



City of Palm Coast – Capital Assets Policy

8/7/13

Overview

The acquisition, disposition, and monitoring of City owned property is governed by Chapter 274 of the Florida Statutes. The City will consider capital assets to be any tangible or intangible property with a value of \$ 5,000 or more and a projected useful life of more than two years as per guidance provided by the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) and Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB).

A. DESIGNATION OF CUSTODIAN

The Department head will designate a custodian(s) of all capital assets held by that department. The custodian will be responsible for monitoring the locations of all capital assets and facilitating the purchase, disposition and transfer of any assets within their inventory. The custodian will work with the Finance Department during the bi-annual physical inventory to ensure all assets are accounted for and will also be responsible for ensuring all procedures are followed in the acquisition and disposition of capital assets.

B. ASSET CAPITALIZATION GUIDELINES

These guidelines are being provided to assist management when making the determination between which asset related expenditures are/are not recommended to be capitalized in accordance with governing laws, rules and regulations. The following guidelines, except where noted, apply equally to both Governmental Funds and Proprietary Funds. Definitions are provided as needed.

1. New Asset – Cost of \$ \$5,000 or more incurred to acquire an individual asset or to make an asset ready for its intended use should be capitalized.
2. Additions – Purchased additions to previously capitalized assets that meet the capitalization threshold, should be capitalized as add-ons to the existing property record.
3. Replacements/Improvements – The cost to replace or improve an existing asset should be capitalized if it meets the capitalization threshold and at least one of the following criteria:

- a. Extends the useful life of the existing asset
- b. Increase the effectiveness or efficiency of an asset

For replacements, the old asset should be removed from the fixed asset system if it can be separately identified or if a cost can be estimated for its original value and then adjusted in the fixed asset system.

4. Repairs and Maintenance – Costs that are associated with repairs and maintenance are not recommended for capitalization because they do not add value to the existing asset. However, major repairs that extend the useful life or increase the effectiveness or efficiency of an asset may be classified as improvements and therefore should be capitalized (see #3).

Any questions regarding whether purchases should be capitalized should be directed to the Finance Department.

C. ACQUISITION OF CAPITAL ASSETS

All acquisitions will follow the procedures outlined:

1. After a department determines a need for a capital asset, they will obtain approval to purchase the item from the City Manager and the City Council or designee during the annual budget process. In the event a capital asset needs to be purchased and was not approved in the budget, the department will need approval first from the Finance Director or Infrastructure Committee, if applicable, then the City Manager, and the City Council, if applicable.
2. After approval is obtained, the requesting department will enter a requisition into the system and forward it to the Purchasing Department with the required authorizations per the purchasing policy. The requisition shall contain a detailed description of the item and the cost, as well as required supporting documentation. The requisition will then be converted to a purchase order.
3. After receiving a capital asset, the requesting department will send the approved invoice, and the New Asset Transmittal Sheet, if applicable, to the Finance Department for processing. If the item is a replacement for an existing capital asset, the Asset Disposal and Retirement Form must be sent to the Finance Department prior to or at the same time as purchase of the new asset.
4. The Finance Department assigns capital asset numbers for all capital assets. City vehicles are tagged by the Fleet Manager and computer equipment is tagged by the IT&C Department or designee. Items that are unable to be tagged will still be assigned a capital asset number.
5. Donated property with a market value in excess of \$5,000.00 will be added into the capital assets system. The department must provide written notification to the Finance Department of any donated capital assets. Donated land will be recorded at market value. No minimum threshold will be applied to Donated land.

6. All vehicles purchased will be held solely in the name of the City. If a trade-in is involved please refer to section F of this policy.

D. DISPOSITION OF CAPITAL ASSETS

All dispositions will follow the procedures outlined

All dispositions of capital assets are coordinated by the Purchasing and Contracts Department. Public Works is responsible for the evaluation and approval of all Fleet and equipment disposals. If the capital asset is computer equipment, the IT&C Department will review and approve the disposal.

1. **The Purchasing & Contracts Department will arrange for the disposal of capital assets through direct sale, bids, or through the use of an auctioneer.**
2. The Purchasing Department will provide a list of disposed assets to the Finance Department. **The Finance Department will remove the capital asset from the capital asset inventory, and record the payments received for the disposed assets.**
3. The items will be disposed of in accordance with Florida Statutes, Section 274. Any funds received from the sale of those assets will be credited back to the purchasing department's Fund.
4. Capital assets paid for by a grant should follow granting agency's procedures for disposal.
5. If the capital asset is missing and believed stolen, a police report **must** be completed and a copy attached to the disposal record.

