



North Carolina Department of Public Safety

Prevent. Protect. Prepare.

Pat McCrory, Governor

Frank L. Perry, Secretary

MEMORANDUM

TO: Chairs of the Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on Justice and Public Safety

FROM: Frank L. Perry, Secretary

RE: Training Report - Feasibility of Moving SHP Training to Samarkand

DATE: March 1, 2014

Pursuant to Session Law 2013-360, 16A.5 (3), *No later than March 1, 2014, the Department shall submit a report that includes an examination and analysis of all of the following:*

- A. The feasibility of relocating the Highway Patrol training facility to the Samarkand facility.*
- B. The cost, time line, and any logistical issues associated with upgrading the Samarkand facility for use by the State Highway Patrol as a training facility.*

Attached are the details of that Report. If there are any questions regarding this, please contact the Department of Public Safety's Legislative Liaison, Ryan Combs at 919-825-2725.

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Training Facility Samarkand Feasibility Study

March 2014

Purpose
{Senate Bill 402}

**REPORTS ON DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY TRAINING
SECTION 16A.5.**

The Department of Public Safety shall report to the Chairs of the Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on Justice and Public Safety on its training facilities and programs in accordance with the schedule that follows:

- 1) No later than October 1, 2013, the Department shall submit a report that includes an examination and analysis of all of the following:
 - a) The current training practices of the Department in each of its divisions.
 - b) A list of Department training facilities by division, including the location, capacity, purpose, and level of utilization of each facility.
 - c) Efforts by the Department to consolidate its training facilities across and within divisions.
- 2) No later than February 1, 2014, the Department shall submit a report that includes all of the following:
 - a) A plan for operating the Samarkand training facility.
 - b) An estimate of the impact of the Samarkand facility on the use of other Department training facilities.
 - c) An estimate of savings that could be achieved by consolidating training activities and facilities at the renovated Samarkand facility.
- 3) No later than March 1, 2014, the Department shall submit a report that includes an examination and analysis of all of the following:
 - a) The feasibility of relocating the Highway Patrol training facility to the Samarkand facility.
 - b) The cost, time line, and any logistical issues associated with upgrading the Samarkand facility for use by the State Highway Patrol as a training facility.

Training Academy Functions

The North Carolina State Highway Patrol Training Academy is responsible for developing and conducting a wide range of training needs for Patrol personnel, as well as other agencies. The Training Academy is comprised of twenty-six (26) sworn positions and sixteen (16) civilians {cafeteria staff - 12}. The Training Academy is responsible for providing the following types of training and functions on an annual basis:

- All levels of basic training for new recruits: Fast Track School 15 weeks, Traditional School 29 weeks
- The following types of specialized training: speed-timing, motor carrier functions, CPR {EMT}, advanced crash investigation, field training officer training, firearms, defensive tactics, gang awareness, hazardous materials, electronic control device, terrorism, driving, mobile field force and officer safety {including the development of lesson plans}, canine, and man tracking
- Required annual In-Service Training for all sworn members {including the development of lesson plans}
- The following types of training to other law enforcement agencies {federal, state, county & municipal}: driving, executive protection, motorcycle training, motor carrier
- The following types of training for SHP civilian members: telecommunicator basic school, telecommunicator certification course, telecommunicator annual in-service training, biennial training for all clerical personnel, garage mechanics, radio repair technicians, tower climbing certification, auto body shop personnel, and other training as needed or requested
- Maintaining and securing the training records of all SHP members
- Attending seminars and training conferences to network with other professional law enforcement agencies to develop modern and effective approaches to training that reflect state of the art programs that are based on research and analysis of current law enforcement issues
- Partnering with NC State University and the Wake County Sheriff's Office for the Administrative Officers Management Program (AOMP)

Technical Services Unit

The Support Services Section is comprised of the Technical Services Unit, the Logistics Unit, and the Personnel Unit. The Technical Services Unit acquired building #2 on the training academy campus in the mid-1990s due to technology growth within the agency. This unit is comprised of four (4) sworn positions, fifty-five (68) civilian technologist positions, and six (6) contract positions. TSU is responsible for providing the following technical services/support for the organization:

- Maintaining a Computer Assisted Dispatch (CAD)/Records Management System (RMS) used to capture activities for personnel-related, field operations, and statistical data gathering purposes
- Providing service/maintenance of the **CJIN Mobile Data Network** for all SHP sworn members and 5,000+ law enforcement users throughout the state
- Building & maintaining the State's Voice Interoperability Plan for Emergency Responders (**VIPER**) statewide with 65,000+ users
- Providing **PC and MDC** purchase/deployment/support to all 2,300 employees (sworn & civilian) SHP-wide
- Provide **e-technology training** for users of applications/software for division and department employees including **e-Citation & TRacS**
- Provide & maintain a wired and wireless information **network** for all Patrol employees statewide; this includes the maintenance of 1 mainframe and 45+ servers that are housed on the Training Academy campus
- Provide Photography & Video services for the division of SHP as well as the entire DPS

At its highest point, the Criminal Justice Information Network's Mobile Data Network was accessed by more than 14,000 officers representing 367 separate public safety agencies. The Mobile Data Network has become an important tool in the Department's effort to facilitate inter-agency communications throughout the public safety community.

