

FY2014 Budget Workshop #1 of the City of Sandy Springs City Council

Tuesday, April 30, 2013

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Budget Workshop #1 of the Sandy Springs City Council was held Tuesday, April 30, 2013, at 5:00 p.m.

The meeting began at 5:13 p.m.

Councilmembers and Staff in attendance

Mayor: Mayor Eva Galambos was absent.

Councilmembers: Councilmember John Paulson, Councilmember Dianne Fries, Councilmember Chip Collins, Councilmember Gabriel Sterling, Councilmember Tibby DeJulio, and Councilmember Karen Meinzen McEnerny present.

Staff and other individuals in attendance: City Manager John McDonough, Assistant City Manager Eden Freeman, Assistant City Manager Bryant Poole, Finance Director Karen Ellis, Director of Public Safety Terry Sult, Police Chief Kenneth DeSimone, Fire Chief Jack McElfish, Assistant City Attorney Cecil McLendon, Director of Community Development Angela Parker, Director of Public Works Garrin Coleman, Director of Transportation/Traffic Brad Edwards, Director of Field Services Charlie Roberts, Communications Director Sharon Kraun, Community Relations Manager Dan Coffey, City Clerk Michael Casey, and Assistant City Clerk Kelly Bogner.

City Manager John McDonough gave the following presentation.

FY14 Budget Calendar

- | | |
|-----------------|---|
| • March – April | April Departmental Budget Hearings/Finance Review Phase |
| • April – May | Senior Management/Mayor Review Phase |
| • April 30 | Budget Workshop #1 |
| • May 7 | Budget Workshop #2 |
| • May 21 | City Council Budget Presentation (Proposed Budget) |
| • June 4 | 1st Public/Millage Rate Hearing & Budget Workshop |
| • June 18 | Final Public Hearing and Adoption by City Council |

Purpose of Meeting

- To receive feedback and direction from City Council as we develop the FY14 Budget
- Review and validate FY14 planning assumptions
- Understand Public Safety, General Government Services, Public Works, Recreation, and Facilities priorities as part of an overall citywide service delivery and capital program

Adopted Priorities



Proposed Priorities



There was a consensus of Council to adopt the proposed City priorities.

Finance Presentation - Finance Director Karen Ellis

- Operating Overview



Councilmember Tibby DeJulio stated the general services expenses increased within the past year.

Finance Director Karen Ellis stated the increase is due to the \$2 million used to pay off the Fire Truck leases.

Councilmember Karen Meinzen McEnerny stated in last year's budget the Fire Truck expense was referred to as capital.

Finance Director Ellis stated in last year's budget this amount is under department 1595, General Administration, labeled retirement of fire debt service at a cost of \$2 million.

- **Considerations Used in Budget Forecasting**

- Due to the slow growth in the housing market, property taxes are anticipated to be lower than current year collections, largely due to adjustments in appeals to property value
- Unknown impact of changes to Georgia's motor vehicle title tax/ad valorem laws
- Unemployment rates remain at approximately the same last year at 8.4%; sales tax revenues are unpredictable
- Vehicle replacement for Police Department, new truck lease for Fire Department

Councilmember Dianne Fries stated when homeowners submit a tax appeal to the county it freezes their tax bill for three years, which can change the tax amount the City receives.

Councilmember Gabriel Sterling stated if a tax bill is frozen, it would drop the tax digest for the following year.

Councilmember Fries stated in years two and three the tax digest may increase, but the homeowners who appealed their bill have frozen their tax bills.

Councilmember Karen Meinzen McEnerny asked if the Fulton County Tax Assessor's Digest is available.

City Manager John McDonough responded no. The Fulton County Tax Commissioner will be presenting information to Council on May 7th. The tax digest will not be available at that time, but it will be provided to Council once it is completed.

Councilmember Sterling asked when the City will receive the property tax from auto sales.

Finance Director Karen Ellis stated Fulton County plans on recording the auto sales payments separately, so each municipality can view the trends and see how this affects the revenue from sales tax as well as the ad valorem taxes.

