




State of New Hampshire  
Forensic Hospital Supplemental  
Information

04-30-2021



# Outline

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- Funding & Policy History
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- Design Review
- RFP Approach
- Summary



# System Needs



# System Needs- Background

- In New Hampshire, as we have no other appropriate facility to treat acute mental illness for forensic patients, forensic patients, including those whom are civilly committed for treatment, are cared for at the secure psychiatric unit (SPU) at the state prison.
- The remainder of forensic patients are treated at New Hampshire Hospital, but the Hospital is not well suited for this type of care.
- In 2019, a lawsuit was filed due to the unlawful confinement of civilly committed patients in a correctional facility.

# System Needs- Patient Populations

- While the lawsuit is specific to civilly committed patients, there is a need for a facility that can help many other patient cohorts.

		FY2019 Admissions to SPU	FY2020 Admissions to SPU
<b>Patients for which there is no appropriate care setting</b>	<b>Civilly committed</b>		
	Civilly committed due to dangerousness	7	6
	Civilly committed, sexually violent predator	3	0
	Has an intellectual disability, not competent, and dangerous	0	0
	Not guilty by reason of insanity (NGRI)	4	5
	Emergency Transfer to SPU from NHH	3	6
	Forensic patients currently at New Hampshire Hospital	24	24
	County or state prisoner in need of acute psychiatric service	18	32
	<b>Total</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>73</b>

# System Needs- Emergency Room Boarding

- 24 beds at New Hampshire Hospital are currently occupied by forensic patients.
- These patients have very long lengths of stay compared to a regular admissions unit
- If a 60 bed forensic hospital was constructed, these 24 beds at New Hampshire Hospital could be repurposed to help with emergency room boarding.
- Emergency room boarding would reduce due to additional beds being available, **and the unit would have shorter lengths of stay.**



# Policy & Funding History



# Policy & Funding History- FY20/21 Budget Cycle

- HB726 (LSR19-0113) was filed to establish an advisory council to research the idea of constructing a Forensic Hospital.
- During the Senate Phase of the budget, the Senate included \$17.5 million in funding for the construction of a 25 bed forensic hospital.
  - We believe this was calculated as half of the construction estimate the state had at the time (\$35 million).
- In Committee of Conference, this \$17.5 million was reduced to \$8.75 million.
  - \$8.75 million was subsequently appropriated as a part of HB4 and is non-lapsing.
  - It was known at this time that additional funding would be necessary to finish the project.



# Policy & Funding History- FY22/23 Budget Cycle

- In the 2022/2023 budget planning cycle, the Governor's office reintroduced the original \$17.5 million figure to further fund the project.
- This \$17.5 million was included as a part of HB2 instead of the capital budget due to the historical precedence of the previous biennium, but the Department is treating this just like any other capital project, and is following capital project protocols.
- The House has removed the \$17.5 million in funding in HB2 for this project.
- The Department and Governor's office are currently awaiting guidance from the U.S. Treasury to see if federal funding can be used for this type of project.

# Overall Funding Summary

Construction Funding Requests	Amount
Total Appropriation in FY20/21 Biennium (non-lapsing)	\$8,750,000
FY22/23 Governor's Budget Request	\$17,500,000
Total Funds If Governor's Recommendation was Approved	\$26,250,000

Construction Estimates	Amount
FY20/21 Biennium Construction Estimate for 25 beds	\$35,000,000
FY22/23 Biennium Construction Estimate for 25 beds	\$40,000,000
FY22/23 Biennium Construction Estimate for 60 beds	\$50,000,000

Operating Budgets	General Funds	Total Funds
Operating Budget Estimate for 25 beds	\$27,000,000	\$27,000,000
Operating Budget Estimate for 60 beds	\$50,000,000	\$50,000,000
One-time costs	\$758,220	\$758,220

- Construction estimates are preliminary figures based on initial design requirements. As design requirements are further defined, more precise estimates will be generated.
- Operating Budget estimates are based on a combination of guidance received by Forensic Hospital consultants, the Department of Corrections, and historical costs at New Hampshire Hospital.

# Can you bill for Forensic Hospital Services?

- Forensic Hospital's are allowed to bill in a similar fashion to New Hampshire Hospital, although it's much more nuanced.
  - Nuances relate to care being a medical necessity vs. a legal necessity
- The hospital must be designed to Joint Commission standards in order to bill.
- **The Department does not believe billing would not be a significant source of revenue for this facility.**
  - This has been further clarified since the House Phase.



# FY20/21 Biennium Progress Report



## What did the department do with the \$8.75 million that was appropriated in HB4?

- In FY2020, the first three months of the year were a continuing resolution, meaning little progress could be made during this time.
- In October of 2020, the continuing resolution ended, and design conversations began with Public Works.
- In January of 2020, COVID-19 started to emerge, and in February COVID-19 was the sole focus for The Department, and for New Hampshire Hospital.

## What did the department do with the \$8.75 million that was appropriated in HB4?

- Once staff were fully vaccinated in January 2021, the Hospital could start to focus on this project again.
- Initial design meetings have taken place, an architect has been contracted through Public Works, and we've begun to outline design requirements for the facility.
- The Department and Public Works have also met with the Concord Planning Board, and these meetings will be held periodically moving forward.



