

Project Narrative

Town of Vienna Police Department
Vienna Police Headquarters Facility

Needs Assessment

In 2013, The Town hired Moseley Architects to conduct a needs assessment on the current police department facility and address future needs of the department. That assessment which can be found in its entirety on the police department section of the Town's webpage, identified the need for a 30,000 square foot police facility. This 30,000 square feet was identified for police only and contained no community programmable space.

Needs Statement

The existing police station is located at 215 Center St. S., Vienna, Virginia. The property includes the building, which contains a total of 9,800 gross square feet, and a 24-space police parking lot located to the rear of the building.

Although the police department has not substantially grown in its number of employees, it has grown exponentially in its size due to the increase in its technology equipment and services provided to the community.

The current building housing the Vienna Police Department was completed in 1994. At the time of conception it was originally anticipated that it would support the functions of the police department and the community for more than 20 years. However, even during the construction of the facility it was scaled back and a parking agreement with the church next door was solidified when it became known the site was too small. Additionally, space has become more of an issue as the nature of work changed. Technological equipment which is now considered tools to provide basic services to the public, and supplies for these services have found their way to compete for every nook and cranny left open in the building. This demand for space began shortly after moving into the building but has substantially increased at a rapid pace in recent years. This overcrowding has forced us to address the storage problem with the use of a metal storage building, utilizing the basement of the Bowman House, the ill-advised use of the two stairwells, the use of attic space and the rental of private storage spaces.

The Intoxilyzer equipment needed a separate place to be used and stored in a safe environment. This necessitated converting one of the two interview/holding cells in to an ASAP office where D.U.I. arrests are processed. The remaining portion of the holding cell is now used as an office for the Department's Community Services / PIO officers. This negatively affects our ability to interview multiple suspects or separate witnesses to crimes. Many suspect interviews now take place in the conference room due to the fact that no other location exists. This also necessitates crime victims or

others who should be speaking privately being interviewed in a public lobby or other open area.

We also have no single room available to hold department meetings, community meetings or to handle Emergency Management Operations/Events where public information gathering and dissemination is paramount. When the Town Manager conducts his briefings with each department, several department members have to stand in the hallway and can basically hear little to nothing that is being said.

A metal shed was purchased and installed approximately nine years ago for storage of flammable flares that are used for traffic control. Since 1994 these flares have moved from the main building to the motor shed to this metal shed as demand for space has increased.

The former evidence room is now the main computer server room and our growth in computer technology has required that we dedicate additional office space to this function. A third HVAC system was added to keep the two server rooms cool year round. We anticipate additional growth in our computer technology in the coming years which will require additional space needs.

The evidence room has now been relocated to the stairwell and to the basement of Bowman House. This has negatively impacted our ability to process evidence, dry and store biologically contaminated evidence, and keep separate victim/suspect evidence. We have never had an area to process large items including vehicles, and to store these items for long term periods. Currently, processing items of evidence must occur on the crime scene or in common areas of the police building which not only present a hazard but compromises the custody of the evidence.

In addition to the evidence processing predicament, storage for this evidence in the property room has also become an issue. The property room is used for storage of police equipment and evidence, and it is at or beyond its capacity for proper management. Evidence being held long term such as homicide and rape evidence necessitates space in the property room, thus limiting the useable space for day to day storage of "routine" evidence.

Due to the overcrowding situation in the police building the Criminal Investigations Section was relocated back to the Town Hall building in February of 2007. This section is responsible for investigating the more involved cases that are handled by our agency. We have a Lieutenant, a Sergeant, and 4 full time detectives assigned to this unit. They require quiet and uninhibited facilities at times while investigating cases and therefore require a separate area from everyday officers. The old space utilized by these employees now houses the officer's report writing stations and squad supervisor work stations.

These are some of the challenges officers and employees of the Vienna Police Department face in regards to adequate space availability to properly serve the citizens of the Town of Vienna on a daily basis. Although the Town of Vienna and its police department are not expected to grow significantly in the near future, areas surrounding the Town such as Tysons Corner and the adjoining properties surrounding the Vienna Metro are currently expanding by leaps and bounds. This growth will ultimately have an adverse effect on the Town and its police department.

The increase of its technological equipment and services provided to the community has far exceeded the capacity of the building and thus has diminished its expected life span.

Project Description

Planning for the future, in 2013 the Town purchased from the Faith Baptist Church their single family residence located at 114 Locust Street, which neighbors the current police station facility. This purchase was solely intended for the growth of the police building.

As part of the Moseley Needs Assessment process they were also retained to produce 3 concept designs for a new facility. All of the information was provided to Town Council and the needs assessment portion of the project was complete.

In 2015-16 during the renovation of the Community Center, the Police Department began informal space program design with the Town's Project Manager who was working on the Community Center project. It was at that time that the concept of not just building a police building but adding in significant amounts of community and flex space was first thought of. This idea was presented to council at a work session and from that point forward the vision of a new police facility included a large focus on proving community and flexible space.

Following the normal RFP process in 2018 the Town selected Dewberry as the architect firm for the building project. Following that selection, again using the RFP process, the Town selected the firm Downey and Scott as the project managers for the project.

Current Status

The Town of Vienna is moving through the architect and design process. The architect firm is Dewberry and the lead architect is Rod Williams. The town has also hired a project management firm for the entire process. Downey and Scott is the firm with Bill Downey being the current lead project manager. This will change once the project enters the construction phase when another project manager from the firm will be assigned.

The project has been to three Town Council work sessions, two BAR work sessions and a Planning Commission work session.

The Town is currently advertising for construction companies that can pre-qualify for bidding on the project later this year.