

**New Castle Town Council Regular Meeting  
Tuesday, March 5, 2024, 7:00 PM**

**Call to Order**

Mayor Art Riddile called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Roll Call**

Present	Councilor Carey Councilor Hazelton Mayor A Riddile Councilor Copeland Councilor Leland Councilor G Riddile
---------	---

Absent	Councilor Mariscal
--------	--------------------

Also present at the meeting were Town Administrator Dave Reynolds, Town Clerk Mindy Andis, Town Treasurer Viktoriya Ehlers, Assistant Town Attorney Haley Carmer, and members of the public.

**MOTION: Mayor A. Riddile made a motion to approve Councilor Mariscal’s absence. Councilor Copeland seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.**

**Meeting Notice**

Clerk Andis verified that her office gave notice of the meeting in accordance with resolution TC 2024-1.

**Conflicts of Interest**

Councilor G. Riddile and Councilor Carey stated they would be recusing themselves from items K & L. The discussion regarding the sale of the 6<sup>th</sup> Street lot.

**Agenda Changes**

There were no agenda changes

**Citizen Comments on Items not on the Agenda**

Ms. Bronwyn Rittner, New Castle resident, voiced her concerns about the traffic on Main Street and 7<sup>th</sup> Street, 7<sup>th</sup> Street to Castle Valley Ranch, and Main Street at 7<sup>th</sup> Street to C Ave, including all the allies in between. She asked the council to consider those streets to be part of the conversation regarding traffic calming devices. There is a lot more traffic on Main Street and 7<sup>th</sup> Street and is becoming dangerous for pedestrians and children during the morning hours before school and afternoon hours after school.

**Consultant Reports**

Town Council Meeting  
Tuesday, March 5, 2024

Consultant Attorney –present for agenda items only.  
Consultant Engineer – not present

## Items for Consideration

### Update: Capital Committee Report

Administrator Reynolds said on Thursday February 1<sup>st</sup> Councilor Copeland and Councilor G. Riddile met with staff members Town Treasurer Viktoriya Ehlers, Public Works Director John Wenzel, Police Chief Chuck Burrows, Town Planner Paul Smith, Town Clerk Mindy Andis, Administrative Assistant Rochelle Firth, and Town Administrator Dave Reynolds to discuss this year's updates to the Capital Improvement Plan.

During this meeting, the team reviewed the following:

- ✓ Review of completed 2023 projects
- ✓ Status of the targeted projects which were not completed in 2023
- ✓ Total funding available for 2024 projects
- ✓ New projects to be added to our tiered capital projects list
- ✓ Review of projects which can be completed using 2024 budgeted funds
- ✓ Proposed grant strategies for projects which may be partially funded through FMLD grants
- ✓ Review of the workload and staffing needs to complete existing projects as well as 2024 proposed projects

Based on our Feb. 1<sup>st</sup> discussions the Committee feels that we have achievable goals for 2024 projects, a sensible grant strategy for 2024, and a well-conceived updated *Tiered Project List* for the near and more distant future.

Administrator Reynolds reviewed the report with the council (**Exhibit A**).

Treasurer Ehlers reviewed the budget for this year with council. She said the general fund currently unassigned fund balance for emergency reserve is at \$2.49 million which equals about 6 months. There is a remaining balance of \$498k in the general fund for future capital projects.

Councilor G. Riddile reviewed the utility fund balance and outlook from 2024-2029.

Administrator Reynolds said he has been speaking with DOLA regarding possible grant funding. He also met with USDA for low interest loan for either the office project or the southside intercept.

Councilor G. Riddile asked about Colorado River Little League where asking for \$3,500. Also, Coal Ridge High School has asked for \$1,000. Administrator Reynolds said there is a group of people who are rebuilding the town's baseball fields at Elk Creek Elementary School. They started the work last year and have approached town to work on the other two fields. The cost of the work is about \$7,000. The group has asked the town to split the cost with them. Staff feels this is a great opportunity to get the field professionally done.

Administrator Reynolds said Coal Ridge High School has approached the town to be a sponsor for \$1,000 towards a new restroom facility near their sports field. For being a

sponsor would put the name or logo stamped into the concrete.

**Executive Session (1) for the purpose of determining positions relative to matters that may be subject to negotiations, developing strategy for negotiations, and/or instructing negotiators under C.R.S Section 24-6-402(4)(e) concerning the 6<sup>th</sup> Street Lot**

**Motion: Councilor Leland made a Motion at 9:31p.m. to go into Executive Session for a conference with the Town Attorney for the purpose of receiving legal advice on specific legal questions under C.R.S. 24-6-402(4)(b) for the purpose of determining positions relative to matters that may be subject to negotiations concerning the 6<sup>th</sup> Street Lot. Mayor A. Riddile seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.**

**Executive Session for a conference with the Town Attorney for the purpose of receiving legal advice on specific legal questions under CRS Section 24-6-402(4)(b) regarding pending litigation against Castle Valley Ranch Investors**

**Motion: Councilor Leland made a Motion at 9:31p.m. to go into Executive Session for a conference with the Town Attorney for the purpose of receiving legal advice on specific legal questions under C.R.S. 24-6-402(4)(b) for the purpose of determining positions relative to matters that may be subject to negotiations concerning the 6<sup>th</sup> Street Lot. Mayor A. Riddile seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.**

Councilor G. Riddile and Councilor Carey returned at 9:44p.m.

Executive session concluded.

At the end of the executive session, Mayor Art Riddile made the following statement:

"The time is now 10:23p.m. and the executive session has been concluded. The participants in the executive sessions were: Councilor Mariscal, Councilor Carey, Councilor Hazelton; Councilors Copeland, G Riddile, Councilor Leland, Town Administrator Reynolds, Town Clerk Andis, Assistant Town Attorney Haley, Town Attorney David McConaughy and Town Treasurer Ehlers. For the record, if any person who participated in the executive session believes that any substantial discussion of any matters not included in the motion to go into the executive session occurred during the executive session, or that any improper action occurred during the executive session in violation of the Open Meetings Law, I would ask that you state your concerns for the record."

No concerns were stated.

