

Court Facilities

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The current focus of the County's criminal justice system is to provide adequate court facilities and update aging jail security systems.

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, including the expansion of adult detention facilities if required.
- ✓ Plan and construct additional or expand existing facilities necessary to maintain the efficient and expedient processing and adjudication of cases, maintain a central location for the main court system for the County to be convenient to all County residents.
- ✓ Maintain adequate levels of service at existing or new Court and Central Court Service facilities, pre- and post-dispositional juvenile facilities, and for community intake and probation services.
- ✓ Provide supervised residential living/educational centers for selected non-violent male and female offenders referred to the Community Diversion Program from the District or Circuit Court.

Source: 2007 Edition of the Comprehensive Plan, Area III, and the Policy Plan Element, Public Facilities and Human Services Sections, as amended

CURRENT PROGRAM INITIATIVES

The Judicial Center is used by over 2,500 people daily and experiences significant wear to the public spaces and building systems. There are 26 courtrooms within the original portion of the Courthouse which are in need of renovations including improved lighting, ductwork realignment and technology upgrades to keep the rooms operational. Funding for the first four courtrooms has been provided and the modifications have been completed. An additional \$20 million for the remaining 22 courtrooms was approved as part of the fall 2012 bond referendum. However, an amount of \$4.0 million has been redirected to the Jennings Courthouse Data Center to support critical and immediate requirements at the Courthouse. Additional funding to complete all courtroom renovations will be required in the future.

A new Public Safety Headquarters (PSHQ) to replace the Massey Building is currently in construction and is scheduled to be complete in 2017. Once the PSHQ is complete, the Massey Building and Massey Annex will be demolished. A Courts Complex Master Plan was completed that evaluated the zoning, site restrictions, current buildings, and parking areas. In FY 2017 funding has been included for a Massey Complex Master Planning project to evaluate potential land use alternatives for the Massey Complex subsequent to the Massey Building being vacated and demolished. The master planning effort will include assessment of priority County uses for the site, including future criminal justice, public safety and human services' needs, as well as City of Fairfax and George Mason University interest in the site. Major areas of consideration will include the Massey Building, Burkholder Building, and Police Administration

Building sites, and existing surface parking lots. The disposition of other County-owned real estate assets within the City of Fairfax may also be evaluated for opportunities, and the potential for public private partnerships redevelopment will be assessed.

The Adult Detention Center (ADC) with a rated capacity of 1,371 residents is within the same Complex. In October 2006, a consultant completed a security assessment of the entire ADC and concluded that both the electronic and mechanical security systems need to be upgraded. Disruptions caused by the current security system are a growing concern. A comprehensive implementation plan is underway with future construction funding required. When the project is complete, all of the jail facilities will have a complete, secure, reliable, updated, and integrated mechanical and electronic security system that will ensure that deputies can be proactive in avoiding security breaches.

It is projected that by the year 2030, based on the current average inmate population growth rate, the inmate population could exceed the design capacity of the ADC by 15 percent, thus obligating the County to begin planning for alternate facilities.

As in the case of adult offenders, the need for juvenile residential treatment 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 community based treatment facilities will be needed for juveniles. These factors have been used as a guide to help develop the Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court juvenile facilities capital program.

CURRENT PROJECT DESCRIPTIONS

1. **Courtroom Renovations Bond Funded** (Providence District): \$16,000,000 to renovate most of the existing courtrooms within Jennings Building which were not renovated 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. Four of the 26 courtrooms were fully funded by the General Fund in the amount of \$3,530,000 and the work is complete. The remaining 22 courtrooms were approved for funding in the amount of \$20 million as part of the fall 2012 Public Safety Bond Referendum. However, an amount of \$4.0 million has been redirected to the Jennings Courthouse Data Center to support critical and immediate requirements at the Courthouse. Seven courtrooms are currently in the construction phase and are scheduled to be completed in early 2017, at which time construction of the next four courtrooms will begin followed by the next phase of design and construction of the remaining 11 courtrooms. Additional funding to complete all courtroom renovations will be required in the future.
2. **Courthouse Data Center Critical Upgrades** (Providence District): \$4,000,000 to support critical and immediate improvements to the current technology center space in the Courthouse. The basement of the new portion of the courthouse is used as a data center, housing computer equipment, including 35 servers, which are necessary to support all courthouse technology including sensitive court records, land records, and marriage licenses. As automation has expanded, requirements have changed and occupants have added equipment, causing the space to become overloaded. Staff is experiencing equipment outages up to 4 times a year and these outages are beginning to decrease the equipment lifecycle. There are currently infrastructure deficiencies including lack of power back-up and redundancies, HVAC reliability and availability, and security. A comprehensive study to determine both short term fixes and long term solutions has been completed and an amount of \$4.0 million has been redirected from courtroom renovation projects to complete the data center improvements.
3. **Adult Detention Center Security Enhancements** (Providence District): Funding has been provided to complete an implementation study to address needed security improvements in the ADC that were identified by an independent study of security deficiencies. Proposed improvements will complete, integrate and upgrade mechanical and electronic security systems to enable Sheriff Deputies to be more proactive, avoid security issues, and design more efficient security operations. Future funding will be required. Funding to implement the project is estimated to be approximately \$10 million.

