



Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services

Office of the Secretary

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Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services
Police Correctional and Training Commission - Q00G
Fiscal Year 2023 Operating Budget
Response to Department of Legislative Services Analysis

Senate Budget and Taxation Committee
Public Safety, Transportation and Environment Subcommittee
Senator Cory McCray, Chair
February 4, 2022

House Appropriations Committee
Public Safety and Administration Subcommittee
Delegate Tony Bridges, Chair
February 10, 2022

Issue: DPSCS should expand on their vision and describe their strategic plan to expend MPTSC Fund resources and enhance police training programs in the State.

Response:

From fiscal year (FY) 2020 through the end of FY 2022, the MPTSC has expended \$526,019 from the MPTSC fund. As stated in the analysis, a significant amount of the fund balance will be utilized for the implementation and subsequent maintenance of the new Learning Management System (LMS). As stated in the analysis, the Department has set aside \$2 million from the fund to offset the cost of the LMS. However, the Department recently received bids on a five year contract, to include implementation and maintenance of the LMS, ranging between \$6.3 and \$26 million dollars. The MPTSC funds are critical to this project.

The MPTSC also plans on utilizing a significant portion of its remaining fund balance to enhance training efforts by upgrading equipment and technology. House Bill (HB) 670 - Maryland Police Accountability Act of 2021 - which passed during the 2021 Legislative Session effectuated significant changes to law enforcement practices and procedures. HB 670 repealed the Law

Enforcement Officer's Bill of Rights and implemented Accountability Boards and Charging Committees within each county, along with a statewide committee for state agencies. The MPTSC has developed a training program for members of the HB 670 Boards and Committees, which includes Use of Force components. This training has resulted in the need for the acquisition of three additional Virtual Training Simulators, at a cost of \$80,000 per unit for a total purchase cost of \$240,000. This expenditure was not developed until after the submission of the FY 23 budget proposal.

The MPTSC has also identified the need for maintenance repairs and enhanced upgrades to the Driver Training Facility to accommodate continued expansion of police recruit training needs and incumbent officer in-service training components. The MPTSC estimates that enhancing training at the current driver training will cost \$400,000.

The MPTSC anticipates that the Firearms Facility, which was opened in calendar year 2000, will need enhancements and upgrades based on certain requirements established by Senate Bill 71 - Maryland Police Accountability Act of 2021 - Body-Worn Cameras, Employee Programs, and Use of Force - which passed during the 2021 Legislative Session. Specifically, the MPTSC has identified the need for two Judgmental/Decision Systems with new technology that provides greater instructor interaction and student de-escalation options. The original Electronic Range Target System and Range Shoot House, which is a live-fire decision-making training arena, would also need to be upgraded by adding a system that allows the walls to be reconfigured. This would enhance training realism and instructor flexibility and would allow the training environment changes to address specific training objectives. The enhancements and upgrades are projected to cost \$500,000-600,000.

The Department will continue to work with MPTSC on the programs and projects they have identified to enhance police training while ensuring compliance with State finance and procurement process

Recommended Action: Concur with the Governor's allowance.

Response: The Department agrees.