



**State Bonding Request:** \$10,000,000

### **Project Summary**

The City of Corcoran requests \$10 million in state bonding to design and construct a West Metro Multi-Agency Skills Training and Emergency Response (MASTER) Facility. The facility will provide centralized, modern training infrastructure for small and mid-sized law enforcement agencies in the region that currently lack adequate access to safe, affordable, and consistently available training facilities. It will also offer these same communities and agencies emergency operations and regional command spaces to strengthen regional readiness, support mutual aid operations, and improve coordination with county, state, and federal partners during emergencies.

### **Public Need**

Over 70 percent of police departments in Minnesota have fewer than 20 officers, and for many of these small agencies, state-allocated training reimbursements are their only source of funding for mandated professional development. As state training dollars continue to diminish, local departments are increasingly challenged to find cost-effective ways to keep officers in compliance with statutory requirements. The MASTER facility will provide small agencies the opportunity to satisfy their mandatory training requirements for their officers at little to no cost in a space that is dedicated to small agency needs.

While a training facility does exist in the region, the membership structure places a priority on the significant training needs of the region's largest law enforcement agencies, making scheduling, availability, and finances challenging barriers to small and mid-sized agencies. At the same time, the facility is limited in its ability to offer smaller scale specialized training, which effectively means the continuous dynamic intentional training capabilities required in law enforcement's current operating environment that do not currently exist for small agencies.

### **Project Scope**

Small and Mid-Sized Agency Public Safety Training: A centralized, modern training infrastructure for the small and mid-sized law enforcement agencies in the area that currently rely on expensive, distant, limited, or temporary facilities. The facility would include:

- **Indoor Training Range:** a modern, flexible, live-fire range meeting current safety and acoustic standards
- **Scenario-Based Training Spaces:** reconfigurable environments for realistic, hands-on training, including crisis response and de-escalation
- **Virtual Training Systems:** simulation technology that provides frequent, cost-effective training while reducing risk and operating costs
- **K-9 Training Areas:** the metro area's only dedicated, indoor and outdoor spaces supporting K-9 team training.

Regional Emergency Operations and Command Center (EOC): A dedicated, secure command space equipped with interoperable communications and redundancy systems ensures that these agencies can continue operating without interruption. A regional EOC manages logistics, tracks assets, and allocates personnel and equipment where they are needed most. This prevents critical shortages, accelerates response times, and ensures equitable support across communities.

**West Metro MASTER (Multi-Agency Skills Training and Emergency Response) Facility**

**Why Corcoran?**

Corcoran and our neighboring municipalities are some of the fastest growing areas in the Twin Cities in the last few years and are projected to continue growing. The city is in the best position for the project due to already owning the project site and they have completed planning studies to support the project. Public engagement is also underway with final designs anticipated in late 2026, construction commencing in 2027, and substantial completion in 2028. Finally, the City of Corcoran is uniquely staffed with the personnel to make this project happen. From the police chief and firearms instructor who are recognized and influential leaders in their fields, to the city administrator's strong background in organizational leadership and project management, the city and its leadership team are well positioned to deliver a successful project that meets the needs of its region.

**State Bonding Justification**

State bonding is appropriate due to the project's regional public safety impact, long-term public ownership, and efficient shared-use model. The facility will provide lasting public benefits across multiple jurisdictions by reducing duplicative training infrastructure and strengthening regional preparedness.

Building on existing mutual-aid and training partnerships, the city will establish formal use agreements for the facility with small and mid-sized agencies that are centered on long-term shared use and that ensure reliable, timely, and equitable access.