Economic Conditions

- Market strategists and economists alike point to a slow recovery – Atlanta recorded its highest year-over-year gain since the housing bubble burst.
- Although economic data supports the housing recovery, improvement is slow.
- Economy will need years to recover from the anxiety, lack of consumer confidence and financial fear
- Slowed growth will continue to affect Sandy Springs as the economy recovers

Operating Departments

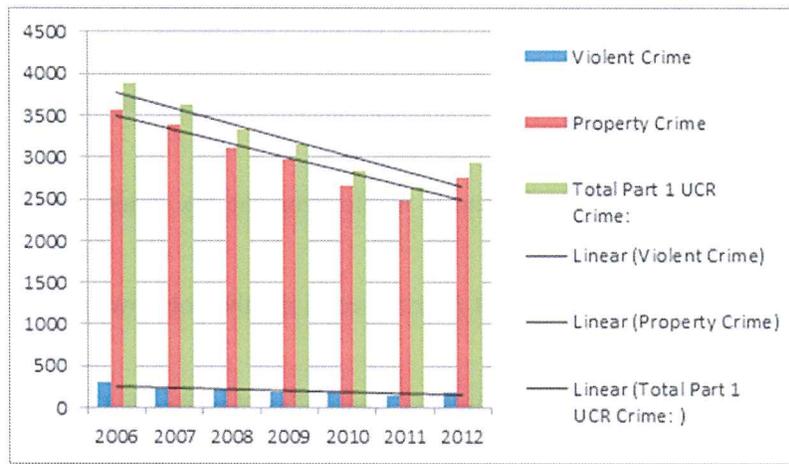
Police Department – Chief Kenneth DeSimone

Sandy Springs is a nationally accredited, full service agency.

Top 3 Concerns

- Neighborhood safety
- Radio Infrastructure
- Preparedness for major incidents and emerging threats

Part 1 Crime Trends



Councilmember Gabriel Sterling asked if a majority of the City's violent crime is domestic violence.

Police Chief Kenneth DeSimone responded yes.

Councilmember Sterling asked if a majority of this crime is concentrated in the apartment complexes.

Police Chief DeSimone responded yes.

Councilmember Sterling asked how Sandy Springs crime compares to other jurisdictions.

Police Chief DeSimone stated Sandy Springs has the same amount of crime or maybe slightly lower.

Goals for FY14

- Reorganize the Operations Unit with the goal of increasing patrol hours and shifts
- Enhance the public's and residents' access to police services
- Increase the utilization of the Power Shift and integrate the presence of the Citizens on Patrol and Reserve Officers within Operations
- Continue the implementation of Radio Infrastructure Improvements

Priorities for FY14

- Address Crime Trends
- Reduction in False Alarm Calls
- Enhance Preparedness
- Volunteers in Policing (VIPS)
- Radio Infrastructure
- Development of Department Leadership

Police Chief Kenneth DeSimone stated so far this year the City has had 2,670 alarm calls and 95.88% of the calls were false.

Councilmember Gabriel Sterling asked if the City has selected a vendor to work with regarding alarms.

Police Chief DeSimone stated the City is considering partnering with CryWolf.

Public Safety Director Terry Sult stated the target date for residents to begin registering their alarms is July 1 or August 1.

Police Chief DeSimone stated each false alarm uses 16 minutes of a police officer's time.

Councilmember Karen Meinzen McEnerny stated she does not want the City to spend thousands of dollars for police officer training just to have the officers leave to work at Clayton County or the City of Brookhaven. She is sure the City has taken measures to prevent this from happening.

Police Chief DeSimone stated the City has taken measures to try and prevent this.

FY14 Enhancements

- Vehicle replacement for 18 vehicles
- Includes Laptop refresh
- LP Gas Conversion Cost

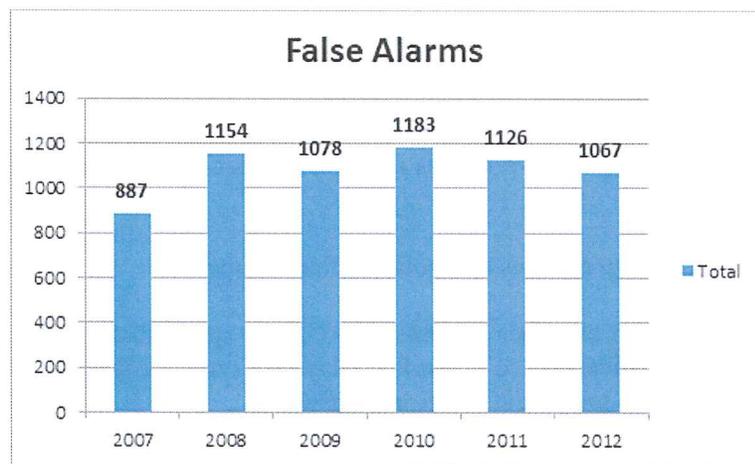
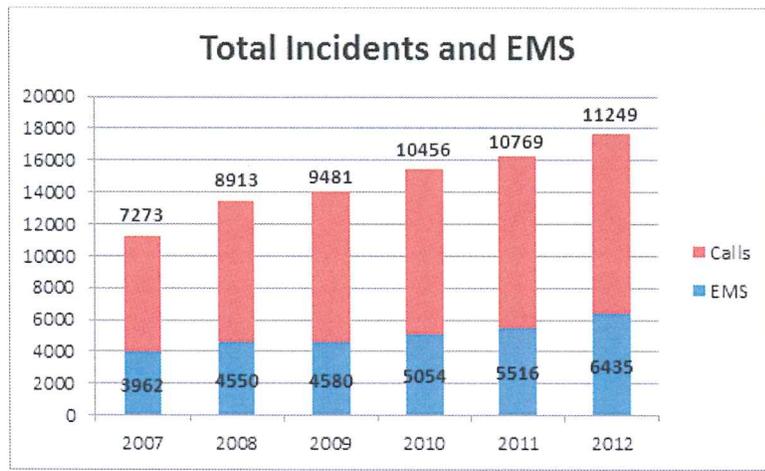
Councilmember Karen Meinzen McEnerny asked if there are any issues regarding car down time for the propane vehicles.

