

Date: March 1, 2011

For ACTION _____
For INFORMATION X
Board Agenda: Yes _____
No X

FROM: Jean Sina, CFO

THROUGH: Margaret Byess, Deputy Superintendent, Planning and Support
Operations
Cathy David, Deputy Superintendent, Instructional Support

TO: Morton Sherman, Ed.D.

COPY: The Honorable Yvonne Folkerts, Chair, and Members of the Alexandria City
School Board

Executive Staff

TOPIC: Board Questions on FY 2012 Proposed CIP Budget – Packet #2

BACKGROUND: The attached packet contains responses to 8 CIP budget questions from Board members. With this packet all CIP budget questions received to date have been answered.

CONTACT PERSON: Jean Sina

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#CIP-12-01

Board Member: Sheryl Gorsuch, 2/17/11

Respondent: Mark Krause, Director II, Facilities

Question: What is the cost to upgrade the auditorium light and sound systems at Francis C. Hammond campus and Minnie Howard Campus to make them comparable to T.C. Williams High School, King Street Campus, and George Washington Campus?

Response:

The cost of replacing the Minnie Howard campus and the FC Hammond campus sound systems is included in the facility maintenance category of the FY 2012-2021 CIP. The projects are currently scheduled for both campuses for FY 2015, at a cost of \$131,141 for each. This cost is for lighting and sound systems. A separate estimate for just the sound systems would be in the \$60,000 to \$75,000 range if replacement were done within the next year.

CIP-12-02

Board Member: Sheryl Gorsuch, 2/17/11

Respondent: David Rose, Director II, Pupil Transportation

Stephen Colantuoni, Executive Associate Principal, T.C. Williams High School

Question: What are the annual operating budget savings if tennis courts are built sooner at the T.C. Williams campus? Please include team transportation, rentals, etc.

Response:

The tennis team members (approximately 12 girls and 15 boys) have practiced at non-ACPS tennis courts and transported for all practices and matches for the past five years. Total costs for this are approximately \$5,200 per year, and are composed of rental fees and transportation costs.

Details are as follows:

Rental Fees: Home matches are played at Wakefield Park in Fairfax County. For the girls and boys teams combined, there are a total of 15 home matches played at those courts at a total rental cost of \$1,200, paid from District-Wide Athletics funds.

Practices are held at Chinquapin Park and at Park Shirlington apartment complex. Through agreements with the City's Recreation Department and the apartment management, there is no charge for use of these practice courts.

Transportation: The ACPS Department of Pupil Transportation provides transportation to the home matches. For the fifteen home matches that are scheduled for FY 2011, the projected transportation cost is \$3,996. Transportation costs are paid through the Division-Wide Athletics field trip account, a part of the operating fund.

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Transportation to practice at the Park Shirlington complex is aboard dismissal busses which travel to this location as part of their regular routes. An activity bus is used to pick up students at the Park Shirlington location before returning to T.C. Williams. No additional costs are incurred for using these buses as it is part of their regular activity runs.

There are also intangible items that should be considered. Students must leave school at 2:00 p.m. for home matches, thereby losing instructional time. This is partially due to the location of the courts, and partially due to the differences in ACPS secondary school schedules compared to other secondary schools in the Northern Virginia area. Also, when the teams travel to Fairfax County for a home match, T.C. Williams' athletes do not have their peers watch them compete.

#C-12-03

Board Member: Sheryl Gorsuch, 2/17/11

Respondent: Mark Krause, Director II, Facilities

Question: What are the City Recreation Department's priority order and/or preferences for lights at T.C. Williams, George Washington, and Francis C. Hammond?

Response:

According to the City Recreation Department, the order of priority would be T.C. Williams High School, Francis C. Hammond Middle School, and George Washington Middle School.

#C-12-04

Board Member: Sheryl Gorsuch, 2/17/11

Respondent: Stacey Johnson, Director of Budget

Question: Provide a budget table estimate for maintenance and repair at Jefferson-Houston, Cora Kelly and Patrick Henry schools if construction does not occur as shown in the scenario 2 budget constrained timetable (EMG study).

