



Legislation Text

File #: 20-0511, **Version:** 1

Item:

Update on Design of the New Durham County Youth Home, Project No. DC-001 (30min)

Date of BOCC Meeting: January 4, 2021

Request for Board Action:

The Board is requested to receive an update from Moseley Architects regarding the design of the New Durham County Youth Home.

In 1945, the Durham County Youth Home came into existence as a result of an idea of Mamie Dowd Walker, Judge of the City and County Judicial Court. By 1947, the Durham County Youth Home was completed and in operation as the first county facility of this nature in the State of North Carolina.

In 2017, the Board of County Commissioners renewed the County's almost 75-year commitment to keep our children in our own community rather than send them to State-run facilities elsewhere by approving funds for a Youth Home Program and Site Master Plan, which included an update to the 2014 Building Assessment Report. The study identified current and future needs of the Home, and the building assessment results indicated that repairing, upgrading, and expanding the outdated facility is not cost-effective. Copies of the reports have been provided.

This project is the design of a new 36-bed Durham County Youth Home to replace the existing 14-bed facility on the 8.1-acre site currently shared with the Durham County/City Emergency Operations Center (EOC). The new expanded facility is designed to facilitate best practices and accommodate the housing of older juveniles after SB257 Juvenile Justice Reinvestment Act (aka "Raise the Age" law) took effect on December 1, 2019. The design follows the standards of the North Carolina Administrative Code 10A NCAC 14J, Rules and Laws Governing the Operations, Surveillance, and Monitoring of Jail Facilities, and the American Correctional Association Standards for Juvenile Detention Facilities. The existing youth detention facility will be demolished after the new facility is occupied. This project will pursue LEED Gold certification.

In early December 2019, Durham received a letter from NCDPS Deputy Director William Lassiter indicating NCDPS's interest in partnering on this project. The County submitted a funding proposal to NCDPS in August 2020 which provided a partnership framework that would be mutually beneficial to Durham County and NCDPS. These funding needs cover the areas of furnishings, equipment, technology, security, and ongoing staffing (security, educational, and medical) required to build and operate this new state of the art 36-bed facility. A copy of the funding proposal has been provided. Deputy Secretary Lassiter has indicated that NCDPS is very interested in partnering with the County on this project and will work with County staff to develop a funding agreement that aligns with the opening of the new facility.

Alignment with Strategic Plan: This request aligns with the County's Strategic Goal 3: Safe Community,

Goal 4: Environmental Stewardship & Community Prosperity, and Goal 5: Accountable, Efficient, and Visionary Government.

Resource Persons: Jodi Miller, General Manager, Peri D. Manns, ASLA, Deputy Director of Engineering and Environmental Services, Angela Nunn, Youth Home Director, Linda C. Salguero, AIA, CPD, Project Manager, Dan Mace, AIA, Vice President Moseley Architects, and Bryan Payne, AAIA, Senior Associate Moseley Architects.

County Manager's Recommendation: The County Manager recommends that the Board receive an update from Moseley Architects regarding the design of the New Durham County Youth Home.

County Manager: _____