Police Chief Kenneth DeSimone responded no.

Councilmember Dianne Fries asked Police Chief DeSimone to ensure the City calendar is kept up-to-date with Police Department activities.

Fire Department – Chief Jack McElfish

Sandy Springs Fire Rescue



Councilmember Chip Collins joined the meeting this time.

FY14 Priorities

- Emergency Medical Services
- Preparation and Response to Calls for Service

- Safety, Health and Well Being of Citizens/
- Personnel
- Fire Prevention/Fire Safety Education
- Community Involvement
- Training
- Fire Accreditation Certification

FY14 Enhancements

- Auto Extrication Tools (Jaws of Life) Replacement
 - Current tools older, worn, non-compliant
- Replacement of 4 Staff Vehicles
 - High mileage, six plus years of use
- Upgrading Firefighter Gear
 - Continued annual replacement program
- Fire Station 4 renovations
 - Planned upgrades pending procurement
- New Fire Apparatus
 - Replacing our current fleet

Emergency Medical Services

- FY14 Goals
 - Continue to provide superb medical services with high quality personnel and equipment within established response time goals
- FY14 Priorities
 - Maintain current resource commitment: 5 peak / 3 off-peak ambulances, and renegotiate contract for improved savings without any reductions in services or care
 - RMA will replace fleet with new ambulances in (summer) 2013
- Calendar Year 2012 Response Results
 - Ambulances arrived within 7 minutes 59 seconds to emergency calls 91% of the time; avg. response time 7:04
 - Ambulances arrived within 14 minutes 59 seconds to nonemergency calls 97% of the time

Councilmember Dianne Fries asked how the Sandy Springs ambulance response times compare to other jurisdictions nearby.

Fire Chief Jack McElfish stated as far as he knows Sandy Springs has the best response time.

General Government Contract Services

Councilmember John Paulson joined the meeting at this time.

No requested enhancements

- Financial Services
- Communications
- Recreation and Parks
- Municipal Court

Information Services

- **Technology upgrades:**
 - Software license renewals
 - Capital computer and infrastructure update and replacements (140 new computers)
- .5 FTE Security Engineer
- GIS Software Update

City Manager John McDonough stated an employee will be moved from the Help Desk and reassigned and there will also be a .5 increase in employees.

Call Center

- Amount is for six months
- Issue Task Order-based RFP to compete service

Councilmember Karen Meinzen McEnery asked about the annual cost to operate the Call Center.

City Manager John McDonough responded the amount is about \$775,000 annually.

Councilmember Meinzen McEnery stated it was discussed during last year's budget if the Call Center is something the City wants to continue.

City Manager McDonough stated staff wants to continue the Call Center, but also decrease the call volume by using technology and utilizing the City website.

Councilmember Chip Collins asked where the City is on updating the City website.

City Manager McDonough stated the new website is not currently operational. The plan was submitted to senior staff three to four weeks ago. Staff is in the process of testing the new web page with citizens as well.

Councilmember Gabriel Sterling asked if the Call Center equipment is CH2M Hill's.

City Manager McDonough responded yes.

Community Development

- Customer Service Enhancements
 - Building Inspector (.21 FTE to .8 FTE)
 - Land Development Inspector (.8 FTE to 1 FTE)
 - Landscape Architect (.6 FTE to 1 FTE)
 - Planning Technician Position (0 to 1.0 FTE)
- PermitGo! Software Upgrade
- Electronic Plan Submission

Councilmember Tibby DeJulio asked if there is a timeline when the City will have electronic plan submission available.

