CITY OF ALBUQUERQUE
PLANNING DEPARTMENT
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ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING COMMISSION
NOTICE OF DECISION

Project Number:	PR-2020-004467
Case Number:	**PLAN-2026-00004 -** 2027 General Obligation (GO) Bond Program and 2027-2036 Decade Plan
Hearing Date:	11-12-2026
Applicant:	City of Albuquerque
Subject Property:	Citywide
Case Description:	Josh Herbert, Capital Implementation Program Strategic Program Manager, representative of the City of Albuquerque Department of Municipal Development, requests adoption of a Comprehensive Facilities Plan for the 2027 General Obligation Bond Program, 2027-2036 Decade Plan for citywide capital improvements.
Staff Planner:	Kate Clark

DECISION

On November 12, 2026, the Environmental Planning Commission (EPC) voted to forward a recommendation of APPROVAL to the City Council for Project # PR-202-004467, Case # **PLAN-2026-00004** - 2027 General Obligation (GO) Bond Program and 2027-2036 Decade Plan, based on the following Findings and subject to the following recommend Conditions of Approval.

FINDINGS

1. The request is for the proposed 2027 General Obligation (G.O.) Bond Program and the 2027-2036 Decade Plan, which is the city-wide plan for selection of capital improvement projects in the City of Albuquerque.

2. The EPC is hearing this case because the EPC has the responsibility to make recommendations for the programming of capital improvements pursuant to Article 2-12: Capital Improvements and IDO § 14-16-6-2(E)(3)(c).

3. The EPC reviews the G.O. Bond Program and Decade Plan and provides findings and recommendations to the Mayor. These findings are non-binding and must be submitted to the Mayor by December 1st. The Decade Plan will then be submitted to City Council, which will hold at least one public hearing before considering approval of the Decade Plan. This is a legislative matter.

4. The Decade Plan applies city-wide in the City of Albuquerque.

5. The G.O. Bond Program and Decade Plan generally conform to the requirements of R-25-217, Enactment No. R-2026-010, which establishes policies and criteria for the selection of capital improvement projects for the 2027 G.O. Bond Program and the 2027-2036 Decade Plan.

6. The Albuquerque/Bernalillo County Comprehensive Plan and the City of Albuquerque Integrated Development Ordinance (IDO) are incorporated herein by reference and made part of the record for all purposes.

7. The EPC is reviewing the G.O. Bond Program and Decade Plan pursuant to the review criteria for a Facility Plan, which is the closest matching application type regulated by the IDO.

   a) The IDO defines a Facility Plan as a "Rank 2 Plan that is specialized to cover only one type of utility or public facility, such as electric facilities or Major Public Open Space, and specifies important development standards, general site locations, and multi-year programs for facility capital improvements. Such plans address the entire metropolitan area or city, or at least a major part of it" [§ 14-16-7-1].

   b) The IDO establishes review and decision criteria for adoption or amendment of a Facility Plan in IDO § 14-16-6-7(B)(3).

8. Pursuant to IDO § 14-16-6-7(B)(3) (Review and Decision Criteria), "An application for Adoption or Amendment of a Facility Plan shall be approved if it meets all of the following criteria."

   6-7(B)(3)(a) The proposed plan or amendment is consistent with the spirit and intent of the ABC Comp Plan, as amended, and with other policies and plans adopted by the City Council.

   The 2027 G.O. Bond Program and Decade Plan align with the spirit and intent of the ABC Comprehensive Plan by prioritizing projects that support the City's growth and development goals. The criteria used to score and select projects for funding emphasize the importance of building within Activity Centers and Corridors, as designated in the Comprehensive Plan. This approach fosters efficient land use and infrastructure investment that strengthens existing

communities, promotes sustainable development, and supports economic growth. By directing resources to these targeted areas, the G.O. Bond Program helps achieve the broader objectives of the Comprehensive Plan and ensures consistency with City Council's adopted policies and plans.

6-7(B)(3)(b) The proposed plan or amendment promotes the efficient use or administration of public or quasi-public facilities.

