the repainting of the Mortensen and County Line (MAC) Elevated Tank.

Comments

The MAC tank was constructed in 2003. Every three years the tank is taken out of service so that the interior can be cleaned and inspected. The exterior of the tank is power washed as needed to maintain the tank’s appearance and to maintain the coating system. The painting system used at that time had a reported 20-year life but has held up well, allowing the repainting to be postponed. Repainting the tank is now planned for FY 2028/29. Staff will be closely monitoring the tank to ensure the repainting occurs when the existing coatings begin to fail. The work will involve sandblasting both the interior and exterior of the tank, applying new primer, and repainting the tank.

Location

900 South 500th Avenue

		Total	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30
Cost:							
Construction		1,429,000				1,429,000	
	Total	1,429,000				1,429,000	
Financing:							
Water Utility Fund		1,429,000				1,429,000	
	Total	1,429,000				1,429,000	
Program - Activity:							
Utilities - Water Pumping							
Department:							
Water and Pollution Control							
Account Number:							

Ada Hayden Water Quality Study

Project Status: Scope Change

Description/Justification

Since the mid-1970s, the lakes at Ada Hayden Park have been used by the Ames Water Plant as a source for augmenting alluvial groundwater recharge during periods of low flows in the South Skunk River. In addition to the drinking water use, the lakes are a defining feature of Ada Hayden Heritage Park, providing a wide array of water-oriented recreational opportunities for the community. This project is part of an on-going effort to monitor the health of the lakes as development occurs in and around the lakes’ watershed. In addition to being a valuable tool for City staff, the continued monitoring of the lakes and wetland complexes is of interest to many members of the community.

Comments

A preliminary water quality evaluation was made in 2000 as part of the City’s “due diligence” effort prior to purchasing the former Hallett’s Quarry property. This evaluation focused primarily on potential contamination of the lakes that could have resulted from the former industrial use of the property. Follow-up investigations were performed in FY 2004/05, FY 2009/10, FY 2017/18, and again in FY 2023/24. These latter investigations were focused on the overall “health” and water quality in the lakes, looking at parameters such as dissolved oxygen, nitrogen and phosphorus, algae and microcystins, suspended solids and turbidity, and bacteria.

As the watershed has developed, the City has made efforts to encourage land use practices that will not have a negative impact on water quality in the lakes. The long-term intent behind the monitoring effort has been to periodically recheck the lakes (on a five- to seven-year interval) to confirm that the existing land practices have been effective in preserving the in-lake water quality. The intent of this project is to conduct a new monitoring event every five years. The Scope Change is due to a new round of monitoring moving into the five-year plan.

Location

Ada Hayden Heritage Park

	Total	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30
Cost:						
Contracted Monitoring	52,000					52,000
Total	52,000					52,000
Financing:						
Water Utility Fund	52,000					52,000
Total	52,000					52,000

Program - Activity:	Department:	Account Number:
Utilities - Water Production	Water and Pollution Control	

Utilities - Water Pollution Control

City of Ames, Iowa
Capital Improvements Plan

Project/Funding Source	Total	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30	Page
Project:							
Nutrient Reduction Modifications	33,490,000	26,240,000	7,250,000	-	-	-	85
Cogeneration System Maintenance	5,138,000	225,000	1,500,000	-	-	3,413,000	86
Watershed-Based Nutrient Reduction	2,125,000	425,000	425,000	425,000	425,000	425,000	87
WPC Plant Facility Improvements	983,000	144,000	-	639,000	200,000	-	88
Lift Station Improvements	826,000	100,000	365,000	-	361,000	-	89
Clarifier Maintenance	763,000	-	375,000	388,000	-	-	90
Total Project Expenditures	43,325,000	27,134,000	9,915,000	1,452,000	986,000	3,838,000	
Funding Sources:							
Debt:							
State Revolving Fund Loans	36,903,000	26,240,000	7,250,000	-	-	3,413,000	
City:							
Sewer Utility Fund	4,750,000	522,000	2,340,000	1,127,000	661,000	100,000	
Water Utility Fund	47,000	47,000	-	-	-	-	
Total City Funding	4,797,000	569,000	2,340,000	1,127,000	661,000	100,000	
Other:							
Grant Funds	1,625,000	325,000	325,000	325,000	325,000	325,000	
Total Funding Sources	43,325,000	27,134,000	9,915,000	1,452,000	986,000	3,838,000	

Nutrient Reduction Modifications – Phase 1

Project Status: Cost Change

Description/Justification

In 2013, the Iowa Department of Natural Resources (DNR) released the Iowa Nutrient Reduction Strategy. This strategy requires the largest wastewater facilities in Iowa – both municipal and industrial – to install process changes to meet nutrient removal targets. A feasibility study for the Ames Water Pollution Control Facility was conducted in 2019. That study recommended a phased conversion of the facility to biological nutrient removal over a period of 20 years. Following Council approval, it was forwarded to the Iowa DNR who approved the plan and the timeline. That timeline is now included as a “Special Condition” in the facility’s discharge permit.

Comments

A construction contract was awarded in August of 2024 for Phase 1 of the project. This phase will construct half of the ultimate aeration basin capacity along with new bar screens, grit removal equipment, a relocated administration building, and other associated components. Additionally, the capacity of the treatment plant will be increased from 12.1 million gallons per day to 14.6 million gallons per day. The second phase will include the remaining aeration basin capacity and a waste sludge thickening facility and is scheduled for design starting in FY 2035/36.

The costs shown in the table to the right are based on the project costs presented to Council at the time of the Phase 1 contract award. The Sewer Fund rate model assumes this project will be financed using a Clean Water State Revolving Fund (SRF) loan.

Phase 1 Nutrients + Headworks	2024/25	\$29,027,000
	2025/26	\$26,240,000
	2026/27	\$7,250,000
		\$62,517,000
Phase 2 Nutrients	2035 estimate 1 st half bid date	\$70,000,000

Effect on Operations

The improvements have been designed to maximize energy efficiency but will still result in a net increase in the overall energy demand for the facility. The exact magnitude is not known at this time.

Location

WPC Facility; four miles south of Highway 30, east of Interstate 35

	Total	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30
Cost:						
Engineering	2,600,000	1,600,000	1,000,000			
Construction	30,410,000	24,160,000	6,250,000			
Furniture & Fixture Allowance	480,000	480,000				
Total	33,490,000	26,240,000	7,250,000			
Financing:						
Clean Water State Revolving Fund	33,490,000	26,240,000	7,250,000			
Total	33,490,000	26,240,000	7,250,000			
Program - Activity:						
Utilities - WPC Facility						
Department:						
Water and Pollution Control						
Account Number:						
522-3420-489						

Cogeneration System Maintenance

Project Status:

Delayed

Scope Change

City of Ames, Iowa
Capital Improvements Plan

Description/Justification

This project includes the ongoing major maintenance needs of the Water Pollution Control (WPC) Facility's cogeneration system and hauled waste receiving infrastructure. The specific project planned at this time is the construction of a new fats, oils, and grease (FOG) receiving station.

Comments

The FOG receiving station will improve the receiving capabilities of the facility by paving the unloading areas, changing to more appropriate pumping capabilities, and better incorporating the ability to accept hauled food waste that has been diverted away from the Resource Recovery Plant (RRP). The project is being delayed one year to allow time to better coordinate with any new food waste diversion programs at the Resource Recovery Plant. This project helps achieve the reduction in waste emissions action step in the City's proposed Climate Action Plan. The diverted food waste will be anaerobically digested to produce additional methane that can be used for on-site electricity generation at WPC.

The scope change comes in FY 2029/30 when an overhaul of Methane Generator #3 (MG3) is scheduled, along with the installation of a gas conditioning system. Cleaning the gas prior to use in the engines is expected to increase the time between engine overhauls in the future as well as improve the quality of the emissions from the engines. In the previous rate models, the project was included at a higher cost (\$5.16 million) for a replacement of MG2. That replacement has been delayed until FY 2032/33.

2025/26 Design Phase of FOG Receiving Station (\$225,000)

2026/27 Construction Phase of FOG Receiving Station (\$1,500,000)

2029/30 Overhaul MG3 & Install Gas Conditioning (\$3,413,000)

Location

WPC Facility; four miles south of Highway 30, east of Interstate 35

	Total	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30
Cost:						
Engineering	3,638,000	225,000				3,413,000
Construction	1,500,000		1,500,000			
Total	5,138,000	225,000	1,500,000			3,413,000
Financing:						
Sewer Utility Fund	1,725,000	225,000	1,500,000			
Clean Water State Revolving Fund	3,413,000					3,413,000
Total	5,138,000	225,000	1,500,000			3,413,000
Program - Activity:		Department:	Account Number:			
Utilities - WPC Facility		Water and Pollution Control	520-3470-489			

Watershed-Based Nutrient Reduction

Project Status:

Scope Change

Cost Change

City of Ames, Iowa
Capital Improvements Plan

Description/Justification

The Water Pollution Control Facility is being converted to a nutrient removal treatment technology. Separate from the work that will occur inside the treatment plant, watershed-based improvements performed by the City can be included in the Iowa Nutrient Reduction Exchange and “banked” as credit toward any future, more stringent nutrient reduction requirements imposed on the WPC Facility. This project sets aside \$100,000 from the Sewer Fund per year that can be put toward urban and rural watershed improvements that have a nutrient reduction component. Those funds are then leveraged to obtain grants and funding from other partner organizations.

Comments

Projects undertaken will not only have a nutrient reduction element, but will also provide additional, ancillary benefits such as flood risk reduction, drought risk reduction, increased recreational opportunities, improved wildlife habitat, urban storm water management, and drinking water source protection. Examples of projects currently underway include:

- In-field conservation practices such as cover crops
- Land retirement
- Edge-of-Field conservation practices such as saturated buffers and bioreactors
- Constructed wetlands

The Phase 1 Nutrient Reduction Modifications construction costs were considerably higher than projected. To help offset the impact on sewer rates, Council directed that the City’s commitment towards watershed-based projects be reduced from \$200,000 per year to \$100,000 per year. The budget below reflects that change.

Location

Throughout and upstream of the community; specific locations will vary by year

	Total	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30
Cost:						
Edge-of-Field Practices	1,750,000	350,000	350,000	350,000	350,000	350,000
Other Watershed Projects	375,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000
Total	2,125,000	425,000	425,000	425,000	425,000	425,000
Financing:						
Sewer Utility Fund	500,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000
Grants & Partnerships	1,625,000	325,000	325,000	325,000	325,000	325,000
Total	2,125,000	425,000	425,000	425,000	425,000	425,000
Program - Activity:		Department:	Account Number:			
Utilities - WPC Facility		Water and Pollution Control	Various			

Description/Justification
It is necessary to plan for the orderly repair, replacement, and upgrade of Water Pollution Control (WPC) Facility equipment in order to continue high-quality treatment and comply with environmental regulations. This project involves annual equipment repairs, maintenance, replacement, and upgrades at the plant. This facility became fully operational in November 1989. Life expectancies for plant equipment vary from five to six years to more than thirty years.

Comments
The electric service and controls for the remote storage building and grain bins (part of the farm management associated with biosolids disposal) will be upgraded in FY 2025/26. The atomic absorption spectrophotometer also planned in FY 2025/26 is used by the Laboratory to detect heavy metals in the wastewater and biosolids to store the additional grain produced on the farm ground that was recently acquired, as well as for drinking water analysis. This expense will be shared between the Water and Sewer Funds. Funds are allocated in FY 2027/28 to add a new grain storage bin, and to work on some of the many buried valves and valve operators throughout the plant that will not be impacted by the Nutrient Reduction project. In that same year, the wet wells in the Raw Water and Trickling Filter Pump Stations will be cleaned. This task has been intentionally scheduled after the new bar screens are installed (a part of the Nutrients Reduction project), as the new screens will significantly reduce the volume of solids that enters these facilities. Similarly, funds are planned in FY 2028/29 to address gates, valves and actuators throughout the plant that are not being replaced as a part of the Nutrient Reduction project.

The schedule for these improvements is as follows:

2025/26	Remote storage building and grain bin controls (\$50,000); replace atomic absorption spectrophotometer (\$94,000)
2027/28	Buried valve maintenance (\$100,000); clean raw water and trickling filter pump station wet wells (\$414,000); new grain storage bins (\$125,000)
2028/29	Maintenance on splitter boxes, gates, valves, and actuators (\$200,000)

Location
WPC Facility; four miles south of Highway 30, east of Interstate 35

	Total	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30
Cost:						
Engineering						
Construction & Equipment	983,000	144,000		639,000	200,000	
Total	983,000	144,000		639,000	200,000	
Financing:						
Sewer Utility Fund	936,000	97,000		639,000	200,000	
Water Utility Fund	47,000	47,000				
Total	983,000	144,000		639,000	200,000	
Program - Activity:		Department:	Account Number:			
Utilities - WPC Facility		Water and Pollution Control	Various			

Lift Station Improvements

Project Status: Cost Change

City of Ames, Iowa
Capital Improvements Plan

Description/Justification

This project includes periodic maintenance and repair of the City's wastewater lift stations.

Comments

The project in FY 2025/26 will connect all five of the City's wastewater lift stations to the Water Pollution Control Facility using a cellular connection. It will bring back data such as wet well level, alarm status, pump run times, and other information that is important to the plant operators. The existing system uses land lines and only relays alarms via voice message to the plant's main telephone number. The proposed system would transmit data every 15 minutes and connect into the plant SCADA system, giving the operators a better picture of what is happening in the stations and would prevent unnecessary callouts during off-shift hours. This project will also include the installation of a wireless flow monitoring device that can be mounted anywhere in the collection system, providing flow information to both the plant operators and the Public Works operations staff. If the system works as envisioned, additional units would be budgeted in future years.

The FY 2026/27 work is to replace the aging pumps, piping, valves, manhole hatch, and controls at the Freel Drive lift station.

The FY 2028/29 project will remove the Northwood Lift station and replace it with a gravity sewer. Where feasible, replacing a lift station with a gravity sewer eliminates maintenance needs, eliminates the need for electricity to pump the wastewater, and reduces the risk of sewer overflows due to failures of mechanical equipment. The Northwood station serves a small number of homes, and no additional development (or flow) is expected for the area.

Effect on Operations

The FY 2025/26 project is expected to reduce the instances of overtime to troubleshoot issues at the lift stations. By having better information, the operators will know if an issue is urgent or if it can wait until the next working day. The FY 2028/29 project would eliminate the electricity costs for pumping the wastewater by installing a gravity line.

Location

Multiple lift stations across the city

	Total	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30
Cost:						
Engineering	81,000		48,000		33,000	
Construction & Equipment	745,000	100,000	317,000		328,000	
Total	826,000	100,000	365,000		361,000	
Financing:						
Sewer Utility Fund	826,000	100,000	365,000		361,000	
Total	826,000	100,000	365,000		361,000	
Program - Activity:		Department:	Account Number:			
Utilities - WPC Facility		Water and Pollution Control	520-3456-489			

Description/Justification
This project includes repainting the steel structures of the Primary (3 of 4), Intermediate (2 of 2), and Final (2 of 2) Clarifiers. The coatings protect the steel elements from the harsh conditions present both in the submerged portions of the clarifiers as well as at the air/water interface.

Comments
The structures were last repainted over a period of several years between 2005 and 2012. The typical life of a recoating project is 15-20 years in this application. The actual cost will depend on the condition of the coating system at the time of the project, and the scope could range from spot touch-ups to full blasting and recoating. All these structures will remain in service following the Nutrient Reduction project.

Effect on Operations
The project is now shown split across two fiscal years, as it would be impractical to repaint seven of the eight clarifiers in the same year. A slight inflationary increase was added to the delayed portion of the work.

