

APPENDIX C
COMMUNITY RECOMMENDATIONS AND STAFF RESPONSES
CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM
FISCAL YEARS 2024-2028

Each recommendation is summarized below, generally in the order that the request was received. Each recommendation and the corresponding response from City staff are attached.

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Suggestion

My suggestion for inclusion among the Capital Improvements Projects is to remove the Asian Bush Honeysuckle that grows along the sidewalk beside Old Ballas Road, from its intersection with Emerson going east. Then replacing that growth with a short fence or guardrail, with a mixture of Missouri native plants such as white-tinged sedge (*Carex albicans*), American beautyberry (*Callicarpa americana*), and Flowering Dogwood (*Cornus florida*). The result would be a far more attractive streetscape that would also be more effective against erosion.

Asian Bush Honeysuckle was originally introduced for landscaping and erosion control. I'm sure that many residents probably see it as a barrier and erosion control. Unfortunately, this non-native plant not only enables erosion, but also leaves a wake of ecological destruction in its path. The honeysuckle creates a problem for soil erosion because the ground beneath it becomes bare and its open branching habit under the canopy exposes songbirds' nests to predators. It's only a matter of time before erosion starts eating its way under the sidewalk and collapsing it. Replacing it with a low barrier and native plants would make the sidewalk far more attractive and safer, as the honeysuckle branches are intruding upon the sidewalk space, making it unpleasant to walk through.

Staff Response

Unfortunately, Public Works Staff does not have the resources to manage honeysuckle removals throughout the City. There are, however, volunteer groups in Creve Coeur that focus on honeysuckle removal. Should you choose to volunteer to remove honeysuckle, please contact Public Works, and we will get you in touch with one of the groups.

Jeannie Jacobs (434 Meadow Green Place)

Suggestion

We live in the Country Forest subdivision. Falaise Drive is the thoroughfare, and the speed limit is 20 mph. We have no sidewalks. I, like many, walk for exercise most days, and I walk my dogs.

It is very dangerous to walk on Falaise Drive because the speed limit is not observed and the two stop signs are often ignored or rolled through. There are many young families and walkers trying to enjoy our neighborhood. Traffic calming is desperately needed. Sidewalks on one side would be ideal but the residents would be most grateful with any means of slowing traffic.

Staff Response

Thank you for your suggestion. Adding a sidewalk and traffic calming along Falaise Drive is currently not in the City's Sidewalk Program five-year planning window. If funding for pedestrian walkways and traffic calming becomes available, this project will be among those considered.

John McMahon (16 Chaminade Drive)

Suggestion

I would like to see the road and curbs in Chaminade Park be addressed. I live at 16 Chaminade Drive and the water is constantly flowing downhill into our yard and driveway. I believe the neighborhood has not had the road worked on in more than 10 years.

Is Creve Coeur responsible for the Email park in our neighborhood? If so, it would be nice if the city could level the lot for kids to use.

Staff Response

Thank you for reaching out and sharing your concerns. City Staff checked into pavement records and confirmed that the Chaminade Subdivision received extensive repairs and a microsurface application in September of 2018. In addition to the asphalt pavement repairs, the City replaced and added large amounts of curbing in the subdivision to help direct stormwater to the inlets including the one near your driveway.

Microsurface is a thick sealcoat which has a service life of 8-10 years. This being said, the next scheduled treatment will likely be in 2026-2028.

If the park area is the grass lawn island in the roadway, the city does not maintain islands in the subdivisions. Islands in the subdivision are maintained by the subdivision's HOA. You may want to reach out to your trustees who may be able to address your interest regarding the island.

Peter Cohen (No address given)

Suggestion

Hibler Road is in poor condition with many potholes and tree/bush growth overlapping the drivable area. Many people use this as a secluded walking area, the hills and trees already provide a low visibility area, dodging brush overhang and potholes only increases an already dangerous situation.

Staff Response

Thank you for your suggestion. The City is pleased to inform you that construction of a stormwater management project is planned for Hibler Road in FY2024. This project will improve the drainage on and along the road and help prevent ponding. The project includes reestablishing the drainage ditch along some sections of the roadway, and this will involve removing some trees and bushes along Hibler Road.

Hibler Road will also be included soon in the Pavement Maintenance Program. Work under this program will improve the road's condition.

Mike Glodeck (No address given)

Suggestion

I live off of Lindbergh on the eastern edge of Creve Coeur. The CIP I'd like to see is an improvement to the U-turn/exits off Lindbergh Road at the North Tealbrook Drive cross street and large blank areas inside of the exits. One to the east of Lindbergh and one to the west. As a resident that is forced to take these exits constantly, I'd love to see these areas beautified. In the summer the weeds get tall and are cut down. I'd love to see flowering trees or native flowering plants or something to make the area more appealing. This may be an idea for the Beautification Committee, but I also may be thinking too small.

Staff Response

Thank you for your suggestion. The roadway, islands, and exit are owned and maintained by the State of Missouri, so we would need to look to the State to make these improvements. We have had several discussions with the Missouri Department of Transportation about various roadway concerns in Creve Coeur. Unfortunately, we do not know of any plans to make improvements in this area.

