

ADVISORY COMMITTEE
ON CAPITOL AREA
SECURITY

Annual
Report

January 15, 2024

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Introduction

As required by Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 299E.04, the Advisory Committee on Capitol Area Security (Advisory Committee) provides advice and recommendations to the Governor and Legislature regarding security priorities, strategies for addressing these priorities, and recommendations for funding to implement the strategies. The Advisory Committee is required to submit a report to the Governor, Legislature, and Minnesota Supreme Court by January 15 of each year.

The Advisory Committee on Capitol Area Security (Advisory Committee) consists of six members appointed as follows:

- The Lieutenant Governor;
- Two Senators including one member from the majority party appointed by the Senate Majority Leader, and one member from the minority party appointed by the Senate Minority Leader;
- Two members of the House of Representatives including one member appointed by the Speaker of the House, and one member appointed by the Minority Leader; and
- The Chief Justice of the Minnesota Supreme Court or the designee of the Chief Justice.

These individuals served as 2023 Advisory Committee members:

- Lieutenant Governor Peggy Flanagan (Chair)
- Chief Justice Lorie Gildea
- Senator Warren Limmer
- Senator Bonnie Westlin
- Representative Kelly Moller
- Representative Jim Nash

The Advisory Committee is required by law to meet quarterly to assess the status of security in the Capitol Complex Area. For this purpose, the Advisory Committee consults with the Commissioners of Public Safety (DPS) and Administration (Admin), the Executive Secretary of the Capitol Area Architectural and Planning Board, the Director of the Minnesota Historical Society, and the Sergeants-at-Arms of the Senate and House of Representatives. The law requires the Advisory Committee to seek additional advice from individuals with security development experience in a college or university environment, in the courts, and in a private Minnesota company.

The Advisory Committee reports annually to the Governor, the chairs and ranking minority members of the Legislative committees with jurisdiction over the Capitol Area Architectural and Planning Board, the Department of Public Safety, and the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court. The report provides a general assessment of the status of security in the Capitol Complex Area, describes implemented improvements, and recommends improvements for the future.

In 2023, the Advisory Committee met on August 3. The focus of these meetings was to review previous initiatives and security assessment reports.

Appendix A identifies the mission statement and guiding principles that the Advisory Committee follows. During 2023, the Advisory Committee continued to seek input from state agencies and stakeholders. As required by statute, the Advisory Committee also solicited input from an individual with experience designing and implementing security for a public college or university campus, an individual with experience designing and implementing security for courts, and an individual with experience designing and implementing security for a private Minnesota company (see Appendix B).

General Overview of Security within the Capitol Complex Area

The Capitol Complex Area as defined by Minnesota Statute 15B.02 consists of 16 buildings and 25 parking facilities spread across 140 acres in the City of Saint Paul. The Capitol Complex Area reported crime rates are historically low as compared to adjacent areas of the city. Visible security deterrents including the presence of the Minnesota State Patrol and Capitol Security officers as well as physical security enhancements contribute to the lower crime rate. Although crime rates are lower, vulnerabilities are continually evaluated as are improvements for ensuring the safety and security of those who work in and visit the Capitol Complex Area.

The Department of Public Safety, through the State Patrol Capitol Security Section, provides security, law enforcement services, and emergency management direction for the Capitol Complex Area. Security resources on the Complex are deployed based on threat assessments, perceived vulnerabilities, and stakeholder input.

The Capitol Security Section's full-staffing complement consists of 75 civilian security officers, 34 state troopers, one emergency manager, seven communications personnel and one explosives detecting canine. At the conclusion of 2023, Capitol Security had 45 staffing vacancies, consisting of 19 State Trooper and 26 security officer positions.

- The civilian Security Officers are assigned duties at fixed posts within select Capitol Complex Area buildings as well as foot, bicycle, and squad patrol duties.
- Minnesota State Troopers are responsible for command and administration of the Capitol Security Section and law enforcement operations for the entire Capitol Complex Area.
- The Emergency Manager is responsible for coordinating emergency preparedness planning on the Capitol Complex. In addition, the emergency manager facilitates training, drills, and workshops to enhance the preparedness of employees on the Capitol Complex.
- The Communications Division of Capitol Security continuously monitors 101,613 alarm and automation points, 377 emergency intercoms, and 1016 security cameras. In addition, communications staff is responsible for dispatching law enforcement and security personnel to calls for assistance.

