Public Safety

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Fairfax County continues to demand the timely delivery of modern, efficient public safety services. Provision of an appropriate level of service requires facility improvements of three general types: construction of new facilities to provide improved service levels; construction of new facilities to replace temporary rented or substandard quarters; and renovation and/or expansion of existing facilities. Public Safety facilities include those associated with Fire and Rescue, Police and animal control, Office of the Sheriff, E-911 communication and vehicle maintenance.

LINK TO THE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

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

- ✓ Establish and maintain, at a minimum, a seven-minute total response time coverage for fire and rescue emergencies to at least 95 percent of the County's population.
- ✓ Evaluate the need for a centralized police vehicle storage center to provide a secure area for vehicles involved in fatal accident investigations, surveillance vehicle storage and police vehicle preparation; expand Mount Vernon police station.
- ✓ Expand the fire and rescue training academy when necessary based on a needs analysis for this facility.
- ✓ Locate fire stations on a street with a traffic signal with pre-emption capability at a nearby intersection.
- ✓ Build new fire and rescue stations located near the intersection of Beulah Road and Leesburg Pike, the Hunter Mill Road corridor north of Oakton, and the area south of Clifton; upgrade the Herndon fire station.
- ✓ Plan for a new fire and rescue station and possible colocated police station, and/or other public safety facility in the Laurel Hill area.
- ✓ Maintain the current Animal Shelter on West Ox Road, and construct a new satellite animal shelter in the southeast portion of the County, preferably in the Springfield/Mount Vernon area, and collocated with other County facilities.

Source: 2007 Edition of the Fairfax County Comprehensive Plan, Areas II, III, and IV, and the Policy Plan Element, Public Facilities Section, as amended

CURRENT PROGRAM INITIATIVES

The County identified a critical need to provide upgraded state of the art facilities for the new McConnell Public Safety and Transportation Operations Center (MPSTOC), which has been constructed near the former Virginia State Camp 30 site on West Ox Road. MPSTOC includes the Department of Public Safety Communications (DPSC), the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) and a Transportation Center. The DPSC is the central point for receiving 911 and non-emergency requests for services from the public and for dispatching of police and fire units. The EOC is the central facility from which local leaders control government resources, communicate information and make decisions during emergencies and disasters. A 2002 Public Safety Bond Referendum was approved by the voters and included $29 million to partially support the design and construction of a new PSTOC facility. Additional costs associated with the facility and associated information technology systems were funded through the General Fund.

Artist rendering of the Public Safety and Transportation Operations Center (PSTOC), which has been constructed near the former Virginia State Camp 30 site on West Ox Road.

Police

On November 7, 2006, the voters approved a Public Safety Bond Referendum to fund the expansion and renovation of the Reston, Fair Oaks and McLean District Stations, as well as the renovation of the existing West Ox Animal Shelter. Each of these facilities has exceeded its intended life cycle and requires renovation/expansion to meet existing service delivery demands.

In conjunction with an overall master planning study of public safety facility needs, the police department is studying replacement of functions currently operated from the Massey Building, Police Annex and its Operations Support Bureau (currently housed at the Pine Ridge facility). Space allocation includes each of the agency's administrative functions, central records, property and evidence, major crimes and operations support capacities. These functions are currently being conducted from facilities that are over 40 years of age and have reached expansion or modification capacity. Additional efforts are underway to acquire a Logistics Support Warehouse to appropriately house evidence, emergency supplies and logistics, as well as specialized vehicle storage.

Long term plans for the Police Department also include renewals and expansions of the Mason and Franconia District Stations and a combination Emergency Vehicle Operations/Canine (EVOC) training classroom. The current Driver Training space consists of portable trailers which no longer meet the training needs of the Department and are prone to water leakage. An increase in risk associated with explosive threats has also changed the volume of canine training. Currently canine training is being conducted at multiple ad-hoc sites and the Police Department's desire is to have the training be located full-time at the Firearms/EVOC facility.

