

Board of Representative Capital Budget Items

Activity	Project	Submitted By
Education	Moonshot Educational Capital Improvements - aggressive funding program to (i) rapidly close financial deficits in funding of capital improvements in existing schools, (ii) assess capacity of our school system and (iii) to expand as necessary.	Lee/Pendell (District 15)
General street/sidewalk improvements	Neighborhood Welcome Sign for Wildwood Association to be placed on Wildwood Road west of Long Ridge Road	Lion (District 19)
General street/sidewalk improvements	Funds to incentivize property owners to beautify their street view appearance along the Greenwich Avenue corridor - \$80,000	de la Cruz/Saftic (District 2)
Government Center	Upgrading Security System Cameras in Government Center	Pratt/Stella (District 9)
Harbor Management	Invest in a cleaner boat to pick trash and debris out of harbor	Sherwood (District 8)
Parks/Beaches	Provide Funding for Phase 1-3 of Master Plan for Cummings Beach	Michelson/Watkins (District 1)
Parks/Beaches	Rebuilding of Comfort Station at Lione Park	Pratt/Stella (District 9)
Parks/Beaches	Boccuzzi Park Master Plan - \$345,000: Entrance Realignment - \$400,000 + Parking Relocation & Waterfront Lawn - \$850,000 = \$1,250,000; Less Baypointe Holdings escrow - \$785,000; Less Sale of 0 Fairfield Ave -\$110,000 = \$345,000	de la Cruz/Saftic (District 2)
Parks/Beaches	Boccuzzi Park Master Plan - \$400,000: Beach restoration, dunes, rip/rap - \$450,000 Less customary yearly allocation - \$50,000 = \$400,000	de la Cruz/Saftic (District 2)
Parks/Beaches	Continuation of boardwalk along the east side of Davenport Street to finally connect Boccuzzi and Mill River Park as envisioned - \$250,000	de la Cruz/Saftic (District 2)
Parks/Beaches	Renovate bathrooms at entrance to Cove Park	Sherwood/Figueroa (District 8)
Parks/Beaches	Restore electricity to all docks at Cove Marina	Sherwood/Figueroa (District 8)
Parks/Beaches	Add basketball court to Hunt Park	Sherwood/Figueroa (District 8)
Parks/Beaches	Rehabilitate Hunt Park Building for year round public use	Sherwood/Figueroa (District 8)
Parks/Beaches	Preservation of Cove Island Barn	Sherwood/Figueroa (District 8)
Schools	Newfield Elementary school- repair ground on playground	Lutz (District 14)
Schools	Rippowam auditorium repair and upgrades	Lutz (District 14)
Sidewalk/Pedestrian Access	Repairs of existing sidewalks in Shippan Point and in Soudview and Willowbrook areas of the Cove	Michelson/Watkins (District 1)
Sidewalks	invest in sidewalks, especially around schools (like KT Murphy and Rogers)	Cottrell /Roquetta (District 4)
Sidewalks	New Sidewalks on Soundview Ave. enabling pedestrian traffic to Cummings Park	Michelson/Watkins (District 1)
Sidewalks	Repair Broad & Stillwater Sidewalks near school	Pratt/Stella (District 9)
Sidewalks	Repair City Sidewalks	Pratt/Stella (District 9)
Sidewalks	Sidewalk Repairs on High Ridge to Oaklawn particularly in front of Rippowam School	Quinones (District 16)