In 2023 the Legislature appropriated \$1M of general funds to the Capitol Area Architectural and Planning Board (CAAPB) to update the Capitol Mall Design Framework along with \$5M of general funds appropriated to the department of Administration for implementation of the Framework updates. As of the writing of this report the initial planning stages for the new Framework are underway. The Framework is scheduled to be completed in the Spring of 2024 with implementation scheduled to start in late Spring. The funding to complete the work is available through the end of 2024. The ability to complete the work within this timeframe will be dependent on the scope of work and timing for final approval by the legislature. Work will integrate greenspace Campus-wide, add greenspace along University Avenue in the area of Rice Street. The new greenspace will contain visual markers, welcome information, and a pathway to the Capitol Building. The Framework will also contain plans to plant trees throughout the Capitol Campus prioritizing the creation of a mature canopy that will provide an area of shade for users of the Capitol Mall. As the plan progresses, Admin and DPS will work to ensure that it complements the Committee's on-going efforts to improve safety and security on the Capitol Complex.

Recent Improvements in Security

The Department of Public Safety and the Department of Administration continue to focus on public safety initiatives and security improvements for the Capitol Complex Area.

In the 2023 legislative session, \$8.796 million of general obligation (GO) bond and \$297K of general fund revenues were appropriated to the Commissioner of Administration for Capitol Complex physical security upgrades. This funding will allow for the continuation of the security enhancements as prioritized in the project's pre-design. The first phase of this work was completed in 2021. This brings the total funding for the initiative over the past five years to \$19.093M. Even with the additional funding, there remains an unfunded requirement of \$38.7M. Additionally because of the lack of appropriations from the General Fund over the years, nearly half of the Capitol Complex population and building square footage remain in need of security enhancements recommended by the advisory committee.

Subsequent to the additional funding, the Department of Administration awarded the design contract for the Phase II upgrades to the architectural firm, Miller Dunwiddie and the construction contract to JE Dunn. Both firms were part of the execution team for Phase I and were brought on for Phase II to ensure continuity and to limit exposure of the security plans for the Capitol Complex. Scope revalidation meetings with building tenants and the initial stage of design is in progress. Design will continue through mid-May 2024. The construction phase of the project is scheduled to begin in June 2024 and run through June 2025.

The primary work elements of the project will be much the same as Phase I and include the installation of new security kiosks, hardening of existing kiosks, construction of bollards, installation of blast resistant glass on vulnerable windows, installation of security cameras and key card readers, and construction of security enhancements around critical infrastructure at various buildings on the Capitol Complex.

We are replacing the current card readers on the Capitol Complex with new ones that can read encrypted badges. We have completed the Admin Building, Tunnels, Veteran's Services, and ½ of the Capitol Building. The new readers will continue to read existing non-encrypted badges with no interruption of service. We expect the process of changing out the readers to take 12-16 months. Once installation of the new readers is complete, all ID Badges for Capitol Complex buildings will be replaced with ones that are encrypted. This upgrade will increase access security because encrypted badges are much more difficult to duplicate.

In addition to the work mentioned above, 61 cameras have been upgraded from the original standard definition IP cameras, to full HD with analytics.

Recommended Future Improvements

The Advisory Committee on Capitol Area Security recommends that the Legislature continue to support its initiatives to enhance operational and physical security on the Capitol Complex. The physical security enhancements recently completed and currently funded represents roughly 33% of the total physical security funding need. This deficit has been exacerbated by inflation and the resultant increase in the cost for construction. The absence of full funding for the security upgrades over the past 11 years leaves over half of the Capitol Complex population and building square footage without programmed physical security improvements. Therefore the Committee recommends that the legislature continue progress from 2023 and authorize additional funding for for physical security enhancements in a 2024 capital investment bill . Estimates of remaining current funding needs stand at: \$24.640 million in general obligation bonds, \$12.210 million from the general fund and \$1.8 million from in Trunk Highway fund cash to cover the cost of work and construction inflation to complete all of the physical security upgrades to the Capitol Complex as identified in the Miller Dunwiddie study and predesign.

The Advisory Committee is also considering additional other security improvements related to staffing, training and equipment. These actions are necessary to improve safety and security for those who work on and visit the Capitol Complex.

