

**CITY OF INDEPENDENCE  
FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING  
MINUTES  
OCTOBER 7, 2008 4:00 P.M.  
COUNCIL CONFERENCE ROOM**

Present: Chairman Jim Crooks  
Councilman Dave Grendel (arrived at 5 p.m.)  
Vice Mayor Jim Riley (left at 5:21 p.m.)

Also Present: Mayor Gregory Kurtz (left at 4:55 p.m.)  
Councilman Tom Narduzzi  
Councilman Jim Piteo  
Councilman Anthony Togliatti  
Finance Director John M. Veres  
Engineering Coordinator Don Ramm  
Business/Economic Dev. Dir. Ron White (left at 4:55 p.m.)  
Service Director Dave Snyderburn (left at 5:46 p.m.)

Chairman Crooks called the meeting to order at 4:16 p.m.

Chairman Crooks stated we have two items on the agenda today. The first item is of great importance, and that is discussion of the Five Year Capital Improvement Plan. We are going to ask that John, in his capacity as Finance Director, give an update to the Committee as it stands for departmental capital needs. John has been diligent about providing updates to us on a weekly basis for about the past four weeks, and we appreciate that, John, we know you are working hard on it. That will be the first part of this agenda item, the second part will be the thrust of this meeting, and that will be to discuss infrastructure capital needs and, specifically, street projects. If you read John's memo, which was just before his lead schedule in last Friday's packet, he makes very clear the fact that he desires Council's input by way of street projects. That's what we are going to take a look at today. John, before we jump into infrastructure capital needs, would you give an update to the Committee by way of departmental capital needs.

Finance Director Veres said in your packets over the weekend, you had the updated Five Year Capital Improvement Plan. I moved the City owned buildings and lands into the departmental area because it is a good total for what we would budget for 2010. That total is \$1.3 million. There were a few minor adjustments today at the department staff meeting, nothing big. I'm pretty comfortable with that number being doable, considering we budgeted \$1.98 million for that area this year.

Chairman Crooks said we budgeted \$1.9 million for departmental capital?

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Finance Director Veres said yes, for Fund 410 – departmental, and we have a possible land acquisition in our budget for this year.

Mayor Kurtz said the Finance Department and Council has charged the department heads to come up with a five-year plan. Every week at our staff meeting we are challenging that plan, making changes, and we will do it again next week, and we will continue to do it. It's something that is dynamic, it is fluid, and it continues to change, but we will have a pretty good handle on 2009, and so on. That's what we were asking for, Mr. Chairman, framework to work with it. There will be some minor modification, we have done this now for how many weeks, and every week we find a change. That being said, it's not a precise science. Needs change, unexpected or unanticipated circumstances occur. As a result, we are trying to become more and more refined every week, but it will change. I want to leave with that point.

Mayor Kurtz said, secondly, from an operating standpoint, not capital, I did talk to department heads and we established a goal of a 10% reduction in the operating budget, exclusive of wages, exclusive of the normal staple items, so we are going to look at overtime, we are going to look at the different areas that they have some control over, not the normal wages, etc. We established the goals for 2009 in considering some of the information we received from the Finance Department. So, we are trying to stay on top of that anticipating our budget hearings for 2009, which we will do, I am assuming, sometime in November or December. I just wanted to bring you up to speed on some of the things we are trying to do, from an administration standpoint. Each department head is looking at their specific budget, which John will give them specific budget information, so that we can become a little more sophisticated in terms of our anticipated needs for 2009 and beyond.

Chairman Crooks asked, is it fair to say that we can expect this \$1.3 million number, as it stands right now, adding up the departmental projects, the capital needs, to go down?

Mayor Kurtz said no that is the departmental capital, it's the operating number that would reduce. We are all looking at this a little differently. I applaud Council, and I applaud the Finance Director and department heads. When it all comes together it will be something that we can live with. One of the points we talked about today is some of the programs and events we plan every year that have become very costly. If this isn't the appropriate time, we can talk about it later.

Mayor Kurtz said we may want to look at modifying them. Such as Fall Fest, Fourth of July fireworks. That event has become a miniature Home Days. We are going to look at what the total cost is. It's not just the \$25,000 cost of the fireworks. The greater cost is in the preparation, planning and the manpower to implement and execute. Then there is the clean-up of the event. We are going to go over event by event and we will talk to the Finance Committee and Council as a whole in terms of their wishes and their desires for 2009. We are talking about possibly combining some events. What used to be a simple program or plan for an event has become a presentation or an actual performance. The one we just experienced, the Fall Fest, is another example. It takes a great deal of time, money and planning to put on that elaborate performance and the manpower remains the same. We are going to review those things, because we need to

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take care of the residents and provide a level of service but I'm not so sure it has to be as elaborate as we have gotten.

Chairman Crooks said, so those programs would fall into the operating budget?

Mayor Kurtz said that's right, the various events that we participate in on an annual basis. The one that stood out at the departmental meeting today was the Fourth of July fireworks, the impact and the benefit. We will put figures together on the overall cost. We have safety forces, all the planning, all those people are working for that event and, in a matter of a couple hours, it's over. We need to assess and prioritize 2009. You read the papers, you see what's going on in the economy. We have a number of people on a daily basis calling with concerns about employment, and concerns about personal matters and family matters. As a community, we are not immune to what Greater Cleveland is experiencing. I just wanted to bring to your attention that we are reviewing everything.

Chairman Crooks said I completely agree. It's no secret that things aren't good out there from an economic standpoint. Finance Director Veres made some indication that our revenues might be flatlined this year. Is that correct John?

Finance Director Veres said it certainly is turning that way after these last couple months of collections.

Chairman Crooks said it makes us have to do what you are suggesting and take a look at some of these programs.

Mayor Kurtz said that's the message that was delivered to department heads and we are going to take a closer look at some of the costs, some of the expenditures, and we'll also look at some of the programs and we will be back through the Community Services Committee, and we will be back through the Finance Committee. We will probably do it through the budget hearings. You'll generate additional questions and we'll provide answers for you. I wanted to bring that to your attention now so that you understand that we are responding to some of the market forces and not pretending they don't exist.

Vice Mayor Riley said I think that we need to consider that. If revenues this year could be flat, what if they are down next year? We can plan accordingly. When you talk about these different events that have grown. Vern was always great to say keep the level of services where they are at. We always add another service. Tree Lighting used to be Santa Claus showed up and handed out popcorn balls, and that was it. It's turned into this production where some people are up there, two, three hours in the cold. There are employees there all day setting up and employees there afterwards taking down. What turned into a one hour event, where you didn't need all of that, now it has overtime, etc., involved.

Chairman Crooks said it speaks to this larger issue of what do we exist for as a City government? It's an issue that we have taken up in our strategic planning meetings. Perhaps, the administration will take a look at things and maybe Council, in an upcoming strategic planning effort will take a hard look at what is our purpose, and what is the mission of the City. We have

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talked about a mission statement and incorporating our thoughts about why we did this, why we put on these lavish programs. I know they are nice.

Vice Mayor Riley said it's gone from popcorn balls to popcorn balls, a stocking, a coloring book, to an ornament for the adults. Tree Lighting, I don't think, was about the adults, it was more for the kids to see Santa Claus and the lights go on. It went to a play, and a bonfire. It's a production.

Councilman Piteo said that's why this process we are going through right now is vital, because there are going to be things in the next year, or two years, that we are going to have make hard decisions on, to decide what is going to go on in this region of ours. Being a salesperson, I've been out there, and for the last year it's getting pretty slow. These decisions we make on the capital planning for the next five years could be an integral part of our City surviving.

Mayor Kurtz said let me give one more example, if I may. It relates to salt. We have a 20% increase. One of the items we are going to talk about today, to get Council's approval, would be to construct another salt bin. There are two reasons, one you can't get the material, and our cost is still significantly lower than the market. There are two things that I will ask Council to do, and the Law Director will formalize it. One, next Tuesday on the agenda, we might be in a position to get authorization for a salt bin, and we have run it past John, because you won't be able to get salt, it will be out, in my opinion, and all the experts say that. The second thing is we will educate the people, through the newsletter and our media that we have to go about putting salt down differently. Our equipment will become more sophisticated and our people will be trained differently. Hills, intersections and major arteries will be managed. We will be more selective in how we are going to do the side roads and straight roads. What we are going to do is an education process.

Mayor Kurtz said our goal, between a couple of these events, is to cut some money out of the budget. We will be coming to Council with a request for a salt bin, which we have already designed. Some of you talked about it last Friday at the Public Lands and Buildings tour. Also, I may be asking for legislation for certain authorizations. We have other municipalities and companies come and ask us for salt on a reimbursable basis. I want to formalize something with Council so the Service Director is not doing something that no one knows about. It has been a practice for a number of years to provide help to other communities, as they provide help when we need it. When we need a snowplow and other equipment from other communities, they are very willing to help us. For example, when Cuyahoga Heights needs salt, they are out temporarily, we give them salt. They come and pick it up and they bring it back to us. I want to formalize that so the Service Director knows that there is accountability in place, and that Council and I are aware of it so that everything is aboveboard. I'm not sure of the legal mechanism, it may be a simple motion, but we will present that, with respect to looking down the road.

Finance Director Veres said it's just not the salt bin. The key is to buy it before the price goes up. Our current year price is up November 1<sup>st</sup>. It's a several thousand dollar savings on the quantity that you want to buy.

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Mayor Kurtz said it's a lot of money, but we have no place to put it. You can't leave it outside in the elements. The bin would be for year 'round storage. We could even put equipment in it in the summertime.

Those are some of the things we are looking at. I want to bring these to your attention here so that when we put them in the packet Friday, if we have the information together, there is an awareness already established and there is a more clear understanding how this evolved.

Chairman Crooks said, so then we should expect to see that in our packet on Friday.

Mayor Kurtz said yes.

Vice Mayor Riley said I think that if we use less salt on some streets the residents will support it.

Mayor Kurtz said I have no problem explaining.

Finance Director Veres said this is the year to do it.

Mayor Kurtz responded this is the year to educate them and implement it.