All assets approved for disposition will be picked up by Public Works.

If the item is in **working** condition, it will be picked up and stored by Public Works until disposition.

Any assets deemed to be in **non-working** condition and to have little or no value will be transported to the local salvage yard by Public Works. Any proceeds will be submitted to the Finance Department for processing. Public Works will provide documentation from the salvage yard to the Finance Department showing the disposal of such items.

E. DISPOSITION THROUGH TRANSFER OF CAPITAL ASSETS

All transfers of capital assets between departments must be submitted to the Finance Department on an Equipment Transfer Form. The Finance Department will transfer the asset as requested.

F. DISPOSITION THROUGH TRADE-IN

Before any capital asset can be used as a trade-in on a new piece of equipment, it must be approved by the Purchasing & Contracts Department. All trade-ins of capital assets must be submitted to on a New Asset Transmittal Form. Once approval has been given from the Purchasing & Contracts Department, the Finance Department will update the status of the asset traded in on the capital asset system.

G. DISPOSITION OF NON-CAPITAL ASSETS

If a department wishes to dispose of a non-capital item that is **not** in working condition, this disposal must be initiated and approved by the Department Head. It is the responsibility of the department to dispose of the item. If the item requires additional assistance to dispose of, contact Public Works

If a department wishes to dispose of a non-capital item that **is** in working condition, then they must follow the same procedures outlined in Section D regarding sending the items to auction.

H. BI-ANNUAL PHYSICAL INVENTORY OF CAPITAL ASSETS

A physical inventory of a department's capital assets will be conducted on bi-annual basis. A representative from the Finance Department will schedule the inventory with each department's designated capital assets custodian. All assets will be physically located and accounted for by the custodian and the Finance Department representative. An Inventory Report will be sent to the department head after completion of the physical inventory that summarizes any additions, deletions, or changes noted during the inventory. The department head will review the form, make changes if necessary, and approve by signing and returning it to the Finance Department.

PROCEDURES SPECIFIC TO ASSET TYPE:

I. MODULAR FURNITURE

This section has been added to provide additional guidance as it specifically relates to modular furniture.

1. Modular furniture that meets the capitalization threshold should be capitalized as equipment/furniture, by lot or by individual unit.
2. If the modular furniture cannot be separately identified from the total cost of the building, it is recommended that the modular furniture be capitalized as part of the building. If you have any questions regarding this, please contact the Finance Department.

J. REPLACEMENT OF ASSETS BY INSURANCE

When a capital asset is severely damaged or destroyed by a covered peril under the City's insurance policy, and the replacement of that asset has been approved through funding from the City's insurance policy, the new capital asset must be paid for by the department that owns the asset (that department's budget). Reimbursement must then be requested by the department to Contracts & Risk Management. Contracts & Risk Management will then instruct the Finance Department to reimburse the department for their cost of replacing the asset. Proper backup is necessary to complete the reimbursement. Also, the asset that was destroyed must be deleted from that department's inventory.

K. INTANGIBLE ASSETS

Intangible assets such as computer software, easements, and land use/water/leachate rights will be capitalized on the City's books and amortized over their useful lives unless that life is indefinite.

Computer software is considered an intangible asset if it is developed in-house by City employees or by a third party contractor on behalf of the government. This includes any commercially available software that is purchased or licensed by the City and that the City must exert minimal incremental effort before the software can be put into operation (per GASB 51). Such purchases will be capitalized if they meet

the City's capitalization threshold (Section B). Yearly renewals and regular upgrades of existing software will be considered an operating cost and expensed as incurred. The City will amortize software over 3-5 years, depending on whether the software is a component of an existing system or a brand new system.

Easements and rights granted to or purchased by the City will be assumed to have an indefinite useful life unless there are contractual or legal requirements that state otherwise. In those instances, the City will amortize those easements and rights over the life stated in the contract documents.

L. OPERATING PROCEDURES

The Finance Director and Purchasing & Contracts Manager will create necessary operating procedures in order to apply this policy.