The 2027 G.O. Bond Program and Decade Plan support the efficient use and administration of public and quasi-public facilities by prioritizing projects that maintain, upgrade, and enhance essential City infrastructure. By focusing on the repair, replacement, and improvement of facilities such as parks, police stations, community centers, and senior centers, the program ensures that these assets remain functional, safe, and accessible for community use. This proactive approach to facility management helps extend the lifespan of public infrastructure, reduces long-term maintenance costs, and optimizes the delivery of services to the public.

6-7(B)(3)(c) The plan or amendment will promote public health, safety, and general welfare.

The 2027 G.O. Bond Program and Decade Plan advance public health, safety, and general welfare by funding a range of projects that directly enhance the community's well-being. Investments in public safety facilities for Albuquerque Community Safety, Fire Rescue, and Police Department help ensure rapid emergency response and improve overall safety. Additionally, the program addresses potential safety hazards through facility repairs, while supporting vulnerable populations through shelters and targeted programs. Upgrades to community centers, senior centers, parks, and road infrastructure foster social engagement, physical activity, and injury prevention, thereby contributing to the health and quality of life for Albuquerque residents.

9. The request furthers the following, applicable Goals and Policies regarding Character from Chapter 4: Community Identity.

GOAL 4.1 CHARACTER: Enhance, protect, and preserve distinct communities.

POLICY 4.1.1 DISTINCT COMMUNITIES: Encourage quality development that is consistent with the distinct character of communities.

The Decade Plan prioritizes the rehabilitation and correction of deficiencies in existing infrastructure, which is essential to enhancing and preserving the unique character of Albuquerque’s distinct communities. With approximately 90% of the program dedicated to maintaining and improving long-standing systems, the Decade Plan will ensure that these communities continue to thrive while addressing critical infrastructure needs.

Municipal Development (Hydrology) has allocated $1,500,000 to comply with the NPDES Stormwater Quality MS4 Permit, an EPA requirement, and $5,750,000 for storm drainage, hydrology, and flood mitigation. Additional funds are earmarked for traffic sign replacement,

pavement markings, roadway widening, and projects for street rehabilitation, reconstruction, and maintenance. The Decade Plan also includes around $3,000,000 for street lighting.

10. Allocations for stormwater management, flood prevention, and drainage upgrades will enhance community resilience against environmental issues, protecting these areas while maintaining their distinctiveness. The investments in street lighting, traffic signs, sidewalks and road improvements will contribute to safety, functionality, and visual appearance of public spaces, further strengthening the sense of place and character in each community. The request furthers the following, applicable Goals & Policies regarding Centers and Corridors from Chapter 5: Land Use.

    A. GOAL 5.1 CENTERS & CORRIDORS: Grow as a community of strong Centers connected by a multi-modal network of Corridors.

    POLICY 5.1.1 DESIRED GROWTH: Capture regional growth in Centers and Corridors to help shape the built environment into a sustainable development pattern.

    The Decade Plan is consistent with this goal and policy by focusing resources on infrastructure improvements in key Activity Centers and Corridors. While a specific percentage of projects within Activity Centers and Corridors is not identified, City departments are expected to review their 2027–2036 Decade Plans and give priority to projects that support implementation of adopted Centers and Corridors policy. Investments in transit facilities, vehicles, and rehabilitation projects will enhance the city's multi-modal transportation network, ensuring that these areas are well-connected and accessible. By prioritizing rehabilitation and addressing infrastructure deficiencies, the Decade Plan supports sustainable urban growth, concentrates development in established areas, and meets current community needs while supporting future development.

    In addition, leveraging matching funds for federal dollars amplifies the impact of these investments, further strengthening the city's connectivity and integration. This approach will foster a more connected, multi-modal community and support the goal of growing as a community of strong Centers linked by efficient Corridors.

    B. GOAL 5.3 EFFICIENT DEVELOPMENT PATTERNS: Promote development patterns that maximize the ability of existing infrastructure and public facilities and the efficient use of land to support the public good.