Chairman Crooks said, as it relates back to the Five Year Capital Improvement Plan, John, you have a \$1.3 million budget right now for departmental capital. You said that in 2008 our budget was \$1.9 million. Do you have any idea in terms of what the actual will be?

Finance Director Veres said it will be around \$1.98 million. That's the departmental and land acquisition.

Chairman Crooks said, so it will be around \$1.9 million?

Finance Director Veres said if we don't spend it, we will encumber it, so just plan on that. We have the Council Caucus Room expansion in there. We may not get to that by the end of the year, but we will encumber the funds so they don't have to go through that process again.

Vice Mayor Riley said we could use those funds elsewhere if we would need to?

Finance Director Veres said right.

Chairman Crooks said you are considering Fund 410, that's the way we do planning for capital.

Finance Director Veres said yes, for capital improvements per state auditors.

Chairman Crooks asked, is there any way we could get the actual numbers for 2005, 2006 and 2007 just as a reference point? Does anyone have any questions regarding 1(a) on the agenda?

Vice Mayor Riley said one thing I wanted to mention, and I know we are working closer to it, is the EMS billing. That is a source of revenue that we don't have presently. I know there would

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be a separate fund, but I'd like that fund to always be considered a last resort so that we don't say here is a couple hundred thousand we didn't have last year, let's spend it, so that we are not spending everything, that we start building a rainy day fund for when we have an emergency situation.

Chairman Crooks said you've made that point.

Vice Mayor Riley said yes, so it's on the record.

Finance Director Veres said we could add a minimum dollar amount per purchase. That way you're not going into it for small items. Big ticket items are what you are thinking of, maybe.

Vice Mayor Riley said if something comes up that we really need, not just to say this money is here, let's go buy some items.

Finance Director Veres said, keep in mind, you can't create a fund and just let the money sit there, either. You created it for a purpose and, eventually, it has to be used for that purpose.

Councilman Piteo asked if we commit some of that to debt reduction, percentage-wise?

Vice Mayor Riley asked, are we paying down borrowed money for something such as the fire truck, anything in the way of safety?

Mayor Kurtz responded the only thing you could reduce the BANS.

Finance Director Veres replied but none of them are related to the building. The Annex is paid off.

Several people speaking at once.

Finance Director Veres stated we could tie it to the short-term debt but you can't tie it to the long-term.

Mayor Kurtz responded that's pretty locked in. As far as BAN debt, it's a good thing we're not borrowing right now. Last week the rates were at eight percent and this week it's at seven.

Several people speaking at once.

Chairman Crooks asked if there are any other questions.

Councilman Togliatti said John said that for 2009 we are looking at \$1.98 million. Are we going to update this capital plan then, from \$1.3 million to \$1.98 million?

Councilman Narduzzi said it was \$1.9 million for 2008.

Councilman Togliatti said but I think he said for next year we are looking at \$1.98 million, right?

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Chairman Crooks said no, he said this was the budget amount, and I asked him what is the actual amount going to be and he said he thinks it's going to be \$1.98 million.

Finance Director Veres said yes, it will either be spent or encumbered.

Mayor Kurtz stated so the goal is to keep it flat or less.

Vice Mayor Riley commented so if we went with \$1.3 million it would be a reduction.

Chairman Crooks said the goal is to keep it flat.

Mayor Kurtz said I think the point John made earlier has to be reiterated. What was encumbered we are going to leave encumbered and not throw it back into general funds.

Chairman Crooks asked, are there any other questions on 1(a)? I'm sure we will have another update in the packets on Friday.

Chairman Crooks said we will move on to 1(b) which I think is truly the thrust of this meeting. It is discussion of infrastructure capital needs. Specifically, John and I had a chance to talk a couple times. He obviously has a number in his most recent lead schedule of \$8.8 million for major streets and sidewalk projects.

Mayor Kurtz said, Mr. Chairman, I ask you to do me a favor and go to number 2 because I have a 5 o'clock appointment, and I know this is going to take a little bit longer than that. I wonder if you would accommodate that change, and then you can go back to this.

Chairman Crooks asked, any objections? There were none. Let's go to number 2, discussion of Ordinance 2008-54 as it relates to the Prosecutor's compensation increase. This was on the agenda for first reading at last month's Regular Council meeting. Several Council members had expressed a concern about it and asked that it be referred to Committee for further discussion.

Mayor Kurtz said I'm not sure if we will be able to do anything. I've asked the Clerk of Court, Angie, to put together a summary of the financial arrangements of other communities with their prosecutor. I want to get that to you. It's not something that needs to be addressed. As a matter of fact, you can leave it in Committee until next month, I'm sure you will be having another meeting, and we can do something next month. I wouldn't have any problem if we do something effective the first of the year for 2009. If there is no objection, leave it in and I'll get you some additional evidence. The thrust of this was to put money into PERS for the prosecutor's three good years. But, when I looked at the fact that we haven't done anything for almost a decade, it begs the question. We will get some additional evidence for the next meeting and then we can take action. I think the Finance Director's point about having something effective next year, the first of the year, would not adversely affect the budget.

Chairman Crooks said that may or may not be for next week?

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Mayor Kurtz said we will just leave it in Committee. I have sixty days for Committee, so if you don't mind.

Mayor Kurtz said if you want to go back to number 1(b), because I want to talk about something specific in b, which is discussion of infrastructure capital needs.

Chairman Crooks said we have a line item here, right now, as it stands of \$8.8 million just for street and sidewalk projects. That doesn't include sanitary and storm water sewers. If you look at John's most updated capital plan, John has included a list of the streets that have been discussed and incorporated into his plan. In the document that I am handing out, I draw your attention to the middle of the page, a list of streets. I provide this as a simple point of reference.

Chairman Crooks said these were the streets that we had talked about at the September 23<sup>rd</sup> Council Workshop as it related to our brainstorming session on what streets Council had an issue with and wanted to incorporate into the plan. Some of these had been addressed at the meeting, but I didn't want to discount any of the others. I basically transferred what I had written down on the large sheet of paper to this sheet. Right now, we have \$8.8 million of new street and sidewalk construction. My first question would be to John, what in the past have we spent? Obviously, this is a great percentage of the \$11.4 million that you have right now which you have line itemed for capital improvement. Is it your recommendation that we keep that line item at \$8.8 million? If you have your plan in front of you, you have the breakdown of the streets.

Mayor Kurtz said I agree with the list. I don't see anything out of line, other than the money. Let me give you an example of some of the challenges and opportunities, for example, Selig Drive, Phase I. I believe Don Ramm is going to put a budget number together for Phase I, which is the interchange and the change of entering the Technology Center, which would be to move it over to the north, if the Committee agrees, and then blend it back into the existing Selig Drive. We sent out a draft letter to Council, we did modify that letter. We did indicate that Council would have to approve, obviously, the improvement for construction. When you have a situation like Ron White is dealing with, where you have a potential customer that is willing to bring in another division of their organization, and they already are an elite organization, you have to be able to respond to that immediately. The one thing I hope to achieve during this budget process is that we have some flexibility. For example, if we are able to bring in another \$100,000 of payroll tax, or whatever that number is, it is significant, we need to be able to respond to that. If one of the tools we need to get that done is infrastructure improvement for upgrade, such as the Selig Drive improvement, then, in order to draw that customer to Independence, we need to have that tool. We need to execute the implementation of that and we need to be able to show that we are a cooperative partner in this development. The letter was put in your packet to let you know that this is what we are working on. The point being that if we have an opportunity for one of our largest customers to grow, and this becomes a necessary tool to provide that, I want to make sure that there is no misunderstanding. I firmly believe we need to have enough flexibility to not only implement, but to draw that company to Independence but to also be responsible in terms of the needs, for example, the upgrading of the infrastructure. Is there any misunderstanding or concern on anyone's part relative to that issue? Ron can speak more specifically about this. It is almost like we are bidding on this proposal, and we have no guarantee, but we have been

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prequalified, and we know stand a very good chance. This is one of the requests that was made of us in order to keep us in play.

Economic Development Director White said it is a prerequisite on the part of the Clinic. They won't entertain a lease unless they know they will have a signalized intersection.

Chairman Crooks asked, is it that the offer is on the table, or you having the flexibility to do things?

Mayor Kurtz said I want to make sure that there is exposure and discussion about the possibility of a capital improvement project going to the top of the list for 2009.

Finance Director Veres questioned the amount.

Mayor Kurtz said \$2.5 million was for the whole road to Kathy Lynn, originally.

Vice Mayor Riley said here is my thought, as Chairman of the Streets and Sidewalks Committee, if you asked me where does Selig Drive fall in priority, I would say it would be lower. However, with this opportunity with the Clinic, first of all, that's not the greatest site for the Clinic, because they are into that exposure with signage and a high visibility area. But, as the Mayor said, if we can bring an additional \$100,000 per year into our budget from that, I would say okay, now this becomes a priority. What other cities are doing to be competitive and lure businesses away from Independence, we need to keep what we have and grow what we have. I would say to my Committee and I would say to all of Council this is being proactive on keeping one of our largest customers.

Finance Director Veres said you need to make it clear that we are spending money for a public improvement, not for anything across the street, then it becomes a private improvement.

Mayor Kurtz said we are just paying for the public improvement of Brecksville Road west on the west side. They are going to pay for the east side.

Vice Mayor Riley said that is part of the owner's agreement—you do this and we will do this and we will bring in more employees.

Mayor Kurtz said that number, \$2.5 million, was the original number when we budgeted several years ago for the entire Selig Drive project. We have not looked at the new number. We will put that together. That makes a difference, when you are talking \$2.5 million or \$750,000 or \$1 million.

Chairman Crooks said, from my perspective take this deal out of the picture. What do I think needs to happen for the best interest of planning for the City? It is the ability to say, here are the streets that we are going to do next year, out of a concern for safety or need, and number them down the line. Without this deal in mind, that is what I think will best serve the City and that is what I hope to accomplish through this Committee. That is what I want.

