

Veterans Affairs

Projects Summary

(\$ in thousands)

Project Title	Priority Ranking	Funding Source	Project Requests for State Funds		
			2016	2018	2020
Asset Preservation	1	GO	\$ 12,645	\$ 0	\$ 0
Minneapolis Veterans Home Truss Bridge Project	2	GO	\$ 7,000	\$ 0	\$ 0
Hastings Veterans Home Campus Modifications	3	GO	\$ 3,500	\$ 0	\$ 0
Luverne Veterans Home Onsite Storage Building	4	GO	\$ 125	\$ 0	\$ 0
Silver Bay Veterans Home Space for Memory Loss Programming	5	GO	\$ 400	\$ 0	\$ 0
Fergus Falls Veterans Home Expanded Resident Activity Room	6	GO	\$ 225	\$ 0	\$ 0
Fergus Falls Veterans Home Emergency Evacuation Building	7	GO	\$ 645	\$ 0	\$ 0
Fergus Falls Veterans Home Greenhouse/Sunroom Construction	8	GO	\$ 125	\$ 0	\$ 0
MN Vets Home Silver Bay Housekeeping and Maint Equip Storage	9	GO	\$ 300	\$ 0	\$ 0
Silver Bay Veterans Home Clinic Construction	10	GO	\$ 1,700	\$ 0	\$ 0
Total Project Requests			\$ 26,665	\$ 0	\$ 0
General Obligation Bonds (GO) Total			\$ 26,665	\$ 0	\$ 0

Asset Preservation**AT A GLANCE****2016 Request Amount:** \$12,645**Priority Ranking:** 1**Project Summary:** This request is for \$12.6 million for renovation and upgrade of the 50 buildings in this agency. Nine of these buildings have 24/7 occupancy requiring ongoing repair and maintenance support. This request will address building repair items that go beyond the day to day maintenance needs of each facility. This request will also assure facilities used to care for over 900 residents are in good condition.**Project Description**

This request is for \$12.6 million for renovation and upgrade of the 50 buildings in this agency. Nine of these buildings have 24/7 occupancy requiring ongoing repair and maintenance support. This request will address building repair items that go beyond the day to day maintenance needs of each facility. This request will also assure facilities used to care for over 900 residents are in good condition.

Examples of projects in this request include: porch replacement, tuckpointing, mechanical and electrical replacements and repairs, water damage repair, and repairs to high pressure boilers. This request would update a variety of resident building components. These projects serve to maintain a safe, efficient, and manageable environment for the residents at the homes.

The amount identified in this asset preservation request reflects a backlog of asset preservation needs.

Project Rationale

- Provides funding for upgrades to over 50 buildings statewide
- Continues to provide a safe environment to care for vulnerable adults
- Ensures continued full use of all physical assets
- Timely repair/replacement of building components eliminates future high costs
- Projects located at the Minnesota Veterans Homes (Minneapolis, Hastings, Luverne, Fergus Falls, Silver Bay)
- Does not qualify for 65 percent federal VA reimbursement

Other Considerations

Without necessary Asset Preservation funding, the agencies facilities will continue to deteriorate. This adds increased repair cost as items continue to deteriorate. When the absence of maintenance

gives way and failures occur, the agency often has no choice but to spend operational funds to fix the issues. This further burdens the quality of care for residents or requires the agency to ask for increased General Fund Appropriations for operations.

Impact on Agency Operating Budgets

The nature of these asset preservation improvements should not have any significant impact on the ongoing operating costs of each facility and may correct inefficiencies in mechanical equipment, ultimately reducing operating costs.

Description of Previous Appropriations

Past amounts appropriated for asset preservation include: \$6 million in the 2006 bonding bill, \$4 million in 2008, \$1 million in 2009, \$4 million in 2010, \$2.3 million in 2011, \$3 million in 2012 and \$2 million in 2014.

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(\$ in thousands)

Minneapolis Veterans Home Truss Bridge Project**AT A GLANCE****2016 Request Amount:** \$7,000**Priority Ranking:** 2**Project Summary:** \$7 million in state funds is requested to repair the historic truss bridge (MN Dept. of Transportation Bridge 5756) on the campus of the Minneapolis Veterans Home.**Project Description****Project Rationale**

Built in 1908, the bridge carries Soldiers' Home Road over Minnehaha Creek and provides access to the Minneapolis Veterans Home from Minnehaha Park. The bridge was deemed to be unsafe and was closed to vehicle traffic in 1987. It remained open as a pedestrian bridge for another decade. The bridge was rehabilitated in 1999. As part of the rehabilitation, the bridge was strengthened and reopened to vehicular traffic. The bridge deck and transfer girders were replaced in-kind, additional diagonal bracing was added to the ends of the main span, the abutments were replaced in-kind, the end spandrel columns and pier frame columns were strengthened, and some of the foundations were repaired. The bridge was found unsafe and closed to both vehicle and pedestrian traffic. Access to the campus is now limited to one entrance (North) from 46th Ave S. All traffic, including resident, staff, visitor & construction must enter and exit campus through one point of access.

