



**New Hampshire Veterans Home**  
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**CAPITAL BUDGET HEARING FOR FY 2022-2023**

**SENATE CAPITAL BUDGET COMMITTEE**

June 23, 2020

**Status update of prior Capital Budget Projects**

- **Electronic Medical Records –**

Original Appropriation: \$840,000.00 (GF% \$294,000 Fed% \$546,000)

Remaining Appropriation: \$16,755.37

**The project is complete.**

- **Equipment Upgrades –**

Original Appropriation: \$1,650,000.00 (GF% \$577,500 Fed% \$1,072,500)

Remaining Appropriation: \$6,040.81

**This project is complete.**

- **LEDU Building Fire Wall Repairs –**

Original Appropriation: \$1,460,000.00 (GF% 100%)

Remaining Appropriation: \$1,293,000.00

This project has repaired and reconstruct existing fire walls in the LEDU building to meet existing NFPA fire codes. This project has corrected deficiencies found during a 2017 related capital project inspection process. The existing fire walls were never constructed properly in accordance with the building plans when the LEDU building was constructed 15 years ago. The walls and fire rated assemblies are required to connect with the decking above and they do not. Preliminary inspection has shown that there is approximately 2000 lineal feet of wall structures that do not have required fire or smoke ratings. Since we are a defend in place facility, these repairs are critical. This creates a significant NFPA fire code deficiency which needs to be corrected. This will insure compliance with both VA life safety codes and NFPA fire codes, insuring the long term safety and well-being of all residents entrusted in our care. Public Works has been working with the vendor to complete all required repairs. The project will be completed this summer 2020.

- **Security Infrastructure Improvements –**

Original Appropriation: \$795,000.00 (GF% 100%)

Remaining Appropriation: \$19,646.00

This project has made major improvements to life safety systems at the New Hampshire Veterans Home. The project includes increased security by installing electric door strikes, proximity entrance cards, external and internal cameras for all medication storage areas, parking lots and common areas.

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Enhanced security has been added to the main entrance reception area. The benefit is dramatically improved security and control over who is allowed entry to various buildings located on the campus providing greater security for the residents entrusted to our care in our post 9/11 environment. The systems identifies who was granted entry into secure areas, severely limiting unauthorized access campus wide. Project will be complete this summer 2020.

- **Heat Pump Equipment Replacements –**

Capital Budget Request: \$1,170,000.00 (GF% 100%)

Remaining Appropriation: \$1,114,050.00

This project would replace 146 aging geothermal water sourced heat pumps used throughout the facility which have reached the end of their useful life and require constant costly repairing. These aging units would be replaced with newer more energy efficient units thereby decreasing the State's utility consumption and significant ongoing maintenance costs.

The Home is requesting an extension to prevent the needed funds from lapsing.

- **LEDU 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor addition -**

Original Appropriation: \$13,550,000 (GF \$4,742,500 Fed \$8,807,500)

Remaining Appropriation: \$12,397,384.42

This project, which was approved by the Governor & Council on 4/6/16, will increase the number of beds available on the dementia units. 100% final design plans were submitted to the Department of Veterans Affairs, and the Home is currently waiting for their approval before we can move forward with this project. This will enable the New Hampshire Veterans Home to admit and place those veterans in need of a secure environment, where they can benefit from the programs and atmosphere. The elderly veteran population is seeking admission to the New Hampshire Veterans Home later in life and in most cases while in the mid to late stage of their dementia disease. We expect the demand for the Life Enhancement Dementia Unit (LEDU) beds to increase as the current "Baby Boomer" veteran population ages. In anticipation of this fact and with knowledge of the veteran demographics in the state, the demand for these beds will continue to outpace availability.

The Home is requesting an extension to prevent the needed funds from lapsing.