Location
WPC Facility; four miles south of Highway 30, east of Interstate 35

		Total	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30
Cost:							
Construction		763,000		375,000	388,000		
Total		763,000		375,000	388,000		
Financing:							
Sewer Utility Fund		763,000		375,000	388,000		
Total		763,000		375,000	388,000		
Program - Activity:			Department:	Account Number:			
Utilities - WPC Facility			Water and Pollution Control				

Utilities - Water Distribution

City of Ames, Iowa
Capital Improvements Plan

Project/Funding Source	Total	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30	Page
Project:							
Water System Improvements	13,950,000	2,050,000	2,500,000	3,900,000	2,750,000	2,750,000	92
Total Project Expenditures	13,950,000	2,050,000	2,500,000	3,900,000	2,750,000	2,750,000	
Funding Sources:							
Debt:							
Water Utility Fund	13,950,000	2,050,000	2,500,000	3,900,000	2,750,000	2,750,000	
Total Funding Sources	13,950,000	2,050,000	2,500,000	3,900,000	2,750,000	2,750,000	

Water System Improvements

Project Status: No Change

City Of Ames, Iowa
Capital Improvements Plan

Description/Justification

This program provides for replacing water mains in areas that experience issues including water quality (rust/iron), frequent water main breaks, lead services, low pressure, and circulation. Many of these issues correspond to older, smaller diameter aged water mains or poor-quality cast-iron pipe installed many decades ago. Bringing these water mains up to the current design standard improves water flow, circulation, pressure, fire fighting capacity, and helps reduce rusty water. The improved flow also provides larger supply quantities for firefighting purposes.

Comments

Rusty water complaints highlight the continuing need to replace the aged 4-inch and 6-inch cast iron water mains to provide firefighting capacity and improved water quality and flow in the system. The system currently has 6.6 miles of active 4-inch water main (estimated replacement cost \$12 million) and 32.4 miles of active, aged 6-inch cast iron water main (estimated cost \$45 million). An estimated 147 active lead and 97 active galvanized (that was once downstream of a lead piping) water services (estimated cost of \$1.39 million) are still connected to these older mains. A recent review of all available plumbing records resulted in an increase in the estimated number of suspected lead services in the system. Improvements to these water mains will result in reduced maintenance costs. Annual funding continues to increase to accelerate the replacement of utilities.

Location

2025/26 Ellis Street (\$200,000 with FY 2025/26 Asphalt Pavement Improvements), Clark Avenue (9th to 13th Street - \$370,000 with FY 2025/26 Concrete Pavement Improvements), Sunset Drive (Ash to Beach Avenue - \$410,000 with Concrete Pavement Improvements), Ferndale (20th to 24th Street) and Furman Drive (\$695,000 with FY 2025/26 Seal Coat Improvements), Grand Avenue/13th Street Intersection (\$600,000)

2026/27 West Street (Crane to Hillcrest Avenue - \$415,000 with FY 2026/27 Collector Street Improvements), 9th Street (Roosevelt to Grand Avenue - \$160,000 with FY 2026/27 Concrete Pavement Improvements), Gaskill Drive (250 feet south of Friley Road to Country Club Boulevard - \$150,000 with FY 2026/27 Concrete Pavement Improvements), East Lincoln Way (Duff Avenue to S Skunk River - \$300,000 with FY 2026/27 Arterial Street Pavement Improvements), Lincoln Way (Beach to Hayward Avenue - \$850,000 with FY 2026/27 CyRide Improvements)

The FY 2027/28 program includes a \$1,400,000 project to extend a larger water main along East 13th Street to the Water Plant prior to the installation of additional pumps at the new Water Plant. This is one year prior to the installation of the pumps in FY 2028/29.

Future year project locations will be coordinated with upcoming roadway improvement projects to minimize construction impacts on neighborhoods.

	Total	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30
Cost:						
Engineering	2,065,000	280,000	375,000	585,000	412,500	412,500
Construction	11,885,000	1,770,000	2,125,000	3,315,000	2,337,500	2,337,500
Total	13,950,000	2,050,000	2,500,000	3,900,000	2,750,000	2,750,000
Financing:						
Water Utility Fund	13,950,000	2,050,000	2,500,000	3,900,000	2,750,000	2,750,000
Total	13,950,000	2,050,000	2,500,000	3,900,000	2,750,000	2,750,000

Program - Activity:
Utilities - Water Distribution

Department:
Public Works

Account Number:
510-8461-489

Utilities - Sanitary Sewer System

City of Ames, Iowa
Capital Improvements Plan

Project/Funding Source	Total	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30	Page
Project:							
Sanitary Sewer System Improvements	10,350,000	350,000	2,500,000	2,500,000	2,500,000	2,500,000	94
Clear Water Diversion	250,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	95
Total Project Expenditures	10,600,000	400,000	2,550,000	2,550,000	2,550,000	2,550,000	
Funding Sources:							
City:							
Sewer Utility Fund	10,600,000	400,000	2,550,000	2,550,000	2,550,000	2,550,000	
Total Funding Sources	10,600,000	400,000	2,550,000	2,550,000	2,550,000	2,550,000	

Sanitary Sewer System Improvements

Project Status: No Change

City Of Ames, Iowa
Capital Improvements Plan

Description/Justification

This is the annual program for rehabilitation and reconstruction of deficient sanitary sewers and deteriorated manholes at various locations throughout the City. Most problem areas are in sewers that can be bundled into a construction package for cost efficiency, or in problem areas deeper than City crews are equipped to handle. This program provides for those repairs by outside firms. Activities include rehabilitating or replacing manholes, repairing, or lining pipe, and similar work. The goal of this program is to identify and remove major sources of inflow/infiltration as a means of lowering the peak wet weather flow at the treatment plant.

Comments

System improvement locations have been identified through the Sanitary Sewer System Evaluation (SSSE) field investigation completed in 2012. Through manhole inspections, smoke testing, and televising, severe structural defects (ratings of "4" or "5") were identified as priorities within this program. It was originally estimated that the system would need \$25,700,000 in funding over 10 years to upgrade infrastructure with ratings of "4" or "5". Since the program commenced in FY 2015/16, however, construction costs have inflated at a higher rate than anticipated causing extensions to the timeframe. To date, \$18,411,110 of improvements have taken place and it is estimated that \$24,000,000 is needed to upgrade the remaining "4" and "5" rated sewers. Project locations will be determined each year according to updated priorities.

	Total	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30
Cost:						
Engineering	2,000,000		500,000	500,000	500,000	500,000
Construction	8,350,000	350,000	2,000,000	2,000,000	2,000,000	2,000,000
Total	10,350,000	350,000	2,500,000	2,500,000	2,500,000	2,500,000
Financing:						
Sewer Utility Fund	10,350,000	350,000	2,500,000	2,500,000	2,500,000	2,500,000
Total	10,350,000	350,000	2,500,000	2,500,000	2,500,000	2,500,000

Program - Activity:
Utilities - Sanitary Sewer

Department:
Public Works

Account Number:
520-8542-489

Clear Water Diversion

Project Status: No Change

Description/Justification

This annual program provides for the installation of sub-drain lines to collect footing drain discharge from sump lines on individual properties.

Clear water from footing drains contributes to overloading and backups in the sanitary sewer system, as well as increases in the volume of clean water that is treated at the City's Water Pollution Control facility. This program involves diverting footing drain discharges from the sanitary sewers to the City's storm sewers. This diversion results in lower volumes of clean water needing treatment at the Water Pollution Control facility, thereby decreasing operating and maintenance costs at that facility. In addition, customers within the community should experience even fewer, less severe sanitary sewer backups.

Comments

Project locations are chosen where problem areas caused by discharge to the street are identified. These include locations where multiple existing discharge lines can be connected with a new collector line, also providing the opportunity for future connections to be made.

	Total	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30
Cost:						
Construction	250,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000
Total	250,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000
Financing:						
Sewer Utility Fund	250,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000
Total	250,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000
Program - Activity:		Department:	Account Number:			
Utilities - Sanitary Sewer		Public Works	520-8585-489			

Utilities - Stormwater

City of Ames, Iowa
Capital Improvements Plan

Project/Funding Source	Total	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30	Page
Project:							
Stormwater Erosion Control Program	4,250,000	1,250,000	750,000	850,000	1,400,000	-	97
Stormwater Improvement Program	3,250,000	650,000	650,000	650,000	650,000	650,000	98
Stormwater Quality Improvements	500,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	99
Low Point Drainage Improvements	950,000	500,000	250,000	-	-	200,000	100
Stormwater Detention/Retention Maint	400,000	-	150,000	-	-	250,000	101
South Skunk River Improvements	600,000	-	-	600,000	-	-	102
Total Project Expenditures	9,950,000	2,500,000	1,900,000	2,200,000	2,150,000	1,200,000	
Funding Sources:							
Debt:							
G.O. Bonds	600,000	-	-	600,000	-	-	
City:							
Stormwater Utility Fund	8,550,000	2,100,000	1,900,000	1,600,000	1,750,000	1,200,000	
Other:							
Grant Funds	800,000	400,000	-	-	400,000	-	
Total Funding Sources	9,950,000	2,500,000	1,900,000	2,200,000	2,150,000	1,200,000	

Stormwater Erosion Control Program

Project Status: No Change

City Of Ames, Iowa
Capital Improvements Plan

Description/Justification

This annual program provides for the stabilization of areas that have become eroded in streams, channels, swales, gullies, or drainage ways that are part of the City's stormwater system. This program provides more permanent erosion control and will reduce recurring maintenance costs in these areas.

Comments

Following the floods of 2010, an Urban Stream Assessment was updated to rate the stream banks of each tributary of Ada Hayden, College Creek, Clear Creek, Onion Creek, Worrell Creek, Ioway Creek, and the South Skunk River. This assessment identified areas where stabilization is a priority. As monitoring activities associated with the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit requirements continue, additional locations for future improvements will be identified.

Staff receive numerous communications from residents requesting these projects.

Location

2025/26	Canterbury Court Waterway and Mortensen Parkway/University Boulevard (Gateway Hill Park)
2026/27	Ioway Creek (Stange Road/Veenker Golf Course)
2027/28	Dayton Avenue (east side ditch along USDA Facility) and Worrell Creek (Ames Airport)
2028/29	Clear Creek bank stabilization and restoration (former Sands-McDorman property)

	Total	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30
Cost:						
Engineering	770,000	250,000	150,000	170,000	200,000	
Construction	3,480,000	1,000,000	600,000	680,000	1,200,000	
Total	4,250,000	1,250,000	750,000	850,000	1,400,000	
Financing:						
Stormwater Utility Fund	3,450,000	850,000	750,000	850,000	1,000,000	
Water Quality Grant	800,000	400,000			400,000	
Total	4,250,000	1,250,000	750,000	850,000	1,400,000	
Program - Activity:		Department:	Account Number:			
Utilities - Stormwater		Public Works	560-8641-489 561-8641-489			

Stormwater Improvement Program

Project Status: No Change

Description/Justification

This annual program is to repair or replace deteriorated storm sewer pipes and intakes. Areas of concentration will be locations programmed for street improvements and areas where structural deficiencies are identified.

Many existing intakes are brick or concrete and have experienced repeated “freeze/thaw” conditions during winters and springs. This repeated freeze/thaw action causes bricks and mortar to deteriorate, resulting in collapsed intakes. This program provides for a proactive response by contractually repairing and replacing intakes on a scheduled basis. In addition to the contractual work provided in this program, City crews provide immediate repair of those intakes that pose an immediate concern for life, health, or safety.

Comments

Through citizen inquiries and storm sewer inspections by maintenance crews, staff identified storm sewer structural deficiencies within the system. These include areas where the pipe has cracked or is missing sections or pieces of pipe. This program provides funding to correct these deficiencies.

The Stormwater System Analysis originally scheduled for FY 2023/24, will be undertaken in FY 2024/25 and will assist in identifying the needs in future years.

The results of the 2024 Resident Satisfaction Survey showed stormwater drainage improvements being somewhat or very important to 74% of respondents.

Location

2025/26	Sunset Drive (Ash Avenue to Beach Avenue), Various other locations
2026/27	Lincoln Way (Hayward Avenue to Beach Avenue), Various other locations
2027/28	Various locations
2028/29	16 th Street (Grand Avenue to Ridgewood Avenue), Various other locations
2029/30	Country Club Boulevard

	Total	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30
Cost:						
Engineering	500,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000
Construction	2,750,000	550,000	550,000	550,000	550,000	550,000
Total	3,250,000	650,000	650,000	650,000	650,000	650,000
Financing:						
Stormwater Utility Fund	3,250,000	650,000	650,000	650,000	650,000	650,000
Total	3,250,000	650,000	650,000	650,000	650,000	650,000
Program - Activity:		Department:	Account Number:			
Utilities - Stormwater		Public Works	560-8642-489			

Stormwater Quality Improvements

Project Status: Cost Change

Description/Justification

This program includes water quality improvements and treatment for new municipal project locations. These improvements have been incorporated into the Post Construction Stormwater Management Ordinance. This addresses removal of sediment and nutrients before they enter waterways such as loway Creek and South Skunk River. This program includes treatment of the water quality volume from public impervious areas (e.g., streets and parking lots).

Comments

This program includes installation of bioretention cells, vegetated swales, native landscape and rain gardens, soil quality restoration, and other approved best management practices at various locations across the community. These best management practices are typically combined with street improvement projects. The involvement of neighborhoods or adjacent landowners is sought to help with day-to-day maintenance and stream restoration projects. Improvements are aligned with the Iowa River Restoration Toolbox practices for natural channel design.

Locations

	Total	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30
Cost:						
Engineering	75,000	15,000	15,000	15,000	15,000	15,000
Construction	425,000	85,000	85,000	85,000	85,000	85,000
Total	500,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000
Financing:						
Stormwater Utility Fund	500,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000
Total	500,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000
Program - Activity:		Department:	Account Number:			
Utilities - Stormwater		Public Works	560-8601-489			

Low Point Drainage Improvements

Project Status: Scope Change

Description/Justification

This is the annual program for drainage improvements to decrease flooding at low points in the community. These improvements are not only focused on residential street locations, but specifically on those locations most in need of improvements as affected by standing water, localized flooding, and insufficient pipe capacity. During heavy rainfall events, some areas become flooded and damage to private property occasionally occurs. This program provides for installation of drainage improvements to decrease this flooding at low points. These improvements may include construction of detention areas, new pipe systems, and replacement systems to increase the ability to control the runoff so it can be carried away to downstream systems.

Comments

Addressing these drainage issues will reduce localized flooding problems on both public and private property. Fewer barricades will need to be set out in areas that flood during heavy rains. Locations previously identified for improvements as part of this program, along with new areas for which complaints were received over the past year, have been prioritized as shown below.

Staff receive numerous communications from residents requesting these projects and asking for updates on the status. Addressing these stormwater and localized flooding concerns will continue to be a high priority based on significant feedback received as part of the Resident Satisfaction Survey.

The FY 2026/27 project at the Sixth Street and Duff Avenue intersection have been extended along Sixth Street to Crawford Avenue.

Location

- 2025/26 Sixth Street/Duff Avenue Intersection, 20th Street/Northwestern Avenue, South Bell Avenue/South East 16th Street, and Grove Avenue/River Oak Drive
- 2026/27 Sixth Street (Duff to Crawford) and Crystal Street (200 Block)
- 2029/30 Laurel Court, Brickman Court, Brookside Park

	Total	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30
Cost:						
Engineering	168,000	100,000	38,000			30,000
Construction	782,000	400,000	212,000			170,000
Total	950,000	500,000	250,000			200,000
Financing:						
Stormwater Utility Fund	950,000	500,000	250,000			200,000
Total	950,000	500,000	250,000			200,000
Program - Activity:		Department:	Account Number:			
Utilities - Stormwater		Public Works	560-8654-489			

Stormwater Detention/Retention Maintenance Program

Project Status: No Change

City of Ames, Iowa
 Capital Improvements Plan

Description/Justification

In accordance with the *Municipal Code*, new developments within the community are required to provide stormwater management quantity control. This means maintaining stormwater runoff discharges at pre-developed conditions through the use of extended detention and/or retention.

Through establishment of developers' agreements, the City of Ames has accepted responsibility for the long-term maintenance of many of these facilities in residential areas. As these facilities age, sediment accumulates, volunteer vegetation becomes more prevalent, erosion occurs, and structures need to be improved. This annual program addresses those concerns.

Comments

As part of the post-construction stormwater management ordinance, commercial and industrial landowners are now responsible to maintain their own stormwater facilities. This ordinance also provides for the homeowner's association or residential development owner to maintain all water quality features. However, the City is responsible for long-term maintenance of the regional detention facilities that provide water quantity control.