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Mayor Kurtz said there are two ways to look at safety - safety in terms of traffic safety, and then there is the actual physical pavement. There are a couple ways to package that. To conclude, I want to make sure there is no objection to vigorously pursuing this opportunity. If you wouldn't mind, Jim, as Chairman of the Streets and Sidewalks Committee, we need to sit down, take the different sketches and come up with a finished product in order to go to the next level. If you could call a meeting sometime in the next month.

Chairman Crooks asked, can we put a policy into the record? If we know that the City stands to benefit by way of an influx of income tax dollars.

Mayor Kurtz said the policy should be that any infrastructure improvement that is a result of economic development and the efforts to grow our tax base would be of high priority, as well as safety, and the condition of the road would be the second and third tier. Then, eventually, comes the maintenance and when was the last upgrade, so that you have some type of system, if that is what you are asking for.

Chairman Crooks said I am just saying, what you might think might be different than what somebody else thinks. If we were to agree on a policy, where if it is going to yield an amount or percent of economic development by way of income tax dollars.

Finance Director Veres said return on investment is what you're trying to say.

Mayor Kurtz said if it has a return on investment of so many years. Historically, our street projects have been prioritized based on safety, condition and then when it was last upgraded. You can categorize all of those. We did go through the exercise a year or so ago and we have everything quantified in terms of condition. Now, it's a matter of safety, and I think your point is well taken. Safety and condition become the highest priority after economic development. After that, traditionally, if you have a dozen streets or so that are all in the same condition, then you go back to other infrastructure concerns and then prioritize them based on when they were last upgraded. If you follow that mechanism, it's pretty fair

Vice Mayor Riley said, I believe with that particular property, years ago when LTV was full going, there were two lights there. It had caused a safety problem. There were a lot of accidents there. When LTV went bankrupt, and it was empty, it wasn't a problem. We are getting to the point there, where the traffic getting in and out of there is high volume. Here is a chance, if there will be an additional 300 more cars per day, where we can solve this problem and bring money in.

Finance Director Veres said his thought is that when there were two traffic lights there was signalization that you saw heading south. I agree that you could expand the intersection on both sides, but you can also have a larger open intersection with just a traffic light. You wouldn't have green at Selig facing you, and green at the old LTV site facing you. It would be just an expanded intersection where there are two streets offset a little bit.

Mayor Kurtz said Jim could bring that up at the next Streets and Sidewalks Committee meeting.

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Finance Director Veres said instead of going an extra lane on both sides, maybe just changing the traffic signalization.

Mayor Kurtz said when we built the new school, we agreed that Selig would be the primary access point and the City committed to that upgrade as part of that project to draw all the traffic to Selig.

Vice Mayor Riley said I remember saying this to the School Board, school buses shouldn't be cutting through Filip, Dora, or Archwood to get to the school, only if they are picking up children. They should be using Selig. Selig should become the main in and out, not all these cut-throughs, because it presents a dangerous situation over there.

Finance Director Veres said right now, you can't even tell the school to do that. We should tell them to do that now. You can't even get the buses to drive down Selig.

Several people speaking at once.

Chairman Crooks asked, you're saying it's not \$2.5 million?

Mayor Kurtz replied I don't think that's the 2009 number.

Chairman Crooks asked and this was a total project number?

Mayor Kurtz replied I believe that was the number for Selig to Kathy Lynn but I'm not sure. The figure will be updated. We'll put that together.

Mayor Kurtz said I have to excuse myself. Ron will be here, and if you have any questions, call me.

Chairman Crooks said I know you are on a timeframe. What I would like to do is go through these streets and ask ourselves the questions. I don't think we can make any final decisions today, and I am not going to advocate that we do, because I don't think we have the information to make those final decisions. We are hearing now that our revenues might be flatlined for this year, and we don't know what they are going to be for next year, so how can we make any final decisions? What I think we can do is attempt to prioritize some of these projects.

Finance Director Veres said regarding Acorn Drive, I don't want to build a street and let it sit there, just rotting away with no buildings on it.

Vice Mayor Riley said some of that is for the development.

Councilman Narduzzi said just in case someone is going to put a building up. We want to have the funds available to put the street in.

Finance Director Veres said that's assessable.

Councilman Narduzzi said I think Dave Grendel is the one who brought that point up.

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Finance Director Veres said that is something that I think can be moved. It is something that we would borrow for, I would think, if it is assessable.

Vice Mayor Riley said we have to do Pleasant Valley because it is a County project.

Finance Director Veres said that's not in 2009.

Councilman Piteo said I thought it was 2010.

Vice Mayor Riley said what I am saying is there is an example of something where it has to be a priority because we have to do it with the County.

Finance Director Veres responded and we have that in there already.

Chairman Crooks stated so Acorn Extension.

Councilman Piteo said, Chairman, we are prioritizing for 2009, right?

Finance Director Veres said 2009, and it is going to be revisited at least quarterly. At a conference I was at three weeks ago, two different sessions talked about strategic planning and long-term planning, and they meet quarterly to go over their five-year capital and strategic planning. My goal would be to get 2009 in place, have these projects listed. They can be moved around from 2010 to 2011 or 2012, but, at least, you have your projects listed from a priority standpoint. When you do them, they might be moved around a bit depending on the economy and other factors.

Vice Mayor Riley said let's say you have five roads on for 2009. If you do two of them, you would have three that now move into 2010. You can't just say this was a priority, we didn't do it in 2009 so it's forgotten about.

Councilman Narduzzi asked what consists of a priority?

Finance Director Veres said like the Mayor was trying to say, economics first.

Councilman Narduzzi said if you want a number, I can't do that by looking at this map. I don't know anything about these roads.

Chairman Crooks said that is why Dave Snyderburn is here, so he can help us.

Service Director Snyderburn said we grade the roads.

Councilman Narduzzi asked if there is a list.

Service Director Snyderburn said we can give you a copy.

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Vice Mayor Riley said we talked about this at the Streets and Sidewalks Committee meetings, too, deciding the priorities. If you said \$8.8 million, I'd love to have that. We could do so much, but I know that is not realistic.

Chairman Crooks said if we set out to do five major street projects for 2009 and we only do two of them, why would we ever be in that situation? If we plan that we are going to do five, what would cause us to only get to two of them.

Service Director Snyderburn said cost. You take Hillside Road and you did it from border to border, even without sidewalks and major reconstruction, you might be up to \$2 million or \$3 million.

Chairman Crooks said if that's the case, why would we put more projects on in 2009 if it was going to cost \$2 million to do Hillside from border to border?

Service Director Snyderburn said you might say we can't afford to do that, but we are going to put an overlay on it. That's all we are going to do, we are going to grind it and put an overlay on it all the way down. All of a sudden, now, your project went from full blown \$2.5 million to \$400,000 and make the road last another 10 or 15 years.

Chairman Crooks said that is the point we want to get to by way of this planning process. Except for an opportunity like this one jumping up to the top, that would knock off some of the projects that we had planned to do in 2009, what other reasons would we not get to a set of projects, or to any one project if we had planned to do it three or four months in advance?

Vice Mayor Riley said you could have a road cave-in, etc.

Chairman Crooks said so that's another one, an opportunity and an emergency.

Vice Mayor Riley said also, in Forestwoods we had the road buckle, which shouldn't be on our list for any type of repair, because they are newer roads. But, from the heat a few summers ago, they started buckling, so we had to fix those. There are a lot of roads in bad shape in this City. Each year that you wait, that road gets worse. This year we will salt every one of these roads. In the spring, they are all going to be worse. They constantly get worse, none of them get better.

Councilman Grendel entered the meeting.

Chairman Crooks said let me bring Councilman Grendel up to speed, because I'm interested in his input. We are looking specifically at the major street projects, which I see you have flipped to, and we are discussing each one of them. I don't want to overstep the bounds of the Streets and Sidewalks Committee, at all, but just by way of John's memo on Friday, he has asked us to weigh in on the streets according to the Five Year Capital Improvement Plan. We are going through, and debating now, the prioritization of street projects. What street projects are we going to do in 2009? To me, it doesn't seem like it's that difficult of a question to answer. What streets are we going to do in 2009?

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Service Director Snyderburn said we have money allocated with the County for Pleasant Valley. Vice Mayor Riley said that's 2010.

Chairman Crooks asked what streets need to be done?

Service Director Snyderburn said Hillside, lower Brookside.

Councilman Piteo said on lower Hillside, somebody is going to get killed on that road, and it could be one of our guys on the salt truck.

Chairman Crooks said I am trying to establish a point of reference. Why do you say that, Dave? Because of the conditions?

Director Snyderburn said yes.

Chairman Crooks stated it's a safety issue.

Director Snyderburn said yes.

Vice Mayor Riley said here's the thing. Lower Hillside is something that we have to repair on our own, because the County is not doing it.

Director Snyderburn said correct.

Vice Mayor Riley said if you drive through Independence Estates, every street there needs to be repaired. Drive through Josephine, Great Oaks, Beverly May - all those streets need to be repaired. We could be at \$50 million, but we have to decide which is the worst of the worst.

Finance Director Veres asked is that mostly joint repair?

Vice Mayor Riley said yes.

Finance Director Veres said in the Service Department capital requests for the year is a machine called a Dura Patcher 2.

Service Director Snyderburn said that's for joint repair.

Finance Director Veres said we sat down and went over all the Service Department's vehicles last week and added the details of 2009, and we'll add the details for the rest of the year. We detailed it all out and Dave requested a Dura Patch machine for \$60,000, which fits into the 2009 requests. Dave has or will contact the company and they are going to come out and demonstrate it.

Director Snyderburn replied they did one already but they'll do another one.

Chairman Crooks said that fits into your 440?

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Finance Director Veres said into his total, yes. They are going to repair one of the joints on Ashwood. That would be something we could do internally—go out and repair our own.

Vice Mayor Riley asked Dave Snyderburn how many guys operate that, three? Dave Snyderburn said yes. Vice Mayor Riley said they'll be busy from May 1<sup>st</sup> until November 15<sup>th</sup> and then they won't get the whole City done. So, now do we go with three new employees? I think that's great, but I want to make sure that thing is being used constantly. Now, we need the budget for that.

