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<th>Project Title</th>
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<td>Emergency Management Training Facility</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>$10,000 $0 $0 $10,000</td>
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<td>Emergency Operations Center</td>
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<td><strong>Total Project Requests</strong></td>
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2010 STATE APPROPRIATION REQUEST: $10,000,000

AGENCY PROJECT PRIORITY: 1 of 2

PROJECT LOCATION:

Project At A Glance

$10 million for Phase II (completion) of a comprehensive emergency management training facility at Camp Ripley.

Project Description

The overall, $15 million project entails a technology-outfitted emergency management classroom and simulation building (simulated Emergency Operations Center and simulated Joint Information Center), 56-person “pod-based” dormitory, and various public safety-related field exercises. Complex and modifiable multi-faceted training exercises involving various emergency response agencies can be conducted as part of a large disaster scenario, with interface between the emergency management team and the public safety personnel on the training ground. The field exercises will also be available for particularized training in contexts that don’t involve large-scale emergency/disaster simulations. The simulated Emergency Operations Center can, likewise, be utilized independently of the training ground to run computer-based disaster and incident scenarios to test emergency operation plans and overall crisis response.

This is a “Tier 3” facility to be utilized by numerous state and local agencies; first-responders; state, county, and city emergency management personnel; and any other users who might require realistic field training and/or advanced public safety computer simulation scenarios to do their jobs proficiently.

Impact on Agency Operating Budgets (Facilities Notes)

The Department of Military Affairs (DMA) already has custodial control over the property. The Department of Public Safety (DPS) will enter into an Interagency Agreement with DMA to manage, maintain, and repair the facility. Since the project is a training center, DPS will need to hire additional training and exercising program staff (to develop curriculum and serve as course managers) as well as IT staff and administrative support. This cost is estimated at $570,000 annually. It may be possible that IT and administrative support staff can be shared by DPS utilizing DMA staff already assigned to Camp Ripley.

Previous Appropriations for this Project

$5 million for Phase I appropriated in 2008 bonding cycle.

Other Considerations

As a Tier 3 training and exercise facility, this project is to have a statewide character. No such comprehensive training ground with this level of exercise capability, realism, and interoperability currently exists in Minnesota. Camp Ripley is an ideal location, in the geographic center of the state. The ongoing partnership with the Department of Military Affairs and, indirectly, the federal government will yield significant long-term advantages over the life of the facility.

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Governor’s Recommendations (To be completed by MMB at a later date)
2010 STATE APPROPRIATION REQUEST: $2,250,000

AGENCY PROJECT PRIORITY: 2 of 2

PROJECT LOCATION:

Project At A Glance

♦ $15,000,000 ($2,250,000 sought in 2010 for pre-design and design) for a State Emergency Operations Center (EOC) and Homeland Security and Emergency Management (HSEM) office co-located with the Minnesota National Guard Joint Force Headquarters in Arden Hills. This facility will serve to provide information and support to local governments and to coordinate the response of state agencies to emergencies/disasters.
♦ This facility will also be used to conduct exercises for an integrated state, local and federal response to simulated disasters.
♦ Lastly, this will be the permanent office location for the 65 staff of the HSEM division of the Department of Public Safety (DPS), with an additional surge capacity of up to 200 state and federal personnel when the EOC is activated for emergency/disaster response.

Project Description

This request is for approximately $15,000,000 in state funds is to conduct a pre-design, design, construct, furnish and equip a 30,000 square foot state Emergency Operations Center and Homeland Security and Emergency Management office. This center will address the deficiencies identified by a security audit conducted by the Minnesota 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).

An EOC is a facility at which 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 disaster; however, not all of these characteristics are directly related to the physical facility.

An EOC should have the following: location outside known risk areas (e.g. flood plans, 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, withstand EF3 tornado, protected from lightning, power surges, clear communications sight lines, physical security measures, secure information and communication system for classified information, adequate space for Incident Command, state, federal and private sector responders, bunking, feeding areas, technology, redundancies of HVAC, phone systems, generators, air and environmental monitoring.

The current state EOC 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, situated over a parking ramp with direct entry from street and drive through area, has no air filtration, has only one telecomm switching station and does not have adequate cooking, food storage and bunking.

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

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The Department of Military Affairs and the Minnesota National Guard have produced a Master Plan for developing the Arden Hills Army Training Site. This location will contain several facilities including their Joint Force Headquarters. HSEM has begun discussions with them regarding the efficiencies of co-locating on the site in an adjacent or attached building. This would lend itself to 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.

The current National Guard plan includes facilities for military and civilian activities. Congress earmarked funds for the pre-design and design of the 300 acres. 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 will begin shortly. The plan includes extensive use of sustainability and green technology, such as a geo-thermal plant and solar farm. These plans should be sufficient to include the needs of the EOC. In addition, the location will include a large data center which could also incorporate the support for HSEM and the agencies that report to the EOC.

In addition, the plans include a site for lodging and dining. This will eliminate the need to duplicate this function within the EOC itself.

Impact on Agency Operating Budgets (Facilities Notes)

The Department of Military Affairs (DMA) already has custodial control over the property. DPS could enter into an Interagency Agreement with DMA to manage, maintain and repair the facility. Since this facility will be larger than the current HSEM facility, our current budget for leased space will not be adequate. In addition, we will not be located with the other divisions of the Department of Public Safety (DPS), and therefore may need to budget for the cost of technology support currently supplied by DPS.

Previous Appropriations for this Project

None

Other Considerations

In January 2007, Real Estate Services Division of the Department of Administration (DOA) published a Request for Proposal (RFP) on behalf of DPS because the current lease was to expire in October 2008. 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 of 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 & 2, however, no bidder felt it was cost beneficial for them to bid on HSEM only. Also, the location of the properties that were intended for options 1 & 2 did not meet HSEM requirements. No state facilities were available to house HSEM. All proposals were rejected and DOA began negotiating on behalf of DPS a new lease agreement with the current lessor. Although the current facilities are inadequate for HSEM we had no options at that time but to stay in the current facilities. That process made it very clear that an EOC should not be built in leased space.

The Arden Hills location will not only meet the many requirements of 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.

Because this property is currently owned by the federal government, we may be able to have the title transferred to the state incurring no costs instead of factoring real estate costs into the project. This process will need the input from the Attorney General, Department of Administration and possible action by the state legislature and the Minnesota Congressional delegation.

Lastly, HSEM may be able to apply for up to $1 million construction grant from DHS specifically targeted at EOCs. The grant is competitive and a design must already be completed for the project. This funding, however, may be cut from the federal fiscal year 2010 budget.
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Governor's Recommendations (To be completed by MMB at a later date)