
Sponsor: Health and Wellness

Meeting Date: 2/4/2025

Title: Project Budget and Financing Plan for the Ramsey County
Correctional Facility Enclosure Pod Project

File Number: 2025-030

Background and Rationale:

The request for pod enclosures for the Ramsey County Correctional Facility (RCCF) will increase both staff and client safety. In March of 2024, Community Corrections worked with Property Management to finalize the design and installation of mezzanine barriers at RCCF. Community Corrections is seeking to increase safety by replacing the existing guardrails and ultimately install taller barriers in all the five dorms which have a mezzanine level of cells arranged around an open walkway with 42" high guardrails overlooking a common area below.

In the first phase of work, RCCF is focusing on the largest dorm with a 120-person capacity. RCCF would like to install a barrier that is a 7-foot-high rail with vertical pickets (see attached images). Community Corrections is also seeking to install a second officer's desk on the mezzanine level in this dorm. RCCF believes that the railing, along with an increased officer presence on the mezzanine level, will enhance safety.

Community Corrections and Property Management issued an informal Request for Proposals for architectural services in May 2024, and selected BWBR Architects in June 2024 based on their corrections expertise and experience with similar projects. BWBR, Community Corrections, and Property Management have been working since July to develop the design details of the mezzanine barriers and the second officer's desk. BWBR will issue a package of biddable drawings by February 2025, which will then be publicly bid to General Contractors. The goal is to award the project by late February/early March 2025.

Recommendation:

The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners resolved to:

1. Accept and approve the project budget and financing plan for the Ramsey County Correctional Facility enclosure pod project in an amount up to \$1,200,000.
2. Authorize the County Manager to allocate up to \$1,200,000 from year-end funds from the Health and Wellness Service Team 2024 operating budget and prior year capital funds to the project budget and financing plan for the Ramsey County Correctional Facility enclosure pod project.
3. Authorize the County Manager to account for the project budget and financing plan for the Ramsey County Correctional Facility enclosure pod project as a budgeted project in the department of Community Corrections.

A motion to approve was made by Commissioner Xiong, seconded by Commissioner Miller.
Motion passed.

Aye: - 6: Jebens-Singh, McGuire, Miller, Moran, Ortega, and Xiong

By: 
Jason Yang, Interim Chief Clerk - County
Board