Location

2026/27	Ada Hayden wetlands
2029/30	Arbor on the Green Pond, Northridge subdivision detention basins

	Total	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30
Cost:						
Engineering	80,000		30,000			50,000
Construction	320,000		120,000			200,000
Total	400,000		150,000			250,000
Financing:						
Stormwater Utility Fund	400,000		150,000			250,000
Total	400,000		150,000			250,000
Program - Activity:		Department:	Account Number:			
Utilities - Stormwater		Public Works				

South Skunk River Improvements

Project Status: Scope Change

City Of Ames, Iowa
Capital Improvements Plan

Description/Justification

This program will look at areas along the South Skunk River, especially between South East 16th Street and East Lincoln Way, that are in need of stabilization. This program will tie in closely with the shared use path expansion planned in the South Skunk River corridor. There are areas along the bank of the South Skunk River that will require extensive armoring or stabilization to protect the proposed shared use path infrastructure from damage due to continued erosion of the riverbanks.

Comments

Funding in this program was initially programmed to study upstream flood impacts due to the Iowa Department of Transportation's (IDOT) plan to widen the U.S. Highway 30 bridges. The conveyance of water under these bridges controlled the capacity of the South Skunk River. With the replacement of the bridges over the next few years, the South East 16th Street bridge and roadway will now control capacity. The South East 16th Street Roadway was designed to over top with a 50-year flood event to help alleviate upstream flooding. Recent minor flood events have demonstrated that the flood mitigation work completed in the loway Creek corridor and along the Skunk River corridor has reduced the impacts of flooding compared to previous events. As such the need to further study flood impacts in the South Skunk River corridor is likely to produce results that will have a limited cost/benefit ratio. Therefore, these funds are being utilized to stabilize the banks of the South Skunk River in conjunction with the expansion of the shared use path in the area.

Location

2027/28 South Skunk River (various locations between South East 16th Street and East Lincoln Way)

		Total	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30
Cost:							
Engineering		100,000			100,000		
Construction		500,000			500,000		
	Total	600,000			600,000		
Financing:							
GO Bonds		600,000			600,000		
	Total	600,000			600,000		
Program - Activity:			Department:	Account Number:			
Utilities - Stormwater			Public Works				

Utilities - Resource Recovery

City of Ames, Iowa
Capital Improvements Plan

Project/Funding Source	Total	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30	Page
Project:							
Resource Recovery and Recycling Campus	6,880,000	880,000	6,000,000	-	-	-	104
Resource Recovery System Improvements	1,674,000	459,000	465,000	250,000	250,000	250,000	105
Total Project Expenditures	8,554,000	1,339,000	6,465,000	250,000	250,000	250,000	
Funding Sources:							
Debt:							
G.O. Bonds (revenue abated)	6,880,000	880,000	6,000,000	-	-	-	
City:							
Resource Recovery Fund	1,674,000	459,000	465,000	250,000	250,000	250,000	
Total Funding Sources	8,554,000	1,339,000	6,465,000	250,000	250,000	250,000	

Resource Recovery and Recycling Campus

Project Status: New

Description/Justification

The City’s partnership with Boone County Landfill will expire at the end of June 2025. As the City transitions from a waste-to-energy based system to one focused on recycling and consolidation, a new partnership will be developed with a landfill in another comprehensive planning area. In order to move forward with this new solid waste management approach, a facility will be needed to receive and consolidate municipal solid waste and recycling for transportation to a landfill or recycling center. This Resource Recovery and Recycling Campus may also involve minimal processing of municipal solid waste for volume reduction and/or capture of recyclable material (e.g., metals). The land acquired may also provide for a yard waste management and composting operation.

This program is for land acquisition, engineering and construction of a new facility to accommodate municipal solid waste (MSW) from the City of Ames and member agencies of the Story County service area.

Comments

2025/26	400,000	Land acquisition for an estimated 10 acres to site new Resource Recovery and Recycling Campus
	480,000	Engineering and design of new facility
2026/27	6,000,000	Construction of Resource Recovery and Recycling Campus
	6,880,000	

Location

To be determined

	Total	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30
Cost:						
Land Acquisition	400,000	400,000				
Engineering	480,000	480,000				
Construction			6,000,000			
Total	6,880,000	880,000	6,000,000			
Financing:						
G.O. Bonds (revenue abated)	6,880,000	880,000	6,000,000			
Total	6,880,000	880,000	6,000,000			
Program - Activity:		Department:	Account Number:			
Utilities - Resource Recovery		Public Works	386-9020-489			

Resource Recovery System Improvements

Project Status:

Cost Change

City Of Ames, Iowa
Capital Improvements Plan

Description/Justification

This program is to purchase new and replacement components and equipment at the City's Resource Recovery Plant through June 30, 2027. Resource Recovery personnel perform the work to complete the preventive maintenance projects. The new Resource Recovery and Recycling Campus is projected to open no later than July 1, 2027. Therefore, the last three years reflects a reduction in expenditures for routine maintenance at this new facility.

Comments

2025/26	Preventive maintenance materials for replacement of #1 mill armored teeth and counter combs (\$75,000) #2 mill hammers, hammer shafts, grates (\$75,000) Switchgear cleaning and maintenance (\$35,000) New counter comb door for #1 mill (\$65,000) RDS rollers and chains (\$70,000) #2 mill hopper rebuild (\$15,000) Replace C-2 belt (\$32,000) Mobile trailer for recycling (\$20,000) Roll offs for recycling (\$52,000) Recycling bins (\$20,000)
2026/27	Preventive maintenance materials for replacement of #1 mill armored teeth and counter combs (\$70,000) Thermal imaging and automated fire suppression (\$175,000) #2 mill hammers, hammer shafts, grates (\$70,000) Switchgear cleaning and maintenance (\$35,000) RDS rollers and chains (\$75,000) Replace C-7 belt (\$40,000)
2027/28	Resource Recovery and Recycling Campus preventative maintenance (\$250,000)
2028/29	Resource Recovery and Recycling Campus preventative maintenance (\$250,000)
2029/30	Resource Recovery and Recycling Campus preventative maintenance (\$250,000)

	Total	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30
Cost:						
System Improvements	1,674,000	459,000	465,000	250,000	250,000	250,000
Total	1,674,000	459,000	465,000	250,000	250,000	250,000
Financing:						
Resource Recovery Fund	1,674,000	459,000	465,000	250,000	250,000	250,000
Total	1,674,000	459,000	465,000	250,000	250,000	250,000
Program - Activity:		Department:	Account Number:			
Utilities - Resource Recovery		Public Works	590-9003-489			

TRANSPORTATION



1974-2024
AMES HUMAN
RELATIONS
COMMISSION
50
YEARS



Transportation

City of Ames, Iowa
Capital Improvements Plan

	Total	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30	Page
Expenditures							
Street Improvements	62,890,000	10,975,000	17,605,000	12,650,000	10,985,000	10,675,000	108
Shared Use Path System	7,030,000	1,560,000	1,220,000	1,050,000	1,250,000	1,950,000	119
Traffic Improvements	14,699,000	6,620,000	2,254,000	1,525,000	2,775,000	1,525,000	124
Street Rehabilitation	8,350,000	530,000	580,000	580,000	830,000	5,830,000	131
Transit System	26,611,224	6,510,563	5,252,641	5,373,069	6,140,259	3,334,692	136
Airport	37,105,000	11,645,000	15,710,000	5,400,000	3,750,000	600,000	142
Total Expenditures	156,685,224	37,840,563	42,621,641	26,578,069	25,730,259	23,914,692	
Funding Sources:							
Debt:							
G.O. Bonds	64,180,046	12,698,290	15,331,756	11,340,000	10,710,000	14,100,000	
City:							
Road Use Tax	12,071,304	2,951,460	2,029,844	2,030,000	2,530,000	2,530,000	
Local Option Sales Tax	4,940,000	910,000	1,000,000	1,050,000	1,050,000	930,000	
Water Utility Fund	375,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	
Sewer Utility Fund	375,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	
Stormwater Utility Fund	250,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	
Transit Fund	6,786,749	1,796,457	1,469,377	852,509	1,597,930	1,070,476	
Airport Improvements Fund	565,000	120,000	275,000	50,000	60,000	60,000	
Total City Funding	25,363,053	5,977,917	4,974,221	4,182,509	5,437,930	4,790,476	
Other:							
MPO/STP Funds	8,685,000	1,090,000	2,880,000	1,835,000	2,160,000	720,000	
Federal/State Grants	58,457,125	18,074,356	19,435,664	9,220,560	7,422,329	4,304,216	
Total Other Funding	67,142,125	19,164,356	22,315,664	11,055,560	9,582,329	5,024,216	
Total Funding Sources	156,685,224	37,840,563	42,621,641	26,578,069	25,730,259	23,914,692	

Transportation - Street Improvements

City of Ames, Iowa
Capital Improvements Plan

Project/Funding Source	Total	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30	Page
Project:							
Asphalt Street Pavement Improvements	17,940,000	4,000,000	2,340,000	3,900,000	4,000,000	3,700,000	109
Concrete Pavement Improvements	10,725,000	3,800,000	3,300,000	1,525,000	1,200,000	900,000	110
Seal Coat Pavement Improvements	6,450,000	1,000,000	900,000	750,000	1,000,000	2,800,000	111
Collector Street Pavement Improvements	3,800,000	1,200,000	1,400,000	1,200,000	-	-	112
Alley Pavement Improvements Program	1,600,000	400,000	-	400,000	400,000	400,000	113
Downtown Street Pavement Improvements	250,000	250,000	-	-	-	-	114
Right-of-Way Restoration	1,625,000	325,000	325,000	325,000	325,000	325,000	115
Arterial Street Pavement Improvements	10,875,000	-	4,140,000	2,825,000	2,560,000	1,350,000	116
CyRide Route Pavement Improvements	8,225,000	-	3,800,000	1,725,000	1,500,000	1,200,000	117
Campustown Public Improvements	1,400,000	-	1,400,000	-	-	-	118
Total Project Expenditures	62,890,000	10,975,000	17,605,000	12,650,000	10,985,000	10,675,000	
Funding Sources:							
Debt:							
G.O. Bonds	54,090,000	9,950,000	14,400,000	10,490,000	8,900,000	10,350,000	
City:							
Road Use Tax	625,000	125,000	125,000	125,000	125,000	125,000	
Water Utility Fund	375,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	
Sewer Utility Fund	375,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	
Stormwater Utility Fund	250,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	
Total City Funding	1,625,000	325,000	325,000	325,000	325,000	325,000	
Other:							
MPO/STP Funds	7,175,000	700,000	2,880,000	1,835,000	1,760,000	-	
Total Funding Sources	62,890,000	10,975,000	17,605,000	12,650,000	10,985,000	10,675,000	

Asphalt Street Pavement Improvements

Project Status:

Cost Change

City Of Ames, Iowa
Capital Improvements Plan

Description/Justification

This is the annual program for reconstruction and resurfacing (rehabilitation) of asphalt streets that are typically located within residential neighborhoods. Streets within residential subdivisions have been installed using full-depth asphalt pavement since mid-1970. Full-depth reconstruction of these streets becomes necessary when pavements structurally fail. However, rehabilitation of existing asphalt streets is possible where the base asphalt layer is solid, but the surface layer has failed.

This program was created in accordance with City Council's goal of strengthening our neighborhoods.

Comments

Reconstructing or resurfacing these streets reduces ongoing maintenance costs and provides more serviceable roadways for residents. The project locations remain unchanged; however, the cost change reflects updated estimates.

The FY 2025/26 Ellis Street project will include water main upgrades (\$200,000) identified in FY 2025/26 Water System Improvements program.

Location

2025/26	Hillcrest Avenue, Ellis Street, Kentucky Avenue, Illinois Avenue, Indiana Avenue, Oklahoma Drive and Delaware Avenue (North Dakota Avenue to Ontario Street)
2026/27	Toronto Street (North Dakota Avenue to Garfield Avenue), Garfield Avenue (north and south of Ontario Street), Woodstock Avenue, and Windsor Court
2027/28	Truman Place, Regency Court, Onyx Street, Southdale Drive, and Clemens Boulevard (South Dakota Avenue to Wilder Avenue)
2028/29	Dickinson Avenue (Mortensen Avenue south through circle), Green Hills Drive (Oakwood Road to Red Oak Drive), Red Oak Drive/Circle, White Oak Drive, Burr Oak Circle, Jefferson Street/Circle, Garner Avenue/Circle, Nixon Avenue/Circle
2029/30	Roosevelt (16 th Street to 20 th Street), Cessna Street, Woodland (Franklin Avenue to Hira Park), Wilder Boulevard (170 feet north of Rowling Drive to Lincoln Way)

	Total	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30
Cost:						
Engineering	2,670,000	600,000	340,000	580,000	600,000	550,000
Construction	15,270,000	3,400,000	2,000,000	3,320,000	3,400,000	3,150,000
Total	17,940,000	4,000,000	2,340,000	3,900,000	4,000,000	3,700,000
Financing:						
G.O. Bonds	17,940,000	4,000,000	2,340,000	3,900,000	4,000,000	3,700,000
Total	17,940,000	4,000,000	2,340,000	3,900,000	4,000,000	3,700,000

Program - Activity:

Transportation - Street Improvements

Department:

Public Works

Account Number:

386-8118-439

Concrete Pavement Improvements

Project Status: Cost Change

City Of Ames, Iowa
Capital Improvements Plan

Description/Justification

This annual program rehabilitates or reconstructs concrete street sections that have deteriorated to prevent premature breakdown of the pavement. This work provides enhanced rideability for the City's residents and visitors.

Comments

These improvements reduce ongoing maintenance and repairs needed on the City's streets. The project locations remain unchanged; however, the cost change reflects updated estimates.

The FY 2025/26 Sunset Drive project will include water main upgrades (\$410,000) identified in the FY 2025/26 Water System Improvements program.

The FY 2025/26 Clark Avenue project will include using post-mounted signs (\$10,000) to indicate that the corridor is a shared bicycle facility and water main upgrades (\$370,000) identified in the FY 2025/26 Water System Improvements program.

The FY 2026/27 Ninth Street and Gaskill Drive projects will include water main upgrades (\$160,000 and \$150,000 respectfully) identified in the FY 2026/27 Water System Improvements program.

Location

2025/26	Campus Avenue (Lincoln Way to Oakland Street), Sunset Drive (Ash Avenue to Beach Avenue), and Clark Avenue (Ninth Street to 13 th Street)
2026/27	North Loop Drive, Ninth Street (Roosevelt Avenue to Grand Avenue), Gaskill Drive (250 feet south of Friley Road to Country Club Boulevard), and Crawford Avenue (end to East Ninth Street)
2027/28	Sixth Street (Clark Avenue to Duff Avenue)
2028/29	Seventh Street (Grand Avenue to Burnett Avenue)
2029/30	13 th Street (Hyland Avenue to Union Pacific Railroad Bridge)

	Total	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30
Cost:						
Engineering	2,105,000	760,000	660,000	305,000	200,000	180,000
Construction	8,620,000	3,040,000	2,640,000	1,220,000	1,000,000	720,000
Total	10,725,000	3,800,000	3,300,000	1,525,000	1,200,000	900,000
Financing:						
G.O. Bonds	10,725,000	3,800,000	3,300,000	1,525,000	1,200,000	900,000
Total	10,725,000	3,800,000	3,300,000	1,525,000	1,200,000	900,000
Program - Activity:		Department:	Account Number:			
Transportation - Street Improvements		Public Works	386-8160-439			

Seal Coat Street Pavement Improvements

Project Status: No Change

City Of Ames, Iowa
Capital Improvements Plan

Description/Justification

This is the annual program for removal and replacement of built-up seal coat streets. Built-up seal coat on streets causes excess crown which results in vehicles dragging at driveway entrances. Complete removal of this built-up seal coat allows for repairs to curbs and gutters and placement of new paving surfaces.

Comments

The areas to be resurfaced are chosen each spring based on the current street condition inventory and funding availability. Funding for this program may vary from year to year to maintain a consistent overall bonding level issue each year over five years. Cost estimates include funding for concrete curb and gutter repairs that need to be made prior to street asphalt being placed, as well as pedestrian improvements to meet the most recent state and federal accessibility requirements.

Street maintenance operation costs for patching will be reduced for the streets involved in this program.

Respondents to the 2024 Residential Satisfaction Survey indicated that reconstructing existing streets is their top capital improvement priority with 89% indicating this is somewhat or very important. Most local streets with poorer than average pavement conditions were constructed in seal coat and are now in need of reconstruction.

The FY 2025/26 Ferndale Avenue and Furman Drive project will include water main upgrades (\$695,000) identified in the FY 2025/26 Water System Improvements program.

