



**Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services
Office of the Secretary**

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Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services

Fiscal Year 2025 Capital Budget
Response to Department of Legislative Services Analysis

Senate Budget and Taxation Committee
Capital Budget Subcommittee
Senator Craig Zucker, Chair
March 5, 2024

Appropriations Committee
Capital Budget Subcommittee
Delegate Mark Chang, Chair
March 4, 2024

Life Skills and Re-entry Center for Women

ISSUE: DPSCS should brief the committees on the status of the design procurement and if the project is on schedule as programmed in the CIP.

Response: The project is in the final phase of program development Q&A with DGS and DBM. Once the program is approved, a design firm will be selected to move the project forward in FY2025.

New Jessup Regional Infirmary Deferred

ISSUE: DPSCS should comment on the reasons for the large increase in funding estimates for this project.

Response: The cost estimate was completed by a professional estimator based on the current market information available. The material and labor market is an ever changing environment subject to inflation and other market changes. The scope of the project has not changed.

Three Perimeter Security Upgrades Deferred

ISSUE: DPSCS should comment on the steps the department is taking in lieu of these perimeter security replacements to ensure this deferral does not result in a catastrophic failure or compromise the safety and security of facilities.

Response: The original design concept for the perimeter detection systems is no longer valid. Microwave technologies are being phased out of the market. DPSCS does not want to install a system that is reaching obsolescence. New technologies are available that will improve security coverage and provide longer life than the original microwave detection systems. DPSCS is evaluating the new technology in real time with the installation of these systems at the Eastern Correctional Institution as a part of the High Temperature Hot Water and Perimeter Fence Project. This project is underway and the new technology will be online this year. The Perimeter Security Upgrades will be submitted with consideration of the new technology impact.

Duvall v. Moore and BTTC Reduced Bed Count

ISSUE: DPSCS should comment on the considerations for complying with Duvall v. Moore with respect to the new BTTC and reduced bed count estimate.

Response: Careful review of the Duvall consent decree was performed by both DPSCS and the Consultants managing the design process to ensure that the Base design for BTTC will satisfy the remaining compliance requirements. The purpose built BTTC structure contains the necessary elements to support the predicted occupancy and length of stay for the detainees to receive the necessary treatment.

GO Bond Recommended Actions:

1. Reduce the general obligation bond authorization for the Life Skills and Re-Entry Center for Women project.

QB0101A New Life Skills and Re-Entry Center for Women \$ 2,025,000

Response: DPSCS requests to maintain the funding recommended for the LSRCW in the Governor's proposed budget.

2. Preauthorize \$2 million in general obligation bond funding to complete design of the Life Skills and Re-Entry Center for Women.

ZF3350 SECTION 13 – Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services New Life Skills and Re-Entry Center for Women \$ 2,000,000

Response: DPSCS requests to maintain the funding recommended for the LSRCW in the Governor's proposed budget.