    POLICY 5.3.1 INFILL DEVELOPMENT: Support additional growth in areas with existing infrastructure and public facilities.

    By focusing on the rehabilitation of existing facilities, the Decade Plan maximizes the utility of existing infrastructure and public facilities and the efficient use of land to support the public good and would support additional growth in areas with existing infrastructure.

    C. GOAL 5.6 CITY DEVELOPMENT AREAS: Encourage and direct growth to Areas of Change where it is expected and desired and ensure that development in and near Areas of Consistency reinforces the character and intensity of the surrounding area.

POLICY 5.6.2 AREAS OF CHANGE: Direct growth and more intense development to Centers, Corridors, industrial and business parks, and Metropolitan Redevelopment Areas where change is encouraged.

The Decade Plan strategically directs investments toward infrastructure and development in Areas of Change, where growth is planned and encouraged, while ensuring that projects in Areas of Consistency support and reinforce the exiting character of neighborhoods. By funding critical improvements in transportation, utilities, and public amenities in Areas of Change, the Decade Plan helps guide sustainable urban development and consistency with the Comp Plan's vision for higher-density, mixed-use, and transit-oriented areas.

D. POLICY 5.6.1 COMMUNITY GREEN SPACE: Provide visual relief from urbanization and offer opportunities for education, recreation, cultural activities, and conservation of natural resources by setting aside publicly-owned Open Space, parks, trail corridors, and open areas through the Comp Plan area as mapped in Figure 5-3.

   The Decade Plan would help provide visual relief from urbanization and promoting education, recreation, and conservation through strategic investments in publicly-owned Open Space, parks, trails, and natural areas by allocating funding for the acquisition, enhancement, and maintenance of these areas. The Decade Plan supports the preservation of natural landscapes, cultural resources, and recreational spaces.

   The Decade Plan prioritizes projects that expand and improve the city's network of parks and trails, which offer residents access to green spaces, recreational opportunities, and environmental education. These investments not only will help mitigate impacts of urban development but will also enhance the quality of life by fostering a stronger connection to the city's natural environment and cultural heritage.

E. GOAL 5.7 IMPLEMENTATION PROCESS: Employ procedures and processes to effectively and equitably implement the Comp Plan.

   POLICY 5.7.1 COORDINATED PUBLIC INVESTMENT: Prioritize public investments and program funding by the City and County to be consistent with and to implement Comp Plan land use goals and policies.

   The planning efforts for the Decade Plan utilizes transparent, equitable procedures to allocate funding for infrastructure and capital improvements across the city. The Decade Plan follows established prioritization criteria to address both immediate and long-term city planning objectives, ensuring equitable investment across diverse neighborhoods. This approach helps foster balanced growth while addressing disparities in infrastructure and services throughout the city.

   The Decade Plan employs accountability measures, such as public input opportunities to ensure that the allocation of funds aligns with both city-wide priorities and the Comp Plan's guiding policies. These processes contribute to efficient resource use and ensure broad community benefits, thereby reinforcing the effectiveness and equity of the Decade Plan's implementation.

11. The request furthers the following, applicable Goals and Policies regarding Chapter 6: Transportation.

    A. POLICY 6.1.3 AUTO DEMAND: Reduce the need for automobile travel by increasing mixed-use development, infill development within Centers, and travel demand management (TDM) programs.

    The Decade Plan has allocated $3,165,000 to support the Transit Department's efforts to develop and rehabilitate transit facilities. This funding will help provide resources for the purchase and rehabilitation of buses, vans, and other vehicles, ensuring that the transportation system can meet the needs of the existing and future land uses. The investment in associated equipment and bus-related infrastructure further enhances the integration of transportation with land use, improving accessibility and connectivity across the city. Additionally, the allocated funds can be used as matching funds to secure federal dollars, allowing the city to maximize resources and implement larger-scale transit improvements that support planned growth and development patterns.

    B. GOAL 6.2 MULTI-MODAL SYSTEM: Encourage walking, biking, and transit, especially at peak-hour commuting times, to enhance access and mobility for people of all ages.

