

Public Safety, Department of

Projects Summary
(\$ in Thousands)

Project Title	2012 Agency Priority Ranking	Agency Project Request for State Funds (\$ by Session)				Governor's Recommendations	Governor's Planning Estimate	
		2012	2014	2016	Total		2012	2014
State Emergency Operations Center	1	\$26,000	\$0	\$0	\$26,000	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Project Requests		\$26,000	\$0	\$0	\$26,000	\$0	\$0	\$0

State Emergency Operations Center

2012 STATE APPROPRIATION REQUEST: \$26,000,000

AGENCY PROJECT PRIORITY: 1 of 1

PROJECT LOCATION:

Project At A Glance

- Approximately \$26,000,000 for the construction of a State Emergency Operations Center and Homeland Security and Emergency Management office co-located with the Minnesota National Guard Joint Force Headquarters in Arden Hills. This facility, approximately 52,000 square feet, will serve as the location to provide information and support to local government and to coordinate the response of state agencies to emergencies/disasters.
- The facility will also be used to conduct exercises for an integrated state, local and federal response to simulated disasters.
- Additionally, the facility will house approximately 99 Homeland Security and Emergency Management (HSEM) staff on a daily basis and a surge capacity of up to 200 state and federal personnel during emergency/disaster response.
- A pre-design study has been completed and schematic design is underway using \$2,250,000 in funds appropriated for FY 2010-11.

Project Description:

This request is for approximately \$26,000,000 in state funds to construct, furnish, and equip a 52,000 square foot State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) and Homeland Security and Emergency Management (HSEM) office. This center will address the deficiencies identified by a security audit conducted by the MN National Guard (post 9/11) and by HSEM staff while addressing the EOC Assessment and Target Capabilities required by the Department of Homeland Security (DHS). This request follows the \$2,250,000 investment in the pre-design and design of a new SEOC.

An EOC is a facility where the coordination of information and resources to support incident management activities normally takes place. The role of the State EOC is to:

- Monitor the statewide situation including weather, potential terroristic activities, etc.
- Coordinate state agency response
- Communicate with local EOCs, responders at the scene and the federal government
- Coordinate public information with the joint information center (JIC)

An EOC must address the characteristics of survivability, security, sustainability, interoperability and flexibility. These characteristics are assessed to determine if the state has the capability to adequately respond to disasters; however, not all of these characteristics are directly related to the physical facility.

An EOC should have the following characteristics: location outside known risk areas (e.g. flood plains, port security areas, chemical facilities, rail lines that carry significant hazardous materials), below ground, away from mid and high rise structures, at least 80 feet from parking structures, indirect entrances (i.e. serpentine driveway), ability to withstand an EF3 tornado, protected from lightning and power surges, clear communications sight lines, physical security measures, secure information and communication systems for classified information, adequate space for incident command, state, federal and private sector responders, bunking, feeding areas, technology, HVAC redundancies, phone systems, generators, air and environmental monitoring.

The current SEOC is located in a high risk target area, adjacent to high rises, high traffic areas, has inadequate security, is a leased space, is in a communications dead spot, is situated over a parking ramp with direct entry from street and drive through area, has no air filtration, has only one telecommunications switching station and does not have adequate cooking facilities, food storage, and bunking.

DPS currently has two programs, located remote from HSEM, that maintain situational awareness and act as call centers for emergencies/disasters. Because they both have roles directly related to HSEM and EOC operations, they would be co-located in the new facility to maintain 24/7 coverage for

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monitoring, emergency/disaster response, and information sharing which would also save the expenses related to their current leases. In addition, this function could potentially share space with the National Guard's Watch Office.

The Department of Military Affairs (DMA) and Minnesota National Guard have produced a Master Plan for developing the Arden Hills Army Training Site (AHATS). This campus will feature multiple facilities including their Joint Force Headquarters, two armories/training centers, and a field maintenance shop with motor vehicle storage. HSEM is working closely with DMA regarding the efficiencies and mutual support opportunities from co-locating on the site in an adjacent or attached building. This would create economies of scale with regard to similar needs/requirements, e.g. security, access, technology, communications, infrastructure redundancies, protected parking for large vehicles, cooking and bunking areas. Any functions that can be shared without compromising the mission of either facility will be considered. This concept of campus support enables HSEM to reduce the scope and cost of a new SEOC by utilizing current and future common-use facilities on AHATS. The pre-design study determined that a separate adjacent building is the preferred option.

The current National Guard plan includes facilities for military and civilian activities. Congress earmarked funds for the pre-design and design of the 300-acre campus. Several parts of the plan are already in the design and construction phase. The construction of the infrastructure (such as utilities) has been funded and is underway. The plan will eventually include extensive use of sustainable/green technologies, such as a geo-thermal plant and solar farm. These plans should be sufficient to meet the needs of the SEOC. In addition, the location could support a data center to integrate support for HSEM and the agencies that report to the SEOC.

In addition, the campus plans include a site for lodging and dining. This will eliminate the need to duplicate those functions in the SEOC itself.

Impact on Agency Operating Budgets (Facilities Notes)

The current biannual lease costs for the Town Square location is approximately \$900,000 (without inflation/escalation). Using industry standard cost factors for operation, maintenance, and repair, a new stand-

alone facility is projected to cost approximately \$800,000 per biennium, plus \$220,000 for building maintenance staff and other related program costs. Given that the new facility would be 32,000 square feet larger (230%) than HSEM's existing leased space, the relatively minor 10% additional cost is more than offset by greatly enhanced capabilities.

Previous Appropriations for this Project

FY 2010-1011: \$2,250,000 for pre-design, design, and pre-construction services.

Other Considerations

In 2006, DPS published a Request for Proposal (RFP) because the current lease was expiring. Prior to the RFP, DPS developed goals and objectives, general and specific requirements for the move project. It became very apparent that the objectives and requirements for HSEM and the other divisions within DPS were contradictory and they could not be housed in the same building.

In addition, three options were available to bid: 1) all of DPS, 2) DPS without HSEM, and 3) HSEM only. There were several bidders that bid on options 1 and 2; however, no bidder felt it was cost beneficial for it to bid on HSEM only. Also, the location of the properties that were intended for options 1 and 2 did not meet HSEM requirements. DPS ended up renegotiating the current lease and staying downtown in a facility that is inadequate for HSEM. That process made it very clear that an EOC should not be in leased space.

The Arden Hills location will not only meet the many requirements for an EOC, it also meets the need for a location to park large HSEM emergency vehicles in a protected environment and places to store a cache of emergency supplies and commodities. Per the direction of the legislature, in March 2011 a traffic study confirmed the Arden Hills site will be adequately accessible in the event of a disaster that adversely affects major transportation corridors.

Because this property is currently owned by the federal government and is considered excess to the Department of Defense, we can coordinate to have title for a small parcel (15-20 acres) transferred to the State of Minnesota and

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avoid land acquisition costs for this project. This process requires the involvement of the Attorney General, the Department of Military Affairs, the Department of Administration, enabling legislation by the state legislature, and action by Minnesota's federal congressional delegation.

Lastly, HSEM may be able to apply for an EOC construction grant of up to \$1,000,000 from DHS, The grant is competitive and the building design must be completed prior to application. This funding, however, may be cut from the federal fiscal year 2012 budget.

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Governor's Recommendations (To be completed by the Department of Finance at a later date)