

Saint Paul City Council Budget Questions | 2022

1. Please summarize the 2022 budget. What changes were made in the budget and why, was anything shifted to ARP, include the data analysis that led you to make these changes and how services will be affected? Please include details on new programs or services, new revenue or grants, or innovations.

The 2022 Public Works budget maintains current service levels while remaining aware of overall cost pressures including those related to COVID.

Rate increases:

- We continue to build rate increases of 3.5% into the budget for both Sanitary and Storm Sewer Charges to keep in line with the Baker Tilly rate recommendations.
- We continue to see some maintenance costs rising and have included approximate 4% rate increases for both Street Sweeping and Citywide Lighting costs.
- Coordinated Garbage Collection Fees are projected to increase 5.5% to fund necessary cart or cart component replacements

Significant budget changes:

- ARP Funding: The 2022 proposed budget includes a one-time transfer of \$3,332,391 in American Rescue Plan funding for Mill and Overlay, which replaces a transfer included in Public Works' 2021 General Fund budget. As a result, Public Works' General Fund budget is reduced by \$3,332,391. Total Mill and Overlay spending remains the same, but the source of funding changes on a one-time basis.
- The Sewer Utility has higher spending budgeted in 2022 in three areas: Payments to Metropolitan Council Environmental Services (MCES) for wastewater treatment; expected additional investments in capital maintenance activities and increases in debt service payments.
- MCES has indicated that we should expect a 4.0% increase in their charges for next year. The dollar amount of this increase is \$996,130.

Changes in Grant Funding:

- 2021/2022 grant changes were:
- Reduction of 2021 Met Council I&I Grant of \$421,525.90
- Reduction of a \$125,000 Grant for Transportation Planning
- The first year for grants for the EV program are not currently in the Public Works accounting units of the Grants Fund but will be moved to Public Works budget by technical amendment. They are in the Mayor's Office grant fund, but OFS is going to move them to our budget as a technical change. This program will be about \$8.8M over eight years, but year one is estimated to be \$5.7 million for charging stations and the first-year lease payment for vehicles.

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2. Does the 2022 budget add back any programs that were scaled down or eliminated in 2020/2021?

No programs that were eliminated or reduced in 2021 were added back or restored. \$122,991 was reduced from the Bicycle and Pedestrian Program in 2021 and the program remains at \$172,599. We did add back several FTEs lost in 2021 and those are discussed in number 3 below.

3. Please provide a staffing summary of the department's FTEs in 2019, 2020, 2021, and proposed 2022. Please provide details on FTE changes, including if the 2022 budget adds back any FTE's that were scaled down or eliminated in the 2020 and/or 2021 budget?

Public Works FTEs

2019 Adopted	367.40
2020 Adopted	369.90
2020 Revised	364.20
2021 Adopted	364.20
2022 Proposed	370.30

Add Back of 2021 reductions:

During budget conversations last year, the stresses placed on the City's General Fund budget due to COVID forced us to reduce spending in several areas that rely on the General Fund. These were primarily in non-project specific engineering, bike and pedestrian planning, traffic signal maintenance, traffic striping and grass mowing/weed control.

Many of these FTEs returned as part of the 2022 budget process:

- Restoration of 2021 Reductions
 - Principal City Planner (add back 2021 reduction) 1.0 \$145,876
 - Electrical Inspector (add back 2021 reduction) 0.5 \$101,452
 - Electrician (add back 2021 reduction) 1.0 \$194,424
 - Electrician (add back 2021 reduction) 1.0 \$194,424
 - Painter (add back 2021 reduction) 1.0 \$154,086
 - Parks Workers (add back 2021 reduction) Not Funded
- New FTEs added for 2022
 - Electric Vehicle Charging Station Network 0.5 \$41,630
 - Street Maintenance – New Highland Bridge 1.1 \$93,000

4. Please summarize your department's 2022 capital improvement budget and 2020/2021 capital maintenance budget.

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- The 2022 Capital Projects Budget of the Public Works Department is nearly \$50 million across a range of project areas: street reconstruction; sewer reconstruction and major maintenance; sidewalk reconstruction; bicycle and pedestrian improvements and improvements to public safety across the city. These projects and programs are funded with a mix of street reconstruction bonds, Municipal State Aid (MSA), Capital Improvement Bonds, General Fund appropriations, Ramsey County funds, Federal Funds and Sewer Revenue Bonds.
 - Please see the final page of this response for a complete list of our 2022 Capital Program by project and amount.
5. Does the 2022 budget include any new service delivery models based on lessons learned from COVID-19 pandemic or technology investments and what is the budget impact? (ex. Electronic signature, e-payments, e-learning formats integrated into program delivery, etc)

Public Works piloted some robust electronic community engagement tools for our Ayd Mill Road reconstruction project last year. We reached many more people doing it electronically and allowing them to respond electronically. Community outreach and engagement is very important to the successful delivery of capital projects. Creating a virtual presentation that allows people to review and respond at their own convenience has proven successful in terms of the number of people we reached and responses we got.