Councilman Piteo said I think we are getting off the course now. What we have to decide is in your mind, think of what the worst street in Independence is and attack that street, from top to bottom.

Vice Mayor Riley said lower Hillside is a grind and repair.

Councilman Piteo said that Hillside is falling in.

Vice Mayor Riley said we can't do that.

Finance Director Veres said can we just go over the first five on the list.

Councilman Narduzzi said I'm looking at this from a different point. I know this is a Finance Committee meeting. Shouldn't Finance say to Streets & Sidewalks Committee you have so much money, do what you can do. Who is setting the bar for how much we are going to offer this year?

Chairman Crooks said what I am trying to determine is the need. That's why Dave Snyderburn and I talked last week. I put a check mark next to Hillside Road because I have driven on it and I know it's horrible. We are going to ask for a cost. There is no cost in here right now. I understand, Tom. I think that approach is a problem if this is a wish list. I'm not approaching it from a wish list standpoint. I'm approaching it from a need standpoint.

Finance Director Veres said there is a cost in there. It's \$240,000.

Councilman Piteo said there is \$247,000, \$120,000 and another number, and that doesn't add up to \$2.5 million to do Hillside.

Vice Mayor Riley said I'm saying that the need is endless for streets, and you'll find that with sewer projects. It would be easier to say you have \$1.5 million. Then the Streets and Sidewalks Committee could say we could do this, this, this and this.

Finance Director Veres said and that includes maintenance.

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Councilman Piteo said with all due respect, I get \$100,000, \$150,000 for maintenance and I've got to do as many projects as I can with that money. Not all of them will get done. They keep moving forward. I think if you are planning on doing something, you are held to a goal.

Vice Mayor Riley said maybe our approach, instead of naming streets specifically, say we will do each year for the next five years \$2 million in road projects. That's our commitment, \$2 million in road projects. Would we ever get to the point where there won't be any roads that need repair? No, but that may be the ideal. If we were starting a brand new city, five years from now the roads are going to start needing repair, let's set money aside. If we say our goal as a Council in our planning is \$2 million is set aside each for major road projects and maintenance, \$500,000 is for sewers. That way, we are not naming individual streets. We are saying here is what we have to work with. The Committee then knows that.

Chairman Crooks said how do you get to that \$2 million? Where do we get that figure from? Here is why it differs from my approach. My approach is what do we need? This is the concept of zero based budgeting. Where is the need? Not what did we do last year, not what would we do five years from now. What do we need, because there is a need. Tell us where the needs are and then we will see how it fits into the budget.

Vice Mayor Riley said if our goal is to have the safest streets and the nicest streets to drive on, then you know what I would say? I need \$20 million for the next three years, and I could have all of the streets in Independence fixed and we'll meet that goal. To come up with an exact number, we can each rattle off one street at a price of \$500,000 each. There are six of us here, then we are at \$3 million for next year. Then, what is going to get bad between now and next year, and then the following year, and the following year? This is why we always should have planned infrastructure repairs. A certain amount has to go for that, because our sewer system is getting older, our streets are getting older. It's like building maintenance—that type of thing.

Councilman Narduzzi said I see how you are trying to structure it, Jim, but on a committee like Streets and Sidewalks, it's endless. If we took in \$31 million a year, we could spend \$31 million a year. So, I think, realistically, you've got to set a number that the City can afford to put towards streets and then go back to Streets and Sidewalks and say this is what you have, use it wisely, because this is all we can afford.

Vice Mayor Riley said then a resident will say why didn't my street get done this year? Well, we had \$1 million we prioritized as a committee and went to Council and said here is where we are going to spend that \$1 million this year. Hopefully, next year we'll get to your street.

Chairman Crooks said I'm not seeing it eye to eye with anybody here. How do we get to the number? Where do we get the \$2 million figure from? How do we know it's not \$1 million, how do we know it's not \$5 million?

Vice Mayor Riley said our planning should be that a certain percentage of our budget goes to infrastructure repair.

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Finance Director Veres said you're talking on a cash basis, paying for it that year. We borrow for lot of our street projects.

Vice Mayor Riley said, but we've also said we are going to be careful on taking on any more debt.

Finance Director Veres said, so that's another thing you have to weigh.

Chairman Crooks said I want to see it your way, because I want to work through this process. If you can explain the logic as to how you get to whatever number it is, without asking Dave Snyderburn what the need is, and seeing how this fits into the overall budget when we don't know what the projections are for 2009, and we can assume that there are going to be flat revenue projections. How do we get to \$2 million?

Councilman Narduzzi said I think what you have to do is forecast for five years all the streets that Dave Snyderburn thinks has to be done in some way, shape or form, cheapest to most expensive, average that out, average how many different projects there are, and divide it up and come up with a dollar amount.

Finance Director Veres said some of these top five might not even make the list.

Councilman Grendel questioned, did you discuss Selig Drive?

Finance Director Veres said we did, and the Mayor said that number in there is wrong, that was from Kathy Lynn to Route 21.

Councilman Grendel asked, is that something that has to be done because what is happening across the street.

Councilman Narduzzi said that is what we talked about.

Finance Director Veres said we were going to make sure that it is just the west side of the street that we are paying for. They are paying for the east side. Don Ramm is going to get us a better figure.

Councilman Grendel said the Clinic is moving more employees in?

Vice Mayor Riley said it could be about three hundred people.

Economic Development Director White said that is the potential.

Councilman Grendel said if they are moving in, and if there are jobs going in, then it's worth it. That's a big source of our income, we have to protect it.

Economic Development Director White said there would have to be a signed lease before Council would even consider moving it.

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Councilman Grendel said right, I wouldn't do that unless I knew those jobs were coming. Otherwise, that would be lower in my priorities.

Vice Mayor Riley said we went on a tour of the buildings. It was Anthony's idea that we all get in a van and drive together on every street in Independence to see which ones are safe, which ones need to be repaired, and then we could make our list, which has been done. Then, from that list, let's say we have 50 streets, a rating of one is bad, ten is good. We've got five of those 50 streets that are rated one, six that are rated two, so we have 11 streets that are really bad and unsafe and need to be repaired. That total is \$20 million. I know we are not going to do \$20 million. We may not do \$20 million in projects in five years. From that, we need a dollar amount, and that's what we have done. We have worked with a dollar amount. Every time, since I've been on Council, when John says we have unencumbered funds, but we have extra money here the first thing out of my mouth is let's put it into streets. We will never catch up.

Chairman Crooks said I disagree with you about just taking a number arbitrarily out of the sky. I disagree with it until it can be explained to me how we get to a number. Is it a percentage of the revenue that comes in? Let's say there are 500 streets in Independence. We should have a prioritization of 1 through 500 and we number them 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and we are going to start to knock off those projects 1 through 500. If this is not the committee to do it in, and it's Streets, then let's do that.

Vice Mayor Riley said with the time it takes, you'll never get to 500, because we don't have the money available. In an ideal world that would be great. It could take 20 years to get to that 500<sup>th</sup> road, and then, 10 through 15 need to be fixed again.

Chairman Crooks asked why would that be the case? How long do they last?

Finance Director Veres they must have had a bad inspector on that job, because they are supposed to last for 40 years.

Vice Mayor Riley said find me one road that has lasted for 40 years.

Councilman Grendel said we have some money in maintenance. You can buy a few more years with maintenance.

Councilman Piteo said I agree with that, but that shouldn't be the way we should go originally.

Councilman Grendel said we only have so much. I think the roads you need to look at are the ones that affect the most people.

Vice Mayor Riley said no one lives on Ashwood.

Councilman Grendel said I'm talking about the number of cars that use it. You were talking about Josephine, but Josephine is really a dead end cul-de-sac, and a few other streets, too. Can we do other alternatives if you only have so much money to work with? I think Hillside and the roads that affect the most people are the ones you need to do.

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Councilman Narduzzi said what we are trying to come up with is what is so much money?

Councilman Togliatti asked, how did we determine our dollar amounts in the past years, John?

Finance Director Veres said available?

Councilman Togliatti said, what we budgeted for our street projects.

Finance Director Veres said this one-page summary, which starts with our receipts, goes through general fund, and then our debt obligations, our long-term, and a portion of that Council decides to apply to the short-term debt, brings you to a number—balance available for capital improvements and other costs, which are basically capital improvements, street resurfacing and drain water, and our TIF funds. That number was \$4.4 million this year. From that, you took \$1.98 million and applied it to capital improvements, you took \$1.6 million and applied it to street improvements, \$200,000 to drain water, and then \$926,000, \$650,000 of which was for the West Creek Confluence project, to come up with using most of that money. That is where you get your \$2 million possibly available. That is paid out in cash, cash on hand available for usage.

Councilman Togliatti said, so wouldn't we just use that same formula. Take that number and go to the Streets committee and say this is how much money you have to work with.

Councilman Crooks said no, that is where my fundamental disagreement is, with all due respect, Councilmen.

Councilman Togliatti said, but then we would be robbing from other funds or programs if we were going to take more. Or if we would take less, then we would be giving money to other funds or programs.

Chairman Crooks said not necessarily. I think that we would put together a budget, based on the need.

Finance Director Veres said you are talking about prioritizing the needs of the streets, whether or not we can.

Councilman Narduzzi said I understand, but what I hear is that our need exceeds our total budget. So you do what you can do.

Finance Director Veres said you can live with Hillside Road without the site corrections for the next twenty years, because we have lived with them for the last forty.

Chairman Crooks said no, I'm saying if there are five Hillside roads that are safety concerns, then we pigeonhole ourselves if we say that we are only going to commit \$2 million every year from now until eternity, if there is a safety concern. I'm saying we have got to assess the real need. This is going to require us to do some qualified research.

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Service Director Snyderburn said why don't we give you some numbers on the roads? Why don't we take ten roads and give you some numbers?

Finance Director Veres said you should take a trip.

Councilman Piteo said I have heard twice that there is a list of conditions of the roads, but I don't have it.

