



**CITY OF ELK GROVE
CITY COUNCIL STAFF REPORT**

AGENDA TITLE: Receive an update on City Council Priority Projects and provide direction as desired

MEETING DATE: August 14, 2024

PREPARED BY: Femi Omotesho, Management Analyst I

DEPARTMENT HEAD: Kara Reddig, Deputy City Manager

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Staff recommends that the City Council receive information from staff regarding the City Council Priority Projects and provide direction as desired.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

The City Council conducted its biennial retreat on March 10, 2023, during which it reviewed and updated its goals for the following two years and identified strategic initiatives to address them. At its April 12, 2023, meeting, the Council adopted the Mission, Vision, Goals, and Priority Projects. To implement the Mission, Vision, and Goals, the Council identified projects it deemed “high priority.” Staff reports on the progress of implementing these Priority Projects twice a year.

ANALYSIS/DISCUSSION:

Staff has prepared the City Council Priority Projects Update (Attachment 1) to report on the status of the Priority Projects. It includes the project title, description, and lead and supporting departments as defined through the Council Retreat. The status, through June 2024, is then provided.

Major accomplishments during the reporting period include the following:

- Secured City Council approval for the New Zoo in Elk Grove Project, including related project approvals for the cost-sharing agreement and design contracts for both design development and construction design work. (A2)

- Initiated upgrades to traffic signal cabinets, transitioning to fiber optic and/or cellular service to increase bandwidth, thereby improving signal synchronization and traffic operations while reducing congestion. The construction contract was executed in June 2024. On-site construction is anticipated to commence at the end of 2024 or early 2025 with project completion expected later in 2025. (B4)
- Completed efforts to revitalize the Railroad Street corridor with restaurant, entertainment, and residential uses. (C1)
- Continued working with Cosumnes CSD to undertake a pilot program for GPS-based emergency vehicle routing and signal preemption to improve Fire and EMS response times. The City entered into an agreement with LYT for GPS Emergency vehicle pre-emption in early 2024. The system became operational in May 2024 and is showing promising preliminary results. (D2)
- Continued working on improving the digital experiences for City customers on the online services portion of the City's website. Recently, staff implemented Power BI to facilitate online sharing of dashboards. Currently, staff are setting up the public-facing portal and will subsequently work with departments to identify suitable reports that can be shared in a centralized location. (E8)

FISCAL IMPACT:

There are no fiscal impacts with accepting this report. The Priority Projects have been included in the current Fiscal Year budget.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. City Council Priority Projects Update (June 2024)

ATTACHMENT 1

City of Elk Grove Priority Projects Biannual Reporting

As of June 30, 2024

Row ID	Priority Project	Description	Responsible Departments		Status	
			Lead	Support	Progress (in %)	Latest Update
A	Civic Amenities					
A1	Elk Grove (Old Town) Library	Complete tenant improvements for the relocated Elk Grove Library Branch.	Public Works	Strategic Planning and Innovation	50%	Design development started with Group 4 Architecture in May 2023. Final plans are nearing completion, including the late addition of enhanced child and teen spaces made possible by the allocation of funding from State Senator Ashby. Bidding is scheduled to begin in September 2024 with construction anticipated to begin in December 2024 and lasting about one year.
A2	New Zoological Park in Elk Grove	Complete schematic design and environmental review for the proposed New Zoo in Elk Grove and consider project approvals.	Strategic Planning and Innovation	Public Works, Finance	100%	The City Council approved the Project on May 8, 2024. On June 26, 2024, it approved the Cost Sharing Agreement, along with design contracts for Design Development and Construction Design work, which will begin later this summer. Partner funding cultivation is ongoing.
B	Transportation					
B1	Kammerer Road: Extend from Bruceville Road to I-5	Complete environmental review, right of way acquisition and begin final design for the extension of Kammerer Road from Bruceville Road to I-5.	Public Works	-	30%	Environmental review completed in October 2023. Project has begun the ROW Acquisition Phase and Final Design Phase. A request for \$7.75M in federal funds for ROW is scheduled for CTC action in August 2024. Initial contact with impacted property owners has begun and staff continue to seek grants to pay for construction of the Project.
B2	Whitelock Parkway Interchange	Continue project design and environmental review. Construction forecast for 2030.	Public Works	-	5%	Environmental and design work are ongoing. Estimated completion of environmental review is 2026/2027. Draft Transportation Analysis Report (TAR) was submitted to Caltrans for review and staff is developing a response to comments.
B3	Elk Grove Blvd Streetscape Phase 2	Complete utility coordination, right of way acquisition and final design, and begin construction of the widening, beautification, and mobility improvements of Elk Grove Blvd. from School Street to Waterman Road.	Public Works	-	55%	Utility joint trench design and streetscape design progressing concurrently. Estimated completion of both designs is early 2025. Right of way coordination and acquisitions are ongoing. Anticipate project bidding in September 2025.
B4	Expand traffic signal communication network	Complete upgrades to traffic signal cabinets and connect to fiber optic and/or cellular service to increase bandwidth to improve signal synchronization and traffic operations and reduce congestion.	Public Works	IT, Police	75%	The construction contract was fully executed on 6/18/2024. City held a preliminary project kick-off meeting with Contractor; however, some materials and equipment are long lead items so site construction will depend on material delivery. Anticipated to begin on site construction at end of 2024 or early 2025 with completion in 2025.
B5	Implement adaptive traffic signal control pilot project	Upgrade equipment and traffic operations software and deploy a pilot adaptive traffic signal program for Elk Grove Boulevard from Elk Grove-Florin to Bruceville.	Public Works	IT	75%	This project is encompassed in the project above (B4).
B6	Light Rail Extension to Elk Grove	Update the corridor master plan/precise plan for future extension of Light Rail into Elk Grove.	Strategic Planning and Innovation	Public Works	10%	On June 26, 2024, the City Council approved a contract with Kimley Horn for preparation of the precise plan. Work kicked off in July 2024. The project remains on schedule.
B7	Passenger Inter-City Rail Services	Continue coordination with San Joaquin Regional Rail Commission on station design and construction.	Strategic Planning and Innovation	Public Works, Dev. Services	55%	The project is currently in final design with operation anticipated to begin by the end of 2026.