All project locations in this program will include funding (\$150,000) in each fiscal year from the Neighborhood Curb Replacement Program to coordinate curb replacement during sealcoat removal. The project locations remain unchanged; however, the cost change reflects updated estimates.

Location

2025/26	Ferndale Avenue (20 th Street to 24 th Street), Furman Drive
2026/27	Washington Avenue (Lincoln Way to South 3 rd Street)
2027/28	Washington Avenue (South Third Street to South Fourth Street), South Fourth Street (South Walnut Avenue to Dead End)
2028/29	South Franklin Avenue (Lincoln Way to Tripp Street), Village Drive
2029/30	Country Club Boulevard (Ash Avenue to Beach Avenue)

	Total	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30
Cost:						
Engineering	1,197,500	200,000	135,000	112,500	200,000	550,000
Construction	5,252,500	800,000	765,000	637,500	800,000	2,250,000
Total	6,450,000	1,000,000	900,000	750,000	1,000,000	2,800,000
Financing:						
G.O. Bonds	6,450,000	1,000,000	900,000	750,000	1,000,000	2,800,000
Total	6,450,000	1,000,000	900,000	750,000	1,000,000	2,800,000

Program - Activity:
Transportation - Street Improvements

Department:
Public Works

Account Number:
386-8101-439

Collector Street Pavement Improvements

Project Status: Scope Change

Description/Justification.

This is the annual program for reconstruction or rehabilitation of collector streets. Locations are chosen in accordance with the most current street condition inventory and input from maintenance staff activities.

Comments

Collector street pavement improvements result in lower street maintenance costs and less frequent repairs.

The FY 2025/26 Bloomington Road project will include funding (\$100,000) to replace the shared use path from Stange Road to 500 feet west of Eisenhower Avenue. Pedestrian crossing enhancements identified in the Ames Walk Bike Roll plan will be addressed at Stange Road. Further pedestrian crossing enhancements at Hyde Avenue will be coordinated with traffic signal installation at Hyde Avenue in future fiscal years.

The FY 2026/27 West Street project will include water main upgrades (\$415,000) identified in the FY 2026/27 Water System Improvements program.

Location

2025/26	Bloomington Road (GW Carver Avenue to 500 feet west of Eisenhower Avenue)
2026/27	West Street (Crane Avenue to Hillcrest Avenue)
2027/28	Wheeler Street (Hoover Avenue to Roy Key Avenue)

	Total	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30
Cost:						
Engineering	700,000	200,000	300,000	200,000		
Construction	3,100,000	1,000,000	1,100,000	1,000,000		
Total	3,800,000	1,200,000	1,400,000	1,200,000		
Financing:						
G.O. Bonds	3,100,000	500,000	1,400,000	1,200,000		
MPO/STBG Funds	700,000	700,000				
Total	3,800,000	1,200,000	1,400,000	1,200,000		

Program - Activity:	Department:	Account Number:
Transportation - Street Improvements	Public Works	320-8133-439
		386-8133-439

Alley Pavement Improvements Program

Project Status: Delayed

City Of Ames, Iowa
Capital Improvements Plan

Description/Justification

This program is to reconstruct existing paved alleys where the structural integrity of the existing pavement has diminished beyond repair. These alleys are primarily in the vicinity south of Downtown. However, projects that are part of this CIP program may be community-wide if the adjacent properties (or the City) have previously paid for installation of the existing pavement.

Comments

Projects FY 2027/28 through 2029/30 have been delayed one year leaving no project in FY 2026/27 to aid in balancing General Obligation Bond amounts.

Location

2025/26	Alley south of Lincoln Way (South Sherman Avenue to South Kellogg Avenue)
2027/28	Alley south of Lincoln Way (Washington Avenue to South Walnut Avenue)
2028/29	Alley south of Lincoln Way (South Duff Avenue to South Sherman Avenue)
2029/30	Alley south of Lincoln Way (South Kellogg Avenue to Washington Avenue)

	Total	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30
Cost:						
Engineering	320,000	80,000		80,000	80,000	80,000
Construction	1,280,000	320,000		320,000	320,000	320,000
Total	1,600,000	400,000		400,000	400,000	400,000
Financing:						
G.O. Bonds	1,600,000	400,000		400,000	400,000	400,000
Total	1,600,000	400,000		400,000	400,000	400,000
Program - Activity:		Department:	Account Number:			
Transportation - Street Improvements		Public Works	386-8172-439			

Downtown Street Pavement Improvements

Project Status: No Change

Description/Justification

This annual program is for the rehabilitation or reconstruction of streets and alleys within the downtown area. This area stretches from Lincoln Way to Seventh Street and from Grand Avenue to Duff Avenue. These projects involve rehabilitation or reconstruction of street pavements, storm and sanitary sewers, and streetscapes. The program addresses the recommendations of the Downtown Improvements Study for the side streets in the downtown area.

Comments

Improvements to the streets and alleys in the downtown area will enhance the downtown business district.

Location

2025/26 East/west alley north of Lincoln Way (Sherman Avenue to Kellogg Avenue)

	Total	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30
Cost:						
Engineering	35,000	35,000				
Construction	215,000	215,000				
Total	250,000	250,000				
Financing:						
G.O. Bonds	250,000	250,000				
Total	250,000	250,000				
Program - Activity:		Department:	Account Number:			
Transportation - Street Improvements		Public Works	386-8150-439			

Right-of-Way Restoration

Project Status: No Change

City Of Ames, Iowa
Capital Improvements Plan

Description/Justification

In recent years, staff has continued to observe and analyze restoration of the right-of-way areas associated with CIP projects. Some areas have been restored with sod, while other areas have been restored using seed or dormant seed. Restoration appears to depend on the weather at the time of installation. In areas where vegetation is not anticipated to be successful, other forms of restoration may be used, such as pervious pavement or standard concrete.

Instead of including restoration as a subcontract in each CIP individual project as was done in the past, this program facilitates more successful restoration through a separate contract with a contractor that specializes in vegetation establishment.

Comments

Conditions for each restoration area are considered independently to select the appropriate and sustainable alternative. Restoration examples include sod, native turf, and pervious and standard colored/stained concrete.

Location

Various locations (coordinated with Public Works streets and utility projects)

	Total	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30
Cost:						
Engineering	200,000	40,000	40,000	40,000	40,000	40,000
Construction	1,425,000	285,000	285,000	285,000	285,000	285,000
Total	1,625,000	325,000	325,000	325,000	325,000	325,000
Financing:						
Road Use Tax	625,000	125,000	125,000	125,000	125,000	125,000
Water Utility Fund	375,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000
Sewer Utility Fund	375,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000
Stormwater Utility Fund	250,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000
Total	1,625,000	325,000	325,000	325,000	325,000	325,000
Program - Activity:		Department:	Account Number:			
Transportation - Street Improvements		Public Works	Various			

Arterial Street Pavement Improvements

Project Status: Cost Change

City Of Ames, Iowa
Capital Improvements Plan

Description/Justification

This annual program utilizes current repair and reconstruction techniques to improve the City's arterial streets with asphalt or concrete. These pavement improvements are needed to restore structural integrity, serviceability and rideability. Targeted streets are reaching a point of accelerated deterioration, but by improving the streets prior to excessive problems the service life can be extended before complete reconstruction becomes necessary.

Comments

Improving these streets proactively reduces maintenance costs, thereby allowing for additional and earlier maintenance of other streets. The cost change is reflective of updates to construction estimates.

The FY 2026/27 East Lincoln Way project will include water main upgrades (\$300,000) identified in the FY 2026/27 Water System Improvements program. The project will also include funding (\$200,000) to install a shared use path in the corridor.

The FY 2027/28 East 13th Street project will include funding (\$125,000) to replace the shared use path adjacent to the project location.

Location

2026/27	East Lincoln Way (Duff Avenue to South Skunk River)
2027/28	East 13 th Street (McCormick Avenue to Dayton Avenue) and Duff Avenue (Sixth Street to 13 th Street)
2028/29	Duff Avenue (20 th Street to Northwood Drive)
2029/30	East 13 th Street (between ramps under Interstate 35) and East Lincoln Way/Dayton Avenue intersection

	Total	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30
Cost:						
Engineering	1,595,000		540,000	425,000	360,000	270,000
Construction	9,280,000		3,600,000	2,400,000	2,200,000	1,080,000
Total	10,875,000		4,140,000	2,825,000	2,560,000	1,350,000
Financing:						
G.O. Bonds	4,400,000		1,260,000	990,000	800,000	1,350,000
MPO/STP Funds	6,475,000		2,880,000	1,835,000	1,760,000	
Total	10,875,000		4,140,000	2,825,000	2,560,000	1,350,000

Program - Activity:
Transportation - Street Improvements

Department:
Public Works

Account Number:

CyRide Route Pavement Improvements

Project Status: Cost Change

City Of Ames, Iowa
Capital Improvements Plan

Description/Justification

This is the annual program for pavement improvements to streets that are or previously were used as bus routes.

Some of these streets were not designed or built for continuous bus loading, so when the streets were designated as bus routes, accelerated deterioration of the street surfaces occurred. These pavement improvements will restore street sections.

Comments

Improving these streets now will reduce ongoing maintenance needs and improve rideability for our residents and visitors. This in turn will allow for additional and earlier maintenance of other streets, which will prolong their useful life. The cost changes are reflected of updates to the construction estimates.

The FY 2026/27 Lincoln Way project will include water main upgrades (\$850,000) identified in the FY 2026/27 Water System Improvements programs.

The FY 2027/28 Bloomington Road project will include funding (\$125,000) to replace the shared use path adjacent to the project location and Multi-Modal Roadway Improvements funding (\$100,000) for pedestrian crossing enhancements.

Location

2026/27	Lincoln Way (Beach Avenue to Hayward Avenue)
2027/28	Bloomington Road (Hoover Avenue to Eisenhower Avenue)
2028/29	16 th Street (Grand Avenue to Ridgewood Avenue)
2029/30	Dickinson Avenue (Mortensen Road to Steinbeck Street) and Steinbeck Street (South Dakota Avenue to Poe Avenue)

	Total	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30
Cost:						
Engineering	1,605,000		760,000	345,000	300,000	200,000
Construction	6,620,000		3,040,000	1,380,000	1,200,000	1,000,000
Total	8,225,000		3,800,000	1,725,000	1,500,000	1,200,000
Financing:						
G.O. Bonds	8,225,000		3,800,000	1,725,000	1,500,000	1,200,000
Total	8,225,000		3,800,000	1,725,000	1,500,000	1,200,000
Program - Activity:		Department:	Account Number:			
Transportation - Street Improvements		Public Works				

Description/Justification
This project includes public infrastructure improvements along Chamberlain Street (Lynn Avenue to Hayward Avenue), continuing street and utility improvements completed in the area. The project will involve sanitary sewer, storm sewer, and roadway pavement improvements. The project design will incorporate public outreach.

Comments
The pavement conditions along Chamberlain Street demonstrate the need to complete reconstruction/rehabilitation to restore structural integrity of the roadway. During design of the project, further analysis of drainage conditions in the area will be completed to determine extents of storm sewer upgrades needed in the area. The cost change is reflective of updated construction estimates.

The 100-block of Welch Avenue was reconstructed with utility system replacements, addition of bike lanes and water quality improvement tree trenches in 2020. The 200-block of Welch Avenue is currently under design for pavement reconstruction and utility system replacements with construction in 2025 to coordinate with special events planned in the area.

Location
2026/27Chamberlain Street (Lynn Avenue to Hayward Avenue)

		Total	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30
Cost:							
Engineering		300,000		300,000			
Construction		1,100,000		1,100,000			
	Total	1,400,000		1,400,000			
Financing:							
G.O. Bonds		1,400,000		1,400,000			
	Total	1,400,000		1,400,000			
Program - Activity:			Department:	Account Number:			
Transportation - Street Improvements			Public Works				

Transportation - Shared Use Path System

City of Ames, Iowa
Capital Improvements Plan

Project/Funding Source	Total	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30	Page
Project:							
Shared Use Path System Expansion	3,375,000	825,000	450,000	500,000	500,000	1,100,000	121
Multi-Modal Roadway Improvements	1,480,000	360,000	320,000	100,000	300,000	400,000	122
Shared Use Path Maintenance	2,175,000	375,000	450,000	450,000	450,000	450,000	123
Total Project Expenditures	7,030,000	1,560,000	1,220,000	1,050,000	1,250,000	1,950,000	
Funding Sources:							
City:							
Local Option Sales Tax	4,440,000	810,000	900,000	950,000	950,000	830,000	
Road Use Tax	1,480,000	360,000	320,000	100,000	300,000	400,000	
Total City Funding	5,920,000	1,170,000	1,220,000	1,050,000	1,250,000	1,230,000	
Other:							
MPO/STP Funds	1,110,000	390,000	-	-	-	720,000	
Total Funding Sources	7,030,000	1,560,000	1,220,000	1,050,000	1,250,000	1,950,000	

Transportation - Shared Use Path Summary

City of Ames, Iowa
Capital Improvements Plan

Project by Activity	Total	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30	Page
Street Improvements:							
Concrete Pavement Improvements	10,000	10,000	-	-	-	-	110
Collector Street Pavement Improvements	100,000	100,000	-	-	-	-	112
Arterial Street Pavement Improvements	325,000	-	200,000	125,000	-	-	116
CyRide Route Pavement Improvements	125,000	-	-	125,000	-	-	117
Campustown Public Improvements	100,000	-	100,000	-	-	-	118
Total Street Improvement Projects	660,000	110,000	300,000	250,000	-	-	
Shared Use Path System:							
Shared Use Path System Expansion	3,375,000	825,000	450,000	500,000	500,000	1,100,000	121
Multi-Modal Roadway Improvements	1,480,000	360,000	320,000	100,000	300,000	400,000	122
Shared Use Path Maintenance	2,175,000	375,000	450,000	450,000	450,000	450,000	123
Total Shared Use Path Projects	7,030,000	1,560,000	1,220,000	1,050,000	1,250,000	1,950,000	
Traffic Improvements:							
Traffic System Capacity Improvements	150,000	150,000	-	-	-	-	125
Traffic Signal Program	125,000	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000	127
Total Traffic Improvement Projects	275,000	175,000	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000	
Street Rehabilitation							
Lincoln Way Bridge Replacement	200,000	-	-	-	-	200,000	135
Total Shared Use Path Projects	200,000	-	-	-	-	200,000	
Total Shared Use Path Projects	8,165,000	1,845,000	1,545,000	1,325,000	1,275,000	2,175,000	
Average Expenditure/Fiscal Year	1,633,000						

Shared Use Path System Expansion

Project Status: No Change

City Of Ames, Iowa
Capital Improvements Plan

Description/Justification

This program provides for construction of shared use paths on street rights-of-way, adjacent to streets, and through greenbelts. The City's Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) identifies those paths that separate bicycle traffic from higher-speed automobile traffic.

Comments

The projects included in this program are subject to acquiring voluntary easements from property owners. Construction of certain segments are contingent upon acquisition of land. Ongoing shared use path maintenance costs will increase as these new shared use paths are added across the City.

Location

2025/26	South Dayton Avenue (East Lincoln Way to Southeast 16 th Street \$725,000); Moore Memorial Park to Ioway Creek Trail Construction (\$100,000)
2026/27	Mortensen Road path (Dickinson Road to South Dakota Avenue (\$190,000); South Duff path (South Fifth Street to South Third Street \$260,000)
2027/28	Grand Avenue (13 th Street to 16 th Street \$500,000)
2028/29	24 th Street path (Grand Avenue to Duff Avenue \$500,000)
2029/30	Skunk River Trail (East Lincoln Way to South East 16 th Street)

	Total	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30
Cost:						
Engineering	695,000	145,000	150,000	100,000	100,000	200,000
Construction	2,680,000	680,000	300,000	400,000	400,000	900,000
Total	3,375,000	825,000	450,000	500,000	500,000	1,100,000
Financing:						
Local Option Sales Tax	2,265,000	435,000	450,000	500,000	500,000	380,000
MPO/STP Funds	1,110,000	390,000				720,000
Total	3,375,000	825,000	450,000	500,000	500,000	1,100,000

Program - Activity:

Transportation - Shared Use Paths

Department:

Public Works

Account Number:

030-8802-439
030-8877-439
320-8834-439

Multi-Modal Roadway Improvements

Project Status:

Schedule Change

City Of Ames, Iowa
Capital Improvements Plan

Description/Justification

Multi-modal transportation refers to the variety of modes used by Ames residents to travel the transport system. The modes specifically addressed in this program include bicycling and automobiles.