Vice Mayor Riley said could you make sure that is in everybody's packet on Friday. Director Snyderburn said he would do that.

Several people talking at once.

Councilman Grendel said the TIF money is something that has been added.

Finance Director Veres said to Councilman Grendel, I'm glad you brought that up. Without the TIF money, we'd have no money right now. We would have our money in our self-insurance fund and about \$800,000 to spare.

Vice Mayor Riley said with TIF money, are you concerned about what is now going on? Could the TIF be lower?

Finance Director Veres said no, because our revenue from TIF keeps increasing.

Councilman Narduzzi said Jim is talking about the economical situation.

Finance Director Veres said I know he is. However, TIF is based upon new buildings and increase in value.

Vice Mayor Riley stated if you built a building last year for \$500,000, it may be worth only \$400,000 this year. If I built a new building on Rockside, I'm going down to try and get the valuation decreased.

Finance Director Veres stated it's been dropping, and the CAVs aren't even listed in here yet.

Councilman Grendel said, and we are giving money that normally would go to the County.

Finance Director Veres said right, 70% of our Rockside debt is being paid with TIF.

Vice Mayor Riley said, I just always want to keep that in mind. He left the meeting.

Chairman Crooks said just to put this in context. I'm prepared to discuss this, even if we have to stay here.

Finance Director Veres said the first five on the list is all you need to do for 2009.

Councilman Grendel asked if we are going to borrow.

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Finance Director Veres said it depends on much it's going to be and how much the anticipated turnaround on investment would be created.

Chairman Crooks said the Mayor indicated this \$2.5 million is not the number, so we have to wait on that.

Finance Director Veres said if the return on investment is \$200,000 per year, then maybe it would be okay to borrow and then pay it off over five years.

Councilman Grendel said would there be new construction across the street if they are increasing jobs?

Finance Director Veres said there would have to be. At some point do they still plan on selling all of that to the Cleveland Clinic?

Economic Development Director White said it would be in the sixth or seventh year of a ten-year lease. As I understand from the document, they would have the option to purchase the property.

Finance Director Veres said that was on the original site. They've added to that.

Economic Development Director White said it is all one complete package.

Councilman Grendel said they wouldn't get an exemption for that.

Economic Development Director White said that would be hard pressed to prove that they are serving indigent patients out of that site, and they are not, it's all operations.

Chairman Crooks said let's do two things, and maybe they'd blend into each other. Dave Grendel, Jim Riley not here, so it's you and I to decide. If we disagree then we will have to wait until the next time we have a meeting. I would like to see a prioritized list for the streets and see what that need is, and not apply a number that is uniform from year to year, but a number that is created based on need. John Veres has put together these top five, which he wants to discuss. I want him to discuss them because my sense is that because they are at the top they are prioritized.

Finance Director Veres said no, they are not prioritized. All of these were in the first column when I got them from Don Ramm and I spread them all out. There is no prioritization. We've talked about Hillside Road east and lower Brookside Road. Some of the projects I have heard talked about I put in the first year because I know they are bad. Some of these other items, like the Hillside Road sight correction for about \$500,000. I don't know where they are talking about sight correction. I don't believe it needs to be done. We've lived with it for forty years now, without site correction. The County is going to come in at some point and redo that road anyway, so why pay \$500,000 for something the County is going to do eventually.

Chairman Crooks asked which one are you referring to, John?

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Finance Director Veres said the site correction for \$500,000. I don't know where that came from. I don't know why it is there. It's the first I've heard of it.

Engineering Coordinator Don Ramm said there are three specific locations. One just west of South Great Oaks, another one just west of Filip and another one just west of Vineyard. There are some significant vertical curves that make it difficult to see. That's what prompts Filip being designed the way it is. With the County's program that we bought into for the \$120,000, which is extremely affordable in 2010. That is just going to be a full depth recycling project. They are not doing any vertical alignments or changes. It's a full depth recycling with an overlay, so it will be extremely rehabilitative, but no major changes.

Councilman Narduzzi asked about changing the elevations of that Hillside Road?

Engineering Coordinator Don Ramm said the thought was to go ahead in 2009, take care of those three things, and then let the County come through in 2010 and let them do what they do, and then it will be done.

Councilman Narduzzi said Donna almost got killed there when she was a kid. She was in the hospital for two months.

Chairman Crooks said I know Councilman Klepacz has brought this up a couple times. I have written down next to it that it is a safety issue.

Director Snyderburn said it's a huge safety issue. All three are bad. Yesterday, I was going east on Hillside Road, there is a UPS truck parked right there before Filip. I can't see ahead, and the guy behind the truck was going around. I'm in my lane and he didn't see me, I didn't see him, and we both had to swerve. Whose fault is it? I don't know, but it is a very, very dangerous road. If you don't do it and somebody gets in a very bad accident and gets killed. You have an opportunity to do it, you should take that opportunity.

Finance Director Veres said I don't think we have that cash available.

Director Snyderburn said if you don't, you don't.

Finance Director Veres said I was on a County road this weekend. It had hills on it and blind spots that are twice as bad as these right now.

Chairman Crooks said, so, John, are you saying that it's not a safety issue?

Finance Director Veres said no, I'm not saying it's not a safety issue. I'm saying we are not unique to these types of road conditions.

Chairman Crooks said in your capacity as Finance Director, you put this amount into the budget.

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Engineering Coordinator Don Ramm said I used some Wisnieski unit costs, because it is full reconstruction and some minor vertical grade changes, and applied it over there, over the distances at each of those three locations.

Finance Director Veres said that might be something you can do over three years.

Councilman Narduzzi said, but the problem is in 2010 the County is doing it, so we would want to do it before that.

Several people speaking at once.

Engineering Coordinator Don Ramm said that is supposed to be with the County taking the lead on it. It's a maintenance operation out of the County's office, so they'll crank that out pretty quickly.

Councilman Grendel said where our participation of \$120,000 is.

Engineering Coordinator Don Ramm said yes.

Councilman Piteo added on the west side.

Chairman Crooks said we have this one as a safety issue. Director Snyderburn has confirmed it and other Council members have said this is a safety issue. What is the next project, John?

Finance Director Veres said the first one that we skipped over, Acorn.

Councilman Grendel asked is that going to be an assessment?

Finance Director Veres said we talked about that, but Economic Development Director White had left the room. I'm assuming it's assessable, but I don't know to whom.

Economic Development Director White said it is assessable, and there is TIF that probably would come into play here, as well.

Finance Director Veres said that is an active TIF, that's the southwest quadrant.

Councilman Grendel asked how many property owners does that affect, two?

Economic Development Director White replied four that front Acorn. Two that are undeveloped at this point, land that is not accessible, and then two existing - the DaVita, which was sold to a developer, and then the one now owned by All Crane.

Councilman Grendel asked, will they occupy the whole building?

Economic Development Director White said yes, they will. Not yet, but they will.

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Finance Director Veres said that is right where it is stubbed off heading east.

Economic Development Economic Development Director White said there are two buildings right at the existing cul-de-sac, some land that is owned by L & M, which is Lombardo, and then some land that is currently zoned U-1 in the extension that would provide access, and then there is land that GE owns that is part of Summit Office Park. That would be an access.

Finance Director Veres said the talk about when to do it would be if there are plans to build a building.

Councilman Piteo said Ron said what comes first, the chicken or the egg. If you have the land there and you don't build it they would come, I guess that is what the attitude is.

Councilman Grendel asked, does it go all the way through to where Summit is?

Economic Development Director White said it would go all the way almost to the right-of-way of I-77.

Councilman Grendel said, so you could actually go down to Rockside from there?

Economic Development Economic Development Director White said what would probably happen, and probably what some office park would allow is to at least have an exit, maybe not an entrance, but an exit. So they would have an additional exit to come out of Acorn to Oak Tree and go out that way.

Finance Director Veres said, just to point out what Ron mentioned, it is in the southwest quadrant. It is TIF-able, which allows us to borrow under slightly different rules. The interest payment is eligible. In this year alone we received \$192,093 from the Southwest Quadrant.

Councilman Grendel said, so that might be doable because of the financing available.

Finance Director Veres said I would suggest to borrow for that if Council wants to do it.

Economic Development Director White said there is a little further out potential and that is in the development of Sora Hills. Our negotiations with Seven Hills would include infrastructure improvements because of the demand and volume that that is going to produce. So Acorn and some other potential projects will be a part of our negotiations with Seven Hills.

Finance Director Veres said the reason to borrow for this project would be if you don't borrow for this, and use cash on hand, and then let's say you borrow for Hillside Road sight correction and all that interest isn't TIF-able. You might as well borrow for something that is TIF-able and get yourself back some additional revenue.

Councilman Grendel that's why we prioritize, because Acorn Drive is TIF-able and it makes sense to do it.

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Finance Director Veres said and it is special assessable.

Councilman Grendel said Hillside makes sense because you have an opportunity next year, and then the following year the County is going to be doing that.

Councilman Narduzzi asked, how many on that list, John, do you think are appropriate to borrow for? I would take those, and I wouldn't wipe them off the screen, but I would move them to the back, because there is always alternative "B" to make that project happen.

Finance Director Veres said I would say Acorn is borrowable, because it is special assessable and TIF-able.

Chairman Crooks said your point is then you take that off of the 2009 planned capital.

Councilman Narduzzi said it's not off of the screen, but it is there, and if it has to happen you borrow for it.

Finance Director Veres said then we borrow for it. You take it out of the \$8.8 million.

Councilman Narduzzi said, but I can't see doing Acorn Drive in front of something else that is needed, because, right now, we don't need it. But, in the back of your mind, you may need it.

Finance Director Veres said, have Council's understanding that if it is needed, let's borrow for it.

Councilman Narduzzi said that's like looking at it in a five year forecast.

Finance Director Veres said and with specially assessed you have to go through that process of identifying the cost with landowners.

Councilman Grendel said if there is something that might be able to happen there, we would be able to move quickly on it.

