

Prepare underutilized campus in Cambridge for potential redevelopment as housing or other appropriate uses

Issues:

- DHS owns and maintains a 63-acre campus within the city of Cambridge that includes eight large cottages and three support buildings. Altogether, the structures have more than 143,000 square feet of interior space.
- The campus has been largely vacant since 2014. Only one building is partially occupied, housing a DHS dental clinic and administrative offices.
- The property is costly to maintain and could be put to a better, more productive use by DHS, another state agency, the community or by other partners and service providers.

Proposal:

- The Governor's Local Jobs and Projects Plan recommends funding to eliminate the centralized steam power plant at the Cambridge campus and switch to municipal utilities.
- This will allow DHS and community leaders to explore other possibilities for redeveloping and using the site in the future.

Benefits

- The investment is the first step in identifying a more productive and beneficial use for this valuable property.

Fiscal impact:

- Cambridge campus predesign, FY 2021: \$1.2 million

Related information:

- Governor's Local Jobs and Projects Plan on the Minnesota Management and Budget website: <https://mn.gov/mmb/budget/capital-budget/current/>

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