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Agency of Human Services

February 1, 2014

Senate Committee on Institutions
House Committee on Corrections and Institutions
Vermont State House
Rooms 7 & 33
Montpelier, Vermont 05633-5301

Dear Committee Members,

As you are aware, the Departments of Corrections and Buildings and General Services have been asked to provide a Facility Conditions Analysis report, per the 2013-2014 Capital Bill, H.533 (Act 0051).

Over the past few months, BGS has worked with EMG Corporation to study every building that sits on all DOC facility grounds. The result is a report which lays out the needs of each building, by priority, by year. This study has resulted in a roadmap of expected facility maintenance needs, for the next twenty years.

Most pressing within this work are those items that are labelled Priority 1 (of four possible priorities). These are items of the highest need, including structural items and life safety items. It is interesting to note that as a system with a total replacement value of all physical assets of \$238,426,650 and a "deferred" projects cost total of \$11,942,701 the composite facility index is 5% which yields a rating of the existing physical plant assets of EXCELLENT.

Throughout the next month, the DOC and BGS will begin to meet to discuss the plan of approach for this work. Given the number of outstanding items in the study, the DOC and BGS will need to further prioritize this work and decipher needed funding.

The DOC also researched specific program deficiencies throughout the facilities. There are a few areas that the DOC would like to highlight, which will need further exploration.

First, the DOC lacks appropriate industry space in the Springfield facility. There exists a need for a devoted industry building which can then be used to develop an industry. Second, funds will be needed to develop additional areas within the Springfield facility to deal with Vermont's aging inmate population. BGS/DOC will need funds to estimate engineering and building costs for this project.

Additionally, the DOC looked into the need for programming space across the DOC facilities. Attached to this is a facility by facility assessment of space and although the need for office space exists, which we will handle internally, the spreadsheet does suggest that one additional program space is needed at the Chittenden Facility. Rather than request to build a space at this time, the DOC will work with contractors to address this need and perhaps use a scheduling mechanism that will include non traditional hours.

If you need any additional information, please let us know.

Sincerely,

Andrew Pallito, Commissioner

Department of Corrections

Wanda Minoli, Deputy Commissioner

Department of Buildings and General Services