Economic Development Director White said if something came up, a project that was possible, I think we would have to give the property owners some sense as to how we would move on it if they had a candidate, so that they would have confidence that it was going to happen. Otherwise, it's just land that is sitting there and they have no potential use for it. They wouldn't even want to get motivated to try to sell it.

Chairman Crooks said, Ron, would a business take the City's word if you were to say to them Acorn Drive might not be going in in 2009, but it is part of our five-year plan and it will be going in. Do we have that reputation out there?

Economic Development Director White said as much as Mr. Pace would take our word that we would do the Selig intersection, I think if we are making a commitment to do that, which it appears that we are getting close to do, I would think any of the property owners would take it.

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We built a \$30 million reconstructed Rockside Road. We certainly have the credibility to carry that.

Chairman Crooks asked, is Acorn Drive a 2009 project, in your opinion?

Economic Development Director White said it probably would be nice, but considering the economy, etc., it's right back to what Jim Riley was saying. Do you get yourself positioned and poised for opportunity, or do you wait until the opportunity comes and then you act?

Councilman Piteo asked, have you lost a customer because his road is not there?

Economic Development Director White said I don't think so, at this point in time. I don't think there has been any candidate that has come our way through anyone that has said without that road we are going to walk. Nobody has said that.

Director Snyderburn said maybe Don Ramm and I could get together and make a list of the worst ten streets and put some dollar amounts to them.

Chairman Crooks said that would be fine.

Director Snyderburn said my opinion is if you do Hillside Road from border to border, we'll easily spend \$2.5 million, but then you could say we are going to grind and overlay, fix the sight problems and then we could get it down to "X."

Councilman Piteo asked, Dave, what do you get for \$2.5 million?

Director Snyderburn said there are some major improvements there, with probably some sewer work.

Councilman Piteo said I mean life expectancy. Thirty years?

Director Snyderburn said Don Ramm made a good point before. The last time that upper Hillside was milled and filled was about 15 years ago. You could drive on it another ten years and fill the holes if you want. It all depends on what you want to get, and what condition you want it to be. We did Cheryl Ann about three years ago. If we keep cracksealing it, it might last another 20 years. It all depends on what condition you want. I understand what Vice Mayor Riley and Councilman Crooks said about having a dollar amount.

Councilman Narduzzi said if you could come up with a maintenance fund for streets, the capital improvement funds for streets, and an emergency fund for streets. I don't know if this is possible, but if you could come up with a dollar amount for every mile of road for a maintenance program. I know I've seen this somewhere before.

Director Snyderburn said we have something for roads that are rated in certain conditions—how much it would take per mile of road. Yes, there are programs for that.

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Councilman Narduzzi said you would have to plan out on a five-year or ten-year basis. Then you have a capital improvement street fund for a project like Acorn Drive or redoing Hillside Road. There would be specific projects that you want to do at a specific year, and you can plan those out with a firm dollar amount. Then you have an emergency fund, maybe starting with nothing this year and borrow from something else to build that up. But, sooner or later, have that emergency fund so it won't come out of the main fund that we are putting aside to do capital improvements. Some years you may not use that at all. Other years you may need \$500,000 or \$1 million.

Director Snyderburn said I'd take \$2.5 million as a figure off the top of my head, because if you want to put sidewalks in, drainage, and all the other things, it might be \$5 million. It just depends on what you want to do with that road. We had a price to grind and overlay for lower Hillside around \$200,000 or \$220,000 from Brecksville Road to the border, and that probably includes some berm work and a little bit of work here and there.

Finance Director Veres said we don't need to go to the border because of the work the County did.

Director Snyderburn said right, that project went up to where the County did their last job. If you wanted to put sidewalks down there and drainage, you might spend \$1.5 million on lower Hillside. All I'm saying is let's put some numbers together and we can do that on the worst streets. I can go over the worst streets with Don Ramm, I know the worst streets. I can appreciate what Vice Mayor Riley said about Ashwood and Josephine. I see those roads every day, I stay awake at night thinking about them. It bothers me.

Chairman Crooks said that's why I thought the conversation was relevant about the machine that you have worked into the capital plan, because then you can put a cross mark through these dollar amounts.

Director Snyderburn said this machine is the best thing that I came up with for a lot of these joint repairs. I'm going to do joint repairs with this machine. I've experienced it already, I've tried it out, and I have patches that are four years old already with it. I think this will help us to prolong the surface streets until we can get them to overlay them.

Finance Director Veres asked, can you schedule it?

Director Snyderburn said yes, at the end of this month, or the beginning of November.

Chairman Crooks asked, is that for a demonstration?

Director Snyderburn said yes.

Councilman Grendel asked, in the past, was that work done under our maintenance contract?

Director Snyderburn said we are doing joint repairs right now, my crew is doing joint repairs. It's just that the actual voids are getting so big that these joint repairs are falling apart. They are

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not holding up as good as they should, and the streets are becoming bad. If you see in my concrete maintenance contract, where I went in and I did a lot of joint repairs and keyed in streets, and I try to piecemeal everything, but I prolonged the life of a lot of streets by doing it that way. With this machine and a little bit of concrete repair, we can prolong the life of surface streets and do the worst streets. The ones we talked about—the most traveled streets, the safety issue of streets, cut through streets, Hillside and Brookside--these are streets that a lot of people use on a daily basis. We will have to take a look at these streets, and some side streets that people live on, and get a good contract price. We can put this together and you, and the Finance Committee and John can say that we have “X” amount of money.

Chairman Crooks asked, do you think you can do it in a week?

Director Snyderburn said I think so.

Engineering Coordinator Don Ramm said, Councilman Crooks, for that spreadsheet that you put together, costs are needed. They looked awful thin to me.

Director Snyderburn said we’ll go over it, Don.

Engineering Coordinator Don Ramm said there are 2007 costs, so there we have to figure inflation.

Director Snyderburn said, we can go over it and come up with some figures.

Finance Director Veres said, I would just go over the lowest rated streets from the list provided, for now.

Director Snyderburn said I want to go over it with the Mayor.

Finance Director Veres said I need to present this to Council by the end of the month, so I don’t want to go through all five years right now, we need 2009.

Director Snyderburn said I want to do it with the Mayor’s blessing, so I just giving you an idea of what we can do.

Finance Director Veres said, but for this week, just start with the lowest rated streets. I think they gave a “1” if they were bad.

Councilman Piteo said, Dave, how do you pick a street that needs an overlay, and what determines how in depth to go with that street. You have utilities and sewers.

Service Director Snyderburn said if it’s full depth repairs, and if there are a lot of catch basin repairs, we take that all into consideration.

Councilman Piteo said, is that itemized?

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Service Director Snyderburn said, that is all taken into account. There could be partial depth repair, or ten percent (10%) full depth repairs, twenty percent partial depth repairs and then a grind and overlay.

Councilman Piteo said, it is a calculation.

Service Director Snyderburn said, it is figured in there. We didn't just go and say oh what is it going to take. We rode every single street, and we said ten percent of this street might be full depth repairs.

Councilman Piteo said, is there a street in for 2009 that you can point out that fits that criteria?

Service Director Snyderburn said, we have been talking about lower Hillside and lower Brookside. We have Pleasant Valley on the County plan, so that is a big one. We have a street right now that runs parallel to Granger. It is Old Granger Road and is about 700 feet long. That street is absolutely obliterated. We need to do something.

Councilman Narduzzi asked how many people does that affect?

Economic Development Director White said there are about three or four businesses there.

Chairman Crooks said, can that machine take care of it?

Service Director Snyderburn said, no, this needs to be a grind and overlay – 700 feet. We need to do the cemetery, and I'm getting prices on it right now.

Chairman Crooks said the Planning Commission caucus will be coming in here soon, so if you can put together a list of the top ten streets that you think need attention. All I want to do is answer the question, what are we going to do in 2009 when it comes to streets?

Director Snyderburn said, we will put that number in there for you.

Councilman Grendel asked will those numbers include the engineering?

Director Snyderburn asked Don Ramm his opinion?

Engineering Coordinator Don Ramm said these are construction numbers.

Chairman Crooks said, it would be helpful if we had total construction costs.

Director Snyderburn said we could add a percentage for engineering.

Engineering Coordinator Don Ramm said it is listed in some spreadsheets that have a breakdown with an "E" for engineering.

Director Snyderburn said, we can do that.

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Chairman Crooks said, and then we'll call a meeting before the Council Meeting next week.

Engineering Coordinator Don Ramm said, engineering on a lot of these maintenance will be pretty minimal for resurfacing, minor resurfacing.

Director Snyderburn left the meeting. Chairman Crooks thanked him for attending.

Chairman Crooks said, John, do you want to hit the last three of these top five that you have here.

Finance Director Veres said Acorn is a potential. Chestnut Road Bridge is for sidewalks over I-77.

Councilman Grendel asked, do you think you can get that money from the State, Issue 1? If that comes through, we'd have to do it.

Engineering Coordinator Don Ramm said that would be \$150,000 and half of that would be \$75,000 out of pocket.

Councilman Grendel stated if we get the Issue 1 money, then I think that would be half of the cost right there.

Chairman Crooks said, when are we going to know that?

Engineering Coordinator Don Ramm said, I believe the first week in December.

Councilman Grendel said the Old Rockside Road Bridge has been on the Issue 1 list for a long time. Do you think you have a chance?

Economic Development Director White said, it's been climbing in its scoring. Last year we had two opportunities to take advantage of Issue I monies and we declined. One was an all loan, another was a combination of loan and grant.

Finance Director Veres asked, are you talking about the Old Rockside Road Bridge?

Economic Development Director White said yes.

Finance Director Veres asked, did we apply this year?

Economic Development Director White said yes.

Councilman Grendel said we have applied every year for four or five years.

Engineering Coordinator Don Ramm said the total project cost was pushing \$4 million and I believe that we asked for a grant of \$1 million and a loan. Our share was going to be \$1 million

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plus a loan of \$675,000, so that \$2.5 million is probably not accurate. If we get the grant it would be \$1.6 million. That would be a loan over 20 years, so you would have to front end it in 2009. It would be a zero interest loan over 20 years for \$675,000. The cash was a little over a million that we put on the application.