    POLICY 6.2.1 COMPLETE NETWORKS: Design and build a complete, well-connected network of streets and trails that offer multiple efficient and safe transportation choices for commuting and daily needs.

    The Decade Plan allocates funding for projects that enhance multi-modal infrastructure, promoting, walking, biking, and transit use. The Decade Plan invests in pedestrian and bicycle improvements, such as sidewalks, bike lanes, and ADA upgrades, to create safe, accessible routes for all users. The Decade Plan also supports public transportation through funding for transit enhancements like bus stops and transit-oriented development, aiming to make transit more appealing during peak hours. Following Complete Street principles, the Decade Plan incorporates traffic calming measures, lighting, and transit infrastructure improvements to reduce car dependency and improve mobility options citywide. Additionally, the Decade Plan allocates funds for traffic sign replacement, pavement markings, street rehabilitation, and maintenance.

    The Municipal Development Department has allocated $1,762,500 for trails and bikeways, in line with the 5% mandate to plan, design, construct, and improve these facilities across the city. This investment will promote biking and walking while enhancing access and mobility for people of all ages and abilities.

    C. GOAL 6.3 SAFETY: Plan, develop, operate, and maintain a transportation system that provides safe access and mobility for all roadway users.

    POLICY 6.3.1 ALL USERS: Use engineering, education, encouragement, enforcement, and evaluation to improve safety for pedestrians, cyclists, transit users, and motorists.

    The Decade Plan prioritizes safety improvements across the transportation system, ensuring that access and mobility are enhanced for all users, including motorists,

pedestrians, cyclists, and public transit riders. Key elements include implementing traffic calming measures, upgrading pedestrian crossings, enhancing roadway lighting, and incorporating dedicated bike lanes. These measures will reduce the risk of accidents while improving visibility and predictability of the roads, thereby fostering a safer environment.

The Decade Plan addresses safety through strategic maintenance and infrastructure upgrades, such as repairing deteriorating roadways, replacing outdated traffic signals, and integrating advanced technology for traffic monitoring and emergency response. By prioritizing these actions, the Decade Plan supports a transportation network that minimizes hazards while promoting safe and efficient travel.

D. GOAL 6.7 SYSTEM EFFECTIVENESS: Implement and maintain an effective and efficient transportation system in a coordinated and cost-effective manner.

The Decade Plan furthers this goal by funding projects that enhance the overall efficiency and coordination of Albuquerque's transportation system. By allocating resources to infrastructure improvements such as road maintenance and transit facility upgrades, the Decade Plan addresses key elements that contribute to a well-functioning transportation network. These investments ensure that they system remains reliable and capable of accommodating current and future travel demands while minimizing disruptions.

The Decade Plan also enables the City to strategically plan and execute transportation projects in a cost-effective manner, leveraging public funds to achieve maximum impact. By prioritizing projects that improve connectivity and optimize traffic flow, the Decade Plan enhances the transportation system's effectiveness.

12. The request furthers the following, applicable Goals and Policies regarding Chapter 7: Urban Design.

A. GOAL 7.1 STREETSCAPES & DEVELOPMENT FORM: Design streetscapes and development form to create a range of environments and experiences for residents and visitors.

POLICY 7.1.1 DESIGN ELEMENTS: Prioritize design elements for transit-supportive design along Premium Transit Corridors, walkability within Centers, and a balance of land use and transportation considerations along other Corridors.

The Decade Plan prioritizes funding for infrastructure improvements aimed at enhancing streetscapes and urban design throughout the city. It allocates significant resources toward street rehabilitation, new construction, and deficiency corrections, including sidewalk and median upgrades, traffic signal enhancements, and pavement marking replacements. The Decade Plan includes investments in the planning, design, and acquisition of rights-of-way to improve roadways on the city's West Side and address critical intersections and bridges citywide.

