

(\$ in thousands)

Project Title	Priority Ranking	Funding Source	Project Requests for State Funds		
			2020	2022	2024
New State Emergency Operations Center	1	GO	\$ 21,000	\$ 0	\$ 0
Minnesota State Patrol and Department of Public Safety Headquarters	2	GO	\$ 600	\$ 0	\$ 0
Southern Minnesota BCA Regional Office and Laboratory	3	GO	\$ 125	\$ 0	\$ 0
BCA Maryland Building Improvements	4	GO	\$ 3,900	\$ 0	\$ 0
Total Project Requests			\$ 25,625	\$ 0	\$ 0
General Obligation Bonds (GO) Total			\$ 25,625	\$ 0	\$ 0

New State Emergency Operations Center

AT A GLANCE

2020 Request Amount: \$21,000

Priority Ranking: 1

Project Summary: Relocate and improve the State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) to coordinate state and federal response during disasters and emergencies.

Project Description

This request is for \$21,000,000 to purchase, upgrade, and equip an existing 47,000 square foot commercial office building at the Lexington Preserve industrial park in Blaine Minnesota for a new SEOC and DPS-Homeland Security and Emergency Management (HSEM) offices. The facility will serve as the location to coordinate state and federal response during disasters and emergencies. During a crisis at the Capitol Complex the facility will serve as a critical continuity of government facility for state government leaders.

The facility will house approximately 75 HSEM staff on a daily basis and have a surge capacity of up to 200 state and federal personnel during emergency/disaster response. A pre-design study has been completed which will be used as the basis to reconfigure the building.

Project Rationale

Minnesota has experienced 15 presidential and 32 state declared disasters in the last decade. It is the mission of the Department of Public Safety’s Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management (HSEM) to effectively prepare for disasters; coordinate statewide response; provide assistance; and enhance recovery of impacted communities. Tribal, county, city, and township governments depend on HSEM to coordinate state and federal assistance during emergency response and the appropriate resources during disaster recovery.

The Department is also designated to facilitate the State’s Continuity of Government (COG). Minnesota currently does not have a functional COG facility, which is a serious gap in the state’s capacity to provide critical government services in the aftermath of a catastrophic event.

A state emergency operations center is a one-of-a-kind, critical, “no fail” facility that is the central place where coordination of information and resources to support incident management activities takes place. The existing facility located in downtown Saint Paul is wholly inadequate in the areas of security or redundancy of power, communications, and network services. The current location also has serious security issues including being located on top of a public parking facility and within feet of the light rail line, both of which, increase the risk of not being able to respond in times of disaster or emergency.

Project Timeline

It is estimated the purchase, reconfiguration and associated site work would be completed within 18 months. The occupancy date for the division staff would be late summer to early fall of fiscal year 2022.

Other Considerations

Virtually every county in the state has been included in a disaster declaration within the last ten years. There are many factors that are considered when evaluating the state's homeland security risks. Those of vital importance to Minnesota are:

- Agriculture as it constitutes a large component of Minnesota's economy and the state has a large animal population susceptible to natural and artificial introduction of pathogens.
- Critical infrastructure and key resources that are important to the economy of the United States including two nuclear generating plants, a key regional digital network management facility, a major international airport, a large inland port, and the sixth largest railroad network in the country.

Impact on Agency Operating Budgets

In FY19, DPS-HSEM paid \$526,000 for leased space (22,587 square feet) in downtown Saint Paul. The lease cost is \$23.28 per square foot. DPS estimates the annual operating and maintenance expense at the new SEOC, through the Department of Administration, would be \$10.79 per ASF or approximately \$507,130. The move to the proposed building would more than double the work space and cost less to operate.

Description of Previous Appropriations

\$2,250,000 was appropriated to the Department of Administration in the 2010 bonding bill. Approximately \$250,000 was spent on initial studies and pre-design. A balance of just over \$2,000,000 expired on December 31, 2014.

Project Contact Person

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Minnesota State Patrol and Department of Public Safety Headquarters

AT A GLANCE

2020 Request Amount: \$600

Priority Ranking: 2

Project Summary: \$600 thousand in state funds to predesign a new headquarters building for the Minnesota State Patrol and the Department of Public Safety.

Project Description

This project request would provide a predesign for a new community based headquarters facility. The new facility will provide office space and associated parking for the majority of the agency’s operational divisions, four agency support divisions, and will include space for the Minnesota Board of Fire Fighter Training and Education and the Office of State Safety Oversight. The project will also provide a commercial street level use with a Driver and Vehicle Services public counter. This request also includes the projected out year funding for the design and construction of the building.