The Police Department has also identified the need to evaluate alternatives for improving the delivery of animal control services to the residents of southeastern Fairfax County. Currently, all animal shelter facilities are located in the central part of the County on West Ox Road, which is inconvenient to many residents. The West Ox shelter is in significant need of renovations and expansion. Limited funds are available for preliminary concept work on a South County Animal Shelter. In addition, the Police Heliport at the West Ox Road Complex is in need of renovation to construct office and classroom space for staffing and paramedic training requirements. The Operations Support Bureau located in the Pine Ridge facility has outgrown its current site. Future plans may also include the construction of a new district station in the rapidly developing Laurel Hill and Dunn Loring /Tysons areas.

Fire and Rescue

The Fire and Rescue Department's Fire Station Location Master Plan serves as the general plan for locating new fire and rescue stations in the County. The Master Plan defines criteria for determining where future stations are needed. These criteria include incident activity, population, development types and densities, road networks, target hazards, topographical information and response times. As a result, the West Centreville, Kingstowne, North Point and Fairfax Center stations were constructed, and the site for the future Wolftrap station was acquired and design work completed. In addition, the Crosspointe Fire and Rescue Station was constructed to serve the rapid population growth in the Laurel Hill area which resulted after the closing of the Lorton prison.

In FY 2005, a Fire Station Condition Assessments study was completed for 11 volunteer-owned fire stations and 21 of the 24 County-owned fire stations. The study evaluated the condition and functionality of these stations including the ability to meet current operational requirements. The results of this assessment, in conjunction with the increasing demand to provide accommodations (bunkroom, shower and locker facilities) for the Fire and Rescue Department's female personnel, will be utilized to plan and prioritize facility improvements and renovations as well as identify the potential need to replace existing stations. The Fire and Rescue Department's female operational workforce has increased by 125 percent since FY 2005.

The demands on the Fire and Rescue training academy continue to exceed the availability of resources. Fire and Rescue Department staff conducted a training facility needs assessment and feasibility study in collaboration with the Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority (MWAA) to evaluate the County's West Ox training complex and the possibility of developing a shared facility at Dulles International Airport. The study recommended significant enhancement and renovation of the West Ox site to include a new multi-function training facility and a Candidate Physical Abilities Testing (CPAT) facility. Since the completion of the MWAA study, a shared training facility at the Dulles site is no longer a viable option. Therefore, the Fire and Rescue Department is currently revising the training academy master plan to incorporate additional training capacity on the West Ox site as well as continuing to research other potential locations to meet the future training requirements of the Department.

Long range plans for the Fire and Rescue Department include planning and developing future fire and rescue stations to meet the service needs of projected high commercial and residential growth areas throughout the County. The Fire and Rescue Department conducts research on response times and best practices in resource allocation to optimize service delivery and to prioritize funding needs for new stations and for renovating or relocating existing stations. The Dulles Metrorail expansion and anticipated development in Tyson's Corner and along the Dulles Toll Road will impact the need to maintain fire and rescue response times and service levels in the McLean, Tyson's Corner, Reston and Herndon areas.

Other Public Safety Requirements

Public Safety agencies determined the need to initiate a strategic planning process to begin planning for future development. Work continues on the Public Safety Master Plan feasibility study and needs assessment to identify and prioritize the County's long-term needs for all public safety agencies. The study is intended to focus on, but is not limited to, identifying the size, location and cost of a new public safety headquarters building to replace the Massey Building facility. The existing Massey Building facility is nearly forty years old has deteriorating building subsystems and has significant limitations due to asbestos and a relatively inefficient floor plan. Additional work is underway to examine the future needs of the existing Pine Ridge facility after it is partially vacated due to a significant portion of operations moving to the McConnell Public Safety and Transportation Operations Center (MPSTOC).

In addition, both Police and Fire are currently in need of warehouse space to ensure emergency equipment is "strategy deployable," while also ensuring its longevity and functionality. Additional warehouse space would provide storage for vehicles, emergency supplies, protective equipment and a designated and secure area for large seizures of evidence items. The County may take advantage of any shorter term opportunities, like leasing, lease purchase or other options that may arise to satisfy this requirement.