Response:

The table below represents the maintenance and repair cost estimates for Cora Kelly and Jefferson-Houston schools if construction does not occur as shown in the scenario 2 budget constrained timetable. These costs, totaling \$7,942,998 over 10 years, are based on the EMG study performed during FY 2009.

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Event Category	Cora Kelly	Jefferson-Houston	Grand Total
Aesthetics/Appearance	470,673	904,016	1,374,688
Anticipated Failure	2,071,678	2,408,233	4,479,910
Component Loss	-	-	-
Energy Improvements	33,599	73,401	107,000
Expected Maintenance	154,096	534,412	688,508
Facility/Operational Loss	111,484	20,547	132,031
Liability/General Safety	-	19,935	19,935
Obsolete Components	495,445	577,891	1,073,335
Security	52,358	15,232	67,590
Grand Total	3,389,333	4,553,665	7,942,998

Maintenance and repair costs at Patrick Henry are already included in the ACPS FY 2012 - 2021 Proposed CIP budget. The construction project to add capacity at Patrick Henry would add a second building on that site. Therefore, there will be two schools at Patrick Henry site, the new as well as the old one. Delaying construction would not change the maintenance and repair costs of the existing facility.

#CIP-12-05

Board Member: Sheryl Gorsuch, 2/17/11
Respondent: Mark Krause, Director II, Facilities

Question: What is the industry standard for annual maintenance and repair upkeep of school buildings in dollars per square foot (sf)?

Response:

The current "industry standard" for annual maintenance and operating (not repair) costs is \$4.42/square foot according to American School and University magazine. This came from a survey of schools throughout the US. Maintenance and operations cost/sf is a measured standard.

Repair cost/sf is not always measured because repairs are often postponed in times of budget reductions. This often leads to higher maintenance costs. EMG, our consultant who completed the Facilities Condition Assessment for us, provided a range of \$1.33 to \$2.09/sf for building repairs over the life-cycle of the building. This amount will vary depending on the size, age, usage, and prior maintenance of the building. The data is from the International Facilities Management Association (IFMA).

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#CIP-12-06

Board Member: Sheryl Gorsuch, 2/17/11

Respondent: Mark Krause, Director II, Facilities

Question: What is the number of Head Start and Network Preschool classrooms currently occupied in ACPS (full size and resource rooms)?

Response:

John Adams: 5 Head Start full-size (FS) rooms plus 2 resource rooms (office and kitchen)

Jeff Houston: 6 Head Start FS rooms plus 3 resource rooms (2 offices, 1 kitchen)

Pat Henry: 1 Head Start FS room

Mt Vernon: 2 Head Start plus 1 NetWork Preschool FS rooms

Cora Kelly: 1 Head Start FS rooms

GW: 5 Head Start FS rooms plus 2 resource rooms (office & storage)

TCW: 3 Head Start FS rooms plus 2 resource rooms (office & kitchen)

Totals: 23 Head Start FS rooms
9 Head Start Resource rooms
1 NetWork Preschool FS room

#C-12-07

Board Member: Yvonne Folkerts, 2/17/11

Respondent: Stacey Johnson, Director of Budget

Question: What is the difference (in terms of projects and dollars) between the City CIP budget presented this year (FY 2012-FY 2021) and the City CIP budget presented last year (FY 2011-FY 2020)?

Response:

The following response was received from the City of Alexandria, Office of Management and Budget.

CIP Funding

The overall level of funding in the FY 2012 – FY 2021 CIP is decreasing by about \$25.2 million from the FY 2011 – FY 2010 plan. This figure adjusts for the inclusion of the Potomac Yard (PY) Metrorail Station in the FY 2012 plan. The PY Metrorail Station was technically approved in FY 2010 but was not included in the FY 2011 CIP document because the Council action came in June after the FY 2011 CIP was approved in May. It is important to note that because this project is funded with a dedicated special tax district, developer contributions and increased real estate tax revenue from the PY development itself, it did not have any impact on the CIP request prioritization process (i.e. the project is self-funded and non-competitive).