Capital Budget

Activity	Project	Submitted By
Sidewalks	Sidewalk behind AITE/Rippowam/Apples Dann Dr., Turner, up to Pepperridge rd. Unsafe student passage. Students walk in the street	Lutz (District 14)
Sidewalks	Sidewalks within one mile of every school for safe travels to and from school	Lutz (District 14)
Sidewalks	Creation of Sidewalk Construction and Maintenance Fund for the purpose of sidewalk construction and maintenance, which will prioritize projects that are not currently covered by existing grant proposals or other roadwork projects, and either (X) enhance the walkability of a community resource (such as access to a school or train) or (Y) are currently in poor condition, with factor (X) having priority over factor (Y)	Lee/Pendell (District 15)
Street Repaving	Consistent road maintenance in District 4	Cottrell /Roquetta (District 4)
Street Repaving	Repaving of Harborview Avenue (which has become a major cut-through route)	Michelson/Watkins (District 1)
Street Repaving	Increase paving budget by 50% to accelerate completion of paving master plan	Lion (District 19)
Street Repaving	Myano Lane reconstruction	Pratt/Stella (District 9)
Street Repaving	Pave Houston Terrace	Sherwood/Figueroa (District 8)
Street Repaving	Continued funding for Road Rehabilitation Program - expansion of program to side streets where possible	Lee/Pendell (District 15)
Traffic/Road Safety	invest in solutions to vehicle speeding	Cottrell /Roquetta (District 4)
Traffic/Road Safety	Additional funding for Traffic Calming assets such as traffic circles, signage, cross walks, etc.	Michelson/Watkins (District 1)
Traffic/Road Safety	Additional funding Traffic Calming Systems - increased funding for low cost traffic management systems such as sight line and pedestrian signage and lighting	Lee/Pendell (District 15)
Traffic/Road Safety	Additional funding Traffic Calming Systems -continued or expanded funding for technological traffic management control systems including signal optimization and a speed camera pilot program, especially around school areas	Lee/Pendell (District 15)
Traffic/Road Safety	Pedestrian activated crosswalk signs at 3 high traffic intersections - \$60,000	de la Cruz/Saftic (District 2)
Traffic/Road Safety	Further investment in Traffic Synchronization Project	Quinones (District 16)
Traffic/Road Safety	traffic camera detection devices to assist with traffic flow at the intersections of Westover Road/Palmer's Hill and Palmers Hill and Stillwater Road Intersections	Graziosi/Morson (District 13)
Transfer Station	Add shed over the garbage scale at transfer station (to prevent garbage from escaping)	Sherwood (District 8)

Board of Representative Operating Budget Items

Activity/Dept	Project	Submitted By
BOE	invest more in bilingual parent facilitators to help the parents of English language learners feel welcome in their school community/bilingual paraprofessional to assist newcomer students	Cottrell/Roqueta (District 4)
BOR	making the postage item a budget line item for BOR members for constituent communication for the \$750 currently allotted per member.	Cottrell/Roqueta (District 4)
BOR	Allocate money to BOR so that each member can contact their constituents biannually via mail	Sherwood (District 8)
Building Dept	Funding to put the permitting process online, digitize submissions, and otherwise increase efficiencies	Lee/Pendell (District 15)
Crosswalks	Use epoxy paint on crosswalks (particularly intersection of West Main & West)	Pratt/Stella (District 9)
Fire	Hire more fire marshals	Cottrell/Roqueta (District 4)
Grants Dept	Add an additional Grants Officer position	Quinones (District 16)
Health Dept	Hire more staff tasked with Health Dept. inspections (whether part-time, full-time, or temporary)	Cottrell/Roqueta (District 4)
Housing	Increased funding for Affordable Housing	Pratt/Stella (District 9)
Human Resources	Recruiting agency fee for Director of Operations	Lutz (District 14)
Mayor's Office	Create a Legislative liaison position to coordinate/ lobby with State Government	Quinones (District 16)
Operations	New position to work under Ernie Orgera in preparation for succession to Director of Operations	Michelson/Watkins (District 1)
Parks	More police presence in the city parks	Cottrell/Roqueta (District 4)
Parks	Provide for a "Permanent Part Time" position in the Parks Police to replace Officer Green who died in 2017. The proposed "Seasonal" position is NOT adequate.	Michelson/Watkins (District 1)
Parks	Increase Park Police - 5 full time and 5 part time	Pratt/Stella (District 9)
Parks	More Park Police	Lion (District 19)
Parks	Increased Parks Policing patrols	de la Cruz/Saftic (District 2)
Parks	Keep bathrooms at entrance of Cove Park open year round	Sherwood/Figueroa (District 8)
Parks	Renew money to hire professional superintendent of parks as per charter requirement	Sherwood (District 8)
Transportation	A new Traffic Analyst position	Michelson/Watkins (District 1)
Transportation	Traffic Personnel - Cross Walks	Pratt/Stella (District 9)
Transportation	Hire personnel to perform Traffic Study	Pratt/Stella (District 9)
Transportation	Hire additional traffic engineers to implement traffic management systems	Lee/Pendell (District 15)
Zoning	Hire more staff tasked with zoning inspections (whether part-time, full-time, or temporary)	Cottrell/Roqueta (District 4)
Zoning	Increased staffing in Zoning Enforcement	Michelson/Watkins (District 1)
Zoning	Create a Zoning Enforcement Supervisor/ Strategist position	Quinones (District 16)

