

# Memorandum



CITY OF DALLAS

DATE May 12, 2025

Honorable Members of the Public Safety Committee  
TO Cara Mendelsohn (Chair), Kathy Stewart (Vice Chair), Tennell Atkins, Jesse Moreno,  
Gay Donnell Willis

SUBJECT **Dallas Police Academy Update**

## **Background:**

On April 2, 2025, the Office of Bond and Construction Management (BCM) and the Dallas Police Department (DPD) briefed the City Council on the proposed Law Enforcement Training Center at the University of North Texas at Dallas (UNT-Dallas). This memorandum provides an update on key developments since that briefing. Moving forward, staff will provide a monthly memo to the Public Safety Committee to keep the Committee informed of progress.

## **Coordination with Dallas Police Department Leadership**

Since becoming the Dallas Police Department's Chief of Police, Chief Comeaux has toured the existing Dallas Police Academy to assess current training conditions. He has also participated in meetings with the design team, coordinated with DPD training staff, and engaged with police associations to review and receive feedback on the proposed training program. This input and feedback will guide the development of a program that aligns with the operational needs and goals of the department.

## **Design Team Coordination**

The design team is incorporating feedback received during the April 2 Council briefing, including requests for greater clarity on program components and estimates. In coordination with Chief Comeaux, the team is refining the training program to ensure alignment with departmental priorities. These updates will inform the final space plan and cost estimate, which are currently in development.

## **Lease and Right of Entry (ROE) Update**

Staff has completed negotiations on the Right of Entry (ROE) agreement and is currently awaiting final signatures. On May 6, 2025, the city received comments from the UNT-Dallas on the draft ground lease. Staff is reviewing those comments and anticipates bringing the lease forward for City Council consideration on May 28, 2025.

## **Next Steps:**

On May 21, 2025, staff will brief the City Council on the updated project cost estimates, key terms of the UNT-Dallas ground lease, the proposed funding strategy, and a communications plan to support ongoing stakeholder engagement.

DATE May 12, 2025  
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PAGE **2 of 2**

Should you have any questions please contact Jennifer Nicewander, P.E. Director, Office of Bond, and Construction Management at [jennifer.nicewander@dallas.gov](mailto:jennifer.nicewander@dallas.gov).

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Chief of Public Safety



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Mark Swann, City Auditor  
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Preston Robinson, Administrative Judge  
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Alina Ciocan, Assistant City Manager  
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Robin Bentley, Assistant City Manager  
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Elizabeth Saab, Chief of Strategy, Engagement, and Alignment (I)  
Directors and Assistant Directors