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B8	Laguna Creek Trail at Highway 99 Overcrossing	Complete design, environmental review and pursue grant opportunities for the construction of a new pedestrian/bicycle overcrossing of Highway 99 at Laguna Creek.	Public Works	Strategic Planning and Innovation	15%	Design work kicked off in May 2023. The Advanced Planning Study (APS) is being finalized to address comments from Caltrans. 35% plans have been completed, and environmental studies have been submitted to Caltrans for review. This project has received a total of \$10.65 million dollars in grant funding.
B9	Lotz and Promenade Parkway Extensions	Complete design and environmental review for extension of Lotz Parkway from Whitelock Parkway to Kyler Road, and Promenade Parkway from the SMUD substation to Lotz Parkway.	Public Works	Strategic Planning and Innovation, Dev. Services	20%	Ultimate geometric alignment drawing completed. Interim geometric alignment design is in progress. Project team is coordinating with adjacent development projects, and environmental and right-of-way work is in progress.
C	Community Development					
C1	Railroad Street	Continue efforts to revitalize the Railroad Street corridor with restaurant, entertainment, and residential uses.	Economic Dev.	Dev. Services	100%	Complete.
C2	Update the Old Town Special Planning Area	Complete a comprehensive update to the Old Town Special Planning Area.	Strategic Planning and Innovation	Dev Services, Economic Dev.	75%	This effort remains on hold and will be re-evaluated later in 2024.
C3	Project Elevate	Continue efforts with the City's preferred development partner to undertake the project creating a mixed-use neighborhood at the City property at Big Horn and Elk Grove Boulevard. Develop a multi-phase construction plan and a retail plan that provides diverse dining and entertainment options.	Economic Dev.	Strategic Planning and Innovation, Dev. Services	25%	Staff has identified a development partner, CenterCal Properties, LLC. In April, City Council approved a Letter of Intent with CenterCal. Staff is finalizing a Purchase and Sale Agreement for City Council consideration in fall 2024.
C4	Kammerer Road Corridor Urban Design Study Implementation	Complete/adopt revisions to the General Plan, SEPA Community Plan, and Zoning to implement the Kammerer Road Urban Design Study.	Strategic Planning and Innovation	Economic Dev., Dev. Services, Public Works	90%	The City Council adopted the General Plan Amendments in December 2023. The new Special Planning Area is in public draft review and staff is currently outreaching with the development community. Adoption will occur later in 2024.
C5	Implement programs that address homelessness in Elk Grove	Explore funding or other forms of support for housing and services for people experiencing homelessness. Prepare a needs assessment. Consider funding programs from Measure E.	Dev. Services	-	55%	The adopted FY24 budget contains over \$2m in Measure E funds for several homelessness initiatives. The City added two homeless services navigator positions. A winter shelter serving up to 30 people per night opened on November 1, 2023 and ran through April 30, 2024. Efforts are underway to secure a location for a 24/7, year-round homeless shelter opening November 1, 2024. Staff continues to work on a variety of other ways to address homelessness.
C6	Further development of affordable housing in Elk Grove	Undertake programs and implement policies that further the development of housing for all income levels, including lower and middle income. Pursue development of four City-owned housing opportunities. As part of future fee program updates, continue to implement changes that reflect the proportional costs.	Dev. Services	Strategic Planning and Innovation	50%	A total of 770 affordable housing units are under construction currently, with 139 additional units expected to be underway by the end of 2024. The City's development partners are doing community outreach on the Old Town and Sheldon Farms North affordable projects (326 affordable units in total) and a 2-acre site was transferred to the developer of the Coral Blossom project. Preliminary design and analysis on two additional sites is expected to begin in Fall 2024. An affordable housing fee continues to be charged on all market-rate development.