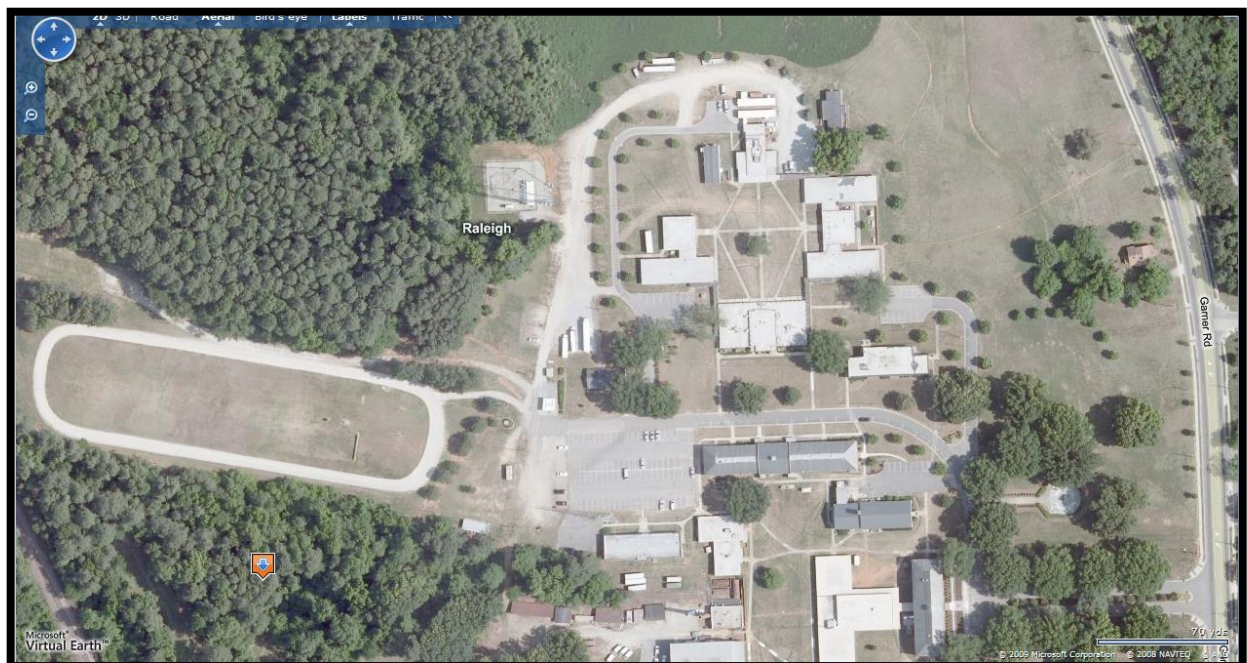
The North Carolina State Highway Patrol, as administrators of the Criminal Justice Information Network – Mobile Data Network (CJIN-MDN), is responsible for system modification and upgrades that affect all users. North Carolina is recognized today in the nation as one of the leading states in developing a statewide Criminal Justice Information Network. Our success is due directly in part to the North Carolina General Assembly recognizing the need for further coordination and cooperation between state and local agencies in establishing standards for sharing of criminal justice information.

Aerial View of Current Facilities

Driving Facility



Training Academy & TSU Facility



History & Condition of Current Facilities

In July 1975 Council of State awarded the Governor Morehead School on Garner Road to the State Highway Patrol {approximately 357 acres & all buildings}. In 1976 the SHP requested and received operational and renovation funds from the General Assembly, with half of the facilities awarded to the Department of Justice for the SBI. In September 1977 the SHP began to occupy half of this facility {9 buildings} and it became the North Carolina State Highway Patrol Training Center now referred to as the "Training Academy." *{Note: all the buildings are owned by the Department of Administration}* The first basic patrol school was held in March of 1978. SHP has occupied these buildings for the last 36 years.

The driving facility was built in 1988 on an 85 acre tract of land which was allocated to the Patrol by the Council of State. In 1992, a control tower and classroom were added. In 1995, a hangar was built adjacent to the control tower for SHP helicopter operations. In 2008 a garage facility was added.

The emergence and need of technology created a new section within the Highway Patrol - "Technical Services Unit" that has acquired all of building #2 and this unit also purchased two mobile trailers that were placed on site to provide room for information technology training and office space. The Patrol's Medical Office is currently located in building #6 and they perform physicals for sworn members of SHP, Alcohol Law Enforcement, and State Capital Police. The Medical Office performs over 1,200 physicals a year, and because of this high demand, they recently received \$1.1 million in R&R money from the Department of Administration. Asbestos abatement has been completed and contracts have been signed to renovate and move the medical office to building #10.

Cost of Relocation

The State Construction Office within the Department of Administration completed a study examining the cost associated with moving the existing SHP Training Academy to a generic alternative location. The estimate took into account relocating the entire training complex, including all operating functions of the current facility and the future needs considered. This estimate considered dorm rooms to house up to 700 troopers/students, cafeteria, medical office, gymnasium, running track, armory/ammunition bunkers, radio/communication tower, fuel facilities, heliport and hangar, driving track, and administration building.

