



## Washington Police Department

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Chief of Police

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MEETING DATE: November 13, 2023

PREPARED BY: Chief McCoy and Deputy Chief Stevens

AGENDA ITEM: Evidence Building

**EXPLANATION:** As supported by previous Washington City Council action, the Washington Police Department selected Dewberry and Associates to guide development of a new evidence facility. Initial design costs were above initial projection and have been reworked. While estimated costs remain higher than originally anticipated at the start of this project, supported by a needs assessment several years ago and affected by significant inflation in the building sector, the immediate need for this facility remains the same.

We have invited Dewberry and Associates to present their findings to the entire Council. Dewberry can address the initial design process, immediate needs, and next steps. We note that Dewberry's analysis showing a new facility is necessary to answer the Washington Police Department's needs and to implement best practices in evidence and property management are consistent with the findings of a previous consultant, Chamblin and Associates.

**FISCAL IMPACT:** Please note that the total cost of \$1.818 million is significantly offset by several grants. In addition, funds have been budgeted from the Building Fund. To close the gap, Staff recommends committing funds from Police Special Project Funds, specifically Vehicle Seizure and utilizing a portion of the CURES grant funds that were secured due to Public Safety expenses during Covid-19.

Funding is proposed as follows:

**Grants:**

Department of Justice	\$583,000
DCEO	\$125,000
DCEO	\$170,000
CURES	\$440,120

**Budgeted Funds:**

Building Fund (Police)	\$300,000
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**Additional Funds:**

Special Projects Funds	\$200,000
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<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$1,818,120</b>
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We continue to work alongside City Administrator Snider to identify police-available funding within the current budget or existing funds. Our goal is to meet our obligations regarding evidence and property storage while minimizing the impact on the general fund.

**ACTION REQUESTED:** Council consideration and approval to proceed with project development. Specifically, we are asking approval prior to overall city budget development so that we can engage Dewberry to develop a project timeline for spring construction.