Town Council Meeting  
Tuesday, March 5, 2024

## **Consent Agenda**

February Bills \$1,158,965.06

Kum & Go Report of Changes – Change of Manager

**MOTION: Councilor G. Riddile made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Councilor Carey seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.**

## **Staff Reports**

**Town Administrator** – Administrator Reynolds wished Councilor Carey Happy Birthday. He said on Monday, March 11, 2024, The Colorado River Valley Chamber of Commerce will be holding an event at Grand River Hospital. The town has not been invited before, but they do have the town on the agenda as the first speaker. Town staff is putting together a presentation for the event. Administrator Reynolds said Colorado River Valley Economic Development Partnership is the managers of the valley working along with AGNC, CMC, Libraries and many more organizations. There will be a three-day workshop starting tomorrow through Friday. He said the immigration issue conversation has gone in two separate directions. There is a group which wants to form a regional immigration coalition and have the town join the group. The group would tell the towns what can be done if there is an influx of immigrants. The opposing side is towns and counties are now signing resolutions declaring the town or county is a non-sanctuary town or county. Garfield County signed a resolution stating they are a non-sanctuary county. Administrator Reynolds said April 17 &18, 2024, is the Garfield County Energy Symposium which will be held in New Castle at New Hope Church. He said the town does have one ticket for the event. Administrator Reynolds reminded the council about the CML Conference in June. He reviewed the council agenda for the next meeting. He said that will be full and there will be a work session at 6pm. The work session is to interview two candidates for the municipal judge position. The land use application for TC Midwest is on the agenda for the next meeting. The expectation is there will be a lot of community members coming for the land use application. Councilor G. Riddile suggested calling for a special meeting since the agenda is large and with the land use application it's a lot for one night. The council decided to have the mayor call a special meeting for the following week if TC Midwest will be ready for council on March 19, 2024.

**Town Clerk** –Clerk Andis said she has hired someone to fill the open position in her office. Her Professional Assistant started yesterday. Therefore, her office is busy doing training. The public works department put a window in the wall between her office and the front office. She said having the window helps her to be connected to the rest of the office and with her staff.

**Town Treasurer** – Treasurer Ehlers said she has also hired an Assistant Treasurer. She is also busy training the new person. She said she has finished the financials for 2023.

**Town Planner** – not present

**Public Works Director** – not present

## **Commission Reports**

**Planning & Zoning Commission** – has not met

**Historic Preservation Commission** - has not met

**Climate and Environment Commission** – Commissioner Leland said the commission is

Town Council Meeting  
Tuesday, March 5, 2024

planning Earth Day. CEC will be buying a couple hundred water bottles with the CEC logo on them and will be passing them out on Earth Day. He had suggested getting rid of the plastic bottled water for council.

**Senior Program** - has not met

**RFTA** – Mayor A. Riddile said there is a special meeting on Thursday, March 7, 2024, regarding union issues.

**AGNC** – Councilor Hazelton said there was discussion regarding the many bills that are being presented in the senate and the house.

**GCE** - Commissioner Leland shared the annual report for 2023 (**Exhibit B**)

**EAB** - has not met

**Detox** - has not met

### **Council Comments**

Councilor Hazelton asked to have a joint meeting with P&Z Commission regarding the protocol for land use applications and how the council and commission conduct ourselves.

Councilor Leland said there needs to be some discussion regarding the green bridge at the west end of town. The town needs to do something about the green bridge once the new bridge goes in. Administrator Reynolds said the town staff has pursued a couple of ideas. One idea was using the bridge from the wastewater plant to the public works facility. Another idea was to use the side panels to create the new pedestrian bridge. The clerk's office looked into seeing if the bridge could be designated as historic. Unfortunately, once the bridge is cut up it would not qualify.

### **Items for Future Council Agenda**

**MOTION: Mayor A. Riddile made a motion to adjourn. Councilor Carey seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.**

The meeting adjourned at 9:02p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor Pro Tem Grady Hazelton

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Town Clerk Mindy Andis, CMC

Town Council Meeting  
Tuesday, March 5, 2024

Exhibit A  
to 3.5.2024 Council Minutes



# Town of New Castle

2024 Capital Improvement Plan

# 2024 Budget

## General Fund

Unassigned Fund Balance (Emergency Reserve) - \$ 2.49 Million

Remaining Balance of \$ 498,497 in General Fund assigned as "Future Capital Projects TBD."

Traffic Impact Fund - \$ 403,497 as of Feb. 29<sup>th</sup> 2024 (Lakota / CVD Related Projects only)

Long Term Capital Reserve - \$ 600,000

## Utility Fund

\$ 2,606,481 Fund Balance

\$ 1.4 Million Available for Utility Fund Capital Improvements Projects (leaving 6 months reserve)

## Conservation Trust Fund

\$ 151,021 Fund Balance Projection for Ending 2024

## American Resue Plan Act (ARPA)

\$ 240,360 Available Funds

# Proposed 2024 Capital Improvement List

## General & Conservation Trust Fund

- **Facilities**
  - Emergency Evacuation Supplies \$ 24,699
  - US 6 Roundabout Landscape Project \$650,000
  - Traffic Calming Equipment \$ 15,000
  - Town Hall Paint and Repair \$ 2,000
  - Town Hall Windows \$ 70,000
  
- **Parks**
  - Playground Equipment \$ 75,000
  
- **Streets**
  - Preventative Maintenance \$ 300,000
  - US/6 Roundabout CDOT Contract Commitment \$ 500,000
  
- **Police**
  - In Vehicle Computers \$ 150,000
  - Event and Traffic Camera Trailer System \$ 45,000
  - Breathalyzer in PD Station \$ 4,000
  - Police Department Signage \$ 5,500