This program is aimed at improving the roadway to create a safer interaction between these two modes using alternatives such as improved crossing visibility at intersections, bike detection, and on-street facilities (e.g. bike lanes and sharrows). Bike lanes consist of a portion of the roadway designated by striping, signing, and pavement markings for the preferential or exclusive use of bicyclists. Sharrows, also known as shared lane markings, are markings used in lanes shared by bicycles and motor vehicles when a travel lane is too narrow to provide a standard width bike lane. Bike detection improvements include retrofitting signalized intersections to radar detection to facilitate the movement of bicycles. These improvements retrofit existing streets to provide a useful and appropriate route of travel for these popular modes used by Ames residents.

Locations

2025/26	Wilder Boulevard (mini-roundabout corridor improvement)
2026/27	University Boulevard and Lincoln Way (protected intersection improvements)
2027/28	Bloomington Road and Fletcher Boulevard (enhanced pedestrian crossing)
2028/29	16 th Street (shared use path from Grand Avenue to Ridgewood Avenue)
2029/30	Lincoln Way and Stanton Avenue (pedestrian crossing modifications)

	Total	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30
Cost:						
Engineering	250,000	60,000	45,000	20,000	50,000	75,000
Construction	1,230,000	300,000	275,000	80,000	250,000	325,000
Total	1,480,000	360,000	320,000	100,000	300,000	400,000
Financing:						
Road Use Tax	1,480,000	360,000	320,000	100,000	300,000	400,000
Total	1,480,000	360,000	320,000	100,000	300,000	400,000
Program - Activity:		Department:	Account Number:			
Transportation - Shared Use Paths		Public Works	060-8821-439			

Shared Use Path Maintenance

Project Status: No Change

City Of Ames, Iowa
Capital Improvements Plan

Description/Justification

The City's shared use path recreational and transportation system has continued to expand throughout the community. These shared use paths were typically constructed with five inches of asphalt or concrete pavement. Structural failure, drainage problems, and vegetation infringement are several causes for the need to improve these pavements. This annual program provides for those improvements.

Comments

The pavement management system for shared use paths is used to guide maintenance activities to segments that are in need of repair. This inventory aids in prioritizing those segments throughout the community.

Spot repairs that are identified will be prioritized by severity of the needed repair and then addressed through the annual operations budget. Improvements to the shared use path pavements will enhance the safety and usability of the transportation/recreational system and improve the aesthetics of the right-of-way. Newer rehabilitation techniques such as mastic joint repair and micro-surface treatments are being utilized as a part of this program. This will provide for a system-wide maintenance schedule of joint sealing and surface slurry seal every five years on asphalt paths, along with scheduled overlay and reconstruction for every path.

Locations

Various locations throughout Ames will be identified using pavement management data and user feedback.

	Total	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30
Cost:						
Engineering	314,000	54,000	65,000	65,000	65,000	65,000
Construction	1,861,000	321,000	385,000	385,000	385,000	385,000
Total	2,175,000	375,000	450,000	450,000	450,000	450,000
Financing:						
Local Option Sales Tax	2,175,000	375,000	450,000	450,000	450,000	450,000
Total	2,175,000	375,000	450,000	450,000	450,000	450,000
Program - Activity:		Department:	Account Number:			
Transportation - Shared Use Paths		Public Works	030-8811-439			

Transportation - Traffic Improvements

City of Ames, Iowa
Capital Improvements Plan

Project/Funding Source	Total	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30	Page
Project:							
Traffic System Capacity Improvements	6,190,000	3,070,000	120,000	750,000	1,500,000	750,000	125
Intelligent Transportation System Program	4,154,000	2,795,000	1,359,000	-	-	-	126
Traffic Signal Program	2,480,000	480,000	500,000	500,000	500,000	500,000	127
Accessibility Enhancements Program	1,000,000	200,000	200,000	200,000	200,000	200,000	128
Regional Transportation Count Program	375,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	129
Metropolitan Transportation Plan Update	500,000	-	-	-	500,000	-	130
Total Project Expenditures	14,699,000	6,620,000	2,254,000	1,525,000	2,775,000	1,525,000	
Funding Sources:							
Debt:							
G.O. Bonds	3,066,296	1,887,540	178,756	-	1,000,000	-	
City:							
Road Use Tax	6,866,304	1,936,460	1,004,844	1,225,000	1,275,000	1,425,000	
Local Option Sales Tax	500,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	
Total City Funding	7,366,304	2,036,460	1,104,844	1,325,000	1,375,000	1,525,000	
Other:							
MPO Planning Funds	400,000	-	-	-	400,000	-	
Federal/State Grants	3,866,400	2,696,000	970,400	200,000	-	-	
Total Other Funding	4,266,400	2,696,000	970,400	200,000	400,000	-	
Total Funding Sources	14,699,000	6,620,000	2,254,000	1,525,000	2,775,000	1,525,000	

Traffic System Capacity Improvements

Project Status: No Change

City Of Ames, Iowa
Capital Improvements Plan

Description/Justification

This program will address several issues identified in the 2045 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP). The 2045 LRTP identified several critical intersections that were at or nearing capacity such that improvements were needed. This program will provide for the planning, design, and construction of those improvements.

Comments

All the locations except for the FY 2026/27 project were identified in the Grand Avenue Intersections Improvement Study that was accepted by City Council in October 2022.

Location

2025/26	13 th Street and Grand Avenue intersection improvement (construction) (shared use path portion \$150,000)
2026/27	Lincoln Way corridor study (Grand Avenue to Duff Avenue)
2027/28	20 th Street and Grand Avenue intersection improvements
2028/29	24 th Street and Grand Avenue intersection improvements
2029/30	Location to be determined after Metropolitan Transportation Plan finalization

	Total	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30
Cost:						
Engineering	888,000	233,000	120,000	135,000	250,000	150,000
Land/ROW						
Construction	5,302,000	2,837,000		615,000	1,250,000	600,000
Total	6,190,000	3,070,000	120,000	750,000	1,500,000	750,000
Financing:						
G.O. Bonds	2,520,000	1,520,000			1,000,000	
Road Use Tax	2,770,000	850,000	120,000	550,000	500,000	750,000
State Grants	900,000	700,000		200,000		
Total	6,190,000	3,070,000	120,000	750,000	1,500,000	750,000

Program - Activity:

Transportation - Traffic Improvements

Department:

Public Works

Account Number:

060-7525-439
320-7525-439
386-7525-439

Description/Justification
The 2040 Ames Area Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) took effect in late 2015. That plan identified a wide range of transportation improvements, including projects that utilize technology referred to as Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS). Traffic adaptive systems are a form of ITS infrastructure that conduct real-time optimization of traffic and pedestrian flow at signalized intersections. Traffic adaptive systems provide a significant improvement in efficiency and will provide reliable travel times during all times of the day. The 2045 LRTP shows the completion of the program with the sixth and final phase. Traffic signal/flow improvements rank as one of the highest priority areas (82%) from the 2024 Ames Resident Satisfaction Survey.

Location
2025/26 Phase 5: Bloomington Road, 24th Street, Stange Road, 13th Street, and North Dakota Avenue (north west Ames) (\$2,795,000)
2026/27 Phase 6: South 16th Street; South Grand Avenue; South Dayton Avenue (network extensions/looping) (\$1,359,000)

		Total	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30
Cost:							
Engineering		446,000	300,000	146,000			
Construction		3,708,000	2,495,000	1,213,000			
	Total	4,154,000	2,795,000	1,359,000			
Financing:							
G.O. Bonds		546,296	367,540	178,756			
Road Use Tax		641,304	431,460	209,844			
ICAAP & CRP Grant Funds		2,966,400	1,996,000	970,400			
	Total	4,154,000	2,795,000	1,359,000			
Program - Activity:		Department:		Account Number:			
Transportation - Traffic Improvements		Public Works		060-7517-439			
				320-7517-439			
				385-7517-439			

Traffic Signal Program

Project Status:

Scope Change

City Of Ames, Iowa
Capital Improvements Plan

Description/Justification

The Traffic Signal Program is the annual program that provides for replacing older traffic signals and for constructing new traffic signals in the City. This will result in improved visibility, reliability, and appearance of signals.

Although recent advances in technology have elongated the normal, useful life for traffic signal installations well past the previously expected 25 years, some of the older-generation traffic signals still in use exceed their functional age. Components at those installations (including conduits, wiring, signal heads, and poles) need to be completely replaced. This program also provides funding for those maintenance needs as well as the necessary upgrading of the traffic signal system as technology continues to change. In recent years, traffic signal replacements have included combined video/radar detection systems instead of in-pavement loop detection systems that frequently failed. Another advantage of the video/radar detection system is that it detects bicycles as well as motor vehicles.

Comments

Increasing material costs (specifically for copper wiring and steel for the poles and mast arms) and additional federal design requirements (such as additional ADA facilities) have resulted in an increased cost for each standard traffic signal. When a full replacement is not necessary, staff will identify equipment within existing signal locations that can be replaced to achieve similar operational improvements to a major reconstruction. Additional locations were added in FY 2025/26 and FY 2028/29; however, overall cost estimates for each fiscal year remain the same.

Locations

2025/26 South Duff Avenue/South Third Street (\$280,000); emergency vehicle preemption upgrades (\$200,000)

2026/27 University Boulevard and Mortensen Road signal replacement

2027/28 University Boulevard and Lincoln Way signal replacement

2028/29 Lincoln Way/Marshall Avenue cabinet replacement & pole painting (\$150,000); 13th Street/Ridgewood signal pole and cabinet replacement (\$350,000)

2029/30 South Duff Avenue/Airport Road signal replacement

	Total	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30
Cost:						
Engineering	252,000	50,000	52,000	50,000	50,000	50,000
Construction	2,228,000	430,000	448,000	450,000	450,000	450,000
Total	2,480,000	480,000	500,000	500,000	500,000	500,000
Financing:						
Road Use Tax	2,480,000	480,000	500,000	500,000	500,000	500,000
Total	2,480,000	480,000	500,000	500,000	500,000	500,000

Program - Activity:

Transportation - Traffic Improvements

Department:

Public Works

Account Number:

060-7556-439

060-7558-439

Accessibility Enhancement Program

Project Status: No Change

City Of Ames, Iowa
Capital Improvements Plan

Description/Justification

This annual program combines sidewalk and pedestrian ramp improvements with additional accessibility upgrades at traffic signals and other publicly owned parking facilities. The program provides for removing and replacing sidewalk intersection crosswalk panels and handicap ramps at locations that fail to meet the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) requirement to have truncated dome warning panels installed. It also includes retrofitting existing signalized traffic control devices with audible and vibrotactile pushbuttons, as well as upgrading parking stalls to current accessibility standards in any on-street location or parking lot owned by the City of Ames. Wherever possible, this program is combined with and used in conjunction with other roadway, traffic signal replacement, or shared use path improvement projects for pedestrian ramp reconstruction.

Comments

City Staff prioritize the retrofitting of existing traffic signals that currently do not have audible and vibrotactile operation. These locations will be prioritized along with other ADA improvement needs that are identified throughout the year. This program provides safer pedestrian facilities and limits the City's liability for injury to residents using public sidewalks in a deteriorated condition. The program also improves ADA accessibility at municipal facilities.

	Total	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30
Cost:						
Engineering	150,000	30,000	30,000	30,000	30,000	30,000
Construction	850,000	170,000	170,000	170,000	170,000	170,000
Total	1,000,000	200,000	200,000	200,000	200,000	200,000
Financing:						
Road Use Tax	500,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000
Local Option Sales Tax	500,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000
Total	1,000,000	200,000	200,000	200,000	200,000	200,000
Program - Activity:		Department:	Account Number:			
Transportation - Traffic Improvements		Public Works	030-7510-439			
			060-7510-439			

Regional Transportation Count Program

Project Status: No Change

Description/Justification

There is an ongoing need for transportation-related data in the Ames regional area. This program is for the collection and management of travel demand data from all transportation modes including walking, biking, and various forms of motorized travel. Data from this program will be used to track critical transportation system performance measures which are used to analyze and forecast transportation system needs and priorities. The funding included each year is an annual base for data collections services.

Comments

The data collectors continuously record traffic volume, speed, and classification on arterial and collector streets throughout the network. This data supports long-range transportation planning and modeling efforts, as well as pavement management, safety analysis, and other system performance measures as needed.

Each year, traffic improvements rank as one of the highest priority areas from the Ames Resident Satisfaction Survey.

	Total	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30
Cost:						
Engineering	375,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000
Total	375,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000
Financing:						
Road Use Tax	375,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000
Total	375,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000
Program - Activity:		Department:	Account Number:			
Transportation - Traffic Improvements		Public Works	060-7515-439			

Metropolitan Transportation Plan Update

Project Status: No Change

City Of Ames, Iowa
Capital Improvements Plan

Description/Justification

The FY 2028/29 project will update the Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) for the Ames region. This was previously referred to as the Long Range Transportation Plan. Typically, an update to the MTP takes approximately 24 months to complete. The federal government requires that the MTP be updated every five years. Therefore, this update must be completed and approved by late 2030.

Comments

FY 2028/29 \$500,000 Metro Plan Update

	Total	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30
Cost:						
Engineering	500,000				500,000	
Total	500,000				500,000	
Financing:						
Road Use Tax Fund	100,000				100,000	
MPO Planning Funds	400,000				400,000	
Total	500,000				500,000	
Program - Activity:		Department:	Account Number:			
Transportation - Traffic Improvements		Public Works				

Transportation - Street Rehabilitation

City of Ames, Iowa
Capital Improvements Plan

Project/Funding Source	Total	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30	Page
Project:							
Pavement Restoration	1,950,000	350,000	400,000	400,000	400,000	400,000	132
Neighborhood Curb Replacement Program	750,000	150,000	150,000	150,000	150,000	150,000	133
Streetscape Enhancements	150,000	30,000	30,000	30,000	30,000	30,000	134
Lincoln Way Bridge Replacement	5,500,000	-	-	-	250,000	5,250,000	135
Total Project Expenditures	8,350,000	530,000	580,000	580,000	830,000	5,830,000	
Funding Sources:							
Debt:							
G.O. Bonds	3,750,000	-	-	-	-	3,750,000	
City:							
Road Use Tax	3,100,000	530,000	580,000	580,000	830,000	580,000	
Other:							
Federal/State Grants	1,500,000	-	-	-	-	1,500,000	
Total Funding Sources	8,350,000	530,000	580,000	580,000	830,000	5,830,000	

Pavement Restoration

Project Status: No Change

Description/Justification

This annual program is for preventive and proactive surface maintenance that does not involve structural changes to the street. This allows for a large variety of possible maintenance activities, including slurry seal, full-depth concrete paving, milling and patching of asphalt, joint sealing, diamond grinding, partial depth patching, and new maintenance techniques to preserve and enhance the City's streets.

Comments

Funding for this program will increase incrementally annually up to \$400,000 in FY 2026/27. The cost increase is due to rising material and contracting costs for pavement restoration priorities in this program to help extend the longevity of the pavement system and supplement other pavement restoration activities. Priorities for this program are identified using information from the pavement management system and input from citizens and maintenance crews.

Location

Locations will be prioritized using the street condition index along with staff observations to gain the best possible life cycle of streets.

	Total	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30
Cost:						
Construction	1,950,000	350,000	400,000	400,000	400,000	400,000
Total	1,950,000	350,000	400,000	400,000	400,000	400,000
Financing:						
Road Use Tax	1,950,000	350,000	400,000	400,000	400,000	400,000
Total	1,950,000	350,000	400,000	400,000	400,000	400,000
Program - Activity:		Department:	Account Number:			
Transportation - Street Rehabilitation		Public Works	060-7723-439			

Neighborhood Curb Replacement Program

Project Status: No Change

City Of Ames, Iowa
Capital Improvements Plan

Description/Justification

This is the annual program for replacement of deteriorated curb and gutter in selected neighborhood areas. Curb and gutter replacement enhances neighborhood and right-of-way aesthetics and provides for better storm water drainage.

Areas to receive curb and gutter replacement are selected by staff using input of neighborhoods, the condition of the curb, and the extent of needed repairs.

Comments

The Neighborhood Curb Replacement Program decision criteria approved by the City Council includes the extent of curb deterioration, the number of residential structures on the block, and the longitudinal grade. Locations are coordinated with other pavement improvement locations in the CIP.

