



Minnesota Department of Military Affairs February 19, 2024

Brigadier General Christopher Blomquist, Deputy Adjutant General

Mr. Donald Kerr, Executive Director

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- Minnesota National Guard (MNNG) status updates
- Implementation status updates
- Implementation next steps
- Questions



One Minnesota Budget Implementation

One Minnesota Budget

'Red Bulls' deploy in support of Spartan Shield

By Staff Sgt. Mahsima Alkamooneh



2023 legislative wins for Minnesota National Guard



The 2023 state and federal legislative sessions can be described as a big win for the Minnesota Department of Military Affairs and the Minnesota National Guard.

- **The Walz-Flanagan Administration is working together across agencies to make Minnesota the best state for kids and families.**
 - That's why Governor Walz and Lieutenant Governor Flanagan's 2023 One Minnesota Budget invested in enhancing the Department of Military Affairs through programs like Enlistment Incentives, Holistic Health and Fitness, and the Cyber Coordination Cell.
 - The Minnesota Department of Military Affairs additionally is engaging in a comprehensive rehabilitation of armories, and the construction of one new facility as the result of last year's legislative session.



Department of Military Affairs - Status Update

Department of Military Affairs

MNNG Updates

34th Infantry Division Deployment:

- More than 550 Soldiers of the 34th ID “Red Bulls” are deploying to the Middle East for a 10-month rotation.
- Soldiers come from more than 200 communities throughout Minnesota, Iowa, Wisconsin, North and South Dakota, and several other states.
- “The 34th Infantry Division Headquarters commands and controls Task Force Spartan from Kuwait, which is deployed across seven partner nations,” said Army Maj. Gen. Charles Kemper, 34th ID Commander
- The Division Headquarters deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom in 2009-2010, and 2018-2019 in support of Operation Spartan Shield.



Department of Military Affairs

MNNG Updates

Federal Modernization Updates

- 8x C-130J Super Hercules
- 87x M1 Abrams Main Battle Tank
- 138x M2 Bradley Infantry Fighting Vehicle
- 345x Joint Light Tactical Vehicle (JLTV)
- 131x Armored Multi-Purpose Vehicle (AMPV)
- 9x UH-60V Blackhawk Helicopter

\$2.524 Billion in federal investment into the MNNG in the next three years



Department of Military Affairs MNNG Updates

Enlistment Bonuses

- The Enlistment Incentives appropriation is \$13.614m. This amount is shared with State Tuition Assistance and several other programs.
- The state reenlistment bonus is the number one tool that keeps experienced members in the Minnesota National Guard. Bonuses are paid over 3-, 4-, or 6-year terms. Total number of bonuses:
 - SFY22 (partial year) x149
 - SFY23 x835
 - SFY24 (partial year) x465
- **This program has netted 1,449 reenlistments**
- Members beyond 12 years can still apply for these bonuses.



Department of Military Affairs MNNG Updates

Federal Fiscal Year 2023 Recruiting

- Army Guard Enlisted and Officer production exceeded goals:
 - 1234 enlistments /1200 enlistment goal = 102.8%
 - 155 officers commissioned/ commissioning goal 148 = 104.7%
 - 10,386 Soldiers (107.4% of authorized positions)
- Air Guard enlistments kept the unit filled:
 - 141 enlistments and 26 officers commissioned
 - The Air National Guard was able to keep its units above 100%
 - 133rd AW - 1,214 Airmen (100.5%), 148th FW – 1,027 Airmen (101.38%)
- MNARNG ended the year ranked at number 3 of the 54 states and territories in terms of total enlistments, only behind larger National Guard states of Texas and New York.
- State provided benefits from the Incentives Appropriation make the Minnesota National Guard the preferred component when compared with other reserve options.