Project Rationale

The new facility will increase visibility and improve access for our citizens and business partners who rely on the services provided by our divisions for enforcement, education, licensing, and justice services. The project will result in the relocation of our agency within the Capitol Complex, where the department is responsible for providing safety, security, and emergency response services, allow for greater control over facility management and space planning overall, address our needs with an eye to the future of the agency, and provide improved opportunities to contribute towards the statewide sustainability goals.

The Minnesota State Patrol and the Department of Public Safety are currently housed in a large multi-level rental complex in downtown Saint Paul. The divisions within our agency are not adjacent to each other and are located throughout eight floors and two buildings (Town Square and the Bremer tower). This type of decentralization is not effective for cross division collaboration. There are increased security concerns due to numerous entrances and exits throughout our lease spaced. There is significant confusion to our customers and business partners who are attempting to conduct business within our facility. In addition, our agency has outgrown the current space and there is limited room for expansion and growth.

The Department of Public Safety has several public facing operational divisions including the Minnesota State Patrol, Alcohol and Gambling Enforcement, Driver and Vehicle Services, Fire Marshal, Pipeline Safety, and Office of Justice Programs. There is no ability in the current leased space to make the public aware of our location within the leased space, or help in educating the public that the divisions are part of a larger organization. This lack of understanding of the work of the Department of Public Safety increases barriers that Minnesotans face in accessing services, and hinders our recruitment and public engagement efforts. Being housed in a single location on the Capitol Complex will increase the department’s visibility to the public and allow for the department to host public engagement events.

Project Timeline

Predesign: Summer 2020 – Fall 2021

Other Considerations

Inherent in the building design and co-location of DPS services is the State of Minnesota and Department of Public Safety's commitment to addressing racial, gender and disability disparities. The new DPS headquarters will be accessible and inclusive. The diversity of customer experiences will be centered in the design of public-facing spaces. DPS and architects will engage with residents to learn what service and accessibility details should be considered so that all customers and State employees feel that they are safe and welcome in the new headquarters building.

Impact on Agency Operating Budgets**Description of Previous Appropriations**

None.

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Southern Minnesota BCA Regional Office and Laboratory

AT A GLANCE

2020 Request Amount: \$125

Priority Ranking: 3

Project Summary: The Minnesota Department of Public Safety’s Bureau of Criminal Apprehension is requesting \$125,000 of state funds for the pre-design of an approximately 40,000 square foot regional office and laboratory in Mankato, Minnesota.

Project Description

This proposal is for the pre-design of a building to house the various divisions within the Bureau of Criminal Apprehension (BCA) including Investigations, the Forensic Science Service, and Minnesota Justice Information Services (MNJIS) in southern Minnesota.

The building would contain standard office space, interview/polygraph room(s), laboratory space, evidence storage, meeting/training room(s), and garage area(s) to maintain response vehicles as well as a space for processing evidence. The design team will include architects with experience specifically in laboratory design and requirements. The building would require heightened security measures included in the building design compatible with existing BCA security protocols.

The project would provide the BCA will an increase presence in southern Minnesota. By having a BCA Regional Office located in Mankato, the BCA would be able to provide services to local law enforcement more efficiently by significantly reducing the amount of travel required by their agencies for evidence submission, review, pick-up, and interaction with laboratory staff. This facility would also allow for the forensic testing of evidence in-house and not require items to be transferred to and from BCA Headquarters in Saint Paul.

Project Rationale

The Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension (BCA) is the state’s criminal investigative agency providing law enforcement services, criminal justice records, and laboratory services to all 87 counties within Minnesota as well our other partners at the local, state, and federal levels. Services provided by the BCA include providing investigative assistance in complex criminal investigations, laboratory analysis, criminal history record keeping, and law enforcement training throughout the state.

In addition to BCA headquarters in Saint Paul and a regional office in Bemidji, the BCA maintains 11 investigative field offices located across Minnesota to provide support to our criminal justice partners. The BCA currently provides forensic services within the Saint Paul and Bemidji offices. The BCA also currently has an evidence drop off and pick-up facility located in St. Cloud with limited drug testing at that location.

Crime labs throughout the nation continue to experience dramatic increases in requests for forensic science services. The BCA is no exception to this upward trend and currently are experiencing large

backlogs due to the number of requests and reliance on forensic evidence in criminal investigations and court proceedings.

The overall demand for forensic testing has increased over the last decade. For example, the demand for DNA analysis has increased steadily every year with an overall 120% increase since 2009. Controlled substance submissions have nearly doubled over the last five years and we have seen a similar increase to the number of toxicology submissions. Requests for the analysis of Digital Media Evidence have nearly doubled from 2017 to 2018.