APPENDIX A

Advisory Committee on Capitol Area Security Mission Statement

The Advisory Committee on Capitol Area Security is committed to ensuring the safety of the people, assets, process of government, and buildings within the Capitol Complex. To accomplish this, the Committee has adopted a layered, all-hazards approach that adheres to the following principles:

- The Capitol, Minnesota Senate, and State Office Buildings must remain open in both reality and perception. Security in these buildings must (1) ensure that processes of government remain accessible to all citizens, (2) ensure the safety of visitors and all participants in these processes, and (3) respect Cass Gilbert's vision for the Capitol building.
- Other buildings on the Capitol Complex, to the extent appropriate and feasible, should remain open. Appropriate security measures in these buildings must be in place to ensure the safety of state employees, military personnel, Minnesota citizens, and their data.
- The Capitol Complex Security Plan should be focused on long-term solutions and leverage a risk-based approach that adequately addresses identified risk areas and levels in each state building.
- The DPS team responsible for Capitol Security should have access to the resources it needs to ensure the safety of the Capitol Complex, the people who work there, and the citizens who visit in order to ensure continuity of state government operations.

APPENDIX B

Committee Advisors

Department of Administration

Commissioner Tamar Gronvall
Director of Facilities Management Chris Guevin

Department of Public Safety

Colonel Matt Langer
Major Sean Meagher
Captain Eric Roeske

Capitol Area Architectural and Planning Board

Executive Secretary Erik Cedarleaf Dahl

Minnesota Historical Society

Historic Site Manager Brian Pease
Director of Public Policy and Community Relations David Kelliher

Sergeant-at-Arms, Minnesota Senate

Sergeant-at-Arms Sven Lindquist

Sergeant-at-Arms, Minnesota House

Sergeant-at-Arms Lori Hodapp

Security Advisors – College or University

Captain Randy Mahlen, University of Minnesota Police Department

Security Advisor – Courts

Commander John Eastham - Court and Security Services, Ramsey County Sheriff's Department

Private Minnesota Company

Andy Landon, Target Corporation

APPENDIX C Draft Legislation

Capitol Complex - Physical Security Upgrades, Phase III

24,640,000

For the continuation of design, construction, and equipping required to upgrade the physical security elements and systems for the Capitol Mall and the buildings listed below, their attached tunnel systems, their surrounding grounds, and parking facilities as identified in the 2017 Minnesota State Capitol Complex Physical Security Predesign completed by Miller Dunwiddie with 2022 updates. Work includes but is not limited to the installation of bollards, blast protection, infrastructure security screen walls, door access controls, emergency call stations, security kiosks, interior and exterior light fixtures and lighting enhancements, locking devices, and traffic and crowd control devices. This appropriation includes money for work associated with the following buildings: Administration, Ag/Health Lab, BCA, Capitol, Centennial, Governor’s Residence, Judicial Center, Minnesota History Center, Capitol Complex Power Plant and Shops, Stassen, State Office, and Veterans Service.

Capitol Complex - Physical Security Upgrades, Phase III

12,210,000

From the general fund in fiscal year 2025, for the continuation of design, construction, and equipping required to upgrade the physical security elements and systems for the buildings listed below, their attached tunnel systems, their surrounding grounds, and parking facilities as identified in the 2017 Minnesota State Capitol Complex Physical Security Predesign completed by Miller Dunwiddie with 2022 updates. Work includes but is not limited to the installation of bollards, blast protection, infrastructure security screen walls, door access controls, emergency call stations, security kiosks, interior and exterior light fixtures and lighting enhancements, locking devices, and traffic and crowd control devices. This appropriation includes money for work associated with the Andersen, Freeman, Minnesota Senate, and Retirement Systems Buildings. The funds shall be made available until fully spent.

Capitol Complex - Physical Security Upgrades, Phase III

1,800,000

From the Trunk Highway fund cash account, for the continuation of design, construction, and equipping required to upgrade the physical security elements and systems for the Transportation building and its surrounding grounds and attached and parking facilities as identified in the 2017 Minnesota State Capitol Complex Physical Security Predesign completed by Miller Dunwiddie with 2022 updates. Work includes but is not limited to the installation of bollards, blast protection, infrastructure security screen walls, door access controls, emergency call stations, security kiosks, interior and exterior light fixtures and lighting enhancements, locking devices, and traffic and crowd control devices.