Operating Budget

Zoning	Additional Zoning Enforcement Staffing - hiring of additional zoning enforcement officers; funding for support staffing from City agencies for zoning enforcement actions (e.g., Fire Department and Police Department staff time)	Lee/Pendell (District 15)
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Board of Representatives Budget Items

Capital/Operating	Project	Submitted By
	Boccuzzi Park Master Plan: (1)	V. de la Cruz/I. Saftic
	Entrance Realignment.....\$400,000	District 2, Waterside
	Parking Relocation & Waterfront Lawn... <u>850,000</u>	
	\$1,250,000	
	Less Baypointe Holdings escrow..... -785,000	
	Less Sale of 0 Fairfield Ave..... <u>-110,000</u>	
Capital: \$345,000	<u>\$345,000</u>	
	Beach restoration, dunes, rip/rap.....\$450,000	
	Less customary yearly allocation <u>-50,000</u>	
Capital: \$400,000	\$400,000	
	(1) Given the significant ROI from implementation of the Boccuzzi Park Master Plan, leveraging funds in place, every effort should be made to accelerate its realization.	
	Boardwalk: (1)	
Capital: \$250,000	Continuation of boardwalk along the east side of Davenport Street to finally connect Boccuzzi and Mill River Park as envisioned.	
	(1) Given the significant ROI from completion of this connection as envisioned, every effort should be made to accelerate its realization.	
	Pedestrian Safety:	
Capital: \$60,000	Pedestrian activated crosswalk signs at 3 high traffic intersections.	
	Park Policing:	
Operating: \$?????	Increased patrols	
	Street Scape Improvement:	
Capital: \$80,000	Funds to incentivize property owners to beautify their street view appearance along the Greenwich Avenue corridor.	

Board of Representative Budget Items Representatives Lee and Pendell, District 15

Capital/ Operating	Project	Submitted By
Operating	Sidewalk Construction and Maintenance Fund - see Annex 1	Reps. Lee and Pendell
Operating	Additional Funding for Traffic Calming Systems/Staffing - see Annex 2	Reps. Lee and Pendell
Capital	Continued Funding of Road Rehabilitation Program - see Annex 3	Reps. Lee and Pendell
Operating	Additional Zoning Enforcement Staffing and Process Improvements - see Annex 4	Reps. Lee and Pendell
Capital/Operating	"Moonshot" Educational Capital Improvements and Concurrent Staffing - see Annex 5	Reps. Lee and Pendell

Annex 1

Sidewalk Construction and Maintenance Fund

To our understanding, sidewalk construction and maintenance is generally allocated as a subsidiary project to larger road and highway improvement projects, which in turn are funded predominately through grants. Although this system is certainly understandable from a fiscal perspective, we believe that sidewalks bring particular value to the community, especially in areas where walkability is a factor (defined as areas where transit, schools, and local businesses are walkable). Increased "walkability" metrics are strongly correlated with increases in property values, and have the ancillary effects of (i) reducing traffic (insofar as residents may choose to walk, rather than drive) and (ii) increasing pedestrian safety.

To that end, we propose creating a specialized fund for the purpose of sidewalk construction and maintenance, which will prioritize projects that are not currently covered by existing grant proposals or other roadwork projects, and either (X) enhance the walkability of a community resource (such as access to a school or train) or (Y) are currently in poor condition, with factor (X) having priority over factor (Y). Based on a preliminary estimate from the Highway Department, a modest fund of \$1 million would be provide almost 2 miles of such sidewalk repairs. Distributed across the City in strategic projects, we believe that such a program could bring substantial value to residents.

Annex 2

Additional Funding for Traffic Calming Systems/Staffing

Traffic management is a significant concern throughout the city. Although many of our traffic issues require some fundamental realignment and re-engineering existing roadways to correct systemic defects, other traffic management systems are comparatively low cost and easily implemented. Accordingly, we propose increased funding for low cost traffic management systems, continued or expanded funding for technological traffic management control systems, and additional staff in the form of traffic engineers to implement the same.