# Proposed 2024 Capital Improvement List

## Utility Fund

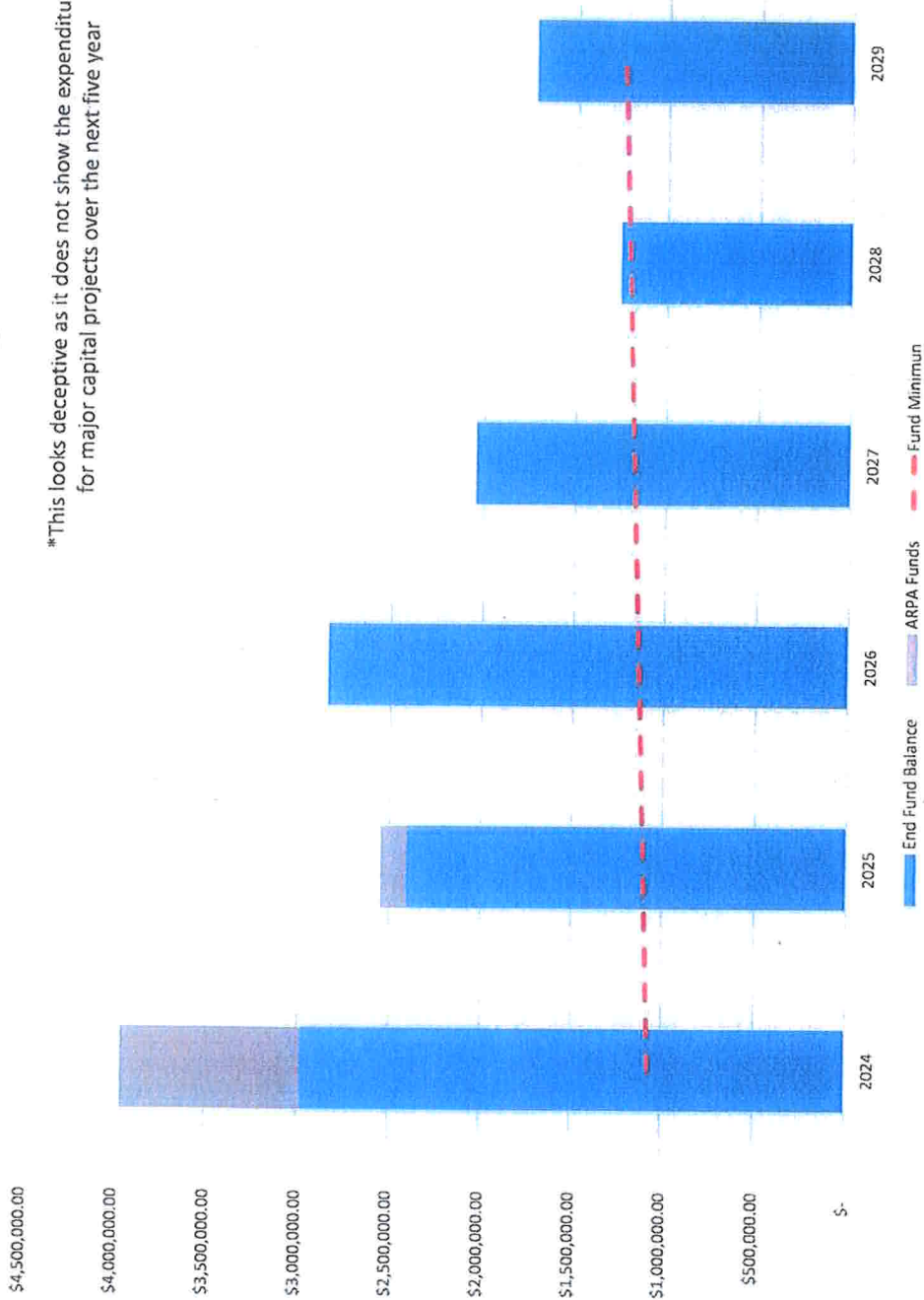
▪ Raw Water Irrigation Expansion	\$ 730,640
▪ WWTP Offices & Shop	\$ 1,500,000
▪ South Side Intercept Design	\$ 95,000
▪ Digester Blower Project	\$ 450,000

## CIP/Council Consideration

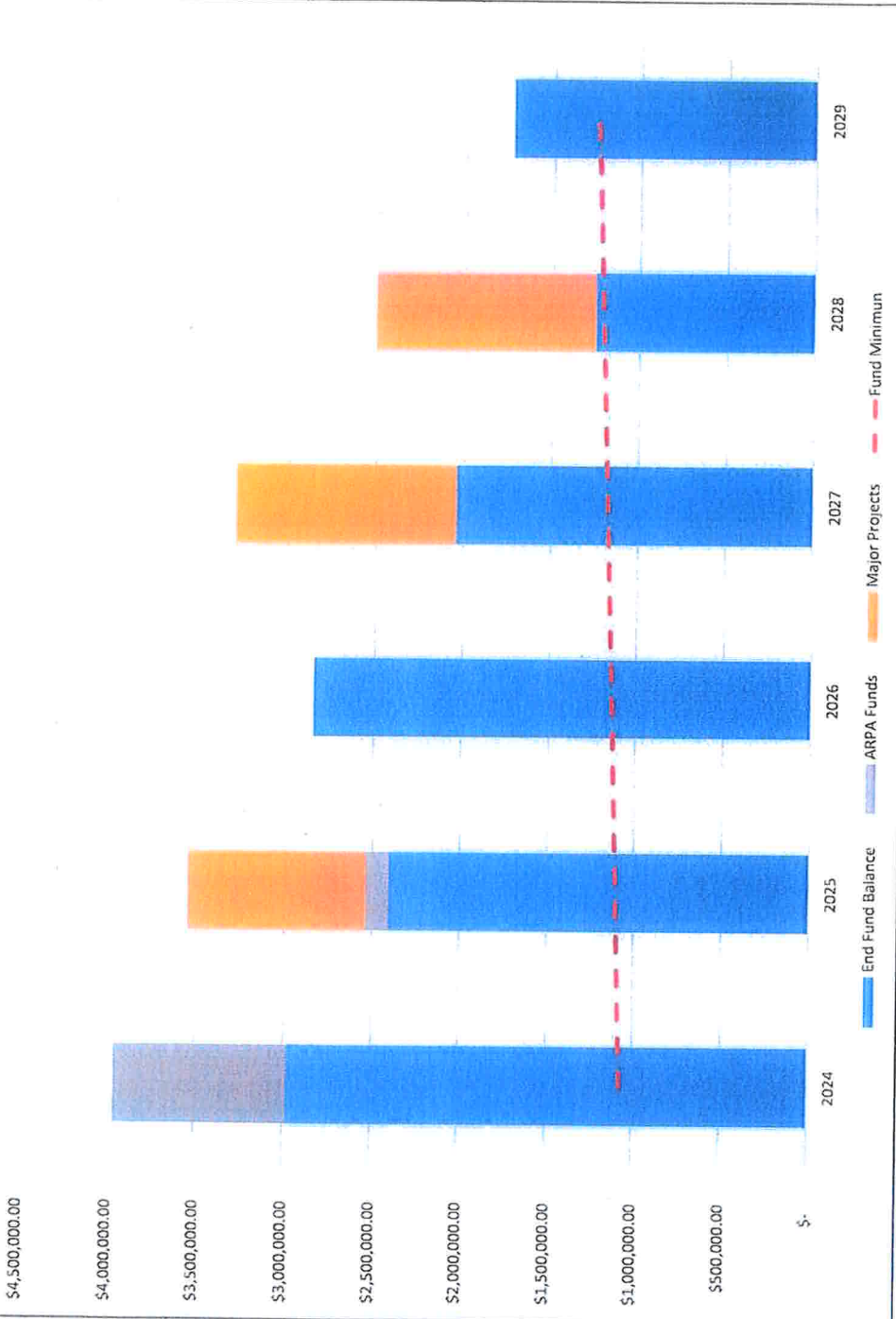
- Utility Fund
  - Upcoming high-cost projects will likely exceed Utility Fund Balances at some point in the near future. Additional revenues including Utility Rate Increases, grant funding and loans may be needed to accomplish all projects.
  - Projects Include:
    - WWTP Offices & Shop - \$ 1,500,000
    - Arsenic Infiltration Abatement Design & Construction – TBD (>\$1M)
    - South Side Intercept - \$5 Million