CURRENT PROJECT DESCRIPTIONS

NEW CONSTRUCTION

1. **Wolftrap Fire Station** (Dranesville District). $10,675,000 for land acquisition and construction of a 14,000 square foot fire station with four equipment bays to serve the area near Beulah Road and Leesburg Pike. A site near this intersection has been purchased and the design for the station has been completed. The Wolftrap fire station will address response time delays on the highly traveled area of Leesburg Pike as well as along the Dulles Airport Access/Toll Road corridor. This project is supported by the 1989 Public Safety Bond Referendum. The Wolftrap Fire Station has been delayed due to budget constraints and additional bond support may be required in a future bond referendum in order to proceed with construction of the new station.

RENEWALS/ADDITIONS

2. **Herndon Fire Station** (Dranesville District). $1,350,000 to begin conceptual design for the future replacement of the station. County staff is working with the Town of Herndon on the feasibility of rebuilding a new larger fire station on the current site. A portion of the public safety bond funds planned for construction of the Wolftrap Fire Station will be redirected to proceed with the design of the replacement Herndon Fire Station.

3. **McLean Police Station** (Dranesville District). $17,900,000 for full design and construction of major renovations and infrastructure renewal at the existing police station, and expansion to meet current and future operational and staffing requirements at the station. The project study has been revised to address the cost and feasibility of retaining the District Supervisor's office at the current location. Funds for the renovation and expansion of the Police Station were approved as part of the 2006 Public Safety Bond Referendum.

4. **Reston Police Station** (Hunter Mill District). $18,800,000 for full design and construction of major renovations, infrastructure renewal and expansion at the existing police station. The project will address major building systems that are at or near the end of their useful life cycle, and will provide expansion necessary to mitigate existing overcrowded conditions, and to meet future operational staffing requirements at the station. Funds for the renovation and expansion were approved as part of the 2006 Public Safety Bond Referendum. An updated master plan and police station site plan that provides for a new station, on-site are being finalized and evaluated.

5. **Fair Oaks Police Station** (Sully District). $17,400,000 for full design and construction of major renovations, infrastructure renewal and expansion at the existing police station. The project will address major building systems that are at or near the end of their useful life cycle, and will provide expansion necessary to mitigate existing overcrowded conditions and to meet future operational staffing requirements at the station. Facility renewal and minor expansion will also be included to address the most critical needs of the existing Fair Oaks Fire Station that is co-located at this facility. Funds for the renovation and expansion were approved as part of the 2006 Public Safety Bond Referendum.

6. **Great Falls Volunteer Fire Station** (Dranesville District). $13,300,000 for design and construction of a new replacement fire station at the site of the existing station. Construction will be phased to maintain fire station operations during construction. The original fire and rescue station needs to be replaced due to systems and infrastructure that are severely undersized and at the end of their useful life cycle. A new, larger station is needed to meet the current operational requirements of the Fire and Rescue Department including equipment bays for existing apparatus and specialized swift water rescue equipment, bunkroom and locker facilities for female personnel, control room, exercise room, hose tower for training, larger HVAC and electrical systems and administrative space for current staffing levels. This project is funded through the 2006 Public Safety Bond Referendum in the amount of $12,000,000 and through an agreement with the Great Falls Volunteer Fire Department.

7. **West Ox Animal Shelter Expansion and Renewal** (Springfield District). $17,000,000 for full design and construction of major renovations, infrastructure renewal and expansion at the existing animal shelter. The project will address major building systems that are at or near the end of their useful life cycle, and will provide expansion necessary to mitigate existing overcrowded conditions and to meet future operational and staffing requirements at the station. Funds for the renovation and expansion were approved as part of the 2006 Public Safety Bond Referendum.

8. **Fire and Rescue Academy (West Ox Site Phase I Improvements)** (Springfield District). $17,100,000 for full design and construction of Phase I of major renovations, infrastructure renewal and expansion at the existing West Ox Fire Training Academy. The project will address major building systems that are at the end of their useful life cycle, and will provide expansion necessary to address the current lack of capacity for recruit training and to meet future training requirements at the academy. The project will also include a new, multi-function training building and rappelling tower facility for Fairfax County fire and rescue training. This new facility will provide a critically needed Class B live fire training facility to supplement the existing Class A live fire structure which is extremely limited in its usefulness. The new, multi-function training facility will provide a significant increase in flexibility and capacity for Class B live fires, rappelling and other training exercises. This project is funded through the 2006 Public Safety Bond Referendum.

