

## Court Facilities

### *Board of Supervisors' Adjustments*

As part of the FY 2007 Adopted Budget Plan, the Board of Supervisors approved an amount of \$1,100,000 to begin to address needed renovations in the existing 25 courtrooms within Jennings building which are not being renovated or moved as part of the Judicial Center Expansion Project.

### **PROGRAM DESCRIPTION**

The primary issue facing the County's criminal justice system is the provision of adequate court facilities and support functions. The criminal justice system and its associated facilities have recently seen an increase in demand in Fairfax County. This is comparable to the general increase exhibited throughout the region, state, and country as more stringent laws are legislated and enforced for varying degrees of law violations.

### **LINK TO THE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN**

Fairfax County's Comprehensive Plan has established a number of objectives and policies in order to:

- ✓ Meet all State standards for incarceration space.
- ✓ Provide sufficient courtroom space to continue timely adjudication of cases.
- ✓ Maintain a central location for the main court system to be convenient to all County residents.
- ✓ Provide a stratified system of juvenile facilities to house and process juveniles with varying degrees of legal difficulties.

Source: 2003 Edition of the Comprehensive Plan, as amended

### **CURRENT PROGRAM INITIATIVES**

The court caseloads in the Fairfax County judicial system have been experiencing steady growth for the past 10 years and current projections are for this trend to continue. The Judicial Center Expansion project will collocate all three courts - Circuit, General District, and Juvenile & Domestic Relations District Courts - in one building to facilitate the sharing of limited resources and to alleviate the confusion of two separate courthouses. The expansion project will include additional courtrooms for all three courts and functional support spaces for clerk's offices, the Commonwealth's Attorney, the Sheriff's court services and security offices, and Public Law Library, as well as open office areas for County staff not permanently assigned to the courthouse such as probation officers who are required to work out of the courthouse on a limited basis. The construction of the Judicial Center Expansion began in July 2004. Funding for this project was provided by the 1998 Public Safety Bond Referendum and a state reimbursement from the adult detention center construction.

In addition to the Judicial Center Expansion project, the existing Jennings Building requires major renovations to make it a functional and operational component of the courthouse. The Jennings Building is over 20 years old, and has not had any significant building renovations during this time. The building is used by over 2,500 people daily and has experienced significant wear to the public spaces and building

systems. Expanded and renovated facilities for the public lobby/circulation spaces, cafeteria, Commonwealth's Attorney, Police Liaison, Sheriff's roll call facilities, and Circuit and General District Court clerk's offices will be provided in the renovated Jennings Building. In addition, significant improvements to the building's life safety, mechanical, and electrical systems will be made. No significant modifications are planned for the existing courtrooms. Funding for this project was provided by the 2002 Public Safety Bond Referendum. Future modifications for technology and interior design renovations to the 25 existing Circuit Court and General District courtrooms will be essential to the integrity of the overall court facility.

In conjunction with the Judicial Center Expansion and Jennings Building Renovation projects, requirements for improved security will be implemented. Design and implementation of security enhancements to the courthouse and the surrounding site are in response to a heightened threat level in the Washington D.C. metro area and will follow federal guidelines for courthouse design criteria. In addition, the Judicial Center Parking Structure was completed in early 2003, and provides approximately 1,900 parking spaces and upgrades to an existing surface parking lot.

The FY 2007 budget includes a significant increase in funding associated with the courthouse expansion project. Costs to support the expanded facility include: moving costs, utility costs, staff resources, maintenance and custodial work, systems furniture and loose furniture for public spaces, new cafeteria, conference rooms, and other common areas. These operating costs will be required to be funded over the next several years. Based on the timing of the overall project completion, some operating and staff costs will not be required until FY 2008 or FY 2009.



Artist rendering of Fairfax County Courthouse

A 768-bed expansion to the Adult Detention Center (ADC) at the Massey complex was completed in July 2000. The expanded ADC

facility houses an average of approximately 1,000 inmates daily. Renovation of the existing ADC facility was completed in summer 2002, and included upgraded and expanded facilities for prisoner intake/processing, Magistrate's offices, public and professional visiting, inmate property and record storage, administrative support areas, and public lobby areas. Security screens were installed in the forensic housing areas in 2003 for inmate safety, and the computer hardware for the security system in the ADC was upgraded in 2004.

As in the case of adult offenders, the need for juvenile detention space continues to grow. As a result of various past and future demographic and social factors, as well as recent state legislation, it is projected that additional detention space and facilities will be needed for juveniles at different levels of incarceration. These factors have been used as a guide to help develop the Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court juvenile facilities capital program. A 66-bed expansion to the Juvenile Detention Center was completed in 1998. Additional projects required to address juvenile offenders include a new, replacement facility for the current, outdated Girls' Probation House, and a Less Secure Facility II.