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C7	Southeast Industrial Area/Grant Line Road Business Park	Facilitate infrastructure completion and marketing efforts that further development in the Southeast Industrial Area.	Economic Dev., Public Works	Strategic Planning and Innovation, Dev. Services, Finance	40%	Construction of Phase 1 storm drain improvements is substantially complete. Construction on Phase 2 storm drain improvements started on July 8, 2024. Staff are in discussions with SMUD regarding construction of an electrical substation in the Park. Staff continues to market City-owned properties within the Park for disposition and development purposes; privately owned properties are being marketed independently; however, staff routinely includes the private properties in responses to RFP/Is.
C8	Complete an update to the City's Climate Action Plan	Complete the 5-year update to the Climate Action Plan.	Strategic Planning and Innovation	Dev. Services	40%	GHG inventory and forecast has been finalized; working on potential strategies and actions; undertaking public engagement.
C9	Regional Sewer Study	In partnership with Regional San and SASD, prepare a regional sewer study that looks at the near-term and long-term sewer needs for Elk Grove south of Elk Grove Boulevard and west of Highway 99, including future annexation areas.	Strategic Planning and Innovation	Dev. Services, Public Works, Economic Dev.	15%	Staff is in discussions with SacSewer staff regarding an agreement that would analyze alternatives to serve southern Elk Grove, providing relief to capacity-constrained infrastructure.
C10	Old Town Library Reuse	Develop a plan and process for the disposition and/or future use of the current Old Town Library in preparation for the future move to the Rite Aid building.	Strategic Planning and Innovation	Economic Dev.	5%	Staff is developing a process for determining reuse of the facility and researching potential options for use. More information and community engagement will occur later in summer/fall 2024.
C11	Citywide telecommunication/broadband improvements	Facilitate improved telecommunications/broadband access for residences and businesses.	Strategic Planning and Innovation	Public Works, Economic Dev.	50%	The digital equity report has been finalized. Staff is working on a feasibility study with consultant as a next step as directed by the City Council in September 2023.
D	Community Safety					
D1	Continue efforts to address the potential for regional flooding	Continue seeking partnerships and funding to address long-term flooding potential in the Elk Grove area.	City Manager	Public Works, Strategic Planning and Innovation, Dev. Services	10%	Staff presented regional flooding concerns to Congresswoman Matsui and her staff in February 2023 and two potential improvement projects that could be undertaken. Significant funding would be necessary to move them forward. Conversations are ongoing.
D2	GPS based emergency vehicle signal preemption pilot program	With Cosumnes CSD, undertake a pilot program for GPS based emergency vehicle routing and signal preemption to improve Fire and EMS response times.	Public Works	Information Services, Police	60%	The City entered into an agreement with LYT for GPS Emergency vehicle pre-emption in early 2024. The system became fully operational in May 2024 and is showing good preliminary results indicating signals are being pre-empted much quicker than the original Opticon "line of sight" technology which is running concurrently.
D3	Community Service Centers	Investigate development of community service centers, one each in eastern and western Elk Grove for the City's neighborhood-focused Problem Oriented Policing teams.	Police	Public Works	15%	The Police Department is in the process of filling Problem Oriented Policing positions funded by Measure E; this includes a supervisor position which will be filled by the end of 2024. Once the supervisor position and vacant POP officer positions are filled, staff will investigate community service centers further.
D4	School Resource Officer Partnership	Study expansion of School Resource Officers with Elk Grove Unified School District.	Police	-	0%	Meeting with Elk Grove Unified School District to be scheduled for discussion of expansion.