City Manager John McDonough stated at this point there is no timeline. Electronic plan submission is still high on the list, but there are technical issues to work out.

Public Works and Facilities

- Add 0.5 FTE Engineering Support
- HVAC and Building Maintenance Repairs
- Storage Facility

Task Order Analysis

Firm/Work Package	NTE Escalator	Actual Escalator	FY13 Amount	FY14 Amount	Difference
Finance/ST Services	2.50%	2.50%	\$1,633,011.00	\$1,673,836.00	2.50%
Information Services/ InterDev	5.25%	3.50%	1,176,537.49	1,315,828.80	11.84%
Communications/ Collaborative	2.20%	2.20%	502,200.00	513,249.00	2.20%
Municipal Court/Jacobs	3.00%	1.00%	1,082,368.00	1,093,219.00	1.0%
Call Center/CH2MHill	n/a	3.50%	792,036.00	819,756.26*	3.50%
Public Works/URS	4.00%	3.50%	3,318,265.00	3,514,549.00	5.52%
Recreation/Jacobs	3.00%	1.00%	1,023,571.00	1,033,822.00	1.00%
Community Development/ Collaborative	2.20%	2.20%	2,931,420.60	3,201,969.00	9.23%
Total	3.14%	3.14%	\$12,459,409.09	\$13,166,230.34	5.67%

*12 month projection; issuing 6 month Task Order for \$409,879

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FY14 Planning Assumptions - Operating

- Decline in revenues (property tax and franchise fees) - \$3,261,075 (-3.94%)
- Fixed Cost of General Government Services Contracts - \$13,166,230.34 (5.67%)
- Renewal of subcontractor agreements - \$5,570,000 (4.29%)
- Continued funding for Police Fleet Replacement Program - \$808,800
- Vehicle Acquisition Costs - \$145,000 (4 Fire)
- Funding for Elections - \$375,000
- Continued funding for Community Events/Non-profits - \$280,000
- Financing for Fire Department Fleet Replacement - \$775,000
- E-911 Center operation - \$900,000
- Continued EMS subsidy for enhanced service - \$450,000
- Debt Service for Storage Facility - \$109,710

Councilmember Karen Meinzen McEnery stated the City is seeing a significant increase in permitting.

Councilmember Dianne Fries stated the raft race event at Morgan Falls Dam in the past has been sponsored by the National Park Service. The National Park Service’s funding has been reduced. She suggested that the City add \$4,000 to the community events to help fund the raft race. She would rather the City be a sponsor, than loose the event in Sandy Springs due to the National Park Service having a lack of funds.

City Manager John McDonough stated Recreation and Parks Director Ronnie Young may have funds in the events budget that could be used for this event.

There was consensus of Council to sponsor the raft race by using \$4,000 of the City’s funds.

Councilmember Meinzen McEnery asked if any thought has been given to leasing the four Fire Department vehicles instead of purchasing them.

City Manager McDonough stated at this time staff would rather pay cash for the trucks and not carry the debt.

Councilmember Gabriel Sterling asked if the City will sell the other vehicles in order to receive cash for them.

City Manager McDonough stated those vehicles will be recycled or sold through the City equipment disposal process.

FY14 Planning Assumptions - Capital

- Continued funding for City Center Phase I Priority Projects - \$15,000,000
- Continued funding for Stormwater Infrastructure Improvements - \$1,600,000
- Funding for Public Safety Radio System - \$1,250,000
- Purchase of Fire Station #4 from City of Atlanta - \$1,000,000
- Continue Citywide Gateway Beautification - \$1,000,000
- Buy Down and Renovations for Storage Facility Lease/Purchase - \$500,000
- Continued funding for Chattahoochee Pedestrian Bridge Project - \$400,000
- Continued funding to complete HAWK Program - \$230,000
- Additional funding for Riverside Drive slope repair - \$200,000
- Continued funding for CIP-T/P/F programs

Councilmember Karen Meinzen McEnery stated for five years the City has had a T-0019 project, which is the Roswell Road Streetscape from Long Island to the City limits. That project was placed in the budget for FY13 at a cost of \$1.6 million. The project has not yet been constructed because there have been suggestions to allocate that money to a five lane road intersection at Windsor Parkway. She would like to see funding in the FY2014 Budget for the sidewalks to be installed.

City Manager John McDonough made note of Councilmember Meinzen McEnery's request.