### Utility Fund Balance and Outlook 2024-2029

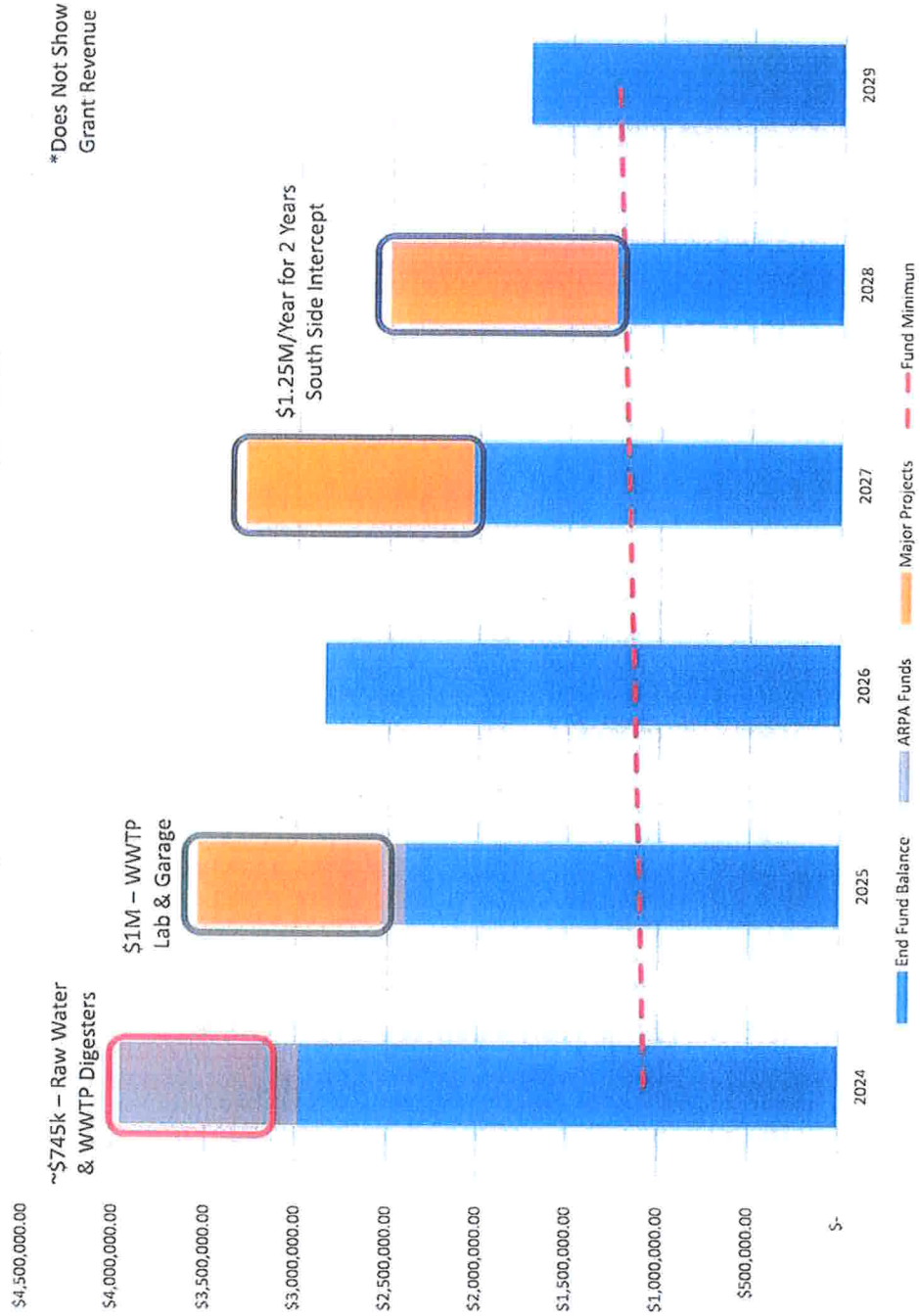
\*This looks deceptive as it does not show the expenditures for major capital projects over the next five year