Other Considerations

In 1988, the Minnesota Soldiers' Home (now Minneapolis Veterans Home) was placed in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). Bridge 5756 was included in the boundaries of the historic district and identified as a contributing resource. Also in 1988, Historic American Building Survey (HABS) documentation was completed for the campus, including Bridge 5756.

Additionally, the lost usage of the bridge creates an increased vulnerability due to limited access to the campus for security or other first responder type emergencies. Given the nature of healthcare and the vulnerable adult residents on the campus, limited access and greater reaction time causes much concern.

Impact on Agency Operating Budgets**Description of Previous Appropriations**

\$650,000 to contract with a bridge engineer and historian consultant team who have expertise in historic truss bridges to perform a rehab study of the bridge and develop repair options.

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Hastings Veterans Home Campus Modifications**AT A GLANCE****2016 Request Amount:** \$3,500**Priority Ranking:** 3**Project Summary:** \$3.5 million in state funds is requested for predesign and design of campus modifications for the Minnesota Department of Veterans Affairs Veterans Home located in Hastings, MN.**Project Description**

To include needs assessment, capacity requirements and types of services required. In addition will provide schematic drawings for use of current and potential new buildings on the Hastings campus. Supports the Governors goal to end Veteran Homelessness.

Project Rationale

Hastings pre design work is to establish the need and type of services required by the Veteran community for services and housing. In addition this project will provide for the long term vision for the Mn Veterans Home in Hastings.

Other Considerations**Impact on Agency Operating Budgets****Description of Previous Appropriations****Project Contact Person**

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Luverne Veterans Home Onsite Storage Building**AT A GLANCE****2016 Request Amount:** \$125**Priority Ranking:** 4**Project Summary:** \$125,000 in state funds is requested to predesign, design, construct, furnish and equip a new building for the Minnesota Department of Veterans Affairs (MDVA) to be located on the Minnesota Veterans Home (MVH) campus in Luverne, MN.**Project Description**

The MDVA has been renting storage areas for items at MVH Luverne. A new storage building would be on-site, and would eliminate the costs associated with additional off-site storage as well as create a more efficient method of storage, eliminating staff time & vehicle expense to travel to the off-site storage location.

Project Rationale

The MDVA has been renting storage areas for items at MVH Luverne. A new storage building would be on-site, and would eliminate the costs associated with additional off-site storage as well as create a more efficient method of storage, eliminating staff time & vehicle expense to travel to the off-site storage location.

Other Considerations

The MDVA has been paying approximately \$200 per month for more than 10 years to outside contractors for their storage needs.

Impact on Agency Operating Budgets**Description of Previous Appropriations****Project Contact Person**

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Silver Bay Veterans Home Space for Memory Loss Programming**AT A GLANCE****2016 Request Amount:** \$400**Priority Ranking:** 5**Project Summary:** \$400,000 in state funds is requested for predesign and design of building modifications for additional private space for memory loss programming at the Minnesota Department of Veterans Affairs Veterans Home located in Silver Bay, MN.**Project Description**

\$400,000 in state funds is requested for predesign and design of building modifications for additional private space for memory loss programming at the Minnesota Department of Veterans Affairs Veterans Home located in Silver Bay, MN.

Special Programming for populations suffering from memory requires quiet private space and this facility does not currently have a space that meets that requirement. Residents with memory loss have pre-agitation windows that can be decreased with these specialized programs, but the programs are not effective in non-quiet environments.

Project Rationale

Special Programming for populations suffering from memory requires quiet private space and this facility does not currently have a space that meets that requirement. Residents with memory loss have pre-agitation windows that can be decreased with these specialized programs, but the programs are not effective in non-quiet environments.

Other Considerations**Impact on Agency Operating Budgets**

Cost savings are difficult to determine related to risk of increased behaviors requiring increased staffing. However, behaviors could require 1.4 FTE's x 3 shifts annually, or approximately \$252,000

Description of Previous Appropriations**Project Contact Person**

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Fergus Falls Veterans Home Expanded Resident Activity Room**AT A GLANCE****2016 Request Amount:** \$225**Priority Ranking:** 6**Project Summary:** \$225,000 in state funds is requested for expansion of Resident Activity Room space and relocation of storage space for the Minnesota Department of Veterans Affairs Veterans Home located in Fergus Falls, MN.**Project Description**

\$225,000 in state funds is requested for expansion of Resident Activity Room space and relocation of storage space for the Minnesota Department of Veterans Affairs Veterans Home located in Fergus Falls, MN.

