



Road and Bridge News September, 2016

Road & Bridge News “Draft” Capital Improvement Plan

Ouray County staff, SGM Consultant (Hunt Walker), and the Road Committee have been diligently working on a “draft” Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) throughout the year. According to the Road & Bridge Audit that was finalized in August 2015, it was recommended by SGM Consulting Engineers that Ouray County develop a CIP for its County roads over a ten to fifteen year period. Having an effective CIP will create efficiencies for Ouray County Government by providing the opportunity to plan and implement road improvements, thus saving money and ensuring that County Road and Bridge dollars are expended wisely.

(Roberts, 2008) “Capital improvements refer to major, non-recurring physical expenditure such as land, buildings, public infrastructure and equipment. The Road and Bridge CIP includes a description of proposed capital improvement projects ranked by priority, a year-by-year schedule of project costs, which illustrates the amount of funding required for implementation. The CIP is a working document and should be reviewed and updated annually to reflect changing community needs, priorities and funding opportunities” (para. 1).

The Road and Bridge CIP explains the various components and the costs associated with improving County roads, including drainage, sub-base, culverts, gravel and other hard surface materials. The Road and Bridge Audit Community Satisfaction Survey solicited in 2015, indicated that the most important improvements to be made to County roads were 1) improving the road surface conditions (77%), 2) improving non-winter maintenance (71%), and 3) improving road drainage conditions (64%). The Ouray County Road and Bridge Department wants to make the necessary capital improvement to county roads in order to provide better roads for its citizens that are safe and meet the needs of the County’s growing population. Improvement of county roads is the number one priority for the Road & Bridge department. The County Road Committee, County Staff and Board of County Commissioners will continue to meet and refine the “draft” Capital Improvement Plan with a future goal of public outreach and solicitation of public input. We will keep you posted on the progress.

For additional questions about Road and Bridge activities, please contact the County Road and Bridge Department at (970) 626-5391 and ask to speak to Steven Calkins, Interim Road and Bridge Superintendent; or email him at scalkins@ouraycountyco.gov.

Reference

Roberts, R. (2008). Planning Implementation Tools. Retrieved from http://www.uwsp.edu/cnr-ap/clue/documents/planimplementation/capital_improvement_plan.pdf