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A better funding number to look at for ACPS is the year-to-year change in the level of Unrestricted City Funds. These are the local funds that any City or ACPS capital project is technically competing for. ACPS would not be eligible to receive Restricted City Funds or Non-City Funds for their capital needs, which make up about 39% of the FY 2012 – FY 2021 CIP. Examples of Restricted City Funds include sanitary sewer fees, the storm water management tax, and Comcast franchise fees. Total FY 2012 – FY 2021 Unrestricted City Funds are decreasing by about \$17 million from the FY 2011 Approved CIP.

CIP Project Changes

There are numerous changes, both significant and insignificant, in project funding between the FY 2011 and FY 2012 CIP budgets. Many individual projects also saw adjustments in timing. Fully describing all of these adjustments in a memo would essentially be recapitulating the entire CIP document, which incorporates approximately 200 unique capital projects. Such a memo would have to be prioritized in the queue of Council requests for budget memos.

The project showing the largest decrease in funding is the Public Safety Computer Aided Dispatch System Replacement, which went from \$34 million to \$18 million (\$16 million decrease). These funds were mostly reallocated to other CIP projects within the ten plan years. Other key reductions in the planned use of Unrestricted City Funds include replacing \$3 million for the DASH Bus Replacement Program with State Urban Funds (transportation funding) and reducing the Bridge Repairs program by \$2.4 million. Finally, the total amount of “unprogrammed CIP funding” across the ten years decreased by about \$4.3 million, but \$24.0 million in available, unprogrammed funding is still included in the FY 2012 – FY 2021 CIP, primarily in the last three fiscal years.

Some key increases (not a fully inclusive list) in project funding in the FY 2012 – FY 2021 CIP include:

- Open Space acquisition & development \$16.0 million
- Patrick Henry Recreation Center \$6.1 million
- State-mandated environmental remediation at Oronoco Bay outfall \$2.2 million
- Roof replacements at City facilities \$2.6 million
- Replacement of fleet services vehicle lifts \$1.3 million
- Transportation sign & wayfinding system \$2.3 million
- Public Art Acquisition \$1.4 million
- Contribution to the Northern Virginia Community College capital program \$2.2 million

These key adjustments mostly net out. The difference between the Unrestricted City Funding total in FY 2011 (\$82.4 million) and those in the new FY 2012 (\$61.0 million) is \$21.4 million. The major change in the level of Unrestricted City Funds has to do with finishing the New Police Facility Project. A large portion of the project funding for the New Police Facility was funded in FY 2011 or earlier and as such does not reappear in the FY 2012 – FY 2021 CIP. A project of this size is somewhat of an anomaly for the City, and a similarly-sized project is not currently present in the ten-year plan.

It is important to note that major City-funded projects like the Police Facility or T.C. Williams School that use unrestricted funds are not affordable on a regular basis, and need to be spaced out over time to avoid pushing our outstanding debt levels above those allowed in our debt policy guidelines. Doing these two projects necessitates a period of lower borrowing levels to stay safely within the City's debt policy guidelines.

#C-12-08

Board Member: Marc Williams, 2/17/11

Respondent: Margaret Barkley Byess, Deputy Superintendent, Planning and Support Operations

Question: Could you please describe what kind of adjustments to ACPS school programs and/or class size might be necessary if we do not receive appropriate CIP funding from the city?

Response: There are relatively few options beyond those already undertaken to achieve greater efficiency in facility use without impacting the quality of the educational programs in our schools. ACPS has already instituted modified open enrollment to maximize use in space. In addition, ACPS has adopted standard space allocations which require teachers of smaller classes (such as reading, ELL, and special education) to be located in half-size (resource) classrooms or office-size spaces. It is important to note that the following are **hypothetical** possibilities, **not recommendations** from staff.

