

Capitol Police Staffing

Recruitment

History

- The Vermont Capitol Police were formed by Section 46 of Act 29 of the General Assembly in 1999. Following the establishment, the department grew from a single officer to five full-time officer positions. The most complete outline of the duties of the Capitol Police are included in Section 2 V.S.A. § 70(c). The Capitol Police operates under a unique set of skills to protect the Vermont State House, The General Assembly and legislative staff. The Capitol Police takes pride in their ability to serve in this role.

Unbudgeted Capitol Police Transition Costs

- Three capitol police officers are expected to depart between Aug. 2022 and Sept. 2023. The goal is to hire replacements and provide a 6-month overlap period.
- First officer anticipated to retire, August 2022; this officer has been an officer with the Capitol Police since 2005. He is our primary firearms instructor.
 - 1st Replacement Officer \$40,000 salary/benefits for 4 months of overlap, hire date April of 2022.
- Second officer anticipated to leave January 2023; this officer has been with the Capitol Police since 2021. He is our Field Training and Use of Force instructor.
 - 2nd Replacement Officer 60,000 salary/benefits for 6 months of overlap, Hire July of 2022.
- Third officer anticipated to retire September 2023; this officer has been here since 2003 and is our longest standing officer and our Capitol Police Sergeant.
 - 3rd Replacement Officer \$60,000 salary/benefits for 6 months of overlap, Hire March of 2023.

Total Costs

- This is a one-time request
- Salary/Benefits for three overlap officers=\$160,000.
- Training/uniforms/equip for three officers, below is cost for each.
 - Uniforms, Annual \$ 500
 - Uniforms, One Time \$ 750
 - Body Armor \$ 3000
 - Firearms \$ 3000
 - Radio \$ 5000
 - Misc \$1000
 - Total \$13,250 (requesting \$15,000 per officer)

Total Costs \$205,000

Consequences of not having the ability to hire.

- Loss of other officers.
- Costs of sheriffs to replace officers would be \$114,400 per year, per sheriff. The sheriff deputy pool that we must draw from is limited, due to availability and would not provide consistent familiarity to the State House and The General Assembly.

Vehicle Acquisition

- We would like to propose a 1-year Pilot Project, in order to evaluate how well a vehicle will support the mission of the Capitol Police Department.

The following reasons have expedited the need for a vehicle.

- This year we were notified that we could no longer rely on other agencies for prisoner transport.
- We need a vehicle if we are going to be training anyone for recruitment into the Capitol Police.
- We are seeing an increase in off-site travel for investigations and case follow-up.
- We have training that the officers need to attend.
- Additional calls to the State House

Cost of vehicle options

- SUV Vehicle costs, onetime acquisition \$12,000-\$15,000
- Maintenance included, except for fuel.