### Utility Fund Balance and Outlook 2024-2029



## Utility Fund Balance and Outlook 2024-2029



# Major Utility Fund Projects

- WWTP Digester Blowers (Under Construction)
  - Total Cost: \$616,000
  - Funding Source: \$200,000 (FMLD) + \$60,000 (ARPA) + \$376,000 (ARPA)
- Raw Water Expansion (2024 Upcoming Project)
  - Total Cost: \$730,640
  - Funding Source: \$365,000 (FMLD) + \$365,640 (ARPA)
- WWTP Lab & Garage (Planned for 2025)
  - Total Cost \$1,500,000
  - Funding Source: Remaining ARPA Funds + Utility Fund + FMLD
- South Side Intercept (Planned for 2027 & 2028)
  - Total Cost: \$5,000,000
  - Funding Source: Utility Fund + FMLD

# Questions ?

## Capital Projects 2024 Project Tier List

Tier 1 Projects (Critical & Urgent)			
Funded	Department	Description	Estimate Cost
no	Streets	US6/CVB Roundabout Landscape Construction	\$650,000.00
partial	Streets	US6/CVB Roundabout CDOT Construction Match	\$500,000.00
TBD	Admin.	Town Hall Window Installation (2)	\$70,000.00
partial	Police	Police Car / Workstation Computers	\$150,000.00
no	Clerk	Internal Window at Clerk's Office	\$1,500.00
In Progress	Utilities	Digester Blower Project	\$616,000.00
In Progress	Utilities	WWTP Garage & Lab Design	\$35,000.00
In Progress	Utilities	Raw Water Irrigation Expansion	\$730,640.00
no	Utilities	WWTP Garage & Lab Construction	\$850,000.00
<b>Total Tier 1 Need:</b>			<b>\$3,603,140.00</b>

**Notes:**

**Red projects were added in 2024**    **Blue projects are to some degree in progress**  
 Black projects are existing and have not yet begun



## Capital Projects 2024 Project Tier List

Tier 2 Projects (Critical or Urgent)				
	Funded	Department	Description	Estimate Cost
	Pending	Parks	Playground Equipment Replacement Kay Williams	\$75,000.00
	TBD	Parks	Parks Monument Signs	\$16,000.00
	TBD	Streets/ PD	Traffic Calming Equipment	\$15,000.00
	no	Police	Police Station Breathalyzer Equipment	\$4,000.00
	no	Parks	Frank Breslin Memorial Park - Boatramp - Riverfront	TBD (\$2M)
	no	Streets	Formalize Sidewalk to Elk Creek Elementary School	\$350,000.00
	no	Parks	Burning Mountain Park Renovation	\$750,000.00
	no	Utilities	Raw Water Upper Ditch Pipe & Siphon Project	\$1,000,000.00
	no	Public Works	PW / PD Facility Backup Generator	\$25,000.00
In Progress	yes	Facilities	Emergency Evacuation Supplies	\$24,699.00
In Progress	yes	Facilities	Town Hall Paint & Repair	\$2,000.00
In Progress	yes	Streets	US6/CVB Roundabout Landscaping Design: Phase 1, 2, 3	\$25,000.00
	no	Police	Police Garage Design	\$10,000.00
	no	Police	Police Garage Construction	\$150,000.00
	no	Utilities	South Side Intercept Design	\$90,000.00
	no	Utilities	South Side Intercept Construction	\$5,000,000.00
	no	Utilities	Arsenic Infiltration Abatement Design	TBD (>\$100k)
	no	Utilities	Arsenic Infiltration Abatement Construction	TBD (>\$1M)
			<b>Total Tier 2 Need:</b>	<b>\$7,536,699.00</b>

**Notes:**

Red projects were added in 2024

Blue projects are to some degree in progress

Black projects are existing and have not yet begun

## Capital Projects 2024 Project Tier List

Tier 3 Projects (Non-Critical & Non-Urgent)			
Funded	Department	Description	Estimate Cost
TBD	Clerk	Reception Area Counter Top	\$1,500.00
no	Police	Police Event / Traffic Camera Trailer Unit	\$45,000.00
no	Police	Police Station Signage	\$5,500.00
no	Utilities	Bridge to Vacant Land	\$600,000.00
no	Streets	7th Street Bypass	\$3,500,000.00
no	Streets	Downtown Streetscape Projects	\$450,000.00
no	Parks	Pave Rollie Gordon Trail	\$350,000.00
no	Streets	East Main Street Sidewalk	\$500,000.00
no	Facilities	Town Hall Expansion/Relocation Design & Construction	\$3,000,000.00
no	Parks	Boat Ramp Planning	\$28,000.00
no	Parks	Boat Ramp Construction	\$250,000.00
<b>Total Tier 3 Need:</b>			<b>\$8,730,000.00</b>

