

**City Manager's office and City Clerk: Please include this Supplemental under Item-1 of the 7-PM, April 30, 2019, adjourned-Regular City Council meeting. Thank You.**

April 29, 2019

**To:** Hermosa Beach City Council (Stacey Armato, Mary Campbell Collins, Hany Fangary, Justin Massey, and Jeff Duclos), City Clerk, and City Manager.

**From:** Howard Longacre, Hermosa Beach Resident.

**Re: Removal of the fiscal-year-prefix from each CIP project's number. Please Restore!**

Honorable Councilmembers and others:

**The following comments by me are given freely, and they are entirely my views and opinions on all that I've stated herein.**

The agenda item is primarily to consider the "**Capital Improvement Program**" (CIP) **projects** being recommended for inclusion in the City's fiscal year 2019-2020 Budget which runs 7/1/2019 thru 6/30/2020. Many if not most are carry-overs from prior fiscal years.

The April 30, 2019 Agenda is found at the following link. (If past this date when you are reviewing this, check the Council-tab archives at this same link for the date.)

["http://hermosabeach.granicus.com/ViewPublisher.php?view\\_id=6"](http://hermosabeach.granicus.com/ViewPublisher.php?view_id=6)

The **Staff Report** direct link for the item is;

["FISCAL YEAR 2019-20 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM"](#) .

Each individual CIP project itself is included as a separate sheet in;

["2019-20 Proposed CIP Project Description Sheets.pdf"](#).

**Here is the significant problem that unnecessarily has been introduced this year:**

**Someone(s) has(have)** decided to remove the fiscal year prefix from each CIP project number, i.e. the fiscal year that each project first appeared in an adopted fiscal year Budget. No doubt whomever did that will indicate some "good reason" for doing such, however it is very clear it was done to hide the fact that so many of these CIP projects, which were supposedly to be accomplished and/or significantly-underway in their first announced fiscal year, have been unconscionably delayed year-after-year, and have been just rolled into each subsequent fiscal year. This really is outrageous that there apparently is an attempt being made to manipulate the facts by removing the fiscal-year prefix from the project numbers to deceive the public, the press, the staff, and future councils.

Here is the direct Finance Department link to the ["Adopted" 2018-2019 CIP Projects](#) as they appeared in the current year's adopted 2018-2019 Budget, as adopted in June of 2018. Note scroll down to get to the similar CIP project sheets. The CIP projects in this document still include the underlying original fiscal year prefix with each CIP project number. I.e., in the form of FY-XXX where 'FY-' is the fiscal initial year prefix, and XXX is the CIP project number.

### **The Fiscal Year numbers should be restored to the CIP project numbers!**

It's unfortunate that someone would essentially scheme (and I mean scheme) to remove the fiscal year prefix number, clearly to hide the information about how long a CIP project has been delayed from the time of initial activation in an adopted budget, and notwithstanding that some individual CIP projects are modified from time to time, or year to year.

I don't recall this significant change being announced in a regular Council meeting, thus if this was directed by the City Council or if this was done serially with consultation of the City Manager polling the councilmembers, it's just rotten to the core.

This fiscal year prefix needs to be restored to each CIP project, and a clear history needs to exist with each CIP project sheet showing its entire history, with year to year expenditures and smoke-and-mirrors rotation and assignment of funds to each project included in each CIP sheet, not in the monthly CIP status report, and not with only the prior year's funds remaining and rolling over being shown. The entire history should remain on these CIP project sheets.

These CIP projects have had an incredible and outrageous history of smoke and mirrors games from year to year as long as I can recollect, and especially with the announcements from year to year of all the capital improvement money that's to be expended in the new year with each adopted Budget, when much if not most of it remains unspent money from the prior year when a similar disingenuous statement was made and which the press is then expected to report. Thus removing the initial fiscal year prefix from each project number is just the latest deception.

Do not accept any baloney that this makes things easier from department to department. This prefix was about the most useful piece of information in the CIP project number.

\*\*\* End of written communication. \*\*\*