OTHER

9. **Emergency Management Initiatives** (Countywide). $757,958 to address on-going and projected County Emergency Planning Initiatives, such as updating the County Emergency Operations Plan and the Regional Mitigation Plan, planning for possible threats to public health, updating business operations plans and several other emergency planning efforts.

10. **Public Safety Master Plan** (Countywide). $900,000 including $600,000 to support a Public Safety Master Plan feasibility study and needs assessment to identify and prioritize the County's long-term needs for all public safety agencies. The study is intended to focus on, but is not limited to, identifying the size, location and cost of a new public safety headquarters building to replace the Massey Building facility. An additional $300,000 is for a Pine Ridge Feasibility Study which will examine the future needs of the existing facility after it is partially vacated due to operations moving to the Public Safety and Transportation Operations Center (PSTOC).

11. **PSTOC Operating Costs** (Springfield District). $1,820,972 will support the operations of the Public Safety and Transportation Operations Center (PSTOC), anticipated to be complete in Spring/Summer 2008. Funding is associated with equipment and furniture for public spaces, conferences rooms, some office space and other common areas. All of these costs are necessary to make the PSTOC fully functional.

12. **Traffic Light Signalization** (Countywide). $968,000 for a continuing program to install traffic light systems at priority fire and rescue station locations. Traffic systems may include traffic lights, station warning signals and/or preemption systems. This project is supported by the 1989 Public Safety Bond Referendum.

PROJECT COST SUMMARIES
PUBLIC SAFETY
($000's)

Project Title/ Project Number	Source of Funds	Budgeted or Expended Through FY 2010	FY 2011	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014	FY 2015	Total FY2011-FY2015	Total FY2016-FY2020	Total Project Estimate
NEW CONSTRUCTION										
1 Wolf Trap Fire Station / 009094	B	***5,000***	***1,242***	***3,233***	***1,050***	***150***		5,675		10,675
RENEWALS/ADDITIONS										
2 Herndon Fire Station / 009215	G, B	***250***	***1,100***					1,100		1,350
3 McLean Police Station / 009227	B	***1,200***	***2,380***	***4,000***	***7,120***	***3,200***		16,700		17,900
4 Reston Police Station / 009226	B	***1,300***	***2,460***	***7,500***	***7,340***	***200***		17,500		18,800
5 Fair Oaks Police Station / 009225	B	***2,170***	***6,000***	***7,500***	***400***	***1,330***		15,230		17,400
6 Great Falls Volunteer Fire Station / 009224	B, X	***5,150***	***7,000***	***1,150***				8,150		13,300
7 West Ox Animal Shelter Expansion and Renewal / 009228	B	***1,700***	***4,600***	***6,900***	***3,100***	***700***		15,300		17,000
8 Fire and Rescue Academy (West Ox Site) - Phase I Improvements / 009229	B	***3,500***	***2,600***	***7,000***	***3,800***	***200***		13,600		17,100
9 Emergency Management Initiatives / 009495	G	***757***						0		757
10 Public Safety Master Plan / 009220, 009222	G	***900***						0		900
11 Public Safety Transportation Operations Center (PSTOC) Operational Costs / 009231	G	***1,821***						0		1,821
12 Traffic Light Signalization / 009088	B	***968***						0		968
TOTAL		***$24,716***	$27,382	$37,283	$22,810	$5,780	$0	$93,255	$0	$117,971

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

Notes:
Numbers in ***bold italics*** represent funded amounts.
A "***C***" in the 'Budgeted or Expended' column denotes a continuing project.

Key: Source of Funds

B	Bonds
G	General Fund
S	State
F	Federal
X	Other
U	Undetermined

Public Safety
Project Locations

1 Wolf Trap Fire Station
2 Herndon Fire Station
3 McLean Police Station
4 Reston Police Station
5 Fair Oaks Police Station
6 Great Falls Volunteer Fire Station
7 West Ox Animal Shelter Renewal
8 Fire & Rescue Academy - Phase I Improvements

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