**Notes:**

Red projects were added in 2024    Blue projects are to some degree in progress

Black projects are existing and have not yet begun

# Capital Projects List 2024

Project Status	Project Description	Estimated Cost	Funding Source	Proposed Outside Funding Amount	Remaining Funds Needed	General Fund (Budgeted)	Conservation Trust Fund (Budgeted)	Utility Fund (Budgeted)	ARPA Funds	TBD Capital Unassigned Reserve	Comment
In Progress	<b>FACILITIES PROJECTS</b>										
In Progress	Emergency Education Supplies	\$24,659.00	2023 FMLD	\$20,510.00	\$4,159.00					\$0.00	
In Progress	Town Hall Paint & Repair	\$2,000.00	TBD Capital		\$2,000.00						
In Progress	(2) Town Hall Windows	\$70,000.00	TBD Capital		\$70,000.00						
2024	Recreation Countertop	\$1,500.00	TBD Capital		\$1,500.00						
	<b>Total Facilities Cost:</b>	<b>\$98,159.00</b>		<b>\$20,510.00</b>	<b>\$77,699.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	
In Progress	<b>PARKS PROJECTS</b>										
TBD	US6/CVB Roundabout Landscaping Design	\$25,000.00	Parks Capital			\$25,000.00					
2024	Park Monument Signs	\$16,000.00									
2024	Playground Equipment	\$75,000.00	2024 FMLD Spring Mini Grant	\$25,000.00	\$50,000.00						
	<b>Total Parks Cost:</b>	<b>\$116,000.00</b>		<b>\$25,000.00</b>	<b>\$50,000.00</b>	<b>\$25,000.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	
2024	<b>STREETS PROJECTS</b>										
2024	2024 Streets Preventative Maintenance	\$300,000.00	Street Maintenance			\$300,000.00					
2024	Traffic Calming Equipment	\$15,000.00	AGMC Technical Grant	\$5,000.00	\$10,000.00						
2024	US/6 Roundabout Landscape Project	\$850,000.00	2024 Spring FMLD Traditional Garfield County Funding	\$400,000.00							
2024	US/6 Roundabout CDOT Contract	\$500,000.00	Traffic Impact Committed	\$250,000.00							
	<b>Total Streets Cost:</b>	<b>\$1,465,000.00</b>		<b>\$655,000.00</b>	<b>\$10,000.00</b>	<b>\$675,000.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	
2024	<b>POLICE PROJECTS</b>										
2024	Police Event Camera	\$45,000.00	Possible PD Grant								
2024	Police Department Signage	\$5,500.00	TBD Capital		\$5,500.00						
2024	Breathalyzer in PD Station	\$4,000.00	TBD Capital		\$4,000.00						
2024	Police car // Computer Workstations	\$150,000.00	Possible PD Grant	\$75,000.00	\$75,000.00						
	<b>Total Police Cost:</b>	<b>\$204,500.00</b>		<b>\$75,000.00</b>	<b>\$99,500.00</b>	<b>\$75,000.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	
In Progress	<b>UTILITIES PROJECTS</b>										
Planning Stage	New Water Irrigation Expansion	\$730,640.00	2023 Fall FMLD Traditional	\$365,320.00	\$365,320.00						
Planning Stage	WWTP Garage & Lab	\$35,000.00		\$35,000.00	\$35,000.00						
Planning Stage	WWTP Garage & Lab	\$1,500,000.00		\$90,000.00	\$0.00						
In Progress	South Side Intercept Design	\$90,000.00		\$200,000.00	\$416,000.00						
In Progress	Digester Blower Project	\$616,000.00	2022 FMLD Traditional	\$655,000.00	\$816,640.00						
	<b>Total Utilities Cost:</b>	<b>\$2,971,640.00</b>		<b>\$1,410,500.00</b>	<b>\$963,839.00</b>	<b>\$775,000.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	
	<b>Total Reserve Funds Available:</b>										
	<b>Balance Available:</b>										

May be used as later identified following determination of spring grants.



11 local government partners  
 joining together in a shared mission  
 to make Garfield County  
 the most energy efficient county in the U.S.

## Garfield Clean Energy 2023 Annual Report

Feb 9, 2024 • Prepared by CLEER: Clean Energy Economy for the Region  
 (970) 704-9200 • www.GarfieldCleanEnergy.org

### 2023 program overview

In 2023, Garfield Clean Energy programs made meaningful progress on our goals. Some of our key successes for 2023 included:

- 42 homes implemented energy savings measures through the ReEnergize program
- 21 commercial property owners received energy coaching
- \$132,368 saved on energy bills for residents, businesses, and governments
- 137 EV charging stations were installed
- 40 e-bikes were distributed to low-income residents through the e-BikeThere program
- 922 participants in events throughout the year

### Residential Program

GCE's residential program provides energy efficiency consulting to Garfield County residents. The goal of the program is to help each client understand their energy use and take steps to reduce energy use in their home. This includes connecting participants with available funding sources, rebates and tax credits. The measures that were taken and reported to the CLEER team are then tracked for reporting.

#### Residential Program Summary

Total Residential Activity Summary	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Annual Total
Residential upgrades completed	12	63	66	33	174
Residential Coaching Requests	28	7	3	74	112
Total project costs	\$61,080	\$109,078	\$138,354	\$136,843	\$445,354
Total rebate amount	\$21,548	\$42,243	\$56,520	\$45,072	\$165,382
Estimated annual energy cost savings	\$7,257	\$16,486	\$32,831	\$9,831	\$66,405
Annual Carbon Savings (Tonnes/yr)	36.82	72.91	163.61	45.92	319.26

Residential totals include ReEnergize projects and savings achieved from these projects

ReEnergize Program Summary

**ReEnergize:** A County funded low/middle income rebate program that serves residents of Garfield County in assisting with weatherization and energy efficiency upgrades.

- **Program upgrades include:** Water heaters, windows, insulation, air sealing, LEDs, programmable thermostats, Energy Star fridges, Air Source Heat pumps/mini-split heat pumps

2023 ReEnergize Garfield County Program to-date	Qualified in 2023	Upgrades complete	ReEnergize funding allocated	Total paid for completed projects	Annual cost savings
Parachute / Battlement	6	16	\$28,000	\$14,570	\$4,721
Rifle	6	13	\$22,000	\$22,000	\$9,306
Silt	5	24	\$21,533	\$18,204	\$3,847
New Castle	8	21	\$26,000	\$14,955	\$11,751
Glenwood Springs	11	24	\$26,000	\$16,867	\$13,961
Carbondale	6	11	\$19,000	\$16,405	\$5,186
<b>Countywide total</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>109</b>	<b>\$142,533</b>	<b>\$103,001</b>	<b>\$48,772</b>

CARE/WAP	19				
GWS LMI	9	10	\$33,000	\$15,648	\$15,648
Waitlist	7				

As of 1/23/2024

**CARE:** Colorado Affordable Residential Energy program provides income-qualified Coloradans, in the 60-80% AMI bracket, in participating counties with free home energy efficiency upgrades for homeowners and renters. It is facilitated by Energy Outreach Colorado.

**WAP:** The Weatherization Assistance Program helps residents with an income less than 60% the state median income (SMI), and covers a variety of energy efficiency and weatherization home upgrades. Wap is a federal program facilitated by the Colorado Energy Office.

**Glenwood Springs low-to-medium income (GWS LMI):** This program is for Glenwood Springs Electric customers who earn 150% or less AMI. Most people have accessed this funding by applying for ReEnergize, but it is not necessary to do so. By utilizing these funds for GWSE customers, GCE was able to increase the households that could be served across the County.

# Commercial Program

## Commercial Coaching:

CLEER's Buildings Specialists provide energy coaching and technical support to businesses, governments, and other organizations throughout the County. Technical support includes identifying upgrades for customer-owned buildings, rated equipment performance verification, equipment recommendations, and research on rebates and tax credits available.