Department of Military Affairs Implementation Status Update

- Three programs were developed:
 - The Cyber Coordination Cell (C3)
 - The Holistic Health and Fitness (H2F) Program
 - The Domestic Operations Communications Capabilities Investment
- Six construction projects:
 - The Army Combat Fitness Test (ACFT) Field House
 - The Minnesota Military Museum at Camp Ripley
 - Complete Renovation of Rosemount Readiness Center
 - Complete renovation of Marshall Readiness Center
 - Completion of previous bonding projects including Moorhead and Fergus Falls

Department of Military Affairs Implementation Status Update

Cyber Coordination Cell (C3)

- Funding for the establishment of the Cyber Coordination Cell (C3) was established in the 2023 legislative session
- All three authorized employees (cyber warriors) have been hired into the C3
- 49 external engagements with federal and state partners.
- Built the first of four cyber response kit (\$50k ea.)
- Developed activation procedures for the 177th Cyber Protection Team and other resources in the event of a state level response



Department of Military Affairs Implementation Status Update

Holistic Health and Fitness (H2F)

- Funding for the establishment of the Holistic Health and Fitness (H2F) program was established in the 2023 legislative session
- The team has hired all five employees authorized by the legislation
- State commitment to this program has prompted additional federal funding for temporary federal positions, \$71k in FFY22, \$200 if FFY23, and \$276k for FFY24
- The H2F team will conduct four (4) comprehensive service member fitness courses, two (2) holistic health and fitness courses, and several nutrition fundamental courses by August 30, 2024
- The H2F team will occupy the Army Combat Fitness Test (ACFT) Facility at Arden Hills, MN when it's completed



Department of Military Affairs Implementation Status Update

Domestic Operations Communications Capabilities

Modernized communications capability by investing in:

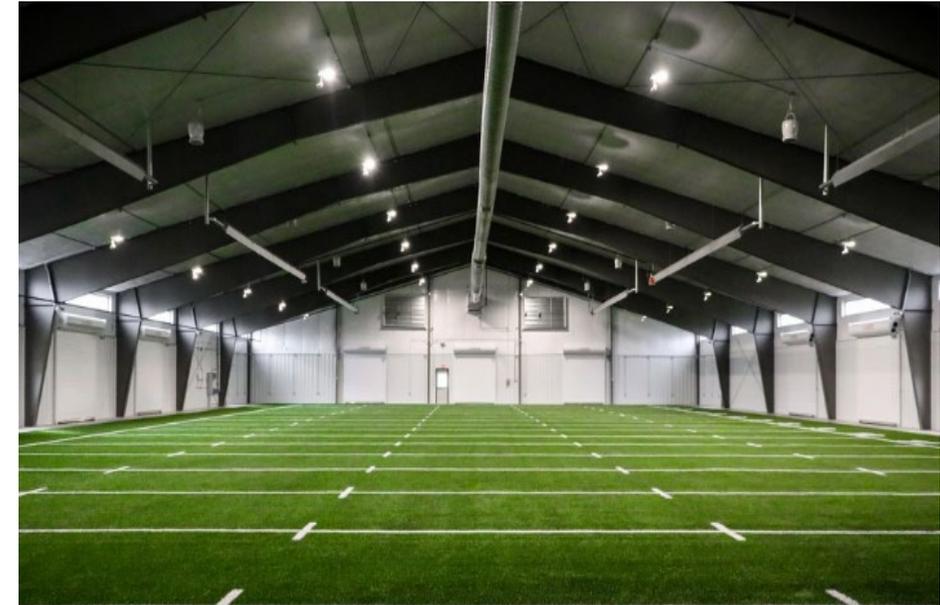
- 70 modernized and encrypted 800mhz radios - \$336k
- Two Compact Rapid Deployable (CRD) communication suites
- Mobile satellite system (Starlink)
- Rebuild and configuration of Remote Communications Platform (RCP)
- Additional radios to be purchased in the next few months