Suggestion

My wife and I noticed the December Creve Coeur newsletter article "Submit Your Ideas for Capital Improvement Projects" that included erosion control along banks. It shouldn't be a surprise given our pleas at City Council sessions and the Stormwater Committee meetings that we are sending this email to get confirmation that the city is working on a solution as soon as possible for the extreme erosion and dangerous situation that is happening in our backyard.

And that would need to include funding! When my wife and I addressed the City Council almost a year ago, the City Council expressed their desire to address our problem and this would be the time to get it approved.

Staff Response

Thank you for submitting your CIP idea. Fernridge Creek near D'Artagnan Court was one of seven locations identified as a priority by the Stormwater Committee to be evaluated through the Watershed Management Plan.

As the Watershed Management Plan is developed, projects will be ranked and prioritized based on a risk and cost/benefit scoring system. Projects that score highest are the most likely to move into the engineering design phase and then go on to construction.

Nancy Dostie (1175 Mill Crossing Drive)

Suggestion

I have lived in six different states and have never seen roads in such disrepair. Crumbling islands, potholes and worn away surfaces, etc. Please use whatever money you have available to save us all from having to buy new tires and shocks. Creve Coeur is a lovely place to live with great shopping, beautiful parks, and access to world class health care, but the roadways are an embarrassment to the community.

Staff Response

Thank you for your suggestions. Mill Crossing Drive is a private street, and you may want to share your roadway conditions concerns with your subdivision's HOA.

For City-owned roads, Creve Coeur has a Pavement Maintenance Program. You can learn more about this program on the City's website, under Government, Public Works.

The Pavement Maintenance Program uses a priority system that considers safety, pavement condition, traffic volume, ongoing programs, and future projects to determine which roads will be addressed with asphalt pavement resurfacing, concrete pavement replacement, microsurfacing, or reconstruction.

To evaluate pavement condition, the City uses a pavement condition index (PCI) that ranks streets on a scale from 0 to 100. Zero represents a failing street, and 100 represents a perfect street. The average PCI the City of Creve Coeur streets is 75, which is considered "very good."

Not all streets within Creve Coeur are owned and maintained by the City. Some streets are owned and maintained by the State of Missouri (MoDOT) or St. Louis County. If you have a concern about a specific roadway, please contact a member of the Public Work's staff to find out who owns the road and if the road is scheduled for maintenance or repair work.

Suggestion

I am writing in response to the recent newsletter to offer two CIP suggestions, both related to stormwater:

1. Provide interested residents/HOA's with the option to obtain specific near-term erosion mitigation steps we can take that would be consistent with and not negatively impact the ultimate design solutions provided by the newly hired storm water consultants. This would be helpful to those of us who need to take action sooner rather than later and are willing to spend some of our own funds to do so. For example, in my case, I feel the urgent need to take a next step prior to the spring rains to slow the ever-worsening erosion situation behind my house but have received inconsistent advice from the multiple companies I have engaged for bids. If steps I take now or in the future could coincide with the end game solution, it seems that would help us all.
2. I favor allocating more of the special sales tax dollars to address stormwater problems/erosion issues. I believe it is more important to address these problems than implement non-essential park improvements (if those are being included in budget planning). I also favor implementing the stormwater cost sharing program under consideration.

Staff Response

Thank you for your suggestions. The Stormwater Committee has a subcommittee dedicated to developing a potential cost-share program to help both HOAs maintain existing stormwater management installations and individual homeowners who are interested in managing stormwater on their sites. After the subcommittee and Stormwater Committee have developed the framework for a potential cost-sharing plan, the idea will be presented to the City Council for approval.

Your suggestion about finding ways to help homeowners decide among alternative erosion control proposals will be shared with the engineering firm developing the Watershed Management Plan. City Staff will also look at possible ways to help educate homeowners about stormwater management strategies.

Jessica Conick (488 Runnymede Drive)

Suggestion

I've been in contact with multiple different people at the Creve Coeur City Hall since about 2018 about the replacement of the fence along the back of the Creve Coeur Golf Course that backs up into the yards of a few homes in the Runnymede neighborhood including my own. Our house borders the Creve Coeur Golf Course at the 3rd green/4th tee. The golf course fence that runs along the back of our yard and our neighbor's yard is old, rusty, has broken barbed wire posts, is full of dents from branches falling, and has holes cut in it that people can crawl through to sneak into our yard.

Our home was broken into a few years ago from someone getting in through our backyard fence and we were told then that the fence would be replaced with the new black wire fence that was replaced along the other parts of the Golf Course. Our neighbors were also told that a few years ago. We often see and hear people sneaking around the Golf Course at night, and I know there have been other break-ins in homes along the Golf Course so this could definitely help deter that.

Staff Response

Thank you for your suggestion. We are pleased to share with you that replacing the fence between the Creve Coeur Golf Course and the Runnymede Neighborhood is in this version of the Capital Improvement Plan.