To continue the community engagement process despite the restrictions due to COVID-19, Public Works developed two online video presentations (or virtual public meetings), an online survey, and opportunities to provide comments and ask questions through two different online forms.

- The first video shared information about Ayd Mill Road's history, condition and options
- The second video summarized the survey responses and shared the results of the traffic modeling
- The online video presentations and feedback opportunities were promoted through traditional and social media channels and other opportunities
- The two video presentations received over 3,000 views and 1,138 survey responses were received

We will evaluate when we think this approach should be used on future capital projects or planning studies. Additionally, there really is no significant budget impact to doing community outreach and engagement this way.

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6. Please provide an update on any new programs commenced in 2020 or 2021. Include the performance measures you are tracking.

Public Works is leaning into equity work in two new ways. First, we have an existing staff member that will not be spending one-half time on advancing equity within the department. This will include engagement with other staff and assisting Senior Leadership with strategic planning in this area. Additionally, we have partnered with HREEO to be an early adopter of initiatives to broaden our base of vendors and contractors so that we can reach new and diverse businesses. This will expand our available list of vendors and hopefully share back some of our resources within our own community.

Additional information related to question #4 begins on the next page.

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2022 Capital Program

STREET RECONSTRUCTION BONDS	\$15,000,000
Edgcumbe Rd - St. Paul to Fairview	6,650,000
Wheelock Pkwy - Edgerton to Arcade	6,750,000
Curtice Roadway & Drainage Improvements	1,000,000
Crocus Hill Alley Improvement	600,000
MUNICIPAL STATE AID	\$13,585,948
Wabasha - Kellogg to 6th	3,490,000
Prior Ave - St. Anthony to University	4,500,000
Battle Creek Rd-Park Ridge to Lower Afton	900,000
Robert - Kellogg to 11th (Design)	200,000
Westside Intersection Control Enhancements	530,948
Pierce Butler@Minnehaha Int Improvements	200,000
Lexington - Shepard to W7th (County)	2,500,000
White Bear, Larp, North St. Paul Road (County)	250,000
I94/35E ADA Improvements (MnDOT)	250,000
Programs:	765,000
SPS Traffic Signals on Arterials	300,000
Signalized Intersection Safety Improve	125,000
RR Crossing Safety Improvements	40,000
MSA Contingency	300,000
CITY MILL & OVERLAYS	
Mississippi River Blvd - Randolph to TH5	
Wheelock - Arcade to Johnson Pkwy	
Summit - Hamline to Lexington	
SIDEWALKS	\$1,485,000
Sidewalk Reconstruction Program(Gen Fund)	1,485,000
* Includes Edgerton - Maryland to Arlington \$120,500	
* Includes Upper Afton-Burns to White Bear \$240,000	
Local Street, Alley, Sewer and Lighting*	150,000
*funded by assessments	
CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS BONDS	\$1,149,405
SRTS - Bruce Vento Elementary	549,405
Programs:	600,000
Bike, Ped & Traffic Safety Improvements	225,000
Signalized Intersection Safety Improve	115,000
RR Crossing Safety Improvements	10,000
Stairway Repair & Replacement Program	250,000
Bicycle Facility Improvements (Gen Fund)	500,000
RAMSEY COUNTY FUNDING ON CITY PROJECTS	\$1,445,500
Pierce Butler@Minnehaha Int Improvements	835,000
Marion at Ravoux - Ped Improvements*	250,000
Sidewalk Projects	
Edgerton - Maryland to Arlington	120,500
Upper Afton - Burns to White Bear	240,000
*Local share funded out of Bike, Ped & Traffic Safety Program.	
FEDERAL FUNDING	\$1,915,609
Randolph Bridge@ Xcel	1,915,609
SEWER BONDS	\$15,300,000
Sewer Rehab	2,800,000
Sewer Repairs (City, County, State Projects)	3,200,000
Citywide Sewer Repairs	500,000
Lift Station Renovations	1,500,000
Tunnel Rehab - Phase 3 Kittsondale	2,000,000
Storm Outfall Repairs	1,000,000
Water Quality Improvements	300,000
Flood Wall - Kellogg Corridor*	4,000,000
*Reimbursed by State and/or Federal funds	