The Decade Plan aims to enhance the quality of public spaces by integrating functional infrastructure upgrades with aesthetic urban design improvements, thereby fostering more vibrant and accessible communities throughout the city. The Decade Plan's targeted

investments in transportation infrastructure and urban planning will support a range of experiences in different neighborhoods, addressing mobility, safety, and the overall appeal of the city.

B. GOAL 7.2 PEDESTRIAN-ACCESSIBLE DESIGN: Increase walkability in all environments, promote pedestrian-oriented development in urban contexts and increase pedestrian safety in auto-oriented contexts.

POLICY 7.2.1 WALKABILITY: Ensure convenient and comfortable pedestrian travel.

The Decade Plan prioritizes projects that enhance walkability, promote pedestrian-oriented development, and improve safety across the city. Investments include new sidewalks, crosswalk upgrades, and streetscape enhancements that will create continuous and accessible walking routes, making urban areas more pedestrian-friendlier. Safety-focused initiatives, such as traffic calming measures and ADA-compliant improvements, will reduce vehicle-pedestrian conflicts while supporting walkable environments in both urban and auto-oriented settings.

C. GOAL 7.5 CONTEXT-SENSITIVE SITE DESIGN: Design sites, buildings, and landscape elements to respond to the high desert environment.

The Parks & Recreation Department's funding includes $1,750,000 dedicated to open space rehabilitation for upgrades to properties and facilities, along with $4,000,000 allocated for park irrigation renovation and water conservation to ensure designs are suitable for the high desert environment. Approximately $7,000,000 is set aside for park, playground, and recreation improvements and rehabilitation, further addressing the needs of the high desert environment.

D. GOAL 7.6 CONTEXT-SENSITIVE INFRASTRUCTURE: Match infrastructure design to intended densities and development patterns to minimize lifecycle costs and conserve natural resources.

The Decade Plan focuses on rehabilitating and upgrading existing infrastructure, thereby matching infrastructure design to the established densities and development patterns across Albuquerque’s communities. With approximately 90% of funds dedicated to maintaining long-standing systems, the Decade Plan minimizes lifecycle costs by addressing deficiencies and extending the lifespan of existing infrastructure. Investments in stormwater management, flood mitigation, and drainage upgrades will protect natural resources and improve resilience to environmental challenges, while enhancements in street lighting, traffic signs, and roadway maintenance will ensure that infrastructure continues to support the safety, functionality, and distinct character of each area.

13. The request furthers the following, applicable Goals and Policies regarding Chapter 9 Housing.

A. POLICY 9.1.3 FAIR HOUSING: Promote fair housing through local housing programs that enhance housing affordability, choice and access to opportunity for all communities, especially those communities that bear the burdens from lack of investment and access to opportunity.

The proposed G.O. Bond Program allocates $10 million for affordable housing and an additional $5,500,000 to rehabilitate Health, Housing, and Homelessness Department facilities. The Decade Plan incorporates sections of the 2023-2027 Consolidated Plan, which outlines Albuquerque's five-year programming and funding strategies.

B. GOAL 9.4 HOMELESSNES: Make homelessness rare, short-term, and non-recurring.

The allocation of $5,500,000 for the rehabilitation of Health, Housing, and Homelessness Department facilities enhances resources that serve individuals experiencing homelessness. By improving these facilities, the Decade Plan aims to provide safer, more effective environments for emergency shelter, transitional housing, and supportive services, helping to reduce the time individuals spend homeless and preventing recurrence.

Additionally, the $10 million dedicated to affordable housing addresses a key factor in preventing homelessness by increasing the availability of affordable living options. Expanding access to stable, long-term housing can help individuals exit homelessness more quickly and reduce the likelihood for future episodes, thus making homelessness rare, short-term, and non-recurring**.**

C. GOAL 9.5 VULNERABLE POPULATIONS: Expand capacity to provide quality housing and services to vulnerable populations.

The investment in affordable housing and the rehabilitation of Health, Housing, and Homelessness Department facilities will expand the city's capacity to deliver quality housing and essential services, ensuring that vulnerable populations have access to safe, stable, and supportive living environments**.**

14. The request furthers the following, applicable Goals regarding Chapter 10: Parks & Open Space.

A. GOAL 10.1 FACILITIES & ACCESS: Provide parks, Open Space, and recreation facilities that meet the needs of all residents and use natural resources responsibly.

