

Updated security and monitoring systems will improve safety at state-run hospitals and other treatment facilities

Issues:

- Through its Direct Care and Treatment (DCT) administration, DHS operates secure psychiatric hospitals, locked substance abuse treatment facilities and secure treatment facilities for sex offenders.
- Up-to-date security systems and electronic monitoring tools in these facilities are essential to patient, staff and public safety.
- Currently, there is no funding source to upgrade these systems without dramatically impacting the operating budgets at DCT facilities.

Proposal:

- The Governor's Local Jobs and Projects Plan recommends funding to install new and upgraded security systems and electronic monitoring tools as well as to make physical modifications that improve safety and security for patients and staff in DCT treatment facilities.
- The proposal calls for replacing the security perimeter fence at the Minnesota Sex Offender Program in Moose Lake and replacing thousands of outdated interior and exterior security cameras at all DCT facilities. Cameras typically have three to seven year life cycle.

Benefits

- Facilities will receive security system upgrades and monitoring tools they need to maintain and improve patient, staff and public safety.

Fiscal impact:

- DCT treatment facility security upgrades, FY 2021: \$5 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/>
- Direct Care and Treatment Programs and Services webpage:
<https://mn.gov/dhs/people-we-serve/adults/services/direct-care-treatment/programs-services/>

