

CIP FINANCING

Conclusion

The Department formed the following conclusions from the information discussed in this chapter.

- The 1/8-cent renewable Park Sales Tax is the primary funding source for capital improvement projects.
- Since the passing of the Park Sales Tax, the Parks and Recreation Department no longer shares a portion of the 1/4-cent Capital Improvement Sales Tax. This frees up more funding for public safety equipment/facilities and major street and sidewalk projects.
- The Department should continue to use dedicated user fees (Golf Course, Activity & Recreation Center, and Recreation Services Fund) for the renovation, improvement, and development of recreation facilities used by the participants paying those fees.
- The Department should continue soliciting donations and working with agencies that can assist with fundraising.
- The Department should continue to seek grant opportunities and expand to non-traditional grant opportunities, such those funded by foundations, corporations, and private individuals.
- The Department should expand the use of Community Development Block Grant program to include all areas that meet eligibility requirements.
- The ability of the City to continue funding the Parks and Recreation Capital Improvement Program in the future largely depends on the City Council and Columbia citizens electing to renew the Park Sales Tax. It imperative that the Department maintains a good reputation for fulfilling its ballot promises, so that the community will be more inclined to support the renewal of the Park Sales Tax.



MKT Bridge #12 - Replacement Funded by the Park Sales Tax and RTP Grant