Minnesota police chiefs and sheriffs in the southern half of the state continue to face staffing shortages and challenges due to the number trips that they have to make to Saint Paul in order to drop off and pick up evidence from the Saint Paul laboratory. In some cases these agencies are driving over 400 miles round trip which is consuming an entire day, sometimes having to do this multiple times in a month.

The BCA Investigations Division currently has four BCA agents located within the Blue Earth County Sheriff's Office in Mankato. These Agents work closely with all law enforcement agencies within the southern half of the state. Currently, this office lacks an interview room, secure evidence vault, polygraph room, and adequate training space. There is also a current need to expand digital evidence examination but there is no space available to expand these services.

The BCA is also statutorily responsible for providing law enforcement training throughout the state of Minnesota. Training for officers within this part of the state is often offered in the metro or other locations requiring travel and overnight lodging. This can be an extreme burden on law enforcement agencies in southern Minnesota that may have limited resources available to them. This facility would provide a location for BCA trainings and reduce the burden to those agencies.

This facility would also allow specialized investigative functions such as polygraph exams, digital evidence examination, audio/video enhancement, and 3D Scanner data review and preparation. This will improve turnaround times allowing a more efficient investigative process for local law enforcement and the county attorneys that they work with.

Project Timeline

Pre Design: July 2020 - April 2021

Other Considerations

This facility will require specialized design, infrastructure, and construction to accommodate its law enforcement functions and the housing of a laboratory.

Impact on Agency Operating Budgets

This project is for predesign only and will have no impact on operating budgets.

Description of Previous Appropriations

None.

Project Contact Person

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BCA Maryland Building Improvements

AT A GLANCE

2020 Request Amount: \$3,900

Priority Ranking: 4

Project Summary: The Minnesota Department of Public Safety’s Bureau of Criminal Apprehension is requesting \$3,900,000 state funds for the construction of approximately 7,600 square feet of unfinished space for office and support spaces and for security upgrades including a perimeter fence at the Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension headquarters.

Project Description

The Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension (BCA) would like to utilize approximately 7,600 square feet of unfinished space on the first floor of the existing structure for office and support spaces. The area is currently rough graded soil and sand that has been prepped for concrete.

The project would entail building out this space with electrical, plumbing, HVAC, etc. Finishing this space would add an additional 10 offices, 36 workstations, three conference rooms, two storage rooms, two electrical rooms, one kitchenette/break area, and two ADA accessible bathrooms.

This project would also improve the existing security structures surrounding the building. These improvements are requested following a US Department of Homeland Security security assessment to provide greater security for employees and visitors.

Project Rationale

The Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension (BCA) is the state’s criminal investigative agency providing law enforcement services to all 87 counties within Minnesota as well our other partners at the local, state, and federal levels. Services provided by the BCA include providing investigative assistance in complex proactive and reactive criminal investigations, laboratory analysis, and numerous criminal justice data bases including the state’s criminal history and fingerprint system, and training for law enforcement throughout the state.

In 2003, the BCA moved into its current location which had been constructed specifically to meet the needs of the agency at that time. The BCA is now out of space for staff even after shrinking all cubicles within its Minnesota Justice Information Services Division to 6x6 cubicles.

When the current BCA building was constructed, security standards were not at the current levels they are today. The threat of terrorism has risen and new unique security threats have emerged as the BCA has become a higher profile organization due to the duties and tasks assigned. The BCA worked with the US Department of Homeland Security to conduct a security assessment of the BCA building. This assessment resulted in numerous security recommendations, of most concern was the perimeter security of the BCA. The audit noted the current fencing was insufficient and did little more

than demarcate a boundary line. The recommendation is to increase the height of the fencing and install outriggers to enhance the penetration delay of objects and vehicles.

Since 2003, the BCA has taken on many more responsibilities and programs designed to assist law enforcement in our state. The BCA now has a full Digital Multimedia Evidence Lab , performs human trafficking investigations, predatory crimes investigations, commands the statewide Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force, Social Security Administration Investigations, manages the Minnesota Human Trafficking Investigators Task Force and our IT footprint has become more sophisticated.

The number of employees has increased commensurate with those and other additional duties and the BCA is out of space. The BCA has worked to accommodate the growth such as the cubicle project noted above and converted existing meeting room space into office space, as well as other adjustments. The final option available is to finish the build out of the first floor space.

Project Timeline

- Projected Start Date: July 2020
- Projected Completion Date of Fence: December 2020
- Projected Completion Date of the Space Buildout: June 2021

Other Considerations

Predesign was completed in FY19 using current resources.

Impact on Agency Operating Budgets

Description of Previous Appropriations

None.

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