# Design & RFP Plan Review



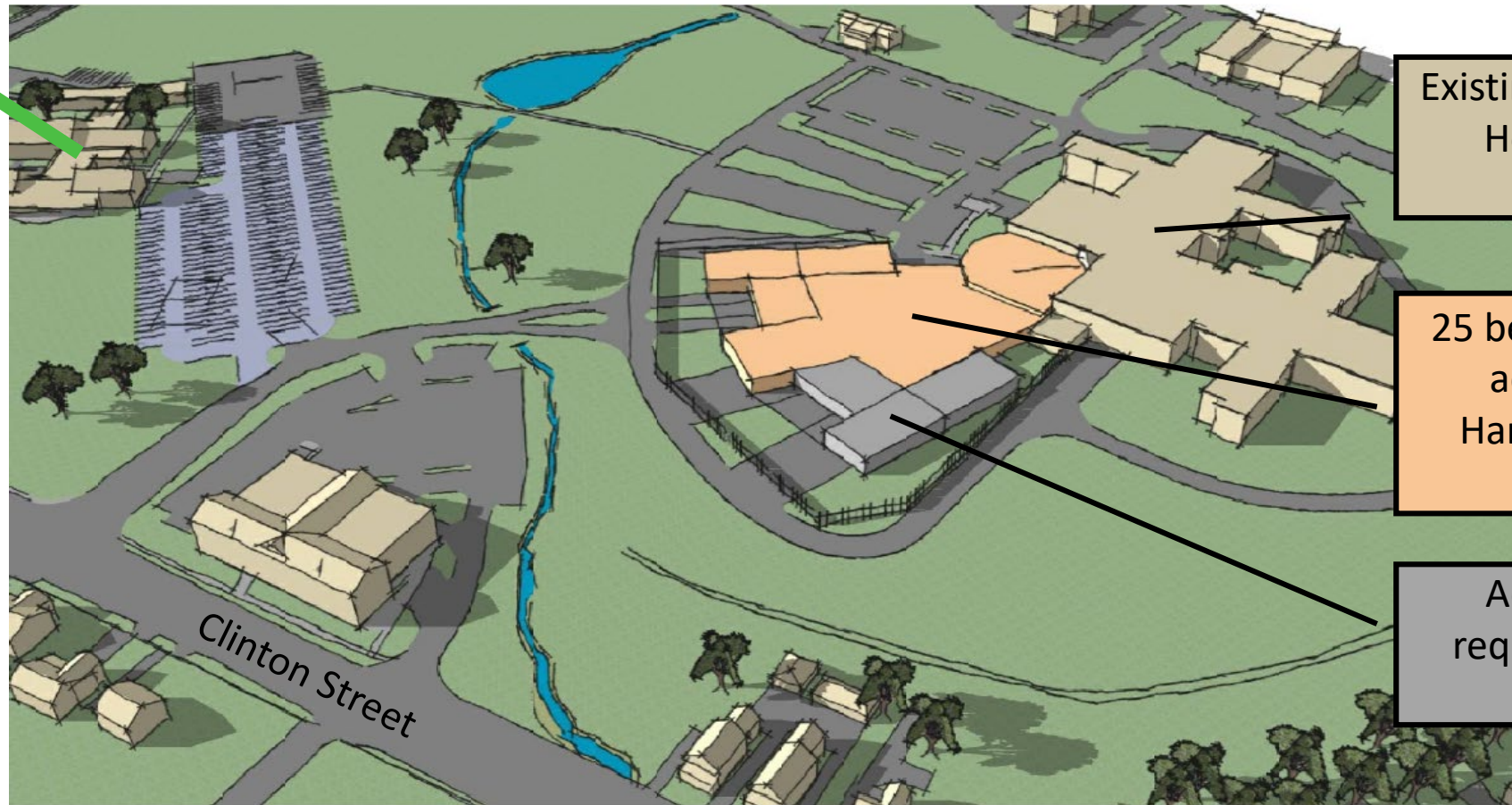
# Design Review

- The Department intends to design a facility for 25 beds that could be easily expanded to 60, should funding allow.
- During the House Phase, a lot on the corner of Clinton St. and Fruit St. was being considered for this facility.
  - For a variety of reasons, the department has moved away from this site
- Current design conversations are focusing on building an addition to New Hampshire Hospital.



# Current Conceptual Design

Phillbrook Building



Existing New Hampshire Hospital building (light tan)

25 bed Forensic facility addition to New Hampshire Hospital (orange-tan)

Additional space required for 60 beds (grey)

# Design Summary

- Significant focus is being placed on finalizing design requirements.
- The corner of Fruit Street and Clinton Street has been considered, but has a variety of challenges.
- The Department is focusing design conversations on an addition to New Hampshire Hospital at this point in time.

# RFP Plan

- In coordination with Public Works, the department is pursuing a design-build RFP methodology.
- Design-build RFP's offer an expedited approach to contracting for this project.
- If additional funding is not available in the FY22/23 biennium through either federal or general fund means, the project will likely have to wait until the FY24/25 biennium.



# Next Steps



# Next Steps

1. Finalize design requirements.
2. Engage with various stakeholders to source their input.
3. Partner with the legislature to identify funding in the FY22/23 biennium.
4. Issue an RFP for a design-build contract.



# Questions?

