Bureau Update



July 2013

City Council Approves \$1.8 Billion 5-Year Capital Plan

Higher GO bond issue plans to support focus on new construction and major renovations

Boston's five-year capital plan (FY14-FY18), approved by the City Council on June 26th, totals \$1.78B. This year's five-year capital plan includes 341 new and continuing projects and proposes \$195.9M in new project authorization.

Capital Funding

Sale of GO bonds are planned to fund 71.8% of all project costs with federal funds expected to support 11.7% and state funds 10.8% of total costs. The \$207M in federal funds represents a \$120M decrease from the FY13-FY17 Capital Plan, continuing the trend of decreased federal funding for capital projects.

The City plans to issue \$677M in GO bonds over the five-year plan. The City will issue a larger amount of bonds in the first two years (\$177M in FY14 and \$140M in FY15) and then return to \$120M for the last three years (FY16-FY18). The larger GO bond issuances are driven by the Dudley Plan as well as school facility needs.

Gross debt service will rise by 24.5% over the next five years, from \$150.5M in FY13 to \$187.4M in FY18, but will remain below the City's debt standard of 7% of the operating budget. In FY14, gross debt service will represent 6.1% of the operating budget.

Project Type

The FY14 capital budget allocates 33% of funds for upkeep, 23% for upgrades, 43% for new/major rehabilitation and 1% for planning and matching needs. This budget continues a trend of increased spending on upgrades and new/major rehabilitations. Four departments account for over three-fourths of the total capital budget over the five years.

Total Funding by Department FY14-FY18, \$ in millions

Department	Amount	%
Public Works	\$621.7	35.0%
School	284.1	16.0%
Prop.Const.& Mgt.	288.4	16.2%
Parks	186.8	10.5%
Dept. Innovation & Tech	93.6	5.3%
Library	94.6	5.3%
Other	208.5	11.7%
Total	\$1,777.7	100.0%

Schools

Capital plans for the School Department total \$284.1M over five years, which includes \$248.7M of GO funds. The Department's share of GO funds is 19.5% which is less than required to meet the capital infrastructure needs of the system's 127 schools. The BPS' capital plans in this budget focuses on major renovations, mainly through the Access to Excellence Plan, to provide additional seats in high performing schools.

Computer Aided Dispatch

The City's Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) system is scheduled to "go live" in the first half of FY14. This system will integrate dispatch data across various public safety units, allowing for faster response times from first responders.

Dudley Square Plan

The Dudley Plan, the single largest element in the capital plan, accounts for \$187.6M over five years. On June 24th the City held the topping off ceremony for the Ferdinand Building, the \$119M project that will house the School Department upon completion in January 2015.