The Community Labor Force (CLF) is an offender labor force managed by the Office of the Sheriff that provides, at no cost to the County, quick and efficient removal of trash, debris, and graffiti throughout the County, maintains over 130 bus shelters and 150 bus stops, and performs landscape maintenance on over 250 acres of County-owned properties. In FY 2005, those services saved the County over \$1,100,000. Currently, the CLF is housed in the Pre-Release Center of the ADC. Limited available space prevents the CLF from growing beyond its present level of about 50 inmates, and thus an off-site housing area for the CLF has been identified. Long-term plans include establishing a self-contained secure Inmate Work Training Center in Chantilly housing up to 150 inmates supervised by deputy sheriffs, with storage for all CLF vehicles and equipment and a staging area for daily operations. In addition, the vacated Pre-Release Center would be renovated to provide a secure and full-range of housing opportunities for female inmates, who would be separated from the male inmate population and afforded a like number of program opportunities that male inmates currently receive.

## CURRENT PROJECT DESCRIPTIONS

1. **Jennings Judicial Center - Expansion and Renovation.** \$115,733,000 for the design and construction of an approximately 316,000-square foot addition to the Jennings Judicial Center including courtrooms, chambers, office space, necessary support spaces, and site improvements. This project also includes the renovation of the existing 230,000-square foot courthouse and for improved security to the overall courthouse and surrounding site. The renovation will include significant renovations to life safety, mechanical, and electrical building systems to create a functional and operational courthouse. This project is supported by the 1998 and 2002 Public Safety Referenda and a state reimbursement from the ADC construction.
2. **Jennings Judicial Center - Furniture and Equipment.** \$4,755,150 for necessary Information Technology equipment and building support for the Judicial Center Expansion and Renovation project. Funding provides for the purchase of systems furniture and loose furniture, Courtroom furnishings, as well as furniture for the jury assembly room, public waiting areas, the law library, the children's room, staff work areas, and the cafeteria. All of these are necessary to make the Judicial Center Expansion fully functional.
3. **Girls' Probation House.** \$6,031,000 for design and construction of a new, approximately 12,500 square foot facility at the site of the existing facility. Construction will be phased to keep the program operational until the new facility is complete. The new facility is required to provide a replacement for an extremely outdated facility that is nearly fifty years old and was originally constructed as a motel. Funding is supported by the 2004 Human Services/ Juvenile Facilities Bond Referendum. The approved project scope and budget may need to be re-evaluated due to the significant recent escalation of construction costs in the region.
4. **Less Secure Shelter II.** \$4,421,000 for design and construction of a new, approximately 12,500 square foot facility at the site of the existing Juvenile Detention Center and the existing Less Secure facility. The new facility will provide twelve new beds to help alleviate overcrowding at the existing facility resulting from court-ordered assignments. The new facility will also allow for segregation of male and female juveniles who are ordered into the program. Funding is supported by the 2004 Human Services/ Juvenile Facilities bond referendum. The approved project scope and budget may need to be re-evaluated due to the significant recent escalation of construction costs in the region.
5. **Historic Courthouse Feasibility Study.** \$150,000 for review and updating of the facility condition assessment, space programming, and conceptual design for the minimal interior space reconfiguration and minimum infrastructure renewal necessary to backfill existing spaces upon completion of the Jennings Judicial Center Expansion and Renovation project.
6. **Jennings Courtroom Renovations.** \$1,100,000 is included to begin to address needed renovations in the existing 25 courtrooms within Jennings building which are not being renovated or moved as part of the Judicial Center Expansion Project. These courtrooms require improved lighting, ductwork realignment, and technology upgrades to keep these existing court rooms operational. The cost to complete this work is estimated at \$550,000 per court room for a total requirement of \$13.75 million. FY 2007 funding represents the first year of a multi-year plan to fund expenses associated with the courtroom renovations.

**PROJECT COST SUMMARIES  
COURT FACILITIES  
(\$000's)**

Project Title/ Project Number	Source of Funds	Anticipated to be Expended Thru FY 2006						Total FY2007- FY2011	Total FY2012- FY2016	Total Project Estimate
			FY 2007	FY 2008	FY 2009	FY 2010	FY 2011			
1. Jennings Judicial Center - Expansion and Renovation / 009209	B, G, X	<b>59,475</b>	<b>26,542</b>	<b>21,701</b>	<b>8,015</b>			56,258		115,733
2. Jennings Judicial Center - Furniture and Equipment / 009218	G		<b>4,755</b>					4,755		4,755
3. Girls' Probation House / 04A001	B	<b>930</b>	<b>3,500</b>	<b>1,601</b>				5,101		6,031
4. Less Secure Shelter II / 04A005	B	<b>323</b>	<b>1,200</b>	<b>2,598</b>	<b>300</b>			4,098		4,421
5. Historic Courthouse Feasibility Study / 009219	G	<b>150</b>						0		150
6. Jenning Judicial Center Courtroom Renovations	G	<b>0</b>	<b>1,100</b>					1,100		1,100
<b>TOTAL</b>		\$60,878	\$37,097	\$25,900	\$8,315	\$0	\$0	\$71,312	\$0	\$132,190