## Commercial Program Summary

Commercial activity summary	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Annual Total
Commercial upgrades completed	1	2	1	3	7
Commercial building walk-throughs and site visits	3	4	6	8	21
Commercial Coaching Requests	2	4	7	8	21
Annual Carbon Savings (Tonnes/yr)	13.19	32.73	166.14	13.12	225.18
Total project costs	\$5,653	\$6,696	\$170,916	\$44,634.24	\$227,900
Total rebate amount*	\$2,500	\$1,596	\$5,000	\$7,500.00	\$16,596
Estimated annual cost energy savings	\$1,660	\$4,120	\$20,909	\$1,652.83	\$28,342

Upgrades that earn rebates often include lighting and HVAC improvements. Commercial walk-throughs entail an assessment of the building and are followed by a summary report detailing suggested improvements and financial support to make those improvements.

\*Commercial rebates are available from Glenwood Springs Electric, Black Hills Energy, Municipal Energy MEAN, Xcel Energy, and Holy Cross Energy.

## Commercial Program Direct Consultation Summary

Commercial entity	Community	Technical Consultation	Walk-through Date
Q1 consultation: 3			
Rodeway Inn- RFTA Employee Housing	GWS		1/11/2023
Glenwood Springs Historical Society	GWS		2/16/2023
Western Hotel	GWS		3/15/2023
Q2 walk-through/site visits: 4			
Ute Theater	Rifle		4/21/2023

Wapiti Commons Affordable Housing	Rifle		6/12/2023
RFSD Teacher Housing	Carbondale	6/21/2023	
Peppino's Pizza	Carbondale	4/26/2023	
Q3 walk-through/site visits: 6			
Environmental Process control	Carbondale		7/20/2023
KDNK	Carbondale		7/25/2023
Habitat for Humanity	Rifle		8/10/2023
Grand Valley Rec Center	Parachute		8/17/2023
Bookcliffs Art Center	Rifle		8/25/2023
New Castle Plaza	New Castle		9/28/2023
Q4 walk-through/site visits: 8			
1101 Village Rd	Carbondale		11/13/2023
1905 Blake	GWS		11/16/2023
VR Cabinet	New Castle		12/1/2023
Little Blue Preschool	Carbondale	12/11/2023	
VR Cabinet	New Castle	12/11/2023	
Grand Valley Rec Center	Parachute	12/11/2023	
Launchpad	Carbondale		12/11/2023
High Performance Hangars		12/18/2023	

### **Residential and Commercial Energy Code Adoption and Implementation**

- A residential energy code workshop for contractors was put on in Rifle on September 14th. Attendees visited the Wapiti Commons housing project as a part of the workshop training.
- GCE hosted an HVAC training in Glenwood Springs in November to provide training on the new duct sealing requirements for the new International Energy Conservation Code.
- Energy modeling was completed that was needed to give Wapiti Commons/Habitat for Humanity access to significant building-performance based rebates from Xcel Energy. The program supported a GWS multifamily building owner to greatly improve heating and cooling in their rental units by offering technical and rebate support for a full HVAC upgrade.
- Through the program we also supported developers of an upcoming affordable housing project in Parachute by connecting them with funding options to help their planning process.

## **Advanced Energy Management**

### Program Summary

Garfield Clean Energy's Advanced Energy Management program tracks natural gas and electricity use for GCE member buildings and provides coaching on energy savings measures. This year we did this through:

- Tracking 240 utility bills monthly
- Monitoring 15-minute interval data for 36 GCE buildings
- Continuing our new Shutdown with Energy Star energy savings events over Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Years.

AEM savings Summary	Thanksgiving	Christmas	New Years	Annual Totals*
Buildings tracked per event	12	12	13	36
Total Event kWh Savings	1599	2419	1477	342,012
Percentage of energy savings achieved	3%	8%	5%	7%
Estimated Event cost savings	\$176	\$266	\$162	\$37,621

\*The annual total compares August to December of 2022 and 2023. This is the time frame with the most complete data due to the transition that occurred in 2022. 2024 data will be compared to the whole year of 2023.

The top 5 performing buildings for the end of year Holiday Shutdowns were:

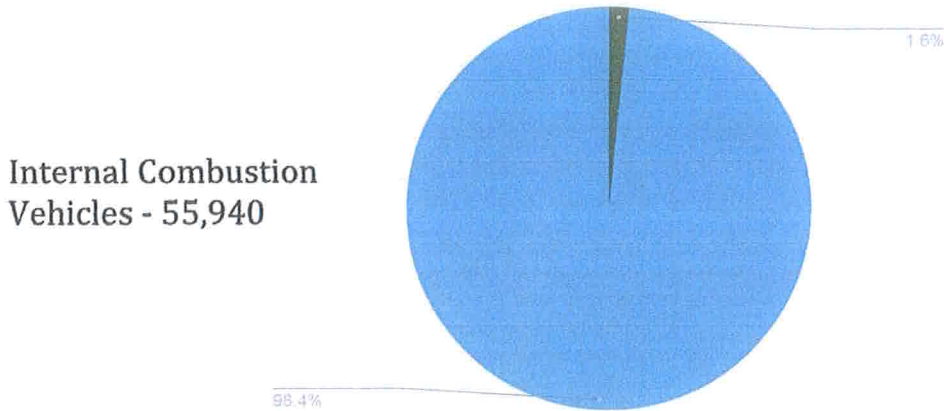
Top building totals for the three holiday shutdowns	Previous Year's kWh use	Current Year kWh Use	kWh Savings	Savings %
Parachute Town Hall	2097	1621	476	23%
Red Mountain Water Treatment	10722	8929	1793	17%
Garfield County Courthouse	13084	11154	1930	15%
Garfield County Sheriff's Office	20848	18210	2638	13%
Garfield County HHS Annex	6196	5796	400	6%
<b>12 building total for holiday shutdowns</b>	<b>105512</b>	<b>100047</b>	<b>5465</b>	<b>5%</b>

## Transportation Program Summary

GCE's Transportation program used 2023 to begin the process of developing the EV readiness plan. In addition to this process, GCE supported the Clean Mobility Summit and an EV Ride and Drive event which allows people to experience an electric vehicle and learn about incentives available. Work done in Garfield County to support the clean mobility transition also supported Holy Cross Energy with purchasing a hybrid bucket truck, provided 40 ebikes, and supported the expansion of EV charging infrastructure throughout the County.



