

# **Vertical Infrastructure Program**

## **Plan of Action For 2008**

November 2008 Update

In order to promote the importance of our assets and to ensure continued and increasing funding for major maintenance and routine maintenance, in 2008 we intend to:

1) Annually update a list of facts relating to state buildings and the maintenance needs for those buildings. This information will support the case for increased and permanent funding. Include information on:

- Demolition Planning, including criteria for demolition and factors that will promote the need for demolition funding.
  - The committee recommended a change in appropriation language that would allow for the use of major maintenance funding for demolition. The Dept. of Administrative Services successfully lobbied for the change and up to \$1 million in FY2009 funding can now be used for demolition.
- Routine Maintenance Planning
  - With a reduction in FY2009 funding for routine maintenance work from \$5 million to \$3 million, the plan is to stay the course and continue allocations to agencies and institutions on a square foot basis. Further work is needed to stress the importance of routine maintenance funding to decision makers. The FY2009 Routine Maintenance money was further reduced from \$3million to \$1.4 million due to the 2008 floods.
- Building Code and Related Issues
  - James Borwey, Iowa Workforce Development, Division of Labor Services, discussed safety changes required for hydraulic elevators installed prior to January 1, 1975, with the committee during the March 13, 2008, meeting in Anamosa and again at the May 8, 2008, meeting in Des Moines. With assistance from agency representatives, the Dept. of Administrative Services conducted a survey to determine the locations of elevators requiring this upgrade and has recommended a specific allocation of major maintenance funding to be used for these upgrades around the State.

2) Encourage agencies to invite legislators and local constituencies to all committee meetings, and document participation in periodic Plan of Action progress reports.

- Patrick Callahan, Anamosa City Manager, attended the March 13, 2008, meeting in Anamosa.
- Senator Robert Dvorsky, Coralville, Iowa, attended the July 10th, 2008 tour of Plum Grove in Iowa City.
- Senator Daryl Beall, Ft. Dodge, attended the August 14<sup>th</sup>, 2008 meeting at Ft. Dodge Correctional Facility.

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- The Vertical Infrastructure staff has established a meeting schedule for the entire year, and in coordination with institution representatives and the advisory committee, targeted invitations will be sent to legislative representatives in advance of each meeting.
  
- 3) Develop testimonials supporting the need for routine and major maintenance and how the maintenance funding is being put to work around the state on projects such as electrical distribution systems, roofing work and tuck pointing.
  
- 4) Provide updated information and facts to advocates throughout the state so they can help carry the message on maintenance needs and adequate funding.
  - DAS will review and update the Survey of States last conducted in 2005.
  
- 5) Continue working with private sector and other groups with a common interest in major maintenance and routine maintenance funding that can spearhead the legislative effort to provide an adequate level of funding.
  
- 6) Work with the Department of Administrative Services on consolidation of projects and alternative delivery systems for projects as a way of saving money.
  - DAS project managers, with assistance from DAS Purchasing and institution representatives, have successfully consolidated bidding work on a number of roofing projects around the state, and are exploring other types of projects that can be packaged in the same way.
  
- 7) Deliver the message to the public that tax dollars are being well spent, through press releases and other means of public awareness.
  - Committee members have developed a draft outline of a press release that could be targeted to local newspapers around the state, including general information as well as reports about work underway at specific locations.
  - Work has begun with the Department of Administrative Services Marketing and Communications team to develop a marketing plan for the Vertical Infrastructure Advisory Committee. The plan is to tell the “story” about the State’s buildings so that the Legislature continues to fund the Major Maintenance and Routine Maintenance requests in the future.

The Plan of Action will require continued public sector support to develop the information, with private sector involvement to provide for more, consistent and permanent funding. The Plan of Action will be reviewed again in February, June and November and a report back to the Governor will be made on our progress and accomplishments after the June and November meetings and as part of the Annual Report to the Governor in December. Prepared by the Vertical Infrastructure Advisory Committee

Approved February 14, 2008