



**OFFICE OF THE  
CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER  
OFFICE OF BUDGET**

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## **MEMORANDUM**

**To:** Council Member Gabriela Santiago-Romero  
**From:** Donnie Johnson, Deputy Budget Director *DJ*  
**CC:** Alexa Bush, Director, Planning & Development Department  
**Date:** February 12, 2025  
**Re:** Response to Proposed 2024 Capital Agenda Questions

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Please find below responses to your questions regarding the proposed 2024 Capital Agenda.

- 1. There was several equipment upgrades proposed with identified funding sources while funding sources for some essential facility repairs have yet to be identified. Please explain the rationale used to prioritize funding.**
  - a. Many of our most pressing facilities issues have been, or are being, addressed with current available UTGO bond funding and ARPA funding. As we exhaust these remaining funding sources, the City will need to identify a long-term strategy for funding facilities capital assessments. This may include seeking new voter authorization for additional UTGO bonds. However, equipment is also needed to perform many of the City's critical service operations. Capital prioritization seeks to find a balance between the needs of fixed assets like facilities and more daily operation assets like vehicles, paving machines, commercial grade lawnmowers, etc.
- 2. The agenda proposes spending over \$100 million on the city airport through FY 2030. Please explain how this additional investment will benefit residents.**
  - a. Approximately 93 percent (\$103 million) of the planned capital investment at Coleman A. Young International Airport comes from restricted Federal and State dollars, which are allocated to specific FAA-approved projects.
  - b. These investments in the city airport will allow the City of maintain compliance with FAA regulations, expand the volume and type of aircraft that can use the facility, and make the airport into a center for aerospace education and development, including housing the Davis Aerospace Technical High School.
  - c. Aerospace industry development tied into this improvement of the airport and its campus will create jobs and expand opportunities for Detroiters of all ages to enter the growing aerospace industry, grow our tax base, and increase the airport's departmental revenues.

**3. What are the plans to identify additional funding sources for the proposed agenda?**

- a. The Office of Development and Grants (ODG) works continually with departments to seek out new opportunities to secure additional capital funding for the City. This includes seeking federal, state, and philanthropic funding, as well as partnerships with Wayne County, businesses, and our local sports teams.
- b. The Office of the Treasury maintains a debt millage model and remains prepared to advise on potential future debt issues, pursuant to new voter authorizations being secured in a future election.