Department of Military Affairs Implementation Status Update

Army Combat Fitness Test (ACFT) Field House

- Designer selection is at the State Designer Selection Board (SDSB)
- Anticipate A&E firm to be selected in April and contracted in May 2024
- Design complete May 2025, Open bid July 2025
- Construction ~18 months, open December 2026



Department of Military Affairs Implementation Status Update

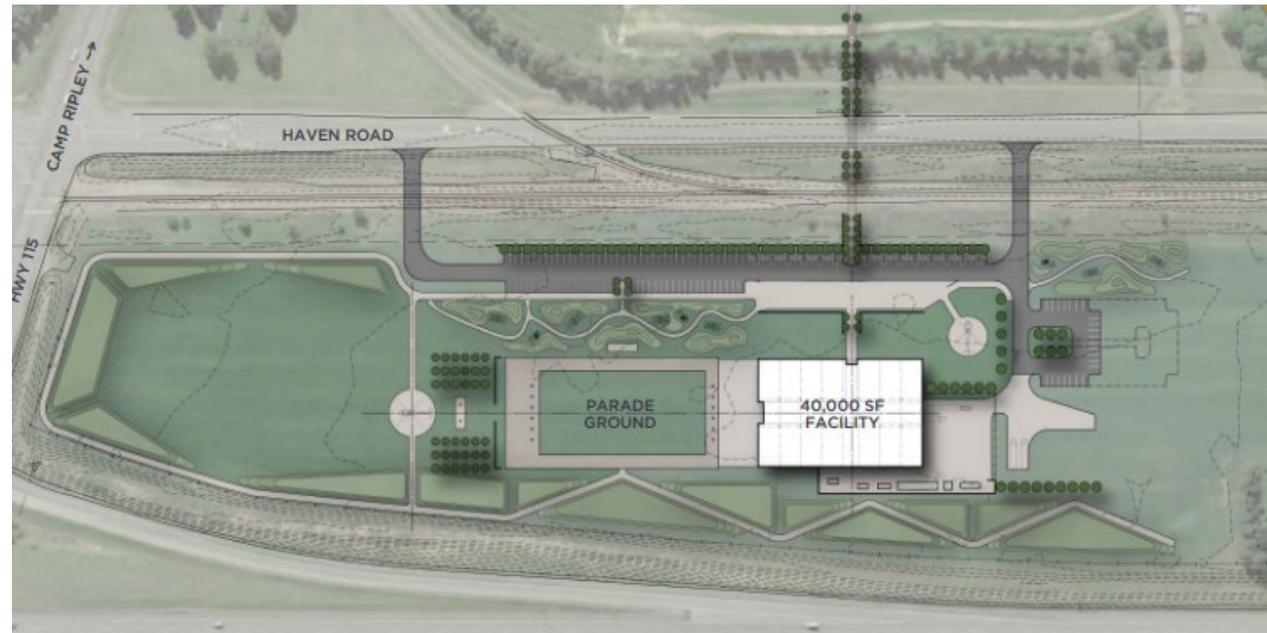
Capital Improvements through Bonding

- Complete renovation of Rosemount Readiness Center (in-process)
- Complete renovation of Marshall Readiness Center (beginning)
- Completion of previous bonding projects including Moorhead and Fergus Falls

Department of Military Affairs Implementation Status Update

Military and Veteran's Museum

- \$32.755m Investment
- Will request an extension on 2020 Bonding (S5,Ch3 \$13m)
- Museum is currently in the design phase
- Anticipate advertising the project in March 2024
- Construction May 2024 to November 2025 (est.)
- Planned opening Memorial Day 2026





Implementation Next Steps

Department of Military Affairs - Implementation Next Steps

- Continue to monitor the construction progress of the ACFT and Minnesota Military and Veteran's Museum
- Expand impact of H2F and seek additional federal funding
- Continue collaboration of C3 with other state, federal, and local agencies
- DMA will seek a bonding extension for one year to the 2020 funding for the Military and Veteran's Museum and the Marshall Readiness Center

Thank you

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