

Court Facilities

Program Description

The current focus of the County's criminal justice system is to provide adequate court facilities and update aging jail facilities and security systems.

Link to the Comprehensive Plan

The Sheriff and Courts Sections of the Public Facilities Plan within the Fairfax County Comprehensive Plan, includes the following established objectives:

- Meet the State Department of Corrections rated capacity standards for Average Daily Population at the Adult Detention Center (ADC) and provide for sentenced offenders not incarcerated at the ADC.
- Provide facilities for inmates to serve their sentence with opportunities not otherwise available in confinement to include work release, education programs, rehabilitative programs in the community, and weekend community service as alternatives to incarceration.
- Maintain a central location for the main court system for the County to be convenient to all County residents.
- Maintain the efficient and expedient processing and adjudication of cases of the 19th Judicial Circuit Court and General District Court of Fairfax County by providing the necessary facilities to accomplish such actions.

Source: Fairfax County Comprehensive Plan, 2017 Edition; Policy Plan- Public Facilities, Amended through 4-9-2019

Program Initiatives

The Judicial Center is used by over 2,500 people daily and experiences significant wear to the public spaces and building systems. There are 26 courtrooms within the original portion of the Courthouse which were in need of renovations including improved lighting, ductwork realignment and technology upgrades to keep the rooms operational. Funding for the first four courtrooms was provided and the modifications are complete. An additional \$20 million for the remaining 22 courtrooms was approved as part of the fall 2012 bond referendum. However, an amount of \$4.0 million was redirected to the Jennings Courthouse Data Center to support critical and immediate requirements at the Courthouse. An amount of \$5.0 million was approved by the voters as part of the November 2018 Public Safety Bond Referendum and will replace the redirected \$4.0 million and support construction escalation associated with current market conditions. It is anticipated that additional escalation funding will be required in the future to complete all courtroom renovations.

A new Public Safety Headquarters (PSHQ) to replace the Massey Building opened to staff in fall 2017. All personnel have been relocated and the Massey Building and Massey Annex have been demolished. Funding has been provided for a Judicial Center Complex Master Planning project to evaluate potential land use alternatives for the future of the Massey building area and the entire Complex. The master planning effort will include assessment of priority County uses for the site, including future criminal justice, public safety and human services' needs, as well as City of Fairfax and George Mason University interest in the site. Other County agencies currently in nearby lease space, such as the Health Department and Office for Children are being evaluated for inclusion in the Master Plan. In addition, the Courts and Community Services Board have requested a new Court Diversion First Center. Major areas of consideration will include the Massey Building site, the Old Courthouse, the Burkholder Administrative Center, and existing surface parking lots. The disposition of other County-owned real estate assets within the City of Fairfax at and near the Massey location,

may also be evaluated for opportunities, and the potential for public private partnerships redevelopment will be assessed.

The Adult Detention Center (ADC), in the same complex, is a three-building compound with beds for 1,343 inmates constructed in 1978, 1988 and 1998. The buildings are interconnected, but many of the building systems, including the security system, were not integrated as a single facility, or updated when the second and third buildings were added. While some upgrades and replacements have been completed in recent years, the majority of the systems and equipment have served beyond their expected useful lifetime. A major renovation project was approved by the voters as part of the 2018 Public Safety Bond Referendum.