Capital Projects

City Center Phase I Funding Plan - FY14 Recommended Allocation

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Project	Allocated Funding	Additional Funding Needed	Proposed FY14
Land Acquisition	\$15,555,672	\$10,000,000	\$5,000,000
City Center Parking Study	75,000	0	0
Professional Services	212,593	3,787,407	0
Mt. Vernon Highway and Blue Stone Road Extension	3,825,000	5,770,000	3,825,000
Civic Center Infrastructure and Green	0	11,292,500	3,172,009
Utilities Program Management Design	600,000	0	0
Utilities Relocation (next 5 years)	1,000,000	4,530,000	0
Marsh Creek Headwaters BMP	1,381,709	1,602,991	1,602,991
Structured Parking	0	12,500,000	0
Civic Center Facility	0	TBD	0
T-0014/0015 Sandy Springs Circle Phase I	0	1,400,000	1,400,000
T-0014/0015 Sandy Springs Circle Phase II	2,989,498	3,198,502	0
Heritage Playground	0	4,400,000	0
TOTAL	\$25,639,472	\$58,481,400	\$15,000,000

Councilmember Dianne Fries asked about the allocated funding column.

City Manager John McDonough stated the City needs \$58 million to complete all the projects, which are the priority one projects in the City Center Phase I. He is proposing to add \$15 million in FY14 toward the additional funding needs.

Councilmember Tibby DeJulio asked if the City would be using 25% of the \$58-60 million needed this year and 25% over the next three to four years.

City Manager McDonough responded yes.

Councilmember Gabriel Sterling asked if the Marsh Creek funding is included in this amount being discussed.

City Manager McDonough responded yes.

Councilmember Chip Collins asked if some of the land the City is acquiring for the downtown master plan will be sold back to the private sector.

City Manager McDonough stated that is a possibility, but in the short term, no.

Councilmember Sterling stated regarding Mount Vernon Highway there was a consensus of Council to not lower the road as much and try to save money instead. He asked if that project is included on the allocation list.

City Manager McDonough stated it is still early on in the process and that road height has not been reviewed.

Councilmember Collins asked about the professional services amount of \$3.7 million.

City Manager McDonough stated if one follows the City of Alpharetta model, the program management need is based on the total cost of the project.

Councilmember Sterling asked if a project manager will be working with the City in FY14.

City Manager McDonough responded yes.

Councilmember Sterling asked if the project manager position should be under professional services.

City Manager McDonough stated if staff needs to, they can come back to Council with a budget amendment.

Councilmember Karen Meinzen McEnerny asked if the money will be used for streetscape.

City Manager McDonough responded yes. The funds will be used below Mount Vernon to Hammond Drive to build the street segment as part of the City Center Master Plan. The City is trying to move Phase I forward and have it built within the next two to three years. Staff is applying to receive State ARC Federal Funds for Phase II.

There was a consensus of Council to move \$1 million from the Land Acquisition to Professional Services.

Abernathy Greenway Park

FY14 Suggested Priorities

- Phase IV Contingency
- Phase V Design

FY13 Budget - \$750,000

FY14 Recommendation - \$750,000

Abernathy and Johnson Ferry Road Improvements

FY14 Suggested Priorities

- Guardrail Installation (North of Riverside Drive)
- Mast Arms at Abernathy and Roswell Roads
- Completion of Johnson Ferry Streetscapes
- Median Plantings along Johnson Ferry and Roswell Roads
- Abernathy Road Phase I Pedestrian Lighting (60 lights)

FY13 Budget - \$0

FY14 Recommendation - \$500,000

Bridge and Dam Maintenance

FY14 Suggested Priorities

- Pedestrian Bridge on Dunwoody Club Drive

FY13 Budget - \$ 0

FY14 Recommendation - \$250,000

Hammond Park Improvements

FY14 Suggested Priorities

- Storage Building for Vehicles
- General Park Improvements

FY13 Budget - \$60,000

FY14 Recommendation - \$250,000

Intersection Improvement Program

FY14 Suggested Priorities

- Mt. Paran at Powers Ferry Road Signal Design and Construction
- Mt. Vernon at Long Island Drive Intersection
- Long Island from SR9 to Long Island Terrace
- Johnson Ferry Road at Wright Road Analysis
- Overhead Internally Illuminated Street Signs

FY13 Budget - \$500,000

FY14 Recommendation - \$300,000

Lost Corner Preserve

FY14 Suggested Priorities

- Relocate entrance/exit
- Parking lot

FY13 Budget - \$200,000

FY14 Recommendation - \$425,000

Pavement Management

FY14 Suggested Priorities

- Resurfacing
- Expect LMIG, amount includes required match
- Utilize IMS Evaluation Results

FY13 Budget - \$3,000,000

FY14 Recommendation - \$3,000,000

Sandy Springs Tennis Center Improvements – Phase I

FY14 Suggested Priorities

- Replace fences around courts
- Cover four courts
- Parking lot retaining wall

FY13 Budget - \$0

FY14 Recommendation– \$500,000

Sidewalk Program

FY14 Suggested Priorities

- Continue execution of planned and funded projects
- Design some segments for FY15 construction

FY13 Budget - \$500,000

FY14 Recommendation - \$500,000

Councilmember John Paulson asked about numbers on where the City is for improving the sidewalks.