The allocation of $31,413,000 to the Parks & Recreation Department directly invests in the improvement and rehabilitation of aquatic facilities, parks, playgrounds, and open spaces. These upgrades will enhance the accessibility and quality of recreational facilities, ensuring that they meet the diverse needs of Albuquerque residents. By addressing facility maintenance and purchasing heavy-duty equipment to support these improvements, the Decade Plan promotes sustainable use of natural resources and prolongs the lifespan of existing infrastructure.

B. GOAL 10.2 PARKS: Provide opportunities for outdoor education, recreation, and cultural activities that meet community needs, enhance quality of life, and promote community involvement for all residents.

The allocation of $31,413,000 to the Parks & Recreation Department would enhance Albuquerque's recreational facilities to meet community needs, improve quality of life, and encourage community involvement. Investments in upgrading aquatic centers, parks,

playgrounds, and open spaces makes these areas safer, more accessible, and more inviting for outdoor recreation and cultural activities for all residents.

These improvements will not only promote active lifestyles and social interaction, but also ensure sustainable practices by addressing deferred maintenance and acquiring equipment for upkeep. This comprehensive approach will extend the lifespan of recreational infrastructure, fostering community engagement, and ensuring the city's outdoor spaces continue to serve as vital resources for education and cultural enrichment.

C. GOAL 10.3 OPEN SPACE: Protect the integrity and quality of the region's natural features and environmental assets and provide opportunities for outdoor recreation and education.

The Decade Plan invests in the rehabilitation and improvement of parks and open spaces that protect Albuquerque's natural features and environmental assets while providing opportunities for outdoor recreation and education.

15. The request furthers the following, applicable Goals and Policies regarding Chapter 11: Heritage Conservation.

GOAL 11.5 CULTURAL TRADITIONS & THE ARTS: Emphasize and support cultural traditions and arts as vital components of the community's identities and well-being.

POLICY 11.5.1 ARTS PROMOTION: Coordinate and promote the arts and the cultural sector as key assets in a vital economy; major contributors to quality of life and healthy communities; and the heart of high-quality, special places that contribute to the identity of distinct communities.

The G.O. Bond Program and Decade Plan allocate funding to support the Department of Arts and Culture, including sites such as Casa San Ysidro, ensuring that cultural, educational, and historical facilities are well-maintained and accessible. With approximately $2,100,000 dedicated to purchasing library materials and $3,800,000 earmarked for facility improvements, these investments will help preserve cultural traditions and promote the arts. By allocating funding for these initiatives, the Decade Plan reinforces the importance of cultural heritage and arts in enhancing the community's identity, well-being, and quality of life.

16. The request furthers the following, applicable Goals and Policies regarding Chapter 12: Infrastructure, Community Facilities & Services.

A. GOAL 12.1 INFRASTRUCTURE: Plan, coordinate, and provide for efficient, equitable, and environmentally sound infrastructure to support existing communities and the Comp Plan's vision and future growth.

The G.O. Bond Program and Decade Plan prioritize projects that enhance infrastructure in a way that supports sustainable growth while addressing the needs of existing communities. The program allocates funding to critical infrastructure improvements, including transportation, storm drainage, public safety, and recreational facilities, ensuring that resources are directed where they can most effectively promote equity and resilience. Additionally, the Decade Plan emphasizes integrating environmentally

sustainable practices into projects, such as reducing environmental impacts and improving connectivity to support the Comp Plan's vision for a reliable and adaptable city.

The proposed infrastructure projects are consistent with long-term goals for land use and community development, fostering balanced growth, while addressing disparities across neighborhoods. This strategy will help create a more efficient infrastructure network, optimizing resource use and reinforcing the city's commitment to environmental stewardship and equitable service delivery.

