

Memorandum



CITY OF DALLAS

DATE February 12, 2024

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

SUBJECT **Police Academy Update**

This past week, Mayor Johnson, Chief Garcia, the City of Dallas, and the University of North Texas – Dallas announced a \$10 million contribution from the Communities Foundation of Texas towards the construction of the new Dallas Police Academy, scheduled to open in 2027. Several area legislators were on hand, along with community leaders, peer cities and police chiefs, to recognize this significant step towards the opening of the new academy.

The City of Dallas Office of Bond and Construction Management is serving as the lead on design and construction of the training facility, which is estimated to cost approximately \$150 million. In 2023, the Texas Legislature appropriated \$20 million towards the project, and an additional \$50 million is planned in the upcoming 2024 Bond package. Private fundraising will cover the balance. The City Council is slated to formally accept the \$10 million contribution from the Communities Foundation of Texas at the City Council meeting on March 27, 2024.

The Bond Office is currently developing a Request for Qualifications for Architectural Services and alternative construction delivery methods best fit for this facility. Selection of an Architect will take place this Spring. With a financial commitment and streamlined process, we are working the Communities Foundation of Texas to explore opportunities to best advance the programming, design, and development of the project to meet the current schedule.

The new state-of-the-art law enforcement training facility at UNT Dallas presents an unparalleled opportunity to reimagine the officer training experience by creating a space tailor-made for police training and embedding it into an institution of higher learning that provides space for community, personal wellness, personal development, and continuing education for all our officers.

Should you have any questions or comments, please contact me at Jon.Fortune@dallas.gov or Jennifer Nicewander, Director of the Office of Bond and Construction Management, at Jennifer.Nicewander@dallas.gov.



Jon Fortune
Deputy City Manager

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c: T.C. Broadnax, City Manager
Tammy Palomino, City Attorney
Mark Swann, City Auditor
Billerae Johnson, City Secretary
Preston Robinson, Administrative Judge
Kimberly Bizer Tolbert, Deputy City Manager

Majed A. Al-Ghafry, Assistant City Manager
M. Elizabeth (Liz) Cedillo-Pereira, Assistant City Manager
Dr. Robert Perez, Assistant City Manager
Jack Ireland, Chief Financial Officer
Genesis D. Gavino, Chief of Staff to the City Manager
Directors and Assistant Directors