City Manager John McDonough stated all the districts have had sidewalk improvements; District 1 - 26,822 feet of sidewalk; District 2 - 26,730 feet; District 3 - 6.5 miles; District 4 - 3.1 miles; District 5 - 3.6 miles; and District 6 - 4.3 miles. There has been a total of 27 ½ miles of sidewalk improvements since the City's inception.

Councilmember Karen Meinzen McEnery stated she hopes she can get Councilmember DeJulio's support on streetscape project T-0019 to be added back onto the list of approved projects. She does not agree with spending \$500,000 on the Tennis Center compared to what is proposed for the sidewalks. The City has constantly removed that money from the available money to spend on sidewalks. She would like to get the Gateway project streetscape put in place for Districts 5 and 6.

Councilmember Dianne Fries asked if that section is different than what the CDBG section is.

Councilmember Meinzen McEnery responded yes. This area is near the City of Atlanta. The CDBG funds are for the Northwoods area. For five or six years the money for T-0019 has been reallocated by Council.

Director of Public Works Garrin Coleman stated the project Councilmember Meinzen McEnery is referring to is the first phase from Northwoods to Long Island and will be constructed based on the new census. The west side of Phase I will be constructed with the CDBG funds.

Councilmember Meinzen McEnery stated the citizens in this area do not have any streetscape. She thought the CDBG money would be used for the Northwoods area, but instead the northern part of the community has new sidewalks. Capital funds for this project are approved every year by Council, but every year the funds get reallocated. She would like the \$1.6 million placed back in the budget somewhere.

Councilmember Tibby DeJulio asked if this will be an item on the ranking sheet.

City Manager McDonough stated this item is not on the ranking sheet. There are a lot of variables related to this project. Staff is exploring the CDBG option and other options.

Councilmember DeJulio asked if staff can get back to Council regarding the T-0019 project and obtaining other funds for this project.

Councilmember Meinzen McEnery stated the \$230,000 in extra funds for the HAWK project is for sidewalk improvements necessary for the HAWK.

Councilmember Sterling asked if between JLB funds and the HAWK funds there another mile of sidewalk construction is left.

Councilmember Meinzen McEnery stated the sidewalk is for both sides of the streets.

Councilmember DeJulio stated he is not sure he agrees with the City paying to repair the tennis courts and someone else collecting the revenue from use of the tennis courts.

Traffic Management Center

FY14 Suggested Priorities

- Continue Master Plan implementation
- Additional fiber purchase
- Construction to install fiber
- Fiber splicing
- TMC maintenance contract

FY13 Budget - \$550,000

FY14 Recommendation - \$350,000

Councilmember Gabriel Sterling asked if the City's fiber optics connect to the City of Atlanta and City of Dunwoody.

City Manager John McDonough stated Sandy Springs will be connected, but is not at this moment. Phase II of the ATMS project will extend the fiber optics to the City of Atlanta.

Capital Investments

Review of CIP Investments to Date

Category	Units	Approximate Amount
Miles of Roads Paved	126 miles	\$26,600,000
Miles of Sidewalk Installed/ Programmed	27.5 miles	\$8,380,000
Stormwater Repairs	817	\$8,906,000
Traffic Management Center	128 signals controlled 34 miles of active fiber	\$1,800,000
Intersection Improvements	54 complete	\$3,700,000
CIP Improvements	Over 50 projects	\$63,614,000
	TOTAL	\$113,000,000

Review of Current CIP Projects

Project	Amount	Est. Project Completion
T-0008 Roswell Rd Streetscape Cliftwood to Hammond	\$2,300,000	FY 15
T-0011 (Johnson Ferry/ Glenridge Dr)	\$11,100,000 (Design & R/W)	FY 14/15
T-0012 Roswell Rd Streetscape Johnson Ferry to Abernathy	\$4,470,000	FY 15
T-0024 Hammond Dr	\$686,000	FY 15/16
T-0033 CDBG Sidewalks	\$2,700,000	FY 14/15