B. GOAL 12.2 COMMUNITY FACILITIES: Provide community facilities that have convenient access and a wide range of programs for residents from all cultural, age, geographical and education groups to enhance quality of life and promote community involvement.

POLICY 12.2.2 EXISTING FACILITIES: Maintain and improve existing community facilities to better and more equitably serve the community.

The G.O. Bond Program and Decade Plan aim to enhance Albuquerque's community facilities by funding projects that improve accessibility and diversify public spaces. Investments will focus on expanding and renovating libraries, recreation centers, parks, and cultural facilities, making these resources more accessible to residents across all neighborhoods. By prioritizing initiatives that increase access to public spaces and services, the program promotes inclusivity and supports higher quality of life city-wide.

Approximately $3,785,000 has been allocated to Senior Affairs through community facilities which are specifically dedicated to senior wellness and fitness. This funding will cover planning, design, construction, and improvements to Senior Affair facilities. Additionally, the program will support multi-generational and culturally relevant initiatives that address the diverse needs of the city's population, providing not only spaces for physical activity and recreation but also fostering educational, cultural, and social engagement to strengthen community connection.

C. GOAL 12.3 PUBLIC SERVICES: Plan, coordinate and provide efficient, equitable, and environmentally sound services to best serve residents and protect their health, safety, and well-being.

The G.O. Bond Program and Decade Plan prioritizes capital improvements that provide efficient and equitable public services across Albuquerque. Through the strategic allocation of funds, the program ensures that infrastructure projects are developed to enhance the health, safety, and well-being of residents. It emphasizes a balanced approach to addressing community needs while integrating environmentally sustainable practices. The G.O. Bond Program and Decade Plan also aim to improve the quality of life for all residents by directing investments toward underserved areas and addressing critical infrastructure gaps.

D. GOAL 12.4 COORDINATION: Coordinate with other providers to leverage resources, maximize efficiencies, bridge service gaps, and provide added value.

POLICY 12.4.1 COLLABORATIVE STRATEGIES: Develop strategies to meet changing demand over time for public infrastructure, community facilities, and services.

The 2027-2036 Decade Plan for Capital Improvements focuses on projects that involve collaboration with regional, state, and federal partners to share resources and expertise, maximizing the efficiency of public investments. The Decade Plan prioritizes efforts to improve infrastructure while addressing service gaps in underserved areas, ensuring an equitable distribution of resources. Through multi-use projects that enhance connectivity, such as combining road improvements with pedestrian and transit options, the Decade Plan adds value to the community by promoting integrated, cost-effective solutions that meet diverse needs**.**

E. GOAL 12.5 RESOURCES: Identify and allocate sufficient resources to support infrastructure, community facility, and public service needs in order to invest public dollars efficiently and effectively and to maintain a sound fiscal position.

POLICY 12.5.2 COST ALLOCATION: Allocate the costs of new community and public facilities and infrastructure extensions and upgrades fairly and equitably to support new development.

The Decade Plan aims to support Goal 12.5 Resources and its associated policies. It addresses Policy 12.5.2 on Cost Allocation, ensuring that the costs for new community facilities, public infrastructure extensions, and upgrades are distributed fairly and equitably to facilitate new development.

17. The request furthers the following, applicable Goals regarding Chapter 13: Resilience & Sustainability.

A. GOAL 13.1 CLIMATE CHANGE: Promote resource-efficient growth and development to help mitigate global climate change and adapt to its local impacts.

The Decade Plan prioritizes the rehabilitation and improvement of existing infrastructure, which contributes to resource-efficient growth and helps Albuquerque adapt to the impacts of climate change. By allocating substantial funding for stormwater management, flood mitigation, and drainage upgrades, the Decade Plan enhances the community's resilience to extreme weather events and reduces environmental vulnerabilities. These measures are consistent with climate adaptation strategies while ensuring compliance with federal standards, such as the NPDES Stormwater Quality MS4 Permit.

B. GOAL 13.3 NATURAL HAZARDS: Maximize the ability of built and natural environments to withstand natural hazards and recover from adverse events.