Finance Director Veres said that helps.

Councilman Grendel said I think if that opportunity came through we would have to do it, because that bridge is not getting any better.

Economic Development Director White said it's deteriorating.

Councilman Grendel said, that is critical to those businesses on the other side.

Economic Development Director White said even if we built the emergency ramp for which we are getting monies to study and do engineering.

Councilman Grendel said, would that be a temporary thing?

Economic Development Director White said no, that would be a permanent ramp, but it would be for emergencies, such as flooding, not for operations.

Chairman Crooks said, Don, going back to the Chestnut Road bridge and sidewalk, we are fairly confident that we are going to get the \$75,000?

Engineering Coordinator Don Ramm said, I didn't say that.

Councilman Grendel said we never know.

Chairman Crooks said, okay, so we never know.

Economic Development Director White said it is competitive.

Finance Director Veres asked, Don, did you put it together?

Engineering Coordinator Don Ramm replied yes.

Councilman Grendel said they are doing work on I-77, though they might decide not to give you some funding.

Finance Director Veres said the way that they were submitting them, it was just a joke. We sat down with the county, and they were like, they don't do what we ask them to do. So that is why you never scored high.

Councilman Piteo asked about the letter that Council received in their packets.

Finance Director Veres said, what, finishing 17<sup>th</sup> of, which letter, that one?

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Councilman Piteo replied yes.

Finance Director Veres replied yes.

Chairman Crooks said, John, Old Rockside Road evacuation. Are we keeping \$1 million in there?

Councilman Narduzzi said can we talk about that in Streets and Sidewalks? I don't see why we can't use the cemetery?

Finance Director Veres said that is what I was going to say.

Councilman Narduzzi said it serves the same purpose.

Councilman Togliatti said I just came down the other way, and that is exactly what I was thinking. It just needs a grind and overlay.

Finance Director Veres asked, did you travel that?

Councilman Togliatti said yes.

Finance Director Veres said I never have, but I am saying for an emergency purpose.

Councilman Narduzzi said I went up it the other day. It's full of potholes.

Finance Director Veres said, we can fix the potholes for less than \$1 million. It's for an emergency purpose.

Chairman Crooks said, so that number needs to be updated then?

Finance Director Veres said, probably eliminated, or I should say it may be changed to repairing the road that exists.

Councilman Grendel stated I know that the Mayor has been pushing that for many years.

Finance Director Veres said, I don't understand why, though. I never knew that road existed that you went down.

Economic Development Director Ron White said, Mr. Chairman I just wanted to make you aware that the Caucus for Planning Commission has been advanced to 6:15 p.m., so that you are aware.

Crooks said, thanks Ron.

John Veres said, \$50,000 of what, the one million?

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Economic Development Director Ron White said, there is a grant that the county from the Department of Development is providing us with \$50,000 to do planning, studying, whatever level of engineering we need to do.

Councilman Piteo asked do you think an ambulance or fire truck could get up that hill?

Councilman Narduzzi responded that Service Department trucks used to get up there.

Councilman Piteo stated I haven't been on it.

Chairman Crooks said, so we are going to put a new number in that \$1 million dollar line item for the Rockside Road evacuation?

Finance Director Veres said, yes, I would put a question mark and maybe put cemetery access road. What do we call that road now?

Councilman Piteo said, probably service road.

Chairman Crooks said, I would prefer to put a conservative number than a question mark.

Finance Director Veres said, so to repair the cemetery service roadway.

Engineering Coordinator Don Ramm said, I think we received an estimate from Allega earlier this spring for white topping, similar to what we did on the parking lot out here with eight inches of concrete. For some reason \$50,000 is ringing a bell.

Several people speaking at once.

Councilman Grendel said is that for the road that goes up?

Engineering Coordinator Don Ramm said, they would pour concrete on top of what's out there.

Councilman Grendel responded that makes sense. I'd rather do that. I don't want to see a truck going up to Rockside Road.

Councilman Narduzzi commented that would be for total evacuation. You could have a gate there. You can't get to it because of the gate at the City's body shop.

Engineering Coordinator Don Ramm said, I believe that the Issue 2 with the issue also, with the cemetery ramps, I think when it floods down there, I think there is some flooding that occurs between Commerce Park Oval and that ramp or a section maybe east of Commerce Park Oval and the bridge, so that it is not always fully accessible, I don't believe, to anybody down there. That might be one of the issues there, the cemetery, getting over there from all points in that area. I believe that this is part of that. I believe that actual physical pavement and fill for the ramp was \$300,000, \$400,000 or \$500,000, and the other \$.5 million was for some drainage.

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Finance Director Veres asked, doesn't the Mayor have other ideas about the drainage issues down there, that would increase the bank height, would solve that issue of being able to access the emergency exit?

Engineering Coordinator Don Ramm replied, yes that is going to come out in the big 205 Study and the Army Corp study. There are ideas, preliminary designs to do some of those things.

Finance Director Veres asked, a pump station or something?

Engineering Coordinator Don Ramm replied right, the pump, the levies.

Councilman Narduzzi said, yes, there are major levies being put in to trap the flooding so it wouldn't spread past underneath Rockside Road and the Mayor had big ideas down there, big plans.

Finance Director Veres said, some of that \$1 million could be used for those types of flooding plans.

Engineering Coordinator Don Ramm said, the problem with those projects are the studies take three years, and anything that comes out of that will be another two or three years to design and build something.

Councilman Narduzzi said, we passed legislation for some money to study those plans I believe, grant some of these monies to give us studies on it.

Several people speaking at once.

Chairman Crooks said, so as it relates to 2009 we are going to take out Old Rockside Road evacuation. We are going to insert cemetery access road and put a dollar amount of \$100,000, is that right?

Engineering Coordinator Don Ramm replied said I would be uncomfortable removing it.

Finance Director Veres said, just maybe put it to a different year, add a new line maybe, cemetery service, cemetery access road.

Chairman Crooks said, so you are saying Don, leave Old Rockside evacuation and leave \$1 million. I am trying to put it in the context of 2009, \$1 million in 2009 for the evacuation?

Engineering Coordinator Don Ramm said, I would be uncomfortable taking it off, only because we received some grant money for doing something down there, and I don't think it was applicable to just overlaying some streets you already had there.

Economic Development Director Ron White said, it was specifically targeted for this emergency exit ramp.

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Finance Director Veres asked does it have to be in 2009?

Economic Development Director Ron White replied we're probably going to receive it for this year and they would like to see it.

Councilman Narduzzi said, if you do that, then you don't need the \$100,000 for the cemetery.

Chairman Crooks said, okay it sounds like that we are leaving it.

Engineering Coordinator Don Ramm said, I can investigate the numbers, see if we can come down a little bit or something.

Chairman Crooks said, and maybe let John know before the end of the week, are you going to send out another one this Friday?

Finance Director Veres replied I don't think this Friday because I am going to the conference tomorrow, Thursday and Friday, so following the Council Meeting. I can either do one maybe mid week for you next week.

Chairman Crooks said, okay, and we are going to be pressured to do this next year, Don?

Engineering Coordinator Don Ramm said, I think we receive calls every two or three weeks from the county wanting to know the status of the project.

Finance Director Veres said, what about that bridge, is that under the same time frame, Old Rockside Bridge or a different?

Engineering Coordinator Don Ramm said, that is probably going to be 2010 - if we get the grant you mean?

Finance Director Veres replied yes.

Engineering Coordinator Don Ramm replied yes, by the time to design it, to get the permits from the Army Corp because of new river crossing.

Finance Director Veres asked, so I can move that over?

Engineering Coordinator Don Ramm said, right, construction of that.

Economic Development Director Ron White said, we may have to because of the funding though; we may have to get started as least something on the project in 2009. It may not be the construction.

Finance Director Veres said, but we won't need to pay out \$1 million in 2009.

Engineering Coordinator Don Ramm replied no, the design would start in 2009.

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Economic Development Director Ron White stated the design would have to start in 2009 to get the project started.

Chairman Crooks said, just to go back up to Chestnut Road Bridge and sidewalk, this is a definite 2009 project?

Engineering Coordinator Don Ramm said, if we get the grant.

Councilman Grendel added if we get the grant by December.

Finance Director Veres stated with the Old Rockside bridge coming back to that, (\$100,000) in 2009 and \$900,000 in 2010, then it shows \$600,000 as a loan. Is \$100,000 enough for the study?

Engineering Coordinator Don Ramm said, if you put in here, type numbers here in these columns.

Finance Director Veres said, yes, I am assuming that is what the \$100,000 will be for - the prep work for the plan.

Engineering Coordinator Don Ramm replied, yes that will probably be accurate.

Chairman Crooks said, so you are going to put \$100,000 in 2009 for the bridge.

Finance Director Veres replied \$900,000 in 2010, and \$600,000 as a loan.

Chairman Crooks said, and for Chestnut Road Bridge and sidewalk, if we get the grant we are going to do it, if we don't get the grant we are not going to do it in 2009?

Engineering Coordinator Don Ramm replied, if we decide to do it, it would be one hundred percent the City's cost to correct that safety issue.

Chairman Crooks said, I should rephrase the question, if we don't get the grant from your professional opinion, there is a need to do this in 2009, is there a need to do this in 2009? Is this a need for Chestnut Road Bridge and sidewalk? Is this a safety issue?

Engineering Coordinator Don Ramm said, yes, definitely. There is gentleman in a wheelchair, he is forced to go out in the street, people don't like riding their bikes across it because the handle bars are so tight. It could be a lot better situation.

John Veres said, so worst case scenario, I should leave the \$150,000, right?

Chairman Crooks said yes.

Councilman Narduzzi asked that is the cost of it, \$150,000?

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Engineering Coordinator Don Ramm said, yes. There was the bridge components and then work on the approaches.

Councilman Narduzzi asked, Don in your opinion, if we didn't get it in 2009, is there a possibility of getting it in 2010?

Engineering Coordinator Don Ramm replied we have to see how they scored, where they ranked. If it was really badly we will probably never submit again, because it is purely an ADA accessibility issue.

