



Correctional Facilities

Department of Corrections

Overview

Over the last several years, Governor Noem recommended, and the Legislature approved, funding to make improvements to South Dakota's aging correctional system infrastructure. During the 2023 session, \$60.0 million in funding was dedicated to build a new, 300-bed prison for women in Rapid City, and \$330.9 million was set aside for the future construction of a 1,500-bed prison for men in the Sioux Falls area. While great progress has been made toward improving our correctional facilities, Governor Noem is recommending funding to complete the women's prison and set aside additional funds for the men's prison.

With these recommendations, we will have set aside \$656.2 million over the past three legislative sessions. This will save over \$600 million in interest in fees over the next 25 years, avoiding \$50 million in annual debt service payments.

Rapid City Women's Prison

The construction of a women's prison in Rapid City will address serious overcrowding at the South Dakota Women's Prison in Pierre and decrease capacity to a safe and manageable level while providing space for future growth. Based on updated cost estimates, the total project budget is currently \$87.1 million. The Department of Corrections has worked to find opportunities for value-added cost savings. As a result, the Governor is recommending \$2.4 million in federal State Fiscal Recovery Funds and \$20.9 million in general funds to complete the project as promised.

Men's Prison near Sioux Falls

The South Dakota State Penitentiary is no longer suited for use as a correctional facility. Constructed in the late 1800's as a territorial penitentiary, the facility has significant overcrowding issues, making operations incredibly inefficient. This project will allow the 140-year-old facility to be decommissioned and replaced with a modern and efficient prison that will house offenders. The Governor is recommending \$10.0 million in federal ARPA funds, \$132.5 million in one-time general funds, and a transfer of \$95.7 million from our reserves to be set aside for future construction. Every dollar we can save now ensures that the State doesn't need to issue debt in the future for this construction.