First, the City has experience with relatively low cost and simple methods to influence a driver's perception of the road and thereby control speed. Such methods include, but are not limited to "sight lines" (the painting of lines on roads) and simple pedestrian signage and lighting. Respectively, the FY 2017/2018 budget appeared to allocate \$100,000 for such street painting supplies and street signage, respectively, against a budget request of \$125,000. Further, we understand that with respect to street painting, the Operations Department currently focuses on simply repainting existing lines on a 5 year schedule, rather than putting an active focus on the aforementioned techniques (though we do not doubt that these considerations are applied currently). We support full funding for these allocations, and, if recommended by the Transportation Bureau Chief, higher funding. In essence, we believe that these low cost traffic calming efforts should be widely deployed.

Second, we strongly support the current program of traffic control technology, notably in the form of the signal optimization project. Although we understand that this project does enjoy state funding, we support any funding allocations necessary to cover any state shortfalls to maintain or increase the current path to full deployment across the City. Further, we support funding for a speed camera pilot program, especially in/around school areas, if our state delegation can secure the necessary legislative approval for such a project.

Third, in order to implement the above and support the city's continued road maintenance program, we support the hiring of additional traffic engineers.

Annex 3

Continued Funding for Road Rehabilitation Program

In the second half of 2017, the City began an ambitious road rehabilitation program that improved several miles of highly trafficked roads that were moderate to poor condition. We understand that the City has a three year plan for addressing over 120 such high traffic roads, ranked by order of condition and overall traffic. We support continued funding to meet or exceed that goal.

We also strongly encourage the City to consider expanding the program to side-streets whenever possible – although less trafficked, many side-streets near our main roads are in poor condition as well. Although we understand that priority must be allocated on the basis of the greatest good (and therefore, higher traffic roads), we support additional funding to simultaneously support both the current program and efforts to expand.

Annex 4

Additional Zoning Enforcement Staffing and Process Improvements

We support increased funding for a three-fold approach to the City's current problem of zoning violations. First, we support the hiring of zoning enforcement officers (either as building inspectors deputized for the purpose or specialists in zoning enforcement) to begin a systemic review of likely zoning violations throughout the City. We also support funding for support staffing from City agencies for zoning enforcement actions (e.g., Fire Department and Police Department staff time).

Second, we support specialized funding for improvements to process with the Building Department. We believe that some zoning violations are a result of citizen frustration with the process of obtaining proper permits and registration. As such, we support efforts to put the permitting process online, digitize submissions, and otherwise increase efficiencies.

Third, on our own end, we support reforms to the zoning enforcement process to support such enforcement officers. We understand such forms must be taken concurrently with the improvements listed above, and will work towards them.

Annex 5

"Moonshot" Educational Capital Improvements and Concurrent Staffing

To our understanding based on budget submissions in the past few years and our discussions with constituents, Stamford faces a deficit of tens of millions of dollars in capital improvements to existing schools. This deficit has many causes, not the least of which has been inadequate State support, and we certainly understand great strides have been made in recent years to start closing that gap.

We support a "moonshot" approach to solving this issue, by which we mean an aggressive funding program to (i) rapidly close these gaps, (ii) assess capacity of our school system and (iii) to expand as necessary.

Such an approach certainly has financial risks, as it would necessarily entail a major bond issuance. However, we believe that such risks are worthwhile, for three reasons.

First, Stamford enjoys substantial geographic and economic advantages in attracting young families which can form the next generation of taxpayers. Put simply, Stamford is the most affordable city in a region with substantial employment opportunities, and the country's largest generation (Millennials) are increasingly starting families. Winning those families over requires a competitive school system.

Second, Stamford already has a highly motivated, highly respected education system in place. Our constituents have consistently noted that they are happy with the teachers in Stamford, which indicates that the relevant issues are largely bricks and mortar, and then attracting more teachers to supplement the excellent cadre we already have.

Third, the current era of low interest rates is likely unsustainable, while many capital improvements to our facilities are issues that will only grow more expensive with time. Aggressively moving to solve these problems now arguably may save the City money over time, both in interest costs and mitigating damage to facilities that might otherwise be caused by delayed improvements.

Again, we appreciate that this proposal is far easier said than done. We support any increase to the capital budget for school improvements and additional staffing to the operating budget, and urge serious consideration of adopting an aggressive approach to this issue.