

STATE OF VERMONT JOINT FISCAL OFFICE

MEMORANDUM

To: Joint Legislative Management Committee

From: Scott Moore, Joint Fiscal Office

Date: April 10, 2025

Subject: State House Camera Project

This memo provides a brief history of the State House Camera Project, the current status of the Project, and financial implications relating to it.

1) History of the State House Camera Project

On October 10, 2022, the Joint Rules Committee authorized the acceptance of a grant through the Homeland Security Grant Program for the purchase and installation of cameras in hallways and common areas in and around the State House.

The grant was in the amount of \$351,758, with a deadline for final installation of August 31, 2025.

Omega Electric was retained as a vendor for the purchase and installation of the cameras.

Cameras were purchased and IT infrastructure was installed in preparation for final installation. While cameras were being inventoried and prepared for final installation, they were lost in the July 2023 flooding event.

Both Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and insurance claims were submitted to recover the cost of the cameras.

2) Current Status

The project cannot be completed until replacement cameras are purchased. The Capitol Police and the Office of Legislative Information Technology have met with the vendor to review the current scope and cost of the project. Omega Electric must be given approval to purchase replacement cameras as soon as possible in order to meet the grant deadline of August 31, 2025.

If the grant is not fulfilled, the General Assembly will need to return unspent funds to the Department of Homeland Security.

3) Financial Implications

The current balance of the grant is \$147,770.

The estimated remaining vendor cost is \$251,214.

Therefore, at least an additional \$103,444 is needed to complete the project.

The proposed motion would authorize the Sergeant at Arms to use carryforward funds (up to \$110,000 General Fund) to purchase the replacement cameras needed to complete the project before the grant deadline of August 31, 2025.

Pending FEMA and insurance payouts, assuming they are approved, will mitigate this expense.

Proposed Motion:

Motion to authorize the Sergeant at Arms, in coordination with the Legislative Information Technology and Joint Fiscal Offices, to purchase cameras in advance of anticipated Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and insurance payouts, utilizing up to \$110,000 General Fund previously appropriated to the Sergeant at Arms, to ensure the State House Camera Project may proceed and the grant deadline may be met.