Location

2025/26	Ferndale Avenue (20 th Street to 24 th Street)
2026/27	Washington Avenue (South 2 nd Street to South Third Street)
2027/28	Washington Avenue (Lincoln Way to South Second Street)
2028/29	South Franklin Avenue (Lincoln Way to Tripp Street), Village Drive
2029/30	Country Club Boulevard (Ash Avenue to Beach Avenue)

	Total	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30
Cost:						
Engineering	100,000	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000
Construction	650,000	130,000	130,000	130,000	130,000	130,000
Total	750,000	150,000	150,000	150,000	150,000	150,000
Financing:						
Road Use Tax	750,000	150,000	150,000	150,000	150,000	150,000
Total	750,000	150,000	150,000	150,000	150,000	150,000
Program - Activity:		Department:	Account Number:			
Transportation - Street Rehabilitation		Public Works	060-7770-439			

Streetscape Enhancements

Project Status: No Change

City of Ames, Iowa
Capital Improvements Plan

Description/Justification

This annual program provides for the enhancement of the rights-of-way in the City of Ames. The funding may be used for several elements including retaining walls, entryway enhancements and median enhancements.

Comments

In addition to retaining wall repairs, the entryway enhancement portion is be used to enhance or repair other right-of-way elements such as decorative signs, benches, and monuments.

Location

Various

	Total	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30
Cost:						
Streetscape Enhancements	150,000	30,000	30,000	30,000	30,000	30,000
Total	150,000	30,000	30,000	30,000	30,000	30,000
Financing:						
Road Use Tax	150,000	30,000	30,000	30,000	30,000	30,000
Total	150,000	30,000	30,000	30,000	30,000	30,000
Program - Activity:		Department:	Account Number:			
Transportation - Street Rehabilitation		Public Works	060-7731-439			

Lincoln Way Bridge Replacement

Project Status: No Change

Description/Justification

This program provides funding for necessary repairs recommended by the Iowa Department of Transportation (IDOT) biennial bridge inspections report. The IDOT requires inspections for bridges within the City of Ames every two years.

Comments

An updated bridge inspection performed in 2024 determined the bridge sufficiency rating decreased to 61.6 out of 100 (from 80 in 2022). The rating dropped significantly because the superstructure rating (bridge beams) decreased from fair to poor. Updated estimates indicate that costs necessary for repairs have increased to \$2,350,000 (extending the bridge life 15 years) and costs for full replacement are estimated at \$4,920,000 (new bridge life of 75 years).

Comparing the estimated repair cost and dividing it by the added 15-year service life of the bridge gives a cost of \$156,667 per service year. A similar calculation for replacement yields \$65,600 per service year. This indicates that the cost per year to replace the bridge when analyzed over the life span of the structure is 58% less than the cost per year for repairs. In order to qualify for Iowa Department of Transportation (IDOT) City Bridge Funding, any repairs must bring all portions of the bridge scoring in a poor condition up to current standards and have a remaining lifespan of at least 15 years. Once the bridge is repaired, it will not qualify for future state or federal funds for at least 10 years. Thus, staff is recommending full replacement of the bridge. The full replacement would also allow for upgrades to bicycle and pedestrian facilities on the bridge, bringing them up to current design standards.

The bridge will continue to be inspected biennially unless conditions warrant an accelerated inspection schedule. However, it should be noted the bridge is still safe for travel. Funding is included in FY 2028/29 to begin design and planning for the replacement of the existing bridge with anticipation that the replacement would be planned for FY 2029/30.

- 2028/29 Lincoln Way Bridge over Ioway Creek – Design Phase
- 2029/30 Lincoln Way Bridge over Ioway Creek – Construction Phase

	Total	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30
Cost:						
Engineering	580,000				250,000	330,000
Construction	4,920,000					4,920,000
Total	5,500,000				250,000	5,250,000
Financing:						
Road Use Tax Fund	250,000				250,000	
Iowa DOT City Bridge Fund	1,500,000					1,500,000
G.O. Bonds	3,750,000					3,750,000
Total	5,500,000				250,000	5,250,000
Program - Activity:		Department:	Account Number:			
Transportation - Street Rehabilitation		Public Works				

Transportation - Transit System

City of Ames, Iowa
Capital Improvements Plan

Project/Funding Source	Total	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30	Page
Project:							
CyRide Vehicle Replacement	21,019,224	5,228,163	4,100,241	4,300,669	5,097,859	2,292,292	137
CyRide Facility Improvements	4,090,000	830,000	830,000	830,000	800,000	800,000	138
CyRide Shop/Office Equipment	637,000	267,400	137,400	77,400	77,400	77,400	139
Bus Stop Improvements	565,000	110,000	110,000	115,000	115,000	115,000	140
CyRide Technology Improvements	300,000	75,000	75,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	141
Total Project Expenditures	26,611,224	6,510,563	5,252,641	5,373,069	6,140,259	3,334,692	
Funding Sources:							
City:							
Transit Capital Reserve	6,786,749	1,796,457	1,469,377	852,509	1,597,930	1,070,476	
Other:							
Federal/State Grants	19,824,475	4,714,106	3,783,264	4,520,560	4,542,329	2,264,216	
Total Funding Sources	26,611,224	6,510,563	5,252,641	5,373,069	6,140,259	3,334,692	

CyRide Vehicle Replacement and Rehabilitation

Project Status: Cost Change

City of Ames, Iowa
Capital Improvements Plan

Description/Justification

CyRide will replace buses in the fleet as grant funding opportunities arise to ensure vehicles are in a state of good repair, as required by the Federal Transit Administration. CyRide anticipates future state funding for new buses through the state's capital funding allocation process. Staff will continue to look for other grant opportunities to continue moving toward a more sustainable fleet. CyRide's Zero-Emission roadmap, developed by the Center for Transportation and the Environment (CTE) and approved by the Transit Board, supports up to 17 battery electric buses in the current facility and on the existing routes. CyRide has five vehicles used for administrative support in the operations division for drivers to utilize when switching shifts.

In total, these purchases are programmed as follows:

2025/26	Replace six 40' buses (\$3,962,372); replace one 40' bus with a battery electric bus (\$1,215,791); replace one administrative vehicle (\$50,000)
2026/27	Replace four 40' buses (\$2,773,661); replace one 40' bus with a battery electric bus (\$1,276,580); replace one administrative vehicle (\$50,000)
2027/28	Replace four 40' buses (\$2,910,260); replace one 40' bus with a battery electric bus (\$1,340,409); replace one administrative vehicle (\$50,000)
2028/29	Replace five 40' buses (\$3,640,430); replace one 40' bus with a battery electric bus (\$1,407,429); replace one administrative vehicle (\$50,000)
2029/30	Replace one 40' bus (\$764,491); replace one 40' bus with a battery electric bus (\$1,477,801); replace one administrative vehicle (\$50,000)

Comments

New buses will be funded with 80-85% federal funding, including the State of Iowa's Iowa Clean Air Attainment Program (ICAAP) funds, which are a distribution of federal dollars.

	Total	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30
Cost:						
Large Buses - 40' New	20,769,224	5,178,163	4,050,241	4,250,669	5,047,859	2,242,292
Large Buses - 60' New						
Administrative Vehicles	250,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000
Dial-A-Ride Bus						
Total	21,019,224	5,228,163	4,100,241	4,300,669	5,097,859	2,292,292
Financing:						
Transit Fund	4,514,749	1,178,057	980,977	444,109	1,219,530	692,076
PTMS Funds	14,550,375	3,673,056	2,742,214	3,456,560	3,478,329	1,200,216
STP Funds	1,954,100	377,050	377,050	400,000	400,000	400,000
Total	21,019,224	5,228,163	4,100,241	4,300,669	5,097,859	2,292,292

Program - Activity:
Transportation - Transit

Department:
CyRide

Account Number:
552-1159-439
552-1169-439

CyRide Facility Improvements

Project Status: No Change

City of Ames, Iowa
Capital Improvements Plan

Description/Justification

The CyRide facility is 40 years old, and major components of the building are nearing the end of their useful life. Additionally, the facility houses more vehicles than it was initially designed for, increasing fleet maintenance costs and highlighting the need to explore expansion options. This plan has been developed to keep the current facility in a state of good repair, as required by the Federal Transit Administration.

2025/26	Building fire safety enhancement project for battery electric buses; concrete replacement, A & E services
2026/27	Fueling system upgrade; concrete replacement; A & E services
2027/28	Construct an addition onto existing facility; concrete replacement; A & E services
2028/29	Construct an addition onto existing facility, A & E services
2029/30	Construct an addition onto existing facility, A & E services

Comments

With the expansion of battery electric buses to the fleet, a building fire suppression system will be necessary to mitigate battery fire risks within the facility. A fueling system upgrade will replace the existing fueling system with one that is faster, has less waste, and is more environmentally sustainable. A & E services would provide technical expertise during the various construction projects and assist with preparing bid documents. Concrete replacement is budgeted through FY 2027/28 to replace concrete around the facility. The CIP assumes a CyRide facility expansion as funding sources are identified. To date, CyRide has reserved \$3,715,166 in local match dollars for a grant to begin construction.

Location

CyRide, 601 North University Boulevard

	Total	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30
Cost:						
Architectural/Engineering	250,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000
Concrete	90,000	30,000	30,000	30,000		
Construction	3,750,000	750,000	750,000	750,000	750,000	750,000
Total	4,090,000	830,000	830,000	830,000	800,000	800,000
Financing:						
Transit Fund	1,090,000	230,000	230,000	230,000	200,000	200,000
State of Iowa - PTIG	3,000,000	600,000	600,000	600,000	600,000	600,000
Total	4,090,000	830,000	830,000	830,000	800,000	800,000

Program - Activity:
Transportation - Transit

Department:
CyRide

Account Number:
552-1159-439
552-1169-439

CyRide Shop and Office Equipment

Project Status: Cost Change

City of Ames, Iowa
Capital Improvements Plan

Description/Justification

The FY 2025/26 office equipment expenditures include the replacement of computers, laptops, printers, office chairs, and stand-up style desks at an estimated cost of \$27,400.

The CyRide Maintenance Division relies on specialized equipment to ensure buses are properly maintained and compliant with Federal Transit Administration regulations. CyRide budgets \$50,000 annually for shop equipment, as expenditures in this category can be challenging to predict due to the long lifespan of some equipment, which can remain reliable for decades.

This year, CyRide is investing in inground lifts designed specifically for maintaining the growing fleet of articulated buses. Additionally, snow removal equipment will be purchased to assist in clearing bus stops and CyRide property, enhancing safety for both passengers and employees during winter months. These planned purchases will ensure CyRide's operations remain efficient and safe while adapting to the evolving needs of the system.

2025/26	Snow removal equipment (\$40,000); inground bus lift (\$150,000); shop equipment (\$50,000); replacement computers/office equipment
2026/27	60-inch brake press (\$25,000); alignment rack (\$35,000); shop equipment (\$50,000); replacement computers/office equipment
2027/28	Shop equipment; replacement computers/office equipment
2028/29	Shop equipment; replacement computers/office equipment
2029/30	Shop equipment; replacement computers/office equipment

Location

CyRide, 601 North University Boulevard

	Total	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30
Cost:						
Computers/ Office Equipment	137,000	27,400	27,400	27,400	27,400	27,400
Shop Equipment	500,000	240,000	110,000	50,000	50,000	50,000
Total	637,000	267,400	137,400	77,400	77,400	77,400
Financing:						
Transit Fund	637,000	267,400	137,400	77,400	77,400	77,400
Total	637,000	267,400	137,400	77,400	77,400	77,400

Program - Activity:
Transportation - Transit

Department:
CyRide

Account Number:
552-1159-439

Bus Stop Improvements

Project Status: Cost Change

City of Ames, Iowa
Capital Improvements Plan

Description/Justification

CyRide annually updates its Bus Stop Improvement Plan to ensure that enhancements benefit the greatest number of riders. The updated plan also incorporates recommendations from an Iowa DOT report on bus stop improvements along state roadways.

CyRide will continue utilizing Automatic Passenger Counters (APCs) to track the number of passengers boarding and alighting at each bus stop, ensuring targeted and effective upgrades. Plans to upgrade five bus shelters are currently underway to further enhance the passenger experience. The Bus Stop Improvement Plan will continue to be reviewed and refined each year to reflect evolving needs and priorities. Local funding has also been added for small concrete replacement projects to maintain and upgrade bus stops.

Comments

Funding for shelter improvements is 80% federally funded from Federal Transit Administration Section 5310 funding.

Location

Various locations

	Total	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30
Cost:						
Pads, Benches, Shelters	400,000	80,000	80,000	80,000	80,000	80,000
Concrete	165,000	30,000	30,000	35,000	35,000	35,000
Total	565,000	110,000	110,000	115,000	115,000	115,000
Financing:						
Transit Fund	245,000	46,000	46,000	51,000	51,000	51,000
Federal 5310 Grants	320,000	64,000	64,000	64,000	64,000	64,000
Total	565,000	110,000	110,000	115,000	115,000	115,000
Program - Activity:	Department:		Account Number:			
Transportation - Transit	CyRide		552-1159-439			
			552-1169-439			

CyRide Technology Improvements

Project Status: Cost Change

City of Ames, Iowa
Capital Improvements Plan

Description/Justification

Advancements in technology have grown significantly over the past several years. As a result, CyRide will incorporate the following:

- **Bus Technology/Signage:** CyRide will continue investing in bus technology to improve system efficiency and the rider experience for passengers with disabilities. Interior signs displaying upcoming stops will be expanded to additional vehicles, and obsolete advertising screens will be retrofitted with new equipment. These signs will be supported with 80% federal funding.

Comments

CyRide is enhancing passenger accessibility and the overall riding experience through continued investment in technology. Real-time information displays are being installed at key campus bus stop locations, providing passengers with easy access to bus arrival times and helping them navigate the system more effectively. Interior infotainment systems displaying upcoming stops and real-time information will be expanded to additional vehicles, enhancing the ease of use for passengers while also offering potential revenue opportunities. CyRide is also improving access to real-time bus data and alerts through the Transit app, MyState app, and Ames Ride app, providing passengers with multiple tools to stay informed about bus schedules and updates.

Location

CyRide, 601 North University Boulevard

	Total	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30
Cost:						
Bus Technology	250,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000
Infotainment Signage	50,000	25,000	25,000			
Total	300,000	75,000	75,000	50,000	50,000	50,000
Financing:						
Transit Fund	300,000	75,000	75,000	50,000	50,000	50,000
Total	300,000	75,000	75,000	50,000	50,000	50,000
Program - Activity:	Department:		Account Number:			
Transportation - Transit	CyRide		552-1159-439			
			552-1169-439			

Transportation - Airport

City of Ames, Iowa
Capital Improvements Plan

Project/Funding Source	Total	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30	Page
Project:							
Airport Airside Improvements	34,495,000	10,635,000	15,060,000	5,000,000	3,200,000	600,000	143
Airport Facility Improvements	1,540,000	890,000	650,000	-	-	-	144
Airport Entryway Improvements	1,070,000	120,000	-	400,000	550,000	-	145
Total Project Expenditures	37,105,000	11,645,000	15,710,000	5,400,000	3,750,000	600,000	
Funding Sources:							
Debt:							
G.O. Bonds	3,273,750	860,750	753,000	850,000	810,000	-	
City:							
Airport Improvements Fund	565,000	120,000	275,000	50,000	60,000	60,000	
Other:							
Federal/State Grants	33,266,250	10,664,250	14,682,000	4,500,000	2,880,000	540,000	
Total Funding Sources	37,105,000	11,645,000	15,710,000	5,400,000	3,750,000	600,000	

Airport Airside Improvements

Project Status:

Cost Change

Scope Change

City Of Ames, Iowa
Capital Improvements Plan

Description/Justification

This program involves enhancing the airport's operational surfaces by resurfacing and expanding runways, taxiways, and aprons, along with installing updated lighting and signage for safety and standard compliance. It aligns with FAA guidelines, focusing on safe, efficient design and layout of airport facilities. Furthermore, it meets the FAA's Airport Improvement Program criteria for funding, addressing key safety improvements in airport infrastructure safety, capacity, security, and environmental aspects.

Comments

This program's project selection is guided by the Airport Master Plan, which is developed in consultation with City staff and the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA). These collaborative evaluations focus on assessing the current and future needs of the airport facilities. This ensures that the chosen projects align with both local priorities and federal funding eligibility criteria. Grant funds are allocated based on a national scoring system for all General Aviation Airport projects submitted in that respective year's funding cycle.