The total estimated cost associated with moving the NC State Highway Patrol Training Academy to an alternative state owned location is \$239,224,856. This estimate has been validated by the North Carolina State Construction Office.

Listed below are the prospective buildings and amount of space required for SHP Academy operations and future needs:

Communications & Logistics Complex - plan for 118,000 square feet of building space on 10 acres of land to meet current needs of the organization.

Technical Services - plan for 56,500 square feet of building space on 15 acres of land to meet current operational needs. Special attention would need to be given to the HVAC and security of the network server area.

Training Academy - plan for 785,000 square feet of building space on 300+ acres of land to meet current and future operational needs.

Running Track/Cross Country Course – 85 acres (BLET requirement)

Driving Facility – 110 acres to include 1.6 mile driving track, 4X4 course, 600' X 600' paved area for precision training, garage, control tower, and heliport. **(Due to critical need, in 2013 the SHP invested heavily in the driving track by resurfacing it at the cost of \$890,000)**

*Note: Relocation of the Driving Facility away from the Training Academy is strongly discouraged. There will be a great loss of efficiency if the driving track is relocated to another site without the Training Academy also being moved nearby. The cost of meals, lodging, transportation, and an operationally unacceptable and unnecessary loss of man-hours will be realized unless the Training Academy is located in very close proximity to the driving track. Due to the high liability and risk involved with driver training, the patrol recommends keeping the Training Academy staff close by. Lastly, by moving the driving track, the patrol would also have to relocate its heliport. **Total costs associated with relocating the driving facility, tower, classroom, garage facility and heliport is estimated at \$37,795,000.***

Driving Facility/Training Academy

A well designed and appropriately located driving facility is critical to maintaining the core mission of the State Highway Patrol. The current North Carolina State Highway Patrol's Driving Facility is recognized, nationwide, as one of the premier driving facilities in the country. Several federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies tour the facility annually and benchmark the design for development of their own facilities. Additionally, at this driving facility the SHP provides driver training too many federal, state, and local police departments, including Raleigh Police Department, Greensboro Police Department, Wake Tech Community College BLET (Basic Law Enforcement Training), the FBI, DEA, and the U.S.Secret Service. The Patrol also partners with the B.R.A.K.E.S. (Be Responsible and Keep Everyone Safe) Organization to promote safe driving habits for teenage drivers.

Each year, the SHP conducts four (4) Basic Schools at the Academy. As such, the Patrol hires and trains approximately one-hundred eighty (180) Cadets annually. This basic training consists of two (2) different types of classes. The Fast Track academy, which trains Cadets who were previously certified to be law enforcement officers in North Carolina, lasts fifteen (15) weeks. The BLET academy, which trains Cadets who have no prior law enforcement experience, lasts twenty-nine (29) weeks. These courses are residential in nature. The Cadets engage in training that begins each day with physical fitness at 5 a.m. and ends with "lights out" at 10 p.m. The classes are dismissed each Friday afternoon before 5 p.m. for the weekend.

Recommendations

The Department of Public Safety recommends that the SHP remain at its current location for the following reasons:

1. Physical size limitations of the current Property at Samarkand.
2. Aforementioned high cost of moving the entire SHP facility.
3. The needs of The Division of Adult Correction and Juvenile Justice which prohibits the location of the driving track and classrooms on the same site at Samarkand property.
4. Wake Medical Center, which has one of the most recognized training trauma centers in the state, is approximately seven miles from the campus. Having a major medical center close to the driving track is invaluable to the safety of a Trooper/Cadet.
5. The Patrol has partnered with North Carolina State University's Administrative Officers Management Program (AMOP) and the Wake County Sheriff's Office in delivering leadership/management training for sworn supervisors. NCSU waives the \$7,000 tuition fee in exchange for meals and lodging for all students. The Patrol currently sends eighteen supervisors to this training for a total savings of \$126,000 per year.
6. Since the Patrol currently shares its campus with the SBI, the Patrol regularly exchanges training instructors to teach in the Patrols basic schools and in-service training. The SBI also finger prints all of the Patrols applicants at no cost.
7. NC Criminal Justice Training and Standards Division is located across the street from the Patrols current location and they provide guidance in the Patrols training delivery, as well as assist the Patrol in getting members back to work in a timely manner.
8. With limited dorm space, off-site housing is often needed for outside agencies. Raleigh provides ample options for off-site housing. The Samarkand location does not.

The State Highway Patrol does recognize a need to use the Samarkand Property on a more limited, but very critical and much needed basis once it is operational. That being the utilization of the on-site firing ranges at Samarkand. The Patrol does not have its own firing range and routinely partners with community colleges and local law enforcement agencies for training. The firing range in Samarkand will be a tremendous asset to the Patrol, and will be utilized by the different troops in the region. The Patrol will also use classroom space when it is available. The Department of Public Safety is eager to begin utilizing the Samarkand property and once it is operational, the department will continue to look for ways to maximize its use and consolidate training.