### Registered Vehicles in Garfield County 2023



Internal Combustion Vehicles - 55,940

Transportation Totals Helped by GCE	
Program	Deliverables
eBikeThere	Awarded: 40 Applications Received: 337
EV charging infrastructure	137 total: 83 Level 2 ports 44 DCFC ports
DERA - Diesel Emissions Reduction Act - A grant program to promote emissions reductions from legacy diesel engines	Holy Cross Energy: received a grant to replace a diesel bucket truck with a hybrid-electric bucket truck.

### Events Summary

Garfield Clean Energy events and trainings 2023				
Event / Webinar name	Date	Location	Participants	<a href="#">Media hits</a>
CMC Heat Pump Class	2/12/2023	GWS Campus		
Partners in Energy - Residential workshop	3/3/2023	Third Street Center	14	-

Earth Day tabling in New Castle	4/22/2023	New Castle	75	-
Electrifying Fleets in Garfield County	4/27/2023	Holy Cross Energy HQ	17	1
Tabling at Dandelion Day	5/13/2023	Carbondale	100	-
Experience Electric Roadshow	6/4/2023	Glenwood Springs	40(questionnaire responses), 90	6
Holy Cross Annual Meeting (booth)	6/15/2023	Basalt, TACAW	40	-
E-Bike Training	6/19/2023	Carbondale, TSC	17	1
E-Bike Training	6/21/2023	Glenwood Springs, Community Center	8	-
E-Bike Training	6/26/2023	Rifle, GarCo Public Health	10	-
E-Bike Training	6/27/2023	Parachute, Library	5	-
E-Bike Training	7/11/2023	Carbondale, TSC	1	-
Partners in Energy - EV Readiness Plan Workshop #1	7/13/2023	Morgridge Commons, Glenwood Springs	24	1
Silt Heydays Table	8/18/23	Veteran's Park in Silt	50	-
Partners in Energy - EV Readiness Plan - Fleets and Public Transit Focus Group	9/6/2023	Virtual Workshop	14	-
Partners in Energy - EV Readiness Plan - Codes and Policy Support Focus Group	9/6/2023	Virtual Workshop	6	-
Partners in Energy - EV Readiness Plan - EV Charging Infrastructure Focus Group	9/8/2023	Virtual Workshop	12	-
Partners in Energy - EV Readiness Plan - Equitable EV Access Focus Group	9/8/2023	Virtual Workshop	6	-
Building official's onsite code training	9/14/2023	Rifle Library	30	-
Three Rivers Clean Mobility Summit & Expo	9/21/2023	Glenwood Springs Community Center	79	3
Fall Residential Energy Savings Workshop	10/4/23	Morgridge Commons	8	4
Fall Residential Energy Savings	10/12/23	Rifle Library	6	4

Workshop				
EV Presentation	11/3/2023	Bridges High School	38	-
Buildings Presentation	11/3/2023	Bridges High School	38	-
Partners in Energy - EV Readiness Plan Workshop #2	11/14/2023	Virtual Workshop	18	-
Energy Efficiency Presentation	11/29/23	Glenwood Springs Middle School	25	-
HVAC training for contractors	11/29/23		31	-
<b>Total Participants</b>			<b>922</b>	

## Media Stories

10/2/2023 Radio La Tricolor (Facebook video)  
Autos eléctricos ¿Conviene?  
<https://www.facebook.com/radioaspen/videos/9959731257435293/>

10/3/2023 Alpine e-Line  
Get Your Home Ready for Winter  
n/a

10/5/2023 Aspen Public Radio  
On today's newscast: CLEER and Garfield Clean Energy are offering free workshops to get homes ready for winter  
<https://www.aspenpublicradio.org/2023-10-05/thursday-october-5>

10/5/2023 Sopris Sun  
New Garfield Clean Energy campaign highlights home energy audits, coaching  
<https://soprisun.com/carbondale-launches-home-energy-score-pilot-program/>

10/5/2023 Holy Cross Energy newsletter  
Get ready for winter with a home energy audit  
n/a

10/6/2023 Glenwood Springs Post Independent  
Home winter readiness workshop comes to Garco libraries  
<https://www.postindependent.com/news/home-winter-readiness-workshops-comes-to-garfield-county-libraries/>

10/10/2023 Alpine e-Line  
Get Your Home Ready for Winter  
n/a

10/11/2023 Glenwood Springs Post Independent

Top tips for saving energy – and money – this winter

<https://www.postindependent.com/opinion/top-tips-for-saving-energy-and-money-this-winter/>

10/25/2023 Sopris Sun

Carbondale geothermal project wins Dept. of Energy grant

<https://soprisun.com/carbondale-geothermal-project-wins-dept-of-energy-grant/>

10/26/2023 Aspen Public Radio

As communities face climate change, CORE and CLEER help them transition to clean energy

<https://www.aspenpublicradio.org/environment/2023-10-26/as-communities-face-climate-change-core-and-cleer-help-them-transition-to-clean-energy>

10/30/2023 Think Geoenergy

Geothermal heating and cooling system to be built in Carbondale, Colorado

<https://www.thinkgeoenergy.com/geothermal-heating-and-cooling-system-to-be-built-in-carbondale-colorado/>

10/31/2023 World Energy

Geothermal Heating and Cooling System to Be Built in Carbondale, Colorado <https://www.world-energy.org/article/37680.html>

11/3/2023 Aspen Public Radio

On today's newscast: a group of buildings and homes in Carbondale could soon be heated and cooled by geothermal energy

<https://www.aspenpublicradio.org/2023-11-03/friday-november-3>

11/7/2023 Glenwood Springs Post Independent

And just like that, electric vehicles are looking affordable

<https://www.postindependent.com/opinion/and-just-like-that-electric-vehicles-are-looking-affordable/>

11/28/2023 Sopris Sun

Libraries Report: A quick look at GCPLD's 2024 draft budget

<https://soprisun.com/libraries-report-a-quick-look-at-gcplds-2024-draft-budget/>