2025/26	Reconstruct Runway 01/19 - Construction North (\$531,750 G.O. Bonds, \$10,103,250 Federal)
2026/27	Reconstruct Runway 01/19 - Construction South (\$753,000 G.O. Bonds, \$14,307,000 Federal)
2027/28	Taxiway B Reconstruction/Realignment per Master Plan (\$450,000 G.O. Bonds, \$4,050,000 Federal) Runway 13/31 Lighting (\$50,000 Airport Improvements Fund, \$450,000 Federal)
2028/29	Taxiway A Rehabilitation (\$260,000 G.O. Bonds, \$2,340,000 Federal) Taxiway A Sealing/Patching (\$60,000 Airport Improvements Fund, \$540,000 Federal)
2029/30	Runway 13/31 Maintenance (\$60,000 Airport Improvements Fund, \$540,000 Federal)

	Total	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30
Cost:						
Engineering	6,899,000	2,127,000	3,012,000	1,000,000	640,000	120,000
Construction	27,596,000	8,508,000	12,048,000	4,000,000	2,560,000	480,000
Total	34,495,000	10,635,000	15,060,000	5,000,000	3,200,000	600,000
Financing:						
G.O. Bonds	1,994,750	531,750	753,000	450,000	260,000	
Airport Improvements Fund	170,000			50,000	60,000	60,000
Federal Grants	32,330,250	10,103,250	14,307,000	4,500,000	2,880,000	540,000
Total	34,495,000	10,635,000	15,060,000	5,000,000	3,200,000	600,000

Program - Activity:

Transportation - Airport

Department:

Public Works

Account Number:

386-7082-439
502-7082-439

Airport Facility Improvements

Project Status: Cost Change Scope Change City Of Ames, Iowa
Capital Improvements Plan

Description/Justification

This program focuses on upgrading airport facilities, including building enhancements, stormwater basin improvements, and fuel farm modernization for safety and storage. These improvements, aimed at boosting infrastructure resilience and minimizing environmental impacts, align with the FAA's Airport Improvement Program.

Comments

The following projects enhance airport safety, capacity, security, and environmental efficiency. Grant funds are allocated based on a national scoring system for all General Aviation Airport projects submitted in that year's funding cycle.

2025/26	Relocate National Weather Service's Automated Surface Observing Systems (ASOS) from the old terminal (\$16,500 G.O. Bonds, \$148,500 Federal) Fuel Farm Replacement - Jet Fuel Tank (\$312,500 G.O. Bonds, \$412,500 State)
2026/27	Fuel Farm Replacement - Av Gas Tank (\$125,000 Airport Improvements Fund, \$375,000 State) Airport Drainage Study (\$150,000 Airport Improvements Fund)

		Total	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30
Cost:							
Engineering		403,000	178,000	225,000			
Construction		1,137,000	712,000	425,000			
	Total	1,540,000	890,000	650,000			
Financing:							
G.O. Bonds		329,000	329,000				
Airport Improvements Fund		275,000		275,000			
Federal Grants		148,500	148,500				
State Grants		787,500	412,500	375,000			
	Total	1,540,000	890,000	650,000			
Program - Activity:			Department:	Account Number:			
Transportation - Airport			Public Works	Various			

Airport Entryway Improvements

Project Status: Cost Change

Description/Justification

This program includes enhancing airport access by reconstructing the main entry road and upgrading signage to improve traffic flow efficiency. This aligns with the FAA's Airport Improvement Program (AIP), which, although primarily concentrated on airside and specific facilities, underscores the significance of overall airport functionality, particularly in terms of accessibility and operational efficiency.

Comments

The program's projects include the main access road improvement, expanding paved parking, and enhancing the central entryway landscaping. This program aligns with the Airport Master Plan goals and adheres to FAA best practices. Cost estimates were updated to reflect current construction expenses.

- 2025/26 Central entryway greenspace landscaping
- 2027/28 Airport parking expansion (southern half)
- 2028/29 Airport parking expansion (northern half)

Location

2520 Airport Drive

	Total	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30
Cost:						
Engineering	160,000	20,000		60,000	80,000	
Construction	910,000	100,000		340,000	470,000	
Total	1,070,000	120,000		400,000	550,000	
Financing:						
G.O. Bonds	950,000			400,000	550,000	
Airport Improvements Fund	120,000	120,000				
Total	1,070,000	120,000		400,000	550,000	
Program - Activity:		Department:	Account Number:			
Transportation - Airport		Public Works	502-7080-439			

CULTURE & RECREATION



2024-2025
DROP OFF
RECYCLING

1
YEAR



Culture and Recreation

City of Ames, Iowa
Capital Improvements Plan

	Total	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30	Page
Expenditures:							
Parks and Recreation	10,854,019	6,735,079	1,173,500	1,064,380	894,280	986,780	148
Cemetery	150,000	75,000	-	75,000	-	-	159
Total Expenditures	11,004,019	6,810,079	1,173,500	1,139,380	894,280	986,780	
Funding Sources:							
Debt:							
G.O. Bonds	700,000	700,000	-	-	-	-	
G.O. Bonds (previously issued)	3,540,213	3,540,213	-	-	-	-	
Total Debt Funding	4,240,213	4,240,213	-	-	-	-	
City:							
General Fund	100,000	100,000	-	-	-	-	
Local Option Sales Tax	4,679,440	1,055,500	873,500	869,380	894,280	986,780	
Ice Arena Capital Reserve	120,000	-	100,000	20,000	-	-	
Total City Funding	4,899,440	1,155,500	973,500	889,380	894,280	986,780	
Other:							
Private Donations	1,014,366	1,014,366	-	-	-	-	
Grant Funding	850,000	400,000	200,000	250,000	-	-	
Total City Funding	1,864,366	1,414,366	200,000	250,000	-	-	
Total Funding Sources	11,004,019	6,810,079	1,173,500	1,139,380	894,280	986,780	

Culture and Recreation - Parks and Recreation

City of Ames, Iowa
Capital Improvements Plan

Project/Funding Source	Total	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30	Page
Project:							
Fitch Family Indoor Aquatic Center	4,879,579	4,879,579	-	-	-	-	149
Park System/Facility Improvements	1,855,820	275,000	436,520	475,400	150,000	518,900	151
Playground Equipment Improvements	1,542,120	224,000	236,980	168,980	544,280	367,880	152
Ada Hayden Heritage Park	1,000,000	700,000	-	300,000	-	-	153
ADA Transition Plan Improvements	500,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	154
Moore Memorial Park	375,000	75,000	300,000	-	-	-	155
Homewood Golf Course	250,000	250,000	-	-	-	-	156
Furman Aquatic Center	331,500	231,500	-	-	100,000	-	157
Ames/ISU Ice Arena	120,000	-	100,000	20,000	-	-	158
Total Project Expenditures	10,854,019	6,735,079	1,173,500	1,064,380	894,280	986,780	
Funding Sources:							
Debt:							
G.O. Bonds	700,000	700,000	-	-	-	-	
G.O. Bonds (previously issued)	3,540,213	3,540,213	-	-	-	-	
Total Debt Funding	4,240,213	4,240,213	-	-	-	-	
City:							
General Fund	100,000	100,000	-	-	-	-	
Local Option Sales Tax	4,529,440	980,500	873,500	794,380	894,280	986,780	
Ice Arena Capital Reserve	120,000	-	100,000	20,000	-	-	
Total City Funding	4,749,440	1,080,500	973,500	814,380	894,280	986,780	
Other:							
Private Donations	1,014,366	1,014,366	-	-	-	-	
Grant Funding	850,000	400,000	200,000	250,000	-	-	
Total Other Funding	1,864,366	1,414,366	200,000	250,000	-	-	
Total Funding Sources	10,854,019	6,735,079	1,173,500	1,064,380	894,280	986,780	

Fitch Family Indoor Aquatic Center

Project Status:

Cost Change

City of Ames, Iowa
Capital Improvements Plan

Description/Justification

The Fitch Family Indoor Aquatic Center will be located at 115 North Elm Street, which the City purchased from the Iowa Department of Transportation (IDOT) in January 2023 for \$2.9 million. The Aquatic Center will be a one-story building and contain a 25-yard six-lane lap pool, a zero-depth entry pool with a play structure, a current channel, a wellness pool, slide, locker rooms (men's, women's, and gender neutral), party/meeting rooms, multi-purpose space, and a walking area. Construction began in April 2024, with the Center projected to open in January 2026.

Comments

The project budget reflects a cost change from \$32,100,694 to \$28,272,746. There were 79 bids received for fourteen bid packages which resulted in bids coming in \$2,993,636 less than the engineer's cost estimate.

Total estimated cost of the project over a six-year period is provided below.

Location

115 North Elm Street

Expenses:	FY 2020/21	FY 2021/22	FY 2022/23	FY 2023/24	FY 2024/25	FY 2025/26	Total
Conceptual Design/ Environmental Testing	22,000	42,218	675				64,893
Land			2,900,000				2,900,000
Relocate Electric Lines				85,355			85,355
Design			471,579	957,282	289,089	65,900	1,783,850
Remediation/Mitigation				4,712	895,288	100,000	1,000,000
Construction Manager (CM)			45,602	347,858	879,815	118,954	1,392,229
Soils, Survey, Testing (SST)			12,500	42,412	310,088	25,000	390,000
Construction				1,192,256	12,752,495	3,977,449	17,922,200
Furniture, Fixtures, & Equipment (FFE)					500,000		500,000
Other Project Related Costs			17,943	116,276			134,219
Project Subtotal	22,000	42,218	3,448,299	2,746,151	15,626,775	4,287,303	26,172,746
Owner's Contingency				7,724	1,500,000	592,276	2,100,000
Project Total	22,000	42,218	3,448,299	2,753,875	17,126,775	4,879,579	28,272,746
Funding:	FY 2020/21	FY 2021/22	FY 2022/23	FY 2023/24	FY 2024/25	FY 2025/26	Total
Hotel/Motel Tax	22,000	42,218	675				64,893
G.O. Bonds			1,000,000	424,113	13,713,690	3,540,213	18,678,016
Geitel Winakor Donation Fund				128,726	-	139,366	268,092
Donations			2,447,624	1,701,036	3,413,085	800,000	8,361,745
Community Attraction & Tourism (CAT)						400,000	400,000
Grant							
Story County Contribution				500,000			500,000
Total	22,000	42,218	3,448,299	2,753,875	17,126,775	4,879,579	28,272,746



Floor Plan



Rendering Looking Southwest



Zero-depth Entry Pool with Current Channel



Lap Pool

	Total	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30
Cost:						
Design, CM, FFE, & SST	309,854	309,854				
Remediation and Contingency	592,276	592,276				
Construction	3,977,449	3,977,449				
Total	4,879,579	4,879,579				
Financing:						
G.O. Bonds (previously issued)	3,540,213	3,540,213				
Donations	939,366	939,366				
Community Attraction & Tourism Grant	400,000	400,000				
Total	4,879,579	4,879,579				

Program - Activity:
Culture and Recreation - Parks and Recreation

Department:
Parks and Recreation

Account Number:
112-5311-459
342-5311-459
385-5311-459

Park System/Facility Improvements

Project Status:

Schedule Change

Cost Change

City of Ames, Iowa
Capital Improvements Plan

Description/Justification

To maintain City parks in a safe and quality manner, the projects listed below address maintenance issues and improvements at various locations.

Comments

The schedule change and cost change noted in Project Status are the result of staff reprioritization of Park System/Facility Improvement projects.

2025/26	Replace sound system at Auditorium (\$175,000) Recreation center conceptual plan (\$100,000)
2026/27	Add parking near soccer fields at North River Valley Park (\$363,020) Replace weight and cardio room floor in Community Center (\$40,000) Upgrades to Tom Evans Plaza (\$33,500)
2027/28	Renovate canoe/kayak access at River Valley Park (\$50,000) Renovate canoe/kayak access at South 16th Street (\$50,000) Remove light poles on the baseball field at Brookside Park (\$100,000) Parking lot improvements at various locations (\$275,400)
2028/29	Renovate restroom in North River Valley Park (\$150,000)
2029/30	Relocate parking by Cottonwood Shelter in North River Valley Park (\$206,500) Replace Cottonwood Shelter at River Valley Park (\$125,400) Replace drinking fountains in park system (\$75,000) Replace Auditorium house lighting (\$32,000) Replace Gateway furnaces and AC (\$80,000)

Location

Various

	Total	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30
Cost:						
Engineering	100,000	100,000				
Construction	1,755,820	175,000	436,520	475,400	150,000	518,900
Total	1,855,820	275,000	436,520	475,400	150,000	518,900
Financing:						
General Fund	100,000	100,000				
Local Option Sales Tax	1,705,820	175,000	436,520	425,400	150,000	518,900
Grants	50,000			50,000		
Total	1,855,820	275,000	436,520	475,400	150,000	518,900

Program - Activity:

Culture and Recreation - Parks and Recreation

Department:

Parks and Recreation

Account Number:

030-5320-459

Playground Equipment Improvements

Project Status:

Schedule Change

Cost Change

City of Ames, Iowa
Capital Improvements Plan

Description/Justification

Over the past 25 years, the City has replaced old play equipment throughout the park system. The life expectancy of play equipment is 20 to 25 years. Therefore, it is now necessary to begin replacement of playground equipment that was installed at the beginning of this cycle. This program includes a systematic plan to continue replacing playground equipment on this cycle.

Comments

The cost change noted in the Project Status is a result of the schedule changes associated with the equipment improvements.

2025/26	Replace equipment in Parkview North Park (\$75,500) Replace equipment adjacent to Hickory Shelter in Brookside Park (\$148,500)
2026/27	Replace equipment in North River Valley Park near concession stand (\$70,500) Replace ages 2-5 equipment in O'Neil Park (\$74,700) Replace ages 5-12 equipment in O'Neil Park (\$91,780)
2027/28	Replace equipment in Old Town Park (\$77,200) Replace equipment adjacent Butternut Shelter in Emma McCarthy Lee Park (\$91,780)
2028/29	Replace ages 2-5 equipment and ages 5-12 equipment in Moore Memorial Park (\$300,000) Replace equipment in Gateway Hills Park (\$77,400) Replace equipment in Franklin Park (\$74,900) Replace a section of surfacing in Miracle Park (\$91,980)
2029/230	Replace equipment in McCarthy Lee North Park (\$102,100) Replace playground equipment in Hutchison Park (\$99,000) Replace equipment adjacent Cottonwood Shelter in North River Valley Park (\$91,780) Replace a section of surfacing in Miracle Park (\$75,000)

Location

Various

	Total	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30
Cost:						
Construction	1,542,120	224,000	236,980	168,980	544,280	367,880
Total	1,542,120	224,000	236,980	168,980	544,280	367,880
Financing:						
Local Option Sales Tax	1,467,120	149,000	236,980	168,980	544,280	367,880
Donations	75,000	75,000				
Total	1,542,120	224,000	236,980	168,980	544,280	367,880

Program - Activity:

Culture and Recreation - Parks and Recreation

Department:

Parks and Recreation

Account Number:

030-5354-459 030-5355-459 113-5355-459

Ada Hayden Heritage Park

Project Status: Cost Change

City of Ames, Iowa
Capital Improvements Plan

Description/Justification

Ada Hayden Heritage Park is the crown jewel of the Ames Park system. To keep it maintained and install new features, two projects have been identified.

The asphalt trails around the lakes are deteriorating. This project in FY 2025/26 will replace the asphalt with concrete and widen the path from ten feet to twelve feet on the north loop, thereby facilitating safe use by more users of the path. Funding was included in FY 2024/25 for the south loop. Both the FY 2024/25 and FY 2025/26 projects will be bid at the same time and constructed as one project.

The pond is located in the northwest section of the park north of the upland trail. It is an excellent location for creating a child-friendly fishing location. Dredging the pond and adding a fishing dock, a solar operated aerator, a path around the pond, and a new outlet structure are all components of this project for FY 2027/28.

