



Prison Reform Update

May 22, 2019

Presented to NC Prison Reform
Advisory Board

Facility Re-missioning Update

- ▶ Converting Eastern and Southern Correctional Institutions from female to close custody male facilities
 - Some close custody males received at Eastern and Southern
- ▶ Converting Lanesboro Correctional to a female facility and re-naming it Anson Correctional Institution
 - Male close custody offender population reduced at Lanesboro; Anticipate transferring females to Anson by late summer 2019

Reducing Contraband in Prison Facilities

- ▶ Utilizing managed access radio frequency technology to detect, intercept, and block use of unauthorized cellphones
 - Twenty assessments using mobile managed access completed thus far; will conduct 30 total
 - Installing stationary equipment at two locations
- ▶ Continuing development of database to track contraband intercepted
 - Anticipate completion and rollout to facilities by late summer 2019
- ▶ Pursuing purchase and deployment of handheld metal detectors and netting through budget process

Improving Training for New and Veteran Employees

- ▶ Moved to six weeks of Basic Correctional Officer Training, effective January 2019
 - Beginning early evaluation of modified curriculum, including test scores
 - Using former Forest Service training site in Kinston
 - Adding additional Basic Training classes to meet demand
- ▶ Initiated multiple leadership training opportunities
 - Launching online Credible Leadership program
 - Re-instituting training for new wardens
 - Scheduling first-line supervisor training
 - Authorizing national training when possible
 - Four wardens attended Wardens' Peer Interaction Program at Sam Houston State University

Enhancing Communication for Internal and External Stakeholders

- ▶ Developing Key Performance Indicators to monitor and track progress
 - Engaging leaders from all disciplines and sections
 - Refining initial suggestions/ideas into strategic metrics
 - Planning to track via IT tool
 - Goal is to have monthly meetings with wardens and section chiefs to monitor progress and identify opportunities for improvement

Budget/Legislative Update

▶ Governor's Recommended Budget

- Greater of 1.5% or \$500 salary increase for most state employees in both years of the biennium
- An additional \$500 increase for certified law enforcement and staff who work in state facilities
- Five extra days of annual leave
- \$8.2 million reserve for safety and security enhancements in prisons
- \$2 million recurring, and \$500,000 non-recurring to Adult Corrections to enhance training, intelligence gathering and support for new staff.
- \$835,000 recurring to provide for 11 positions to expand capacity for re-entry programming.
- \$3.5 million recurring to provide 35 positions for the first phase of a new long-term care facility, located at Central Prison, for chronically ill inmates.

Budget/Legislative Update

▶ House Budget

- Greater of 1% or \$500 salary increase for most state employees, effective Jan. 1, 2020
- 5% increase for certified correctional personnel
- Five extra days of annual leave
- \$835,000 recurring to provide for positions to expand capacity for re-entry programming. Phased in over biennium.
- \$3.5 million recurring in FY 2019-20 to provide 35 positions for the first phase of a new long-term care facility, located at Central Prison, for chronically ill inmates.
- \$740,000 for five positions and 32 intermediate substance abuse treatment slots, effective Oct. 1, 2019.

Other Legislation

▶ House Bill 641

- Department of Public Safety Omnibus Bill
 - Includes modification to offender malicious conduct statutes and requires consecutive active sentence for offender convicted of exposing him/herself to staff;
 - Includes modification to statutes to require active consecutive sentence for offender convicted of possessing tools to effect an escape, or aid in an assault or insurrection
 - Includes modification to tort claims statutes
- Passed the House; now in Senate



Closing Remarks/Questions

For more information, visit the Prison Reform page
on the DPS website: www.ncdps.gov