Current Project Descriptions

1. **ADC Security/Renovation – 2018 (Providence District):** \$62,000,000 is currently estimated for the renovation and security system replacement at the Adult Detention Center in addition to \$510,000 which was previously approved for study and pre-design work. This facility has three wings (North, East and West), each constructed at different times. The North Wing is approximately 93,000 square feet and was constructed in 1989. The East Wing is approximately 106,000 square feet and was constructed in 1978 and the West Wing, the largest wing at approximately 310,000 square feet, was constructed in 1995. A mechanical, plumbing, and building systems assessment of each wing was conducted by a contracted engineering firm and the results indicated that most of the major building systems including plumbing, electrical, HVAC, and fire protection systems required replacement and/or upgrades. In addition, some exterior work is required including weather stripping and roof repairs. Based on the magnitude of the space, as well as the infrastructure upgrades and repairs required, this facility requires a full renovation. In addition, the security systems were last assessed in 2016 with studies concluding that the systems are outdated and no longer meet industry standards. System equipment repairs and maintenance have become nearly impossible as manufacturers no longer support the equipment and replacement parts are not available through standard vendors. Proposed improvements would integrate and upgrade mechanical and electronic security systems to enable Sheriff Deputies to be more proactive and avoid security issues. In order to minimize disruption to the inmates, the implementation of the security system will be conducted as part of the overall renovation project. General Fund support of approximately \$17 million will be required for the security system software, cameras and equipment. This portion of the project is not yet funded. The General Obligation Bond funding of \$45 million will support the capital improvement requirements. The bond portion of this project was approved by the voters as part of the 2018 Public Safety Bond Referendum.
2. **Courtroom Renovations Bond Funded - 2012 (Providence District):** \$21,000,000 to renovate most of the existing courtrooms within Jennings Judicial Center building. These courtrooms require improved lighting, ductwork realignment and technology upgrades. Four of the 26 courtrooms were fully funded by the General Fund and the work is complete. The remaining 22 courtrooms were approved for funding in the amount of \$20 million as part of the 2012 Public Safety Bond Referendum. However, an amount of \$4.0 million was redirected to the Jennings Courthouse Data Center to support critical and immediate data center requirements. Of the 22 bond-funded courtrooms, a total of 11 courtrooms are complete and the construction of the next phase of 6 courtrooms has started. An amount of \$5.0 million was approved by the voters as part of the 2018 Public Safety Bond Referendum and will replace the redirected \$4.0 million and support construction escalation associated with current market conditions. It is anticipated that additional escalation funding will be required in the future to complete the remaining courtroom renovations.

- 3. Courtroom Renovations Equipment/Furniture (Providence District):** This project is supported by the General Fund and provides loose furniture in the courtrooms as renovation work is complete. The 26 courtrooms in the Jennings Judicial Center are scheduled to be renovated over several years. Equipment and furniture requirements include attorney seating, juror seating, judge's chairs, clerk's chairs, court reporter's chairs, deputy's chairs, witness chairs, non-technical podiums, jury deliberation room tables and chairs, and victim/witness room tables and chairs.

Project Cost Summaries

Court Facilities

(\$000's)

Project Number	Project Title	Source of Funds	Budgeted or Expended Through FY 2021						Total FY 2022 - FY 2026	Total FY 2027 - FY 2031	Total Project Estimate
				FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	FY 2026			
1	ADC Security /Renovation - 2018 AD-000002	G, B	<i>\$4,000</i>	<i>\$18,000</i>	<i>\$23,000</i>	\$15,000	\$2,000		\$58,000		\$62,000
2	Courtroom Renovations- Bond Funded - 2012 CF-000003	B	<i>\$9,900</i>	<i>\$4,600</i>	<i>\$2,600</i>	<i>\$2,600</i>	<i>\$1,300</i>		\$11,100		\$21,000
3	Courtroom Renovation Equipment/Furniture 2G08-017-000	G	<i>\$1,589</i>						\$0		\$1,589
Total			<i>\$15,489</i>	<i>\$22,600</i>	<i>\$25,600</i>	<i>\$17,600</i>	<i>\$3,300</i>	<i>\$0</i>	<i>\$69,100</i>	<i>\$0</i>	<i>\$84,589</i>

Notes: Numbers in bold italics represent funded amounts. A "C" in the 'Budgeted or Expended' column denotes a continuing project.

Key: Source of Funds

B	Bonds
G	General Fund
S	State
F	Federal
X	Other
U	Undetermined