



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. How did Oakland Park's Facility Initiative come about?

A Facilities Master Plan was completed and adopted by Commission in 2010 which concluded that the majority of the City's facilities were in need of replacement and or renovation. The unfortunate economic challenges of the recession delayed the ability to implement the master plan recommendations. After additional review and assessment of the condition of the facilities in 2017 and 2018, the City Commission approved a ballot referendum for a general obligation bond. The language appeared on that ballot as follows:

May the City of Oakland Park, Florida issue, in one or more series, not exceeding \$40,000,000 of general obligation bonds, bearing interest at not exceeding the legal rate and maturing not later than thirty years after the date(s) of issuance, to finance costs of public safety, emergency services, transportation, recreation, library and municipal land, buildings, and facilities, all to be located within the City of Oakland Park.

The general obligation bond was approved by over two-thirds voters in November 2018.

2. What is a General Obligation Bond? How would it affect my taxes?

A General Obligation Bond is a voter-approved municipal bond. All money from the bond MUST be spent in Oakland Park to benefit our community. With the voter approval of the bond in November, the City Commission now has the authority to issue general obligation debt to be repaid through a separate tax that would appear on the annual property tax bills. A bond's annual cost to homeowners would be based on the taxable value of the property, not the sale/market value. Staff has estimated that the monthly cost to the median, homesteaded, single-family house would be less than \$10 a month.

3. What projects are being completed for the General Obligation Bond? How will the \$40 million be spent?

The following facilities are recommended for consideration as part of the general obligation bond program:

- Fire Rescue Station 9
- Fire Rescue Station 20
- Fire Rescue Station 87
- Park Place at Jaco Pastorius Park
- Collins Community Center
- North Andrews Gardens Community
- Spihher Community Center
- Ethel M. Gordan Oakland Park Library

The final selection of projects need to be approved by the City Commission as part of the development of a formal implementation plan.

4. What is the potential impact to the Ethel M. Gordon Oakland Park Library?

Replacement of the facility is recommended to meet service levels and spatial needs for service delivery for the next generation of library patrons. A location for the new library will be determined by Commission. The City is currently

working with a library services consultant to provide guidance on what amenities, services, and technologies a new library facility should include to meet the current and future needs of our community.

The City of Oakland Park has applied for a Library Services and Construction Grant for \$500,000 and to be eligible for funding a decision on the location will need to be made sometime this Summer.

5. How would our Fire-Rescue services be impacted?

Bond proceeds will be used to replace the City's two oldest fire stations: Fire Station 9 on Park Lane West and Fire Station 20 on Powerline Road; Station 87 on NW 21st Avenue will be renovated.

Station 9 will be built at or near the present location just south of the Collins Community Center on Park Lane West. Station 20's final location as determined by response metric and land availability; acquisition of land may be required to ensure that the location of Station 20 is located optimally to serve residents.

6. How long will it take to complete the facilities bond program?

The building effort will be a 10-year program with three specific phases.

Phase 1 is occurring now in 2019 and involves community engagement, commission direction, and the creation of a development plan. As part of this phase, the City has been engaging in multiple community meetings provide additional information to residents and solicit input. Phase 1 is anticipated to take one year.

Phase 2 will involve the finalization of an implementation plan, design work, preparation of bid documents, and the award of construction contracts and the beginning of construction for the initial slate of projects.

Phase 3 will constitute the bulk of the program and will involve the full construction of all projects. Construction will be staged to minimize impact to operations ensure the continuity of services.

All phases of the project will be guided by **four major principles: 1) maintain continuity of city services; 2) maximize value and utilize resources judiciously; 3) optimize opportunities, and; 4) consistency with the strategic vision and image of the City.**

7. Are there other facility projects being contemplated?

Yes, the City is also engaged in other efforts to improve and modernize other facilities. The City is currently planning the construction of a new Public Works building to be located at 5100 NE 12th Terrace. This would provide the opportunity to relocate the Solid Waste, Administration, and Fleet divisions that are currently located at 250 NE 33rd St, adjacent to Wimberly Field and the Collins Community Center, and open the space up for other civic uses. The new facility would not use bond proceeds and funding would primarily be through the City's enterprise, or utility, systems.

City Hall is not part of the general obligation bond program. However, new city hall facilities are an integral component of the approved West Dixie Lots project, Oakland Square. Visit designop.org for more information on Oakland Square.

8. How can I find out more information and provide my input?

- City Website: <http://www.oaklandparkfl.gov/591/City-Facilities-Bond>
- Email comments: bond@oaklandparkfl.gov
- Fill out a comment card
- Attend community meetings