

SEMS Technologies Conducted a Survey of Georgia Water Utilities to See the Utilization of Capital Improvement Plans



Capital Improvement Plans

89% of the participants have a formal CIP for improvement/replacement projects of their water and waste water treatment plants. Nearly all of the participants surveyed expressed that CIP's help the city/water & sewer district stay within budget.



Importance of Capital Improvement Plans

When asked to rate the importance of the CIP on a scale of 1-10 (1 being not important, and 10 being most important) when looking to get projects funded rated it an average of 8.4. Participants expressed that the finance board take a number of factors into consideration when voting on funding. Historical funding and "criticality" ratings were the two that stood out the most to participants. Nearly all were in agreement that having a well-documented CIP is vital to success.



Length of Capital Improvement Plans

76% of the participants surveyed that have a CIP that ranges from 1-5 years. The remaining 24% have a CIP that is in the 10-20-year range. Regardless of the length of the CIP all of the participants said that their CIP is updated either annually or bi-annually.



"Long Term" Capital Improvement Plans

24% of the participants have a "long term" CIP. All of their "long term" are a minimum of 20-year plans with some extending out to 40-years. These "long term" plans are updated on a 5-year basis when their "short term" ends.