

2006

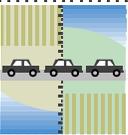


- 2008 Citywide Priorities

As part of the biannual “Priority Calendar” process, the City Council established Citywide priorities from the entire workload before the City. These are the significant projects in terms of the time and resources devoted to them, as well as their visibility and impact on the community. They transcend the annual timeframe of the Priority Calendar and are the priorities for the Council during its entire two-year tenure (even though some may take longer than two years to complete, significant progress is expected in that timeframe).

The following chart provides updated information on the ten Citywide priorities.

ISSUE	CURRENT STATUS
<p><b>Update the General Plan</b></p> 	<p>This project entails a multi-year, outside-consultant assisted, comprehensive update to the City's General Plan Elements, and Specific Plans. Staff will utilize the (2003) City-wide Visioning Efforts product as a springboard to commencing work on modifications to the General Plan <i>Land Use</i> and <i>Housing</i> Elements, and Downtown Specific Plan revisions, as part of the initial stages of the General Plan Update work program during FY2006-07 and FY 2007-08.</p>
<p><b>Harbor Industrial Area Annexation Strategy</b></p>	 <p>The City Council has adopted a strategy to complete the annexation of the Harbor Industrial Area. A Council subcommittee has been appointed and is working with HIA representatives on the key issues as a prelude to potential annexation.</p>
<p><b>Economic Development</b></p> 	<p>The City continues to implement its comprehensive Economic Development program. The program includes three distinct strategies. Those strategies include targeting specific sites for economic development (business recruitment), annexing the Harbor Industrial Area (business recruitment and retention), and offering a host of services to the business community to encourage business retention and growth.</p> <p>The target sites have been identified as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Village Center</u> – Block boundaries are Ralston, El Camino Real, Emmet and Sixth.</li> <li>• <u>Fire House Square</u> – Block boundaries are O’Neill, El Camino Real, Broadway and Fifth.</li> <li>• <u>Belmont Station</u> – Block boundaries are Old County Road, Masonic, Hiller and Ralston.</li> <li>• <u>Shoreway Place</u> – Area in vicinity of Ralston and 101 (Hobies, Motel 6, Lumber Yard) along the Freeway 101 frontage.</li> </ul> <p>Initial staff and City Council Economic Development Committee focus has been on Fire House Square and Shoreway Place.</p>
<p><b>Redevelopment Priorities</b></p> 	<p>A five-year spending plan for Redevelopment is adopted annually by Council. Planning work for under-grounding of utilities on Old County Road has begun. Construction is expected to begin in 2007/08. Other projects include a façade rebate reimbursement program to assist commercial property owners improve their building exteriors, landscaping improvements along main corridors, and replacement of decorative paving along the sidewalks in the downtown area. As the Economic Development strategies are refined and adopted, the RDA capital plan is adjusted to accommodate the directives of the Directors.</p>

<p><b>Parking Issues</b></p>		<p>This project is to review and develop a comprehensive parking management strategy for both on and off-street parking in the commercial business areas of the City.</p>
<p><b>Build a Bike/Pedestrian Bridge over 101</b></p> 	<p>The environmental assessment for the Bike/Pedestrian bridge has been completed and reviewed by Caltrans. The final plans, specifications and cost estimates are being reviewed by Caltrans for final comments. The new federal legislation (SAFETEA-LU) has designated \$2.6 million for the construction of the project. The federal funds were secured by Congresswoman Eshoo. The City has an existing \$500,000 grant and \$400,000 is proposed to be funded by Park Funds. The City has been applying for various grants for the balance needed to complete the funding for this \$6 million project.</p>	
<p><b>Emmett House Relocation and Renovation</b></p>		<p>The Redevelopment Agency gave direction to staff to prepare a project for relocating the Emmett House to its vacant lot at Sixth and O'Neill for remodeling/refurbishment. Relocation/reconstruction is expected to begin in October 2007.</p>
<p><b>Improvements to Development Review Process</b></p> 	<p>The "one-stop" Permit Center has been operational for four and one-half years and is open in its permanent location on the first floor of City Hall. The Council convened a Permit Efficiency Task Force (PETF) to explore additional improvements and efficiencies to the City's permit services (building, zoning, engineering and business licenses). The PETF presented its efficiency recommendations to the Council on October 25, 2005. The Council gave direction to staff to implement all "low &amp; no-cost items"; staff has been implementing such recommendations with full completion expected by year (2007) end. Staff will also commence work on <i>Design Guidelines</i> during FY2007-08, which was targeted as a high a priority by the Council in the Spring 06 Priority Calendar review.</p>	
<p><b>Park Development Master Plan</b></p> 	<p>Initial focus is on master plan development of Davey Glen Park. The project involves the design and development of a one-acre park site on Davey Glen Road. The neighborhood park could include such amenities as picnic areas, playground equipment, benches, fencing and landscaping.</p>	
<p><b>Other Projects</b></p>	<p><i>The City will be working in the following additional areas:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Solar Energy</li> <li>• Updates to the City's Municipal Code</li> <li>• Smoking Ordinance</li> <li>• Garbage Franchise</li> <li>• Update of Technology Master Plan</li> <li>• Sewer Rate Setting Model</li> <li>• Photo Red Light Cameras</li> <li>• Park and Open Space Master Plan</li> <li>• Speed Hump Policy</li> <li>• Pavement Management Policy</li> </ul>	

Updates of this document and the Priority Calendar are posted on the City Clerk's page of the City's website: [www.belmont.gov](http://www.belmont.gov). For more information on any of these issues, please contact the City Manager's Office at 595-7408 or [cmanager@belmont.gov](mailto:cmanager@belmont.gov).