



Department of Corrections – 2026 Bonding Priorities

House Capital Investment Committee – February 24, 2026

Current Realities in State Corrections

- Over **4,300 staff** and about **8,000 incarcerated persons**
- **97%** of the DOC's budget is appropriated by the state GF
- The DOC has the **Constitutional obligation** to provide care, services, and a standard of living
 - Must maintain state safety through security and rehabilitation
 - Must be staffed and operational **24/7/365**
- **MCF-Stillwater** scheduled for closure by June 30, 2029
 - First prison closure in DOC history
 - Incarcerated capacity **reduced by 50%** in October 2025
 - From 1,189 in May 2025 to 553



Systemwide Need

- Minnesota's prison population remains stable, but **infrastructure continues to be challenged**
- The DOC has maintained safety and continued providing health care, treatment, programming, and education through recent changes to population across facilities
- To sustain and advance this important public safety work, the state must:
 - Keep up with aging facilities
 - Expand program and treatment capacity
 - Better align with incarcerated population's needs and capacity statewide
- Two bonding projects underway (MCF-Shakopee and MCF-Lino Lakes), but **needs remain statewide**



2026 DOC Capital Investment Priorities



Asset Preservation - \$51.921M GO; \$1M GF



Rush City Education & Program Expansion - \$60.7M



Facility Strategic Modernization Pre-Design - \$350k



Demolition of Crisis Condition Structures - \$1M GF

#1 – Asset Preservation

\$52.921 million (\$51.921 million GO bonds, \$1 million GF cash)

- Addresses **\$781 million deferred maintenance backlog**
 - **34%** of the state's deferred maintenance is DOC
 - Without investment, backlog could **exceed \$1 billion by 2030**
- **23%** of DOC buildings are in crisis or poor condition
- DOC's AP list includes more than **150 projects** awaiting funds
- Projects include:
 - Life safety and code compliance
 - Roof and window replacement
 - Security and mechanical systems
 - ADA and hazardous materials corrections
- Emergencies pop up and projects get pushed further down the list



#2 – Rush City Education & Program Expansion

\$60.7 million (GO Bonds)

- Adding 28,340 sq. ft. and repurposing 16,326 sq. ft. for education, treatment, and visiting space
- Rush City incarcerates men who are **high risk and thus high need** for rehabilitative programming and services
- Facility is at **double its original capacity even before the Stillwater closure**, with no increase in programming space - except for a "temporary" mobile trailer.



Detached mobile trailer used for sex offender treatment



One of only two behavior health offices in the facility



Classrooms are cramped and cannot accommodate the need

#3 – Corrections Strategic Modernization Pre-Design

\$350,000 (GO Bonds)

- Develops a pre-design for DOC capacity and services needs **planning into the future**
 - Considerations for high-need incarcerated persons
 - Increasing capacity at facilities, including bed space, programming, and services
- Building upon ongoing Faribault feasibility study
 - Update of 2015 expansion study
- Will help state **guide future capital investments**



#4 – Demolition of Crisis Condition Structures \$1 million (GF cash)

- Removes four crisis-condition buildings totaling 20,800 sq. ft.
- Pose **ongoing safety and security risks**
- Includes hazardous materials abatement and site restoration
- Reduces total deferred maintenance and liability
- Demolition without replacement **can only be paid for in GF cash**



Capital Investment in the DOC

DOC is doing the work, but the infrastructure has to keep up.

- Staff provide security, care, and services for thousands of incarcerated persons living in our facilities 24/7/365
- Buildings and systems are aging, with almost a quarter in crisis condition.

DOC's 2026 capital investment priorities:

- Keep facilities safe and functional
- Expand program space where need is high
- Plan responsibly for the future



Mission:

Transform Lives for a Safer Minnesota