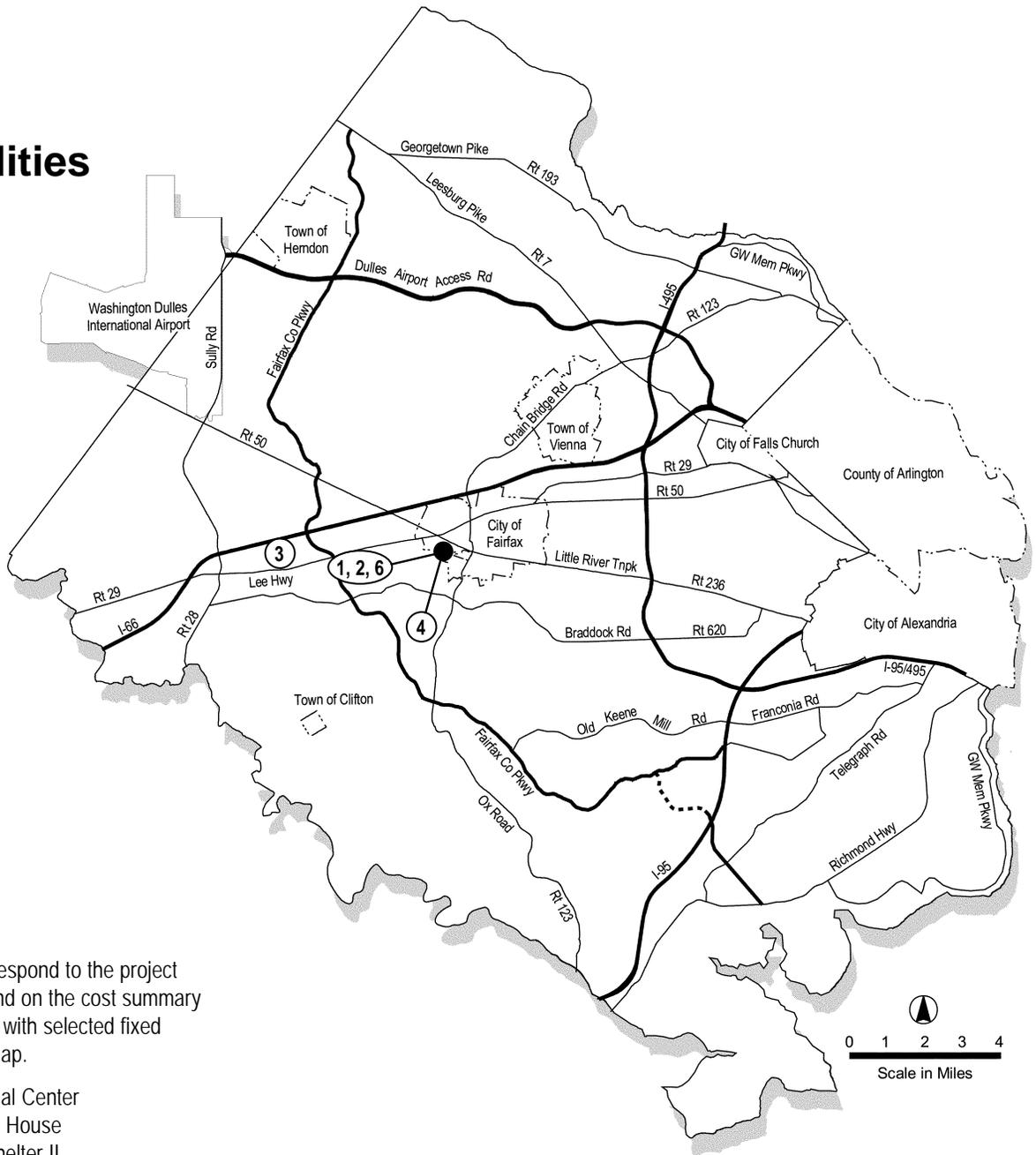
Key: Stage of Development	
	Feasibility Study or Design
	Land Acquisition
	Construction

Notes:  
Numbers in **bold italics** represent funded amounts.  
TBD = To be determined

Key: Source of Funds	
B	Bonds
G	General Fund
S	State
F	Federal
X	Other
U	Undetermined

# Court Facilities

## Location of CIP Projects



**Note:** Map numbers correspond to the project descriptions in the text and on the cost summary tables. Only CIP projects with selected fixed sites are shown on the map.

- 1, 2, 6. Jennings Judicial Center
- 3. Girls' Probation House
- 4. Less Secure Shelter II