



Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services

Office of the Secretary

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CAPITAL PROGRAMS

March 8, 2016

The Honorable James E. DeGrange, Sr.
Chair, Senate Capital Budget Subcommittee
Room 101, James Senate Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401-1991

Re: Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services –
Capital Budget Response

Dear Chairman DeGrange:

The Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services has attached the response on the Analyst's questions concerning the Department's Capital Budget projects.

I would like to extend my gratitude to you and the Subcommittee for your ongoing interest and continued support for the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services.

I would be happy to provide additional information and assistance should you have any questions with respect to this project.

Sincerely,

Stephen T. Moyer
Secretary

- c: Members of the Senate Subcommittee on Capital Budget
Mr. Matthew Bennett, Staff, Senate Budget & Taxation Committee
Ms. Hannah Dier, Policy Analyst, DLS
Mr. Kyle Mansfield, Budget Analyst, DBM
Acting Deputy Secretary William G. Stewart, DPSCS
Deputy Secretary J. Michael Zeigler, DPSCS
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Director Rachel Sessa, Government, Legislative & Community Affairs,
DPSCS

**DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY AND CORRECTIONAL SERVICES
FY 2017 CAPITAL BUDGET**

GO Bond Recommended Actions

1. Approve \$1.1 million in planning funds to upgrade the perimeter security at the Maryland Correctional Institution – Hagerstown.

Response: The Department concurs with the recommended action.

2. Approve \$655,000 in construction funds to replace the windows and heating systems in two housing units at the Maryland Correctional Training Center in Hagerstown.

Response: The Department concurs with the recommended action.

3. Approve \$382,000 in planning funds to upgrade the electrical infrastructure in the Jessup region.

Response: The Department concurs with the recommended action.

4. Approve \$1.9 million in construction funds to improve the high temperature hot water system at the Eastern Correctional Institution.

Response: The Department concurs with the recommended action.

5. Reduce fiscal 2017 general obligation bond funding for demolition of buildings at the Baltimore City Correctional Complex to only include \$2.5 million in design funds.

Response: The Department respectfully disagrees with the recommended action and requests the Subcommittee fully restore funding for the demolition construction as submitted by the Department in the FY 2017 capital budget request. The Department also respectfully requests preauthorization funding for FY18 at the level requested. These funds are necessary in order to complete the design, bid the construction, and begin demolition of the buildings at the Baltimore City Correctional Complex in FY2017.

These dilapidated buildings are antiquated and costly to maintain and operate. For the most part, these buildings are unoccupied; however, the Department is obligated to maintain them until they are completely demolished due to the interconnectivity of utility and security systems. Therefore, the Department will continue to incur significant costs to maintain unoccupied buildings unless they are demolished.

Moving forward with the rapid demolition of these archaic buildings is not only fiscally responsible, but it is also a symbol of the State's commitment to the safety and well-being of the public, our employees, and offenders under our care. Again, the Department respectfully disagrees with this recommended action and requests the support of the budget committees in moving forward with the demolition.

6. Reduce funding for design of the new Baltimore Justice Center to only include funds for procurement of a project construction management firm to assist in the oversight and design of the project, including budget and program plan verification.

Response: The Department respectfully disagrees with the recommended action. The Governor has withdrawn funding in FY 2017 for this project in a letter to the Joint Chairmen dated February 18, 2016.

7. Approve \$3.6 million in construction and equipment funds to complete the 60-bed detention facility in Baltimore City for youth with adult charges.

Response: The Department concurs with the recommended action.

8. Reduce fiscal 2017 general obligation bond funding for demolition of buildings at the Baltimore City Correctional Complex. This action removes the fiscal 2018 pre-authorization for funds to demolish buildings at the Baltimore City Correctional Complex.

Response: The Department respectfully disagrees, as aforementioned above under item 5. In order to award a Construction contract, the full estimated amount would need to be included as a preauthorization in order to award the demolition construction contract.