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

	Project Title/ Project Number	Source of Funds	Budgeted or Expended Through FY 2016	FY 2017	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	Total FY2017- FY2021	Total FY2022- FY 2026	Total Project Estimate
1	Courtroom Renovations Bond Funded / CF-000003	B	4,724	3,285	3,435	2,550	2,006		11,276		16,000
2	Courthouse Data Center Critical Upgrades / CF-000004	B	4,000						0		4,000
3	Adult Detention Center Security Enhancements / 2G91-001-000	U	510		5,000	5,000			10,000		10,510
TOTAL			\$9,234	\$3,285	\$8,435	\$7,550	\$2,006	\$0	\$21,276	\$0	\$30,510

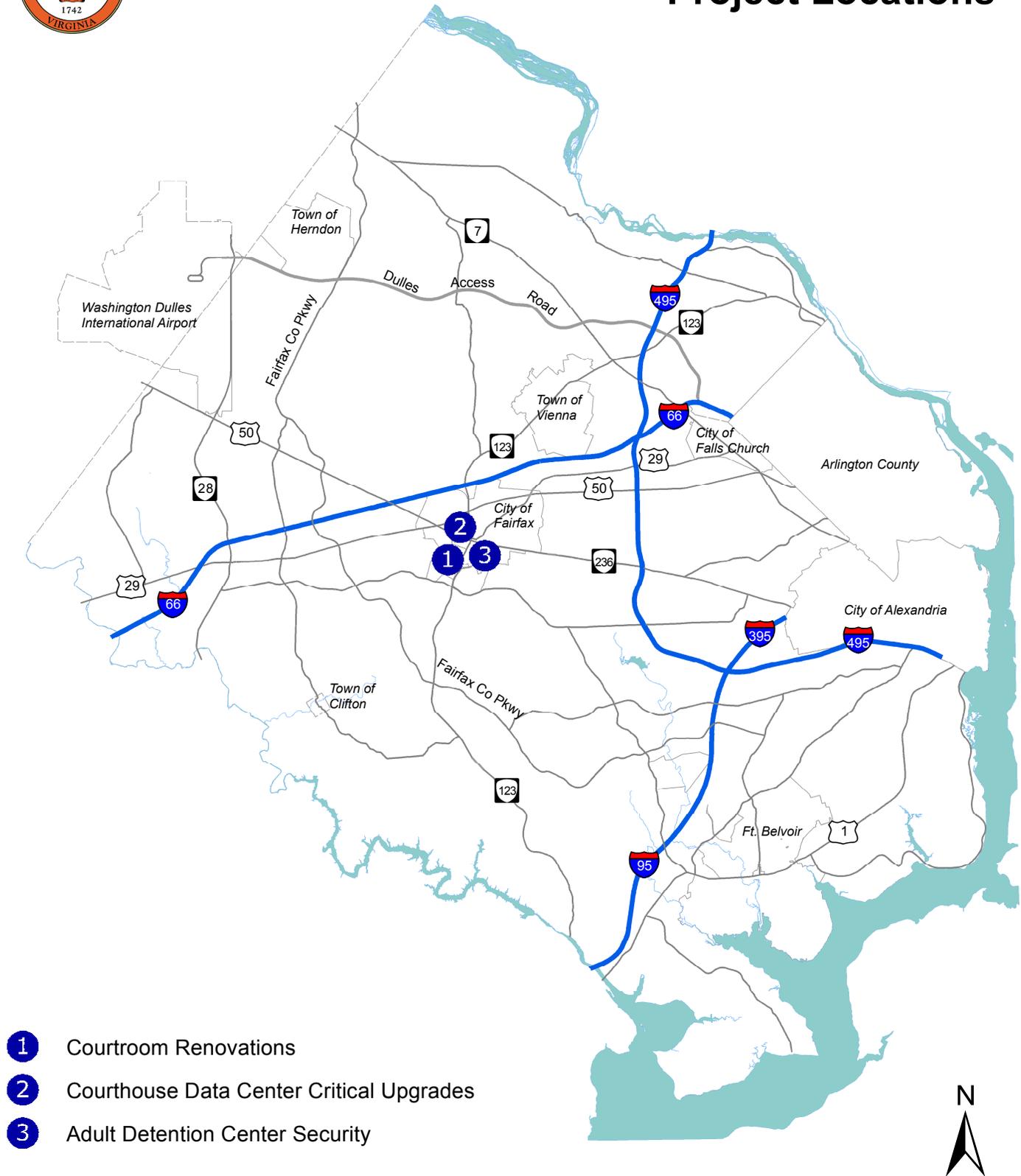
Notes: Numbers in bold italics represent funded amounts. A "C" in the 'Budgeted or Expended' column denotes a continuing project.

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

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



Court Facilities Project Locations



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.