

D06E02
Public School Construction
Board of Public Works

Public School Construction PAYGO (Statewide)

PAYGO GF \$25,000,000

Summary of Recommended PAYGO Actions

1. Public School Capital Appropriation

Adopt narrative requesting reports on the distribution of school security improvement funds.

Program Analysis and Performance Measures

The fiscal 2014 allowance includes \$25 million in general funds for security improvements at public schools. The funds will support a range of projects such as facility risk assessments, security cameras, photo identification systems for visitor sign-in, lockset changes for interior and exterior doors, hardening glass areas, relocating school office areas to a school's primary entrance area, and moving relocatable classrooms to improve supervision. Local education agencies (LEA) will be able to use school security funds for a wide range of projects as small as \$10,000 spread across a number of schools. Because the security improvement initiative will utilize pay-as-you-go funds and not general obligation bond funds, projects may have less than a 15-year life.

Distribution and Program Administration

Subject to Interagency Committee on School Construction (IAC) approval, per an initial proposal, funds will be distributed based on each LEA proportion of statewide square footage, similar to the Aging School Program, rather than on a competitive grant basis. For illustrative purposes, **Exhibit 1** shows how school security funds would be distributed across LEAs based on the proportion of statewide square footage. Other factors that could be considered include the number of schools, LEA enrollment, and school facility age. **IAC should discuss the proposed distribution method for school security improvement funds.**

Exhibit 1
School Security Distribution Based on School Facility Square Footage
As of February 13, 2013

<u>Local Education Agency</u>	<u>Total Adjusted Square Footage</u>	<u>Percentage of Total State Adjusted Square Footage</u>	<u>Allocation Distribution</u>
Allegany	1,777,848	1.3%	\$325,000
Anne Arundel	12,666,922	9.3%	2,323,000
Baltimore City	17,474,058	12.8%	3,198,000
Baltimore County	16,050,742	11.8%	2,945,000
Calvert	2,297,683	1.7%	423,000
Caroline	835,715	0.6%	153,000
Carroll	4,501,722	3.3%	825,000
Cecil	2,115,085	1.6%	388,000
Charles	3,624,227	2.7%	665,000
Dorchester	949,081	0.7%	175,000
Frederick	6,344,014	4.7%	1,163,000
Garrett	808,637	0.6%	148,000
Harford	5,996,760	4.4%	1,100,000
Howard	7,727,063	5.7%	1,418,000
Kent	563,207	0.4%	103,000
Montgomery	22,936,546	16.8%	4,208,000
Prince George's	18,039,692	13.2%	3,308,000
Queen Anne's	1,332,249	1.0%	245,000
St. Mary's	2,216,018	1.6%	408,000
Somerset	659,456	0.5%	120,000
Talbot	697,250	0.5%	128,000
Washington	3,332,767	2.5%	613,000
Wicomico	2,174,173	1.6%	400,000
Worcester	1,184,400	0.9%	218,000
Total	136,305,315		\$25,000,000

Note: Facility Inventory data extracted from the Public School Construction Program Facility Inventory database, updated annually by each local education agency. This does not include the Maryland School for the Blind.

Source: Public School Construction Program

IAC expects to approve final administrative procedures for the school security program in April 2013. According to IAC's preliminary plan, applications will be accepted on a rolling basis following approval of administrative procedures. Projects under \$100,000 will be approved administratively, while those exceeding \$100,000 will require IAC contract approval. New and recently renovated schools will be eligible to receive funds, and projects started after January 1, 2013, will be eligible if supplanted local funds will be used for other school security measures such as personnel costs. According to the initial proposal, the program would be administered on a reimbursement basis with a required local match, based on the State-local cost share percentage applicable to projects approved in the fiscal 2014 *Capital Improvement Program*. Funding via reimbursement allows IAC to verify that completed projects align to the approved scope of work. While the timeframe for project completion has not yet been determined, IAC reports that requiring all funds to be encumbered by the end of fiscal 2014, with a required completion date of August 2014, would allow sufficient time for the LEAs to complete security projects. In that case, all reimbursement would be provided by December 2014. As drafted, the IAC's proposed administrative procedures do not include an allocation for the Maryland School for the Blind (MSB), though through informal conversations, the agency has indicated that MSB could receive funding through the initiative. Due to a lack of information on their facilities plant, and due to their status as a private institution, MSB's appropriation will likely not be based on square footage. **IAC should comment on whether MSB will be included in the school security initiative distribution and using what methodology.**

IAC will oversee project reimbursement, Minority Business Enterprise, and other State procurement requirements, and project closeout.

Needs Assessment

IAC reports that the scope of needed school security enhancements is unknown, though it is likely to far exceed what can be addressed within the \$25 million allowance. For example, IAC reports most classroom doors throughout the State cannot be locked from the inside, though locking classrooms during a "lockdown" is considered a key element to school safety plans. IAC is currently reviewing literature on school safety and hosted a speaker from the National Crime Prevention Council at the January Facility Planners meeting to connect the LEAs with resources on improving school safety. In addition, the Governor's fiscal 2014 allowance includes \$500,000 to create a Center for School Safety within the Department of State Police. The center will bring together public school and law enforcement personnel to implement a comprehensive approach to school safety. The center will partner with the Maryland State Board of Education to develop and audit school safety plans, formulate best practices, and develop emergency response plans. **IAC should discuss the extent of school security enhancement needs in Maryland public schools; the type of technical support LEAs are expected to need in identifying, prioritizing, and resolving security risks; how the agency can help address those needs; how IAC will partner with the Center for School Safety; and how IAC can ensure that school security initiative funds are used to support best practices.**

The Department of Legislative Services (DLS) recommends that the committees adopt narrative requesting a report on how funds will be dispersed, and separately, detailing the

projects that are planned to receive funding through the program. Finally, DLS also recommends that IAC submit a report compiling best practices for school security that LEAs implement under the program.

Prior Authorization and Capital Improvement Program

**Authorization Request
(\$ in Millions)**

<i>Fund Source</i>	<i>2012 Approp.</i>	<i>2013 Approp.</i>	<i>2014 Request</i>	<i>2015 Estimate</i>	<i>2016 Estimate</i>	<i>2017 Estimate</i>	<i>2018 Estimate</i>
PAYGO GF	\$0.000	\$0.000	\$25.000	\$0.000	\$0.000	\$0.000	\$0.000
Total	\$0.000	\$0.000	\$25.000	\$0.000	\$0.000	\$0.000	\$0.000

PAYGO Recommended Actions

1. Adopt the following narrative:

Report on School Security Improvement Funds: The committees are interested in ensuring that school security improvement funds are distributed in an equitable way that maximizes the use of funds to address school security deficiencies across the State. The committees request that the Interagency Committee on School Construction (IAC) submit a report detailing how the \$25,000,000 pay-as-you-go appropriation will be distributed and, separately, a report identifying projects that have received or are proposed to receive funds, and a report on best practices used in the implementation of the funds by the local education agencies. The report on how funds will be distributed should be submitted to the committees by June 1, 2013. An interim report on funded and proposed projects should be submitted to the committees by December 1, 2013. Finally, the report on best practices used in the implementation of funds by the local education agencies, and a final report on funded projects should be submitted by December 1, 2014.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on school security improvements distribution	IAC	June 1, 2013
Interim report on funded and proposed school security improvement projects	IAC	December 1, 2013
Report on best practices for school security improvements and final report on funded projects	IAC	December 1, 2014