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**FEBRUARY 4, 2019**

**NEWS RELEASE**

## **City Delivering on Expediting Street, Parks and Public Safety Improvements**

Advancements Prompt Reprogramming of Capital Improvement Project Listings

**EL PASO, Texas** – Street improvements, parks and public safety projects have been taking shape all over El Paso and more work is planned.

Today, City Council approved a recommendation by the Capital Improvement Department to allow the reprogramming of remaining capital improvement funds to keep advancing planned improvements to parks, streets and public safety.

“Bottom line is we are being fiscally responsible,” Capital Improvement Department Director Sam Rodriguez said. “By actively managing the Capital Improvement Program we are able to identify savings and square project listings to ensure that we are maximizing our resources while rolling out public works projects in an efficient and expeditious manner.”

The reprogramming request presented to Council allows the department to make whole funding for the Edgemere and RC Poe roundabout project in far East El Paso, expedite \$17.9 million in parks and library quality of life bond projects, meet funding needs of three neighborhood water parks, and renovate the Leo Cancellare pool in West El Paso.

The City has completed 90 bond projects approved by voters in 2012. Another 13 projects are under construction and 24 more are in design. The advances the City has made over the past year in rolling out the bond program enables it to start the remaining park and library projects in 2020, some three years ahead of schedule.

The Edgemere and RC Poe roundabout is estimated to cost \$2.4 million of which \$1.5 million will come from the 2012 Streets Capital Improvement Plan. The plan is on track to be completed by 2021 and calls for all remaining street reconstruction projects will start construction this year.

The City added the Leo Cancellare pool located adjacent to the Westside Natatorium to the capital project listing to extend the useful life of the pool built in the 1970s. The renovation projected to cost approximately \$2.8 million will allow the facility to better serve the community’s needs and serve as a critical companion to the Westside Natatorium 50-meter pool. The neighborhood water parks began design in 2018 and their costs were adjusted during their design phase as a result of community input and other factors, such as increases to utility requirements.

The Leo Cancellare pool renovations and funding adjustments for the neighborhood water parks in Central, Northeast and Mission Valley are being met through the reallocation of City investment revenues, other project savings, and funding from the neighborhood water park in West El Paso. The waterpark in West El Paso will remain programmed but unfunded until the City purchases land for the project.

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