

Jayna Morse, AOT Director of Finance & Administration, provided an overview of the D8 project inception, agency operations need and timing of the original contract and change order that advanced the office building.

- The agency purchased the land in Swanton, bid the project as the full project, with the add alternate for the office, allowing AOT to determine how far to advance the project. The contract was initially signed for the garage, salt shed and site work. The full project, including the office building was first brought forward in 2023 testimony and further detailed in 2024.
- AOT had always intended to use two appropriations, Transportation Buildings and District Maintenance to fund this project. AOT did not move funds between appropriations. AOT used carryforward from prior years (FY22, 23 and 24) as well as the \$3.5M one time GF appropriation to fund the contract.
- The office building was estimated at \$2.5-\$2.8M. In approximately October 2024, the contractor approached us indicating a cost savings on mobilization, materials and employing 25 Vermonters employed through the winter if we could advance the office building. We negotiated a \$1.897M change order (saving at least \$600K) for the project to complete the office and additional solar / EV work. The office is partially constructed with a move in date of late Spring 2025.
- If AOT did not advance the office building, the Agency would have incurred additional cost to add working pods to the site to house our employees, at a cost of roughly \$200K the first year and \$80k/ year thereafter.
- We advanced the change order under the authority the Secretary has in 19 VSA section 10.
- The total cost of the project is \$12,615,953.