Project	Amount	Est. Projected Completion
T-0035 Chattahoochee Pedestrian Bridge	\$400,000 (Design & R/W)	FY 14/15
T-0036 MARTA Sidewalks	\$553,000	FY 14
T-0037 Northridge Interchange	\$9,270,000	FY 14/15
T-0039 Spalding/Mt. Vernon Intersection	\$750,000	FY 14
T-0040 Glenridge Widening	\$500,000	FY 14/15
T-0041 Riverside Drive Slope Repair	\$200,000	FY 14

Project	Amount	Est. Projected Completion
T-0042 City Gateway Beautification	\$1,000,000	FY 14/15
T-0044 (Plan 2040) Roswell Rd ATMS Phase II	\$1,300,000	FY 14/15
TOTAL	\$35,229,000	

City Manager John McDonough stated the project size of the T-0011 project has been decreased on the east side of Roswell Road.

Councilmember Gabriel Sterling stated that will decrease the total cost of the project, due to right-of-way costs.

Councilmember Karen Meinzen McEnerny asked if Council wants to proceed with the \$500,000 Glenridge widening or the \$1 million Glenridge intersection at Roswell Road.

Councilmember Tibby DeJulio stated this project has been on the project list for numerous years and the one thing that delayed the project was the agreement with Georgia Power.

**Sidewalk Program Look Forward
 Design & Construction**

Site	Cost	Est. Projected Completion
Mt. Paran Rd - Long Island Dr to Roswell Rd	\$370,000	FY 14 Construct
Hammond - Mitchell - Lake Forrest	\$90,000	FY 14 Construct
Powers Ferry - Whitmere to Old Powers Lane	\$105,000	FY 14 Construct
FY 13 Powers Ferry - Old Powers Lane to Dudley	\$145,000	FY 15 Construct
FY 13 Happy Hollow	\$120,000	FY 15 Construct
FY 13 Mt. Vernon Highway @ Preston Woods	\$35,000	FY 13 Construct
TOTAL	\$865,000	

Review of Potential FY14 Citywide Capital Projects

Citywide Capital Projects (Consolidated Rankings)

1. Rank Categories		
2. Estimate Allocation within Each Category		
Priority		Proposed
	Abernathy Greenway Park	750,000
	Abernathy/Johnson Ferry Roadway Improvements	500,000
	Bridge and Dam Improvement Program (Ped Bridge on Dunwoody Club)	250,000
	Hammond Park Improvements	250,000
	Intersection Improvement Program	300,000
	Lost Corner Preserve	425,000
	Pavement Management/Resurfacing	3,000,000
	Sandy Springs Tennis Center Improvements - Phase I	500,000
	Sidewalk Program	500,000
	Traffic Management Center	350,000
		\$6,825,000

City Manager John McDonough stated there is approximately \$4.4 million to allocate for the Citywide Capital projects. The total amount to allocate is \$6.8 million.

Councilmember Gabriel Sterling asked if the \$425,000 will cover the entire cost of the parking lot and moving the entrance for Lost Corner Preserve.

City Manager McDonough responded yes.

Councilmember Karen Meinzen McEnery stated Council just discussed many capital items that are not on this list. She asked about stormwater funding.

City Manager McDonough stated stormwater is already funded at \$1.6 million as an assumption. The budget assumptions help drive the available amount of capital. For example, if none of Council agrees with the revenue assumptions and decides to increase them by \$1 million, that would impact the ability to complete the citywide capital projects chart. Capital items have been segregated and not included on the ranking sheet.

Councilmember Sterling asked if Councilmember Meinzen McEnery is saying the amount of money in the budget will affect how the items are ranked. He does not see how the amount of money will affect the ranking, because how he feels about items will not change whether there is \$4 million or \$6 million.

Councilmember Meinzen McEnery stated more revenue could be available, so additional items could be added to the ranking sheet.

Councilmember Dianne Fries stated at previous budget meetings Council received a chart that included the capital items on a ranking sheet. This is the first year staff did not give Council that type of sheet.

City Manager McDonough stated previously there was a category for capital improvement projects that included a sub ranking. These projects were removed from the ranking sheet as individual projects and included on the ranking sheet. If an item is not worth \$1.6 million when it is one of the top City priorities, it should not be a City priority.

Councilmember Meinzen McEnery suggested staff create another spreadsheet that shows the allocated assumptions as part of the ranking sheet.

City Manager McDonough stated staff can create this sheet, but the information is available on the assumptions page.