Residents currently have only one small room for activities and are otherwise forced to use the hallway for most of their group activities. Creating an additional resident activity room to expand the space available for activities would improve quality of life for residents and their families. In addition, the current setup could lead to problems code-wise due to the lack of proper space.

Project Rationale

Residents currently have only one small room for activities and are otherwise forced to use the hallway for most of their group activities. Creating an additional resident activity room to expand the space available for activities would improve quality of life for residents and their families. In addition, the current setup could lead to problems code-wise due to the lack of proper space.

Other Considerations**Impact on Agency Operating Budgets****Description of Previous Appropriations****Project Contact Person**

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Fergus Falls Veterans Home Emergency Evacuation Building**AT A GLANCE****2016 Request Amount:** \$645**Priority Ranking:** 7**Project Summary:** \$645,000 in state funds is requested to predesign, design, demolish existing substandard structure, construct, furnish and equip replacement building for the Minnesota Department of Veterans Affairs Veterans Home located in Fergus Falls, MN.**Project Description**

\$645,000 in state funds is requested to predesign, design, demolish existing substandard structure, construct, furnish and equip replacement building for the Minnesota Department of Veterans Affairs Veterans Home located in Fergus Falls, MN.

This 50 X 100 insulated structure with lower brick fascia would be heated and cooled and would have two handicapped accessible bathrooms.

Project Rationale

Build a safe refuge location which can be used for temporary shelter for residents during evacuation. Existing structure has been rated unacceptable through facility audit process. Currently, residents are at risk because current space is insufficient should an emergency evacuation become necessary. An evacuation safe refuge space, functioning as a garage space when no emergency situation is present, would also house resident emergency supplies for evacuation and evacuation trailer.

Other Considerations**Impact on Agency Operating Budgets****Description of Previous Appropriations****Project Contact Person**

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Fergus Falls Veterans Home Greenhouse/Sunroom Construction**AT A GLANCE****2016 Request Amount:** \$125**Priority Ranking:** 8**Project Summary:** \$125,000 in state funds is requested for construction of a Resident Greenhouse/Sunroom for the Minnesota Department of Veterans Affairs Veterans Home located in Fergus Falls, MN.**Project Description**

\$125,000 in state funds is requested for construction of a Resident Greenhouse/Sunroom for the Minnesota Department of Veterans Affairs Veterans Home located in Fergus Falls, MN.

This space will be freestanding glass and metal structure with slab on grade, possibly constructed using prefabricated panels.

Project Rationale

This project would provide a space for residents to grow vegetables and flowers, allowing the facility to supplement various items on the menu. In addition, the building would provide the facility with an additional amenity as a space for residents to gather and relax.

Other Considerations**Impact on Agency Operating Budgets****Description of Previous Appropriations****Project Contact Person**

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MN Vets Home Silver Bay Housekeeping and Maint Equip Storage**AT A GLANCE****2016 Request Amount:** \$300**Priority Ranking:** 9**Project Summary:** \$300,000 in state funds is requested for construction of additional housekeeping and maintenance equipment storage spaces for the Minnesota Department of Veterans Affairs Veterans Home located in Silver Bay, MN.**Project Description**

\$300,000 in state funds is requested for construction of additional housekeeping and maintenance equipment storage spaces for the Minnesota Department of Veterans Affairs Veterans Home located in Silver Bay, MN.

This project would provide additional space, sufficient for staff to properly store and maintain housekeeping and maintenance equipment. At present, there is insufficient storage space which hinders operational efficiency.

Project Rationale

This project would provide additional space, sufficient for staff to properly store and maintain housekeeping and maintenance equipment. At present, there is insufficient storage space which hinders operational efficiency.

Other Considerations**Impact on Agency Operating Budgets****Description of Previous Appropriations****Project Contact Person**

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Silver Bay Veterans Home Clinic Construction**AT A GLANCE****2016 Request Amount:** \$1,700**Priority Ranking:** 10**Project Summary:** \$1.7 million in state funds is requested for construction of a clinic for the Minnesota Department of Veterans Affairs Veterans Home located in Silver Bay, MN.**Project Description**

\$1.7 million in state funds is requested for construction of a clinic for the Minnesota Department of Veterans Affairs Veterans Home located in Silver Bay, MN.

This project would provide on-site physician and therapy services to residents who currently must travel to Duluth, MN – a distance of more than 100 miles round trip – for access to these necessary amenities.

Project Rationale

This project would provide on-site physician and therapy services to residents who currently must travel to Duluth, MN – a distance of more than 100 miles round trip – for access to these necessary amenities.

Other Considerations**Impact on Agency Operating Budgets**

Project will reduce operating expenses for MVH Silver Bay due to decreased fuel, vehicle & associated transportation expenses as well as reducing staff time. In addition, it is anticipated that the project will generate revenue for the home related to the therapeutic and physician services.

Description of Previous Appropriations**Project Contact Person**

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