Comments

- 2024/25 Replace path around south lake (\$700,000)
- 2025/26 Replace path around north lake (\$700,000)
- 2027/28 Pond renovation (\$300,000)

Location

Ada Hayden Heritage Park, 5205 Grand Avenue

		Total	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30
Cost:							
Engineering							
Construction		1,000,000	700,000		300,000		
	Total	1,000,000	700,000		300,000		
Financing:							
G.O. Bonds		700,000	700,000				
Local Option Sales Tax		100,000			100,000		
Grants		200,000			200,000		
	Total	1,000,000	700,000		300,000		
Program - Activity:							
Culture and Recreation - Parks and Recreation							
Department:							
Parks and Recreation							
Account Number:							
386-5390-459							

ADA Transition Plan Improvements

Project Status: No Change

Description/Justification

To better understand how the Parks and Recreation facilities can better serve Ames’ differently abled residents and comply with the 2010 Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Standards for Accessible Design, an inventory and assessment of the park system and facilities was completed in FY 2022/23. With the information gathered from the inventory and assessment, a transition plan is being developed to help achieve both of those goals.

In anticipation of items needing to be addressed, funding is reflected in each year of the CIP. These are estimates since costs will not be known until the implementation plan is finalized.

Comments:

Actual transition plan items will be determined based on the transition plan. However, several items have been accomplished or are planned for FY 2025/26 and these include exterior signage, entrance ramp improvements, and restroom redesign at the Parks and Recreation Administration Office; accessible drinking fountains at the Community Center; improvements to entryway concrete at the Homewood Clubhouse; and ADA compliant drinking fountains in the park system.

Location

Various

	Total	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30
Cost:						
Construction	500,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000
Total	500,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000
Financing:						
Local Option Sales Tax	500,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000
Total	500,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000
Program - Activity:	Department:		Account Number:			
Culture and Recreation - Parks and Recreation	Parks and Recreation		030-5351-459			

Moore Memorial Park

Project Status: No Change

City of Ames, Iowa
Capital Improvements Plan

Description/Justification

Moore Memorial Park covers 90 acres with 50 located east of Ioway Creek and 40 west of the creek. The upper 50-acre parcel was developed into a community park in 1991. Until 2022, the 40-acre parcel had been leased to Iowa State University (ISU) as an agricultural research plot for \$3,000 per year. The University farmed this land for the final time in 2021. Parks and Recreation staff has worked with Water and Pollution Control and Public Works staff to retire this land and install nutrient reduction and water quality practices.

In response to community input to connect parks via hard surface trails, a pedestrian bridge will link these two parcels of City property. The plan is to then have a trail from Moore Memorial Park along Scholl Road to Ontario Street. This improvement is viable because ISU owns the land adjacent the City's 40-acre parcel. This project is conditioned on ISU allowing public access through its parcel, so that several miles of recreational trails would be linked together. Staff will continue to meet with ISU officials to acquire the necessary easements to bring this project to fruition.

Comments

2025/26 Engineer/design a pedestrian bridge to cross Ioway Creek at Moore Memorial Park (\$75,000)

2026/27 Install a pedestrian bridge across Ioway Creek at Moore Memorial Park (\$300,000)

Location

Moore Memorial Park, 3050 Northridge Parkway

	Total	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30
Cost:						
Engineering/Design	75,000	75,000				
Construction	300,000		300,000			
Total	375,000	75,000	300,000			
Financing:						
Local Option Sales Tax	175,000	75,000	100,000			
Grants	200,000		200,000			
Total	375,000	75,000	300,000			

Program - Activity:

Culture and Recreation - Parks and Recreation

Department:

Parks and Recreation

Account Number:

030-5380-459

Homewood Golf Course

Project Status: No Change

City of Ames, Iowa
Capital Improvements Plan

Description/Justification

The current bridge on Hole #9 was designed for walking golfers. Since the demand for motorized carts at Homewood has increased, replacing this bridge with one designed for motorized carts will speed up play and reduce safety concerns for golfers having to drive along Hole #8 to get to the 9th green.

Comments

- 2024/25 Project design is funded through the Homewood Golf Course Fund (\$75,000)
- 2025/26 Replace the bridge on Hole #9 so it can accommodate carts (\$250,000)

Location

Homewood Golf Course, 401 East 20th Street

	Total	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30
Cost:						
Engineering						
Construction	250,000	250,000				
Total	250,000	250,000				
Financing:						
Local Option Sales Tax	250,000	250,000				
Total	250,000	250,000				
Program - Activity:						
Culture and Recreation - Parks and Recreation						
Department:						
Parks and Recreation						
Account Number:						
030-5344-459						

Furman Aquatic Center

Project Status: Cost Change

City of Ames, Iowa
Capital Improvements Plan

Description/Justification

This facility opened in May 2010. It has been operational for fourteen seasons, with an average of 89,234 visitors per summer. To ensure it remains a quality facility, structural and electrical issues are identified to be addressed in a systematic manner.

The water heaters are over 14 years old and inefficient. By replacing the heaters with a more efficient model, the energy consumption will be reduced.

The current light fixtures on the deck poles at times allow water to accumulate inside the fixture, which must be drained. Replacement with LED lamps and updated fixtures will reduce maintenance and energy consumption.

Comments

The cost change noted in project status is a result of the added projects in FY 2025/26 for the splash pool and lazy river heaters.

2025/26 Replace water heaters for splash pool and lazy river (\$231,500)

2028/29 Replace the light fixtures on the pool deck poles (\$100,000)

Location

Furman Aquatic Center, 1635 13th Street

		Total	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30
Cost:							
Construction		331,500	231,500			100,000	
	Total	331,500	231,500			100,000	
Financing:							
Local Option Sales Tax		331,500	231,500			100,000	
	Total	331,500	231,500			100,000	
Program - Activity:							
Culture and Recreation - Parks and Recreation							
Department:							
Parks and Recreation							
Account Number:							
030-5313-459							

Ames/ISU Ice Arena

Project Status: No Change

City of Ames, Iowa
Capital Improvements Plan

Description/Justification

The Ames/ISU Ice Arena is over 23 years old. In order to continue providing a quality experience and well-maintained facility for ice users, the ice-making, HVAC, and other unique equipment components need to be periodically reconstructed, replaced, or repaired.

Comments

Funding for capital improvement projects is provided through the Ice Arena Capital Reserve Fund. Every year, the City and Iowa State University each contribute \$40,000 to this fund to ensure the facility is well-maintained. It is estimated that as of June 30, 2026, the fund balance will be \$135,317.

- 2026/27 Ice-making system compressor #1 complete overhaul
- 2027/28 Ice-making system compressor #2 top-end overhaul

Location

Ames/ISU Ice Arena, 1507 Gateway Hills Park Drive

	Total	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30
Cost:						
Construction	120,000		100,000	20,000		
Total	120,000		100,000	20,000		
Financing:						
Ice Arena Capital Reserve Funds	120,000		100,000	20,000		
Total	120,000		100,000	20,000		
Program - Activity:		Department:	Account Number:			
Culture and Recreation - Parks and Recreation		Parks and Recreation				

Culture and Recreation - Cemetery

City of Ames, Iowa
Capital Improvements Plan

Project/Funding Source	Total	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30	Page
Project:							
Cemetery Improvements	150,000	75,000	-	75,000	-	-	160
Total Project Expenditures	150,000	75,000	-	75,000	-	-	
Funding Sources:							
City:							
Local Option Sales Tax	150,000	75,000	-	75,000	-	-	
Total Funding Sources	150,000	75,000	-	75,000	-	-	

Cemetery Improvements

Project Status: No Change

Description/Justification

To honor the memory of those buried in the City’s two active cemeteries and to provide peaceful, well-maintained locations for those who visit, this program identifies and provides funding for improvements at the Ames Municipal Cemetery and the Ontario Cemetery.

The galvanized chain link fencing at the Ontario Cemetery needs replacement. A more decorative style fence like that at the Ames Municipal Cemetery will be installed.

Cremation burials have surpassed traditional burials, and this trend is forecasted to continue. Purchasing three additional columbaria will position the City to be able to meet this demand. In anticipation of this expansion, the concrete pads for these columbaria were installed in 2022.

Comments

- 2025/26 Replace fencing at Ontario Cemetery
- 2027/28 Purchase three columbaria

Location

Ames Municipal Cemetery, 310 East Ninth Street, and Ontario Cemetery, 720 North Dakota Avenue

	Total	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30
Cost:						
Construction	150,000	75,000		75,000		
Total	150,000	75,000		75,000		
Financing:						
Local Option Sales Tax	150,000	75,000		75,000		
Total	150,000	75,000		75,000		
Program - Activity:		Department:	Account Number:			
Culture and Recreation - Parks and Recreation		Parks and Recreation				

This Page Intentionally Left Blank

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT



1989-2024
PERFECT
PERMIT
COMPLIANCE
35
YEARS



Community Development

City of Ames, Iowa
Capital Improvements Plan

	Total	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30	Page
Expenditures:							
Neighborhood Improvements	875,000	175,000	175,000	175,000	175,000	175,000	164
Total Expenditures	875,000	175,000	175,000	175,000	175,000	175,000	
Funding Sources:							
City:							
Local Option Sales Tax	875,000	175,000	175,000	175,000	175,000	175,000	
Total Funding Sources	875,000	175,000	175,000	175,000	175,000	175,000	

Community Development - Neighborhood Improvements

City of Ames, Iowa
Capital Improvements Plan

Project/Funding Source	Total	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30	Page
Project:							
Downtown Facade Program	375,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	165
Campustown Façade Grant Program	250,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	166
Neighborhood Improvement Program	250,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	167
Total Project Expenditures	875,000	175,000	175,000	175,000	175,000	175,000	
Funding Sources:							
City:							
Local Option Sales Tax	875,000	175,000	175,000	175,000	175,000	175,000	
Total Funding Sources	875,000	175,000	175,000	175,000	175,000	175,000	

Downtown Façade Improvement Program

Project Status: No Change

City of Ames, Iowa
Capital Improvements Plan

Description/Justification

This project was introduced in FY 2001/02 to facilitate private improvements to the façades of buildings in the Downtown area. For three years, the City did not receive any requests for these funds.

Downtown Design Guidelines were approved by the City Council in 2001 to ensure that financial assistance for façade improvements is consistent with the historical character of Downtown. The program initially started with loans but was altered by the City Council to be a grant program. To qualify for these funds, improvements must be made to at least one of the following exterior elements: upper façades, storefronts, transoms, display windows, kick plates, entrances, signs, or awnings/canopies. In FY 2011/12 the City Council expanded the program guidelines and implemented a review and award period in the spring of each year. Additionally, to aid in comparing applications, the City Council also established a scoring process to prioritize awarding grants. In 2023 Historic Building Rehabilitation grant eligibility was added. In 2024 the City Council added Historic Building Maintenance grant eligibility.

Under this program, the City provides grant funds to be matched dollar for dollar up to \$23,000 per façade award. In addition, a \$2,000 grant is available to subsidize the cost of architectural services. Since 2001 the program has awarded over 50 grants to downtown businesses. Of the 56 award grants through December 2024, 52 were accepted for a total of approximately \$710,000 of grant funding that has been expensed. FY 2025/26 will begin with a new \$75,000 allocation.

Location

Downtown Ames

		Total	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30
Cost:							
Incentives (Loans or Grants)		375,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000
	Total	375,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000
Financing:							
Local Option Sales Tax		375,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000
	Total	375,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000
Program - Activity:		Department:		Account Number:			
Community Development - Downtown Façade Improvement Program		Planning & Housing		030-1030-469			

Campustown Façade Improvement Program

Project Status: No Change

Description/Justification

The purpose of the Campustown Façade Improvement Program is to improve the Campustown commercial district by providing financial incentives to enhance the appearance and use of existing buildings with commercial use. The program design is to encourage and maintain the eclectic culture and ‘uniqueness’ of Campustown; to increase safety, security, and investments by property and business owners; and to add to the vitality of Campustown.

This program seeks to encourage the creation of a place that is walkable, transparent, eclectic, sustainable, social, and historic. Beginning in FY 2014/15, the first step in the process was to hire a consultant to assist the City in the development of a “Vision Statement,” prepare an “Idea Book,” review design ideas and guidelines, help applicants wanting to apply for the program, determine costs and feasibility, and conduct workshops and working meetings with applicants and City staff.

Under this program, the City provides up to \$23,000 in grant funds to be per project matched dollar for dollar. In addition, a \$2,000 grant is available to subsidize architectural costs. Through December 2024 the program has awarded seven grants to Campustown businesses and has expensed a total of \$122,580 on these seven projects. FY 2025/26 will begin with a new \$50,000 allocation.

Comments

This program will address the City Council’s goal of revitalizing Campustown. Although there are annual inquiries about the program, interest has waned in recent years for new applications. City Council amended the program in 2022 to allow for applications on a rolling basis instead of annually.

Location

Campustown Ames

	Total	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30
Cost:						
Incentives (Loans or Grants)	250,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000
Total	250,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000
Financing:						
Local Option Sales Tax	250,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000
Total	250,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000

Program - Activity:

Community Development - Campustown Façade Improvement Program

Department:

Planning & Housing

Account Number:

030-1031-469

Neighborhood Improvement Program

Project Status: No Change

City of Ames, Iowa
Capital Improvements Plan

Description/Justification

The Neighborhood Improvement Program was originally designed to enhance the appearance of City neighborhoods with the addition of permanent physical improvements and to promote a greater sense of community through resident participation in neighborhood projects. The program focused solely on providing City grants to help residents accomplish those projects that they themselves identified as top priorities for their neighborhoods.

Competitive proposals are solicited from neighborhood groups and are rated by a review panel consisting of City staff and citizens, according to the following criteria approved by the City Council: public impact, neighborhood participation, safety, environment, housing, and public space. Neighborhood residents are expected to provide a local match to these grants on a dollar-for-dollar basis in the form of labor, materials, and/or cash.

The program was initiated in FY 1996/97. Since that time, 126 neighborhood projects have been funded by the City, totaling \$380,536.91. The City Council last awarded a grant in 2022 for \$1,616.30. Projects have included cul-de-sac, right-of-way and median landscaping; playground construction and/or restoration; alleyway beautification; street trees; pond renovation; installation of rain gardens, historic house plaques and medallions; prairie restoration; construction of a neighborhood message center; construction of a shelter house in a City park; park sidewalks; neighborhood basketball courts; landscaping of neighborhood entryways; installation of neighborhood barbecue grills; renovating "DZ Triangle;" Monarch butterfly habitat restoration; concrete ping pong tables in a City park, neighborhood clean-up days, and playground equipment in a new neighborhood park. Funds from this program also support neighborhood newsletter grants.

The City is committed to creating great neighborhoods with a sense of community. To complement this initiative, eligibility for these funds has been expanded beyond the original intent of the Neighborhood Improvement Grant Program to include such projects as sub-area planning elements and other support programs for neighborhood associations. In addition, the application period is now open-ended with the requirement that the funds be expended within one year of City Council approval.

	Total	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30
Cost:						
Construction	250,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000
Total	250,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000
Financing:						
Local Option Sales Tax	250,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000
Total	250,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000
Program - Activity:		Department:	Account Number:			
Community Development - Neighborhood Improvements		Planning and Housing	030-1032-469			

GENERAL GOVERNMENT



2010-2025
FURMAN
AQUATIC CENTER

15
YEARS



General Government

City of Ames, Iowa
Capital Improvements Plan

	Total	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30	Page
Expenditures:							
Facilities	375,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	170
Total Expenditures	375,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	
Funding Sources:							
City:							
Local Option Sales Tax	375,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	
Total Funding Sources	375,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	

General Government - Facilities

City of Ames, Iowa
Capital Improvements Plan

Project/Funding Source	Total	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30	Page
Project:							
City Hall Improvements	375,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	171
Total Project Expenditures	375,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	
Funding Sources:							
City:							
Local Option Sales Tax	375,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	
Total Funding Sources	375,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	

City Hall Improvements

Project Status: No Change

City Of Ames, Iowa
Capital Improvements Plan

Description/Justification

The City Hall Improvements program is focused on major maintenance or replacement of needed items for the City Hall building, the Veterans Memorial, and west City Hall parking lots.

City Hall's mechanical, electrical, plumbing, sprinkler, and numerous other support systems were installed new in 1990. Funds are allocated yearly for equipment or system failures that may occur beyond the City Hall operating budget funding levels.

Location

City Hall, 515 Clark Avenue

		Total	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30
Cost:							
Maintenance		375,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000
	Total	375,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000
Financing:							
Local Option Sales Tax		375,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000
	Total	375,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000
Program - Activity:							
General Government - Facilities							
Department:							
Fleet Services/Facilities							
Account Number:							
030-2930-419							