



How will my additional tax dollars be spent?

➔ GENERAL CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT

Over the last two decades, and in particular in the last couple of years, City leadership has made difficult choices when deciding how to use limited tax dollars. Attempts to conserve funding resources for the purpose of maintaining staffing and sustaining critical service operations have been successful, but at a price. The hidden costs of this necessary strategy have been the detrimental impacts of deferred maintenance on infrastructure and facilities, as well as the inefficiency and uncertainty created by reducing fleet and equipment replacement programs.

Cutting funding for general capital improvements has been an attractive quick fix for our budget woes, but the mid- and long-term effects will be financially harmful, if not downright dangerous to the public. Listed below are descriptions of many of the general capital improvement needs that could be incrementally addressed with approval of Issue 9 on the Nov. 2 ballot.

- **Shawnee Park Rehabilitation**

Description and Need: This project would replace the deteriorating sections of the retaining wall and walk ways on the south and east sides of the lagoon, stabilize the Shawnee Pavilion foundation, and replace the obsolete lighting and electrical systems in the park. The project is rated a high priority due to the potential public safety implications, historic value of the park, and the volume of use of this local landmark.

Estimated Cost: 2010 engineer's estimate of approximately \$1 million

- **Progress Center Traffic Congestion Mitigation Project**

Description and Need: This project would add improvements and traffic control systems to the intersections at W. Main/Hospitality, W. Main/Progress Dr., and Hospitality/Harner. This project is rated as a high priority due to the frequency of traffic accidents around Progress Center and growing public safety concerns due to increasing vehicular and pedestrian traffic volume. Failure to address these traffic issues will also impede retail and economic development in this area.

Estimated Cost: 2010 engineer's estimate of \$770,000

- **City Hall Generator Replacement**

Description and Need: Existing emergency generator provides back-up power for critical public safety services including police, 911 dispatch, and emergency operations. The current 20 year-old unit is under-sized for critical energy needs at City Hall. This project would replace

the existing generator with a generator to ensure City Hall’s viability during emergency power outage situations.

Estimated Cost: to be determined

- **Public Service Center Generator Installation**

Description and Need: The Xenia Public Service Center is a critical operational facility that currently has no back-up power supply. An emergency power source at the service center facility would ensure that, during times of prolonged power outage, City vehicles can refill gas tanks, garage services can be continued, and vital street and utility maintenance operations can be sustained.

Estimated Cost: to be determined

- **Shawnee Creek Tributary Restoration and Retaining Wall Rehabilitation**

Description and Need: The Shawnee Creek Tributary runs through the heart of Xenia, providing stormwater conveyance and flood mitigation through a dedicated and reinforced waterway. Advanced maintenance is necessary to clean and clear the waterway and reconstruct and/or stabilize large sections of the aged retaining wall. Deterioration of the existing retaining wall has created a substantial public safety concern for families living along the waterway and has put numerous private structures along the tributary at risk for collapse.

Estimated Cost: to be determined

- **City Hall Facility Assessment and Long-Term Use Plan**

Description and Need: Xenia City Hall is more than 70 years old, and its last renovation occurred more than 20 years ago. As capital improvement budgets have tightened over the past two decades, preventative and advanced maintenance have simply not been viable options for City Hall. Limited and inconvenient public access, an unreliable elevator, an aged HVAC system, and extremely limited space for the Police Division and Municipal Court are among the major safety concerns. Additional challenges and safety concerns for the facility have arisen as a result of advancements in technology, as periodic upgrades in communications wiring, electrical wiring, security features and other mechanical functions have resulted in a patchwork of overlapping operating systems. All of these functional deficiencies are made worse by the obvious aesthetic needs. Most of the facility has not seen replacements in flooring, new paint, or new furniture since the 1990 addition. While some of these facility improvements could be further forestalled, many of the critical mechanical replacements are urgently needed and must be addressed to ensure safety and eliminate costly emergency maintenance contracts incurred to keep these failing systems functional.

Estimated Cost for Planning: to be determined (for Phase One—assessment and long-term use plan)

Estimated Cost for Rehabilitation: to be determined

- **Curb & Sidewalk Replacement Program**

Description and Need: The City provides this replacement program to address crumbling curbs and sidewalks on City property and in the downtown area. There is currently no dedicated revenue source to sustain the program while at the same time the condition of curbing and

sidewalk in these areas is rapidly deteriorating. State and federal grant funding have provided some measure of assistance for localized improvements in approved areas, but the scale of the replacement need has long since outpacing the availability of these funds.

Estimated Cost: \$75,000 annually

- **Neighborhood Parks Restoration Program**

Description and Need: The dozen neighborhood parks across Xenia are in desperate need of rehabilitation to ensure the safety of park patrons and to improve park functionality as neighborhood demographics change. The first step in providing a Neighborhood Park Restoration Program is updating the City's Comprehensive Parks Plan. City policy requires that the Comprehensive Parks Plan be updated every ten years; the most recent plan on file is from 1996. Residential growth and development, new park land dedication, and the expansion of the bike trail system over the 15-year period since the last plan was completed necessitates a fresh look at our City's park recreational needs through community planning. Once the Comprehensive Parks Plan is updated, additional funding will be required for a phased approach to sustain a neighborhood parks restoration program.

Estimated Cost for Planning: to be determined

Estimated Cost for Restoration: to be determined

- **Xenia Station Maintenance & Expansion**

Description and Need: Xenia Station serves as a unique and functional landmark for our City. Yet, the original plan for the park has gone unrealized and increasing security and maintenance needs require an investment to maximize the benefit and life of this local asset. Exterior façade and structural maintenance needs at the Station are growing concerns that cannot be ignored without compromising safety and cost efficiency. Limited security features combined with a reduced police presence have resulted in regular and increasingly severe and more costly damage due to vandalism. Enhanced security features should help reduce these unnecessary expenditures. Additionally, long-term plans for the park should be incorporated into the Comprehensive Parks Plan which will provide a blueprint for build out and better utilization of the facility and grounds.

Estimated Cost: to be determined

- **Municipal Facility Fiber Optic Installation Project**

Description and Need: A key infrastructure component which allows for timely and uninterrupted delivery of municipal services of all kinds is our communications system. City facilities and communication systems are necessarily hard-linked to fiber optic lines owned and operated by private cable companies. Due to regulations established through state statute, competition for these services is very limited resulting in significant expense for the City to utilize private fiber optic lines for computer and other communication functions. Hard-linking City facilities with municipally-owned fiber optic lines is a needed infrastructure improvement that will ensure more system reliability and will ultimately reduce operating costs for what is currently a contractual service.

Estimated Cost: to be determined