Councilmember Meinzen McEnery asked if Council can defer completing the ranking sheet until they receive the budget assumptions.

City Manager McDonough stated once the projects are ranked, if there is only enough money to complete the first two projects, then only those are completed.

Councilmember Tibby DeJulio stated if the City ends up with a surplus of revenue, Council can work down the list to complete the other items on the ranking sheet.

Councilmember Meinzen McEnery stated this discussion assumed that all of the money, except \$4.4 million, was already allocated.

City Manager McDonough stated staff has to begin somewhere with budget numbers. This process begins each year at the Council Retreat. Council adopts community priorities. Based on what is heard from Council and the community, staff tries to resource the items according to what Council agreed upon as City priorities.

Councilmember Meinzen McEnery asked staff to go back to last year's priority sheet and place all the priorities on the sheet to see how large they are and then Council can vote. She asked that staff place T-0019 back onto the ranking sheet with an estimated cost of \$1.6 million. She would like to see the Glenridge intersection at Roswell Road added to the ranking sheet.

City Manager McDonough stated this ranking sheet is just a starting point. If there is a consensus of Council to add items to the ranking sheet, that can be done.

Councilmember Meinzen McEnery asked how much money is from unanticipated surplus from last year's budget.

City Manager McDonough responded \$9 to \$10 million. That number will be included in next week's presentation.

Councilmember John Paulson stated if the City has projects like T-0019 that were on the list before he became a member of Council, those projects should be added back to the list.

City Manager McDonough stated the reason that project is not on the list is because the money may go back to the list. The project is still included on the capital project list.

Councilmember Meinzen McEnery stated she would like the \$1.6 million for T-0019 added to the ranking sheet.

Councilmember Fries stated project T-0019 could be a midyear adjustment to the budget, if staff finds out the project is not covered by other funding.

City Manager McDonough stated staff will bring a number back to Council next week on how much is needed for this project.

Councilmember Meinzen McEnery stated that number could then be added to the ranking sheet.

Councilmember Sterling stated the \$1 million for the Gateway beautification may not be necessary.

Councilmember Fries stated the Mayor wanted to start the project this planting season.

City Manager McDonough stated he does not know if the \$1 million will be enough for this project.

Councilmember Sterling suggested changing the Gateway beautification fund to \$250,000. He asked where the City is in spending all of the \$2.5million for stormwater.

Director of Public Works Garrin Coleman stated the City has \$300,000 that is uncommitted for stormwater projects. The City has about \$1.7 million worth of backlog projects that have been through the legal process and have been determined to be part of the City's responsibility.

Councilmember Sterling stated in the past, the City has spent \$2.5 million in stormwater repairs. He questions the proposed allocation of \$1.6 million for FY2014.

City Manager McDonough stated the Gateway beautification funds can be eliminated and then Council could add \$500,000 to stormwater.

Councilmember Paulson asked, if only \$1.6 million is allocated for the stormwater program will it be starving the program.

Director of Public Works Coleman responded no. It would just create more of a backlog of projects.

Councilmember Sterling suggested taking \$500,000 from the Gateway beautification project and using it towards stormwater projects and maybe the purchase of the Fire Station.

There was a consensus of Council to reduce the Gateway beautification funds to \$250,000; add \$550,000 to stormwater funds for a total of \$2.1 million; add the remaining \$250,000 to the ranking sheet; and add T-0019 to the ranking sheet.

Councilmember Meinzen McEnery suggested placing the Gateway beautification project on the ranking sheet to be ranked. The beauty of the ranking sheet is that it gives every Councilmember the opportunity to choose what is important to them. By separating the important items, it interferes with the unbiased process. There are many items on the City priorities list that are very important that should not be removed. She asked if \$250,000 will be added to the sidewalk project funds.

City Manager McDonough stated the sidewalk project funds will not be increased by \$250,000, but instead raise the allocation can be raised from \$500,000 to \$750,000 on the sidewalk line item. If that item ranks high enough, it will receive \$750,000 of the \$4.7 million.

Agenda for Budget Workshop #2

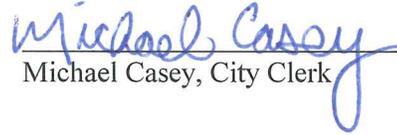
- Revenue Projections
- Review of Undesignated Fund Balance
- Review Capital Project Ranking Exercise
- Review and Validate Budget Assumptions

There being no further discussion, the meeting adjourned at 7:38 p.m.

Date Approved: May 21, 2013



Eva Galambos, Mayor



Michael Casey, City Clerk