If enrollment growth outstrips construction of additional classrooms over the next ten years, the following are possible changes that could be made to free up additional classroom space:

Program changes:

- **Increase class size:** At the elementary level, increasing class size by 2 students (from the current level of 20 students maximum per kindergarten classroom; 22 students maximum for grades 1-2, and 24 students maximum for grades 3-5) would provide 19 additional classrooms in FY 2012. The actual number of classrooms yielded will vary each year depending on the composition of enrollment by grade level and school.
- **Modify elective course offerings.** Currently art and music classes are provided in dedicated classrooms. If these program offerings were provided in each homeroom (with the concomitant changes in the quality and scope of the curriculum and instruction) an additional 26 classrooms (two at each elementary school) could be obtained.
- **Change the way certain classes are taught:** Currently some groups of students (such as Talented and Gifted, English Language Learners, and special education) are taught in either a pull-out (into a separate classroom) or a push-in (within the homeroom classroom) model. If only push-in models were permitted, the following resource-size rooms would be available: Tag – 13; ELL -- 47; and Special Education -- 43. However, the quality of instruction for students currently receiving small group instruction in these rooms would be compromised.
- **Eliminate non-ACPS uses of classrooms during the day:** Head Start programs currently use 23 full-size classrooms and 9 resource rooms. Network preschool uses 1 full-size classroom. Elimination of the use of these program uses would provide additional space for ACPS students.

Calendar Changes:

- School divisions with significant space constraints may choose to modify their calendar year of operation. By switching to a four-quarter school year, with students attending three of four quarters, approximately 25% more students can be accommodated. This option has been unpopular with families, as it disrupts the traditional family vacation

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period in the summer, and with facility managers, as it leaves no time for major maintenance to be conducted on school building. This option should be considered a temporary measure only, as it makes it impossible to properly maintain a school building when sustained over several years.

Alexandria City Public Schools
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Item #	BQ#	Budget Year	Date Received	Board Member Initials and Question #	Board Question or Information Request	Response Sent Out	Packet #
		FY12	1/15/10	Various	Responses to questions received from the December 15, 2010 School Board CIP work session were provided as part of the January 21, 2011 Board memo as well as the CIP Budget Questions memo and packet dated February 7, 2011. This log restarts CIP question numbering with #CIP-12-01.	2/22/2011	1
		FY12	1/10/11	Various	Responses to questions received from the January 10, 2010 School Board CIP work session were provided as part of the January 21, 2011 Board memo as well as the CIP Budget Questions memo and packet dated February 7, 2011. This log restarts CIP question numbering with #CIP-12-01.	2/22/2011	1
		FY12	1/21/11	Various	Responses to questions received from the January 21, 2010 School Board CIP work session were provided as part of the CIP Budget Questions memo and packet dated February 7, 2011. This log restarts CIP question numbering with #CIP-12-01.	2/22/2011	1
1	CIP-12-01	FY12	2/17/11	SG-1	What is the cost to upgrade the auditorium light and sound systems at Francis C. Hammond campus and Minnie Howard Campus to make them comparable to T.C. Williams High School, King Street Campus, and George Washington Campus?	3/1/2011	2
2	CIP-12-02	FY12	2/17/11	SG-2	What are the annual operating budget savings if tennis courts are built sooner at the T.C. Williams campus? Please include team transportation, rentals, etc.	3/1/2011	2
3	CIP-12-03	FY12	2/17/11	SG-3	What are the City Recreation Department's priority order and/or preferences for lights at T.C. Williams, George Washington, and Francis C. Hammond?	3/1/2011	2
4	CIP-12-04	FY12	2/17/11	SG-4	Provide a budget table estimate for maintenance and repair at Jefferson-Houston, Cora Kelly and Patrick Henry schools if construction does not occur as shown in the scenario 2 budget constrained timetable (EMG study)?	3/1/2011	2
5	CIP-12-05	FY12	2/17/11	SG-5	What is the industry standard for annual maintenance and repair upkeep of school buildings in dollars per square feet?	3/1/2011	2
6	CIP-12-06	FY12	2/17/11	SG-6	What is the number of Head Start and Network Preschool classrooms currently occupied in ACPS (full size and resource rooms)?	3/1/2011	2
7	CIP-12-07	FY12	2/17/11	YF-1	What is the difference (in terms of projects and dollars) between the City CIP budget presented this year (FY 2012-FY 2021) and the City CIP budget presented last year (FY 2011-FY 2020)?	3/1/2011	2
8	CIP-12-08	FY12	2/17/11	MW-1	Could you please describe what kind of adjustments to ACPS school programs and/or class size might be necessary if we do not receive appropriate CIP funding from the city?	3/1/2011	2