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E	City Operations					
E1	Police Department Campus improvements and expansion	Complete improvements to 8380, 8400, Studio Court, and Iron Rock and evaluate timing of future expansion needs.	Public Works	Police	55%	Construction is complete at Studio Court and at Iron Rock. Construction at 8380 and 8400 started on Dec 11, 2023. Construction is in progress at 8400 and anticipated to be complete by the end of summer 2024. Once construction in that building is complete, work at 8380 will begin. Anticipated project completion is May 2025.
E2	Continue efforts of promoting Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion within City government, as well as in the community	Continue diversity and inclusion efforts within the City organization and expand programs into the community.	City Manager	-	60%	Efforts are ongoing. Staff provided a comprehensive update to Council in February 2024 of all calendar year 2023 accomplishments. Some accomplishments in calendar year 2024 have included: continue to provide staff DEI training, partnered with the EGUSD to help bring the Bias Inside Us Exhibit to Elk Grove, rolled out voluntary inclusion of pronouns in Outlook, and hosted various campaigns throughout the year to acknowledge important diverse acknowledgements.
E3	Maintain Elk Grove's roadways in a state of good repair	Identify opportunities to enhance pavement management efforts with new Measure E revenues.	Public Works	Finance	50%	The adopted FY25 budget contains \$2.05m in Measure E funds for additional pavement maintenance work. The City is currently planning to resurface Laguna Blvd, from HWY 99 to Laguna Springs in Sept/Oct of 2024. The budget also adds a Public Works Inspector to help manage the additional pavement work. Public Works Inspector anticipated to start Aug/September of 2024.
E4	Fleet Electrification	Complete the Electric Vehicle Transition Plan for City operations and undertake Phase 1 improvements to City facilities and begin Pilot/Phase 1 deployment of electric vehicles.	Strategic Planning and Innovation, Public Works	Police, Finance	70%	Transition report has been finalized and presented to City Council on 7/24. Planning for phase 1 implementation at Laguna Palms Campus, City Hall and Animal Shelter. Continuing to seek funding for improvements to City facilities.
E5	City Hall Improvements	Complete safety improvements to, and undertake design for a remodel of City Hall, at 8401 Laguna Palms Way to accommodate future growth.	Public Works	All	10%	Construction of contract bid item work of security and safety improvements at City Hall has been completed, however, City has added an additional bullet glass panel at the Cashier's Counter and Contractor is revising structural calculations to submit to Building Department for review and approval. Completion of additional bullet glass panel is anticipated in September 2024. The design of the remaining tenant improvements will begin following selection of a designer/architect through an RFP process from the City's new list of on-call consultants. RFP is anticipated to be released in October 2024 with design work starting in early 2025.
E6	Community Engagement Program Development	Implement the recommendations/initiatives of the Smart City Plan and develop a Community Engagement Toolkit and training resources for City staff.	City Manager	All	65%	Staff has developed an initial draft of the Inclusive Community Participation Toolkit. The draft toolkit will be undergoing internal and external review Fall of 2024, with finalization anticipated by early 2025. Preliminary outreach was conducted with the public on how they want to interact with the City. That feedback is being incorporated into the draft Toolkit.

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E7	Continuous Improvement Program	Develop and implement a Continuous Improvement Program for City staff, which provides staff training, tools, and resources to make data driven decisions and improve service delivery.	Strategic Planning and Innovation	All	100%	Cohort #1 and #2 of the Always Improvement Mindset (AIM) training program resulted in 26 staff trained in innovation and continuous improvement techniques. Cohort 3 is planned for fall 2024. Additional leadership trainings are also being planned.
E8	Digital improvements to customer service	Improve the digital experiences for City customers on our "online services" portion of the City's website (e.g., online applications).	Information Services	Finance, Dev. Services, Public Works, Police, Public Affairs	50%	Staff are participating on a customer advisory board for the City's ERP software company to provide input for improvements on the next release of the online software around January of 2025. Staff cleaned up the online services links and information on our current website to reflect work that has been done, such as story maps. Recently we implemented Power BI that will allow for online sharing of dashboards. Staff are working on setting up the public facing portal and then will work with departments to identify what reports can be shared in a centralized location.
E9	Measure E Year 1 Expenditure Plan	In partnership with Cosumnes Community Services District develop a Year 1 Measure E expenditure plan and MOU for Measure E revenue based on community identified priorities.	Finance	Police, Public Works, Economic Dev., Dev. Services	100%	Year 1 expenditure plan completed and reflected in adopted FY24 budget. Tax sharing agreement with CSD also completed.