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CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLANNING: LOOKING AHEAD FOR YOUR COMMUNITY

Community leaders across Indiana are navigating a constantly changing landscape of infrastructure needs, regulatory requirements, and financial pressures. Planning for the future should not be optional; it is a critical part of maintaining reliable services and supporting growth in your community. **A Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) can help you stay ahead.**

WHAT IS A CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN?

A CIP is a long-term roadmap that outlines your community's infrastructure needs over the next 5 to 10 years. It identifies anticipated projects, prioritizes improvements, and provides a clear picture of future investments. By looking ahead, you can make informed decisions about timing, budgeting, and project priorities.

Typical projects included in a CIP may involve road improvements, water and wastewater system upgrades, stormwater management, public facilities, and park and recreation spaces.

WHY YOUR COMMUNITY MAY NEED A CIP

There are several reasons communities across Indiana are prioritizing capital planning:

- Regulations and compliance requirements continue to evolve
- Emerging contaminants require monitoring and mitigation
- Sustainability and green initiatives are becoming more common
- Lead service line requirements and other mandates require action
- Aging road and utilities continue to need improvements

These items can have significant impacts on your infrastructure and budget. Without a plan in place, it becomes much harder to respond effectively.

“Jackson County Water Authority has been working with F&V since the 80’s,” said Larry McIntosh, Manager. “We had PFAS contamination identified in our water system, and F&V helped us add it to our CIP, evaluate solutions, secure funding, and implement improvements to protect our customers’ drinking water.”

IMPACT ON FINANCIAL PLANNING

One of the most valuable aspects of a CIP is how it connects your infrastructure needs to your financial strategy.

With a clear plan in place, you can:

- Identify when major expenses are likely to occur
- Explore funding opportunities such as grants and low-interest loans
- Plan rate adjustments or other revenue strategies in advance
- Bundle projects to reduce overall costs
- Align improvements with available funding cycles

HOW F&V CAN SUPPORT YOUR COMMUNITY

If you are managing day-to-day operations, it can be difficult to plan for long-term infrastructure needs. Our team helps you evaluate your existing assets, identify priorities, and build a plan that aligns with your goals and financial capacity.

“After learning about the PFAS contamination, F&V was one of my first phone calls,” added McIntosh. “They’ve been a trusted partner through some of our most important projects over the years — from lead service line replacements to utility extensions — and their guidance has been invaluable as we navigate challenges like this.”

START PLANNING FOR WHAT’S NEXT

A well-developed CIP gives you clarity, direction, and confidence in your decision-making. It allows you to move from reactive fixes to intentional, long-term investment in your community.

If you are ready to begin or update your CIP, our team is here to help. Please reach out to **Lori Young, PE**, at **317.759.9692** or email her at Lyoung@fveng.com.



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"Jackson County Water has worked with F&V for several decades, and we appreciate all they've done in helping us plan for the future."

- Larry McIntosh, Manager of the Jackson County Water Authority

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