The Decade Plan proposes a $7,250,000 allocation to the Hydrology Division of DMD and $37 million for the Streets Division of DMD.

The proposed allocations invest in infrastructure improvements that enhance resilience of the built and natural environments to natural hazards. The $1.5 million allocation to comply with the NPDES Stormwater Quality MS4 Permit and the $5.75 million

dedicated to storm drainage, hydrology, and flood mitigation directly address the risks association with flooding and stormwater management. These investments aim to improve water quality, reduce flooding impacts, and ensure the city's drainage system are better equipped to handle extreme weather events, thereby minimizing potential damage.

Funds allocated to the Streets Division for street rehabilitation, roadway widening, and maintenance contribute to enhancing the durability and safety of the city's transportation network. These efforts will ensure that roads and related infrastructure can recover quickly from adverse events, such as heavy storms, while also improving overall safety and accessibility for the community.

18. The applicant notified all Recognized Neighborhood Associations in the city, as required [IDO § 14-16-6-4(J)(2)(e)].

19. No public comments were received.

20. City Departments and other relevant agencies reviewed this application prior to the EPC Hearing. CABQ Parks and Recreation/Urban Forestry expressed support for the allocation of 2027 G.O. Bond funding for urban forestry, emphasizing the importance of trees as infrastructure that provides community health, safety, and flood protection benefits. The Albuquerque Bernalillo County Water Utility Authority (ABCWUA) expressed support for investments in park irrigation improvements and water conservation measures.

21. The EPC notes that the current project ranking criteria may disadvantage new affordable housing development, which can receive lower priority scores because they involve new construction rather than rehabilitation of existing facilities. The EPC recommends that the City re-evaluate the ranking criteria to better reflect the high priority of affordable housing development and support the housing goals of the ABC Comprehensive Plan.

22. The EPC notes that the Workforce Housing Opportunity Act (ROA 1994 § 14-9-5(A)) limits funding for the Workforce Housing Trust Fund to 8% of each G.O. Bond program, up to a maximum of $10 million per two-year cycle. The EPC recommends amending the ordinance to remove these funding limitations and allow for increased capital allocations to the Workforce Housing Trust Fund to better address affordable housing needs.

~~23.~~ The EPC encourages City departments to prioritize G.O. Bond funding for implementation and construction over additional studies and planning, particularly where adopted plans already identify the need.

24. The EPC encourages the City to coordinate with Bernalillo County and other applicable jurisdictions, where feasible, on the planning, funding, and improvement of infrastructure that serves City residents and facilities, particularly in areas where jurisdictional boundaries and infrastructure ownership may complicate project implementation. The EPC further recommends that the City include improvements to 114th Street and 118th Street in the CCIP/Decade Plan through coordination with the appropriate jurisdictions.

25. The EPC acknowledges that 18.01% of projects funded are low-priority, while there is a 15% limitation by the criteria established in R-25-217. The EPC encourages the administration to provide additional explanation to clarify the overrun of low-priority projects from 15% to 18.01%, and to provide explanation of how this complies with applicable ordinances.

RECOMMENDED CONDITIONS OF APPROVAL

1. The applicant shall prepare a map identifying the locations of projects funded through the 2027 G.O. Bond Program, overlaid with the Social Vulnerability Index (SVI) mapping, to illustrate the geographic distribution of capital investments relative to areas of social vulnerability. The map shall be included in the final 2027 G.O. Bond Program.

APPEAL

It is not possible to appeal a City Application to City Council. IDO § 14-16-6-4(U) does not apply to City Applications and approvals of City activities or development on properties owned or leased by the City are deemed final for appeal purposes [IDO § 14-16-1-4(C)].
For more information regarding the appeal process, please refer to Section §14-16-6-4(U) of the Integrated Development Ordinance (IDO), Administration and Enforcement.

Sincerely,



for Alan Varela
Planning Director

AV/KC/MJ

cc: Josh Herbert, DMD, josh@cabq.gov
Legal, acoon@cabq.gov
EPC file