Councilman Narduzzi said, you could put an asterisk by that, because if it is ranked high and we don't get it, and there is still a chance for 2010, I would wait a year to save that kind of money.

Engineering Coordinator Don Ramm said, we thought that it would tie in nicely if we were able to resurface all of Chestnut, do this bridge work in front of that and then resurface the whole road and make for a nice project. It would open up some sight issues with the interior fence being removed.

Councilman Grendel asked, is that what the \$200,000 is for, the resurfacing, then?

Engineering Coordinator Don Ramm replied, yes, and that number might be a little low. That's just a resurfacing.

Councilman Narduzzi asked is that 2009 or 2010?

Councilman Grendel replied it's 2009.

Chairman Crooks, why don't we do one more on this list, then we will refer back to Dave Snyderburn's list as he gets it to us and the last one being Rockside Road and Westcreek to I-77. There are question marks there; my goal is try to eliminate these question marks. I don't like question marks personally.

Engineering Coordinator Don Ramm replied, I have been trying to work on this in the last week and go through trying to fill in numbers where there are question marks.

Councilman Grendel responded not very far. I don't know how much room we have.

Finance Director Veres said West Creek to I-77?

Councilman Grendel said, east of the gas station probably, although is the gas station going to be eliminated?

Economic Development Director Ron White responded they would go all the way back to Summit.

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Councilman Grendel stated it's very difficult there now with signs and everything else. I think it would cost pretty much if we start back there.

Engineering Coordinator Don Ramm replied we're having a traffic consultant study that to see if it's justified.

Economic Development Director Ron White said, there is another option that is brewing, and that is with Seven Hills moving ahead with their Sora Hills project, TranSystems have been engaged by Seven Hills to take a look at the whole system here and it may be that this is not needed, but that is not saying that we would not want to keep it here. There may be a study that they do that would help alleviate the need for it. Right now it looks like there is a need for it.

Finance Director Veres asked do we have any idea on the cost?

Councilman Grendel responded said, I know that there will be a lot of stuff moved in front of that first office building that is there. It leads right up to the street.

Finance Director Veres asked are there signs?

Councilman Grendel replied there are a lot of things that would have to be done.

Economic Development Director Ron White added signs and there are some utility boxes there.

Councilman Grendel said, it wouldn't be cheap that is for sure. The closer you get there is more room but not all the way back to the intersection.

Finance Director Veres said, I think anything would help.

Councilman Grendel said, and maybe even look at options on the other side of the gas station.

Finance Director Veres said, you know how they added the fourth lane coming off the highway before the construction. That was only about the same length that we are talking about adding there.

Councilman Grendel said, I don't think from the Summit Park Drive but possibly go farther east that might make sense.

Finance Director Veres asked, could you maybe divide that cost up, Don when you get the study back?

Engineering Coordinator Don Ramm replied yes. Elewski did a preliminary one. One with four, five or six cars, and another one that may be eleven or twelve which kind of almost doubled the length and we're looking at both those options. I think we are going to have Arcadis look at it.

Finance Director Veres asked, all the way to West Creek is more than twelve cars, isn't it?

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Engineering Coordinator Don Ramm said yes, even the longer option that they did only took them to BP. I think they tried to stay away from right-of-way issues and acquisition.

Chairman Crooks said, so you are going to come up with a number to replace the question marks as soon as you can?

Engineering Coordinator Don Ramm said, yes. A lot of them I have already kind of scratched in. I am trying to get something to Maggie.

Finance Director Veres asked above a million, under a million, under a half million?

Engineering Coordinator Don Ramm said, I think that one they had \$80,000 or \$100,000, somewhere in there.

Finance Director Veres said, just to give us an idea.

Chairman Crooks asked, how much?

Councilman Narduzzi replied \$80,000 or \$100,000.

Councilman Grendel asked would this be TIF eligible?

Finance Director Veres replied yes. I would maybe put \$250,000 then.

Engineering Coordinator Don Ramm replied, I have the number in the file.

Finance Director Veres said, to be conservative.

Chairman Crooks said, let's wrap with looking at these last three figures in 2009 and then I will make a motion to adjourn. We have Chestnut Road, Hillside Road, lower Brookside under major street resurfacing, and all I want to do is ask the question, need or want? Is there a safety need here? I understand that Dave Snyderburn is not here, but we will take notes and compare it to what he provides to us. Then, we will have done what John has asked us to do, go through all of the projects street-wise for 2009. Chestnut Road major street resurfacing, is this a need, is there a safety concern on Chestnut Road? Councilman Togliatti lives there.

Councilman Grendel said, Chestnut is probably not as much as Hillside. It would be nice but it is not an urgent.

Councilman Togliatti agreed and stated not as much as Hillside or Brookside.

Chairman Crooks said, have we talked about Chestnut Road, I am assuming it would be from Route 21 to the Seven Hills line?

Engineering Coordinator Don Ramm said, yes.

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Finance Director Veres asked grind and replace?

Engineering Coordinator Don Ramm replied yes – mill and fill, surface treatment.

Councilman Grendel stated possibly they can do the bridge next year and have the resurfacing for 2010.

Several people speaking at once.

Chairman Crooks said, so that would make sense if we were able to do the bridge and the sidewalk. The Chestnut Road Bridge and sidewalk in 2009, provided that we get the grant. Then we would resurface it the following year, 2010.

Councilman Grendel said, that would make sense.

Chairman Crooks said, is there some logic to that, Don?

Engineering Coordinator Don Ramm said, if you want to spread it out a couple years?

Chairman Crooks said, take the \$200,000 and move it to 2010 and again, these are tentative decisions. We are all going to have the opportunity to come back in and weigh in on it, but by way of determining a need versus a want.

Councilman Narduzzi asked, I would do the street before I did the bridge.

Councilman Grendel replied do the bridge first.

Engineering Coordinator Don Ramm said, there is some deterioration, and it hasn't been done since the late eighties, early nineties. It has been a while. It has held up pretty well, actually for as long as it has been.

Chairman Crooks said, there is an agreement that with Hillside Road east and lower Brookside they are a definite?

Councilman Grendel replied yes.

Chairman Crooks stated with lower Brookside, we are talking about the same conditions? I know that Hillside is clear in my mind, but lower Brookside is similar to lower Hillside?

Engineering Coordinator Don Ramm replied yes, very.

Councilman Grendel commented I would probably put Hillside first.

Several people speaking agreement.

Councilman Grendel said, Chestnut is a smaller area.

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Engineering Coordinator Don Ramm said, I got the number \$350,000. I scratched out the \$250,000 and put it to \$350,000. It was going to be a recycling project using some of the unit costs. Do you have \$250,000 listed?

Finance Director Veres replied, yes, that's from Route 21 to?

Engineering Coordinator Don Ramm said, from Bramley to Riverview. From Bramley to Route 21 is in pretty good shape.

Finance Director Veres said I think Hillside, from Route 21 up to a certain point, is in pretty good shape too, maybe up to the first curve.

Councilman Togliatti said, it is pretty rough around that new development that they just put in.

Councilman Piteo added said, the sides of the street are starting to crumble.

Councilman Narduzzi said, if it was me, I would put lower Hillside before lower Brookside because lower Brookside you are servicing a dozen residents from that point, from Bramley down. It's a big cut through, but it is not for Independence. Those people cutting through there are going to Brecksville.

Councilman Piteo commented, they don't go down Pleasant Valley because the signal is not working properly.

Engineering Coordinator Don Ramm said there might be some funding available to that National Park because some of that lower Hillside is in the National Park property and they might get a little funny about our resurfacing there.

Finance Director Veres stated so Hillside is from Route 21 to the where they did the repair at top of the hill. Is \$240,000 still good, Don?

Engineering Coordinator Don Ramm said, I think so. I think that was an actual estimate that we got.

Chairman Crooks said, why don't we take this information that we discussed here tonight and identify what we are going to do in 2009. Take a look at all these streets, they are on this list because they are on the radar screen for one reason or another. We did have an opportunity to go through these and look at 2009 and say this is a safety issue and this is not. This can be pushed up to next year, this cannot, we need to take care of this issue now, we can't wait. This is all I am suggesting. If we can summarize this in some way, John, maybe match it with, or blend it with what Dave Snyderburn puts together, then I think we are closer. We defined an upper limit going into this meeting for streets, John. You had \$8.8 million in the budget for 2009. I think that we pared that back.

Finance Director Veres stated I didn't create that limit.

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Councilman Grendel said, with Chestnut, if we score low on that, then it is something the City has to do, maybe plan that for 2010 and then have the Chestnut repaving in 2011 because it is not even that dire, like Brookside and Hillside are more dire, and you could probably stretch out that for 2011.

Finance Director Veres asked, what about, you mentioned you were going to Riverview Road, what about right at the top of the hill to Riverview Road?

Engineering Coordinator Don Ramm replied, that is shot, too.

Chairman Crooks said, it is horrible, it is bad and I think school buses go on that road.

Councilman Piteo said, I would go as far and say that even the guardrails on that road are not even working right now, going down that hill. They're not updated.

Finance Director Veres stated, we need to write that down.

Chairman Crooks asked, would that be a major street resurface project?

Finance Director Veres replied yes. I bet that is going to be on Dave's list as the top ten.

Chairman Crooks said we can make the motion to adjourn, and we will come back again. We had this meeting in the first place because John has asked for Council's input, that is why we are here today. He has asked us to discuss it, deliberate it, and come up with some final answers on it. Then come back with this all cleaned up based on what we talked about, match it with what Dave puts together and we will try to work closer to a final number for streets as it applies to the Five-Year Capital Improvement Plan. Are you comfortable with that John?

Finance Director Veres said yes, I am happy with our progress in this meeting.

**Moved by Crooks, seconded by Grendel, to adjourn the Finance Committee Meeting. Voice Vote: Yes 2 /0 no; motion carried.**

There being no further business to discuss, the Finance Committee Meeting was adjourned at 5:33 p.m.

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Gayle Rudary, Pro Tem Clerk of Council

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