

The Connecticut General Assembly

Joint Committee on Legislative Management

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BUDGET ADJUSTMENTS TO THE BIENNIAL LEGISLATIVE BUDGET FISCAL YEAR 2023

Appropriations Subcommittee March 7, 2022

The Legislative Budget for Fiscal Year 2023 meets the operating needs of the Connecticut General Assembly therefore we are not requesting any changes or adjustments by Fund or SID. Due to supply chain and vendor availability issues, we are requesting the Committee to consider carrying forward funds to the second year of the biennium in Operating Expenses, Minor Capital, and Redistricting SID's.

Operating Expenses:

A new telephone system for the Capitol Complex costing \$950,000 is being rolled out this spring.

A new radio system for the State Capitol Police costing \$700,000 is being installed with a target date of June 2022.

Emergency repairs are needed to fix leaking water pipes at the Old State House. This problem is impacting the buildings air conditioning system. The Request for Bid is being issued with an estimated cost of \$500,000.

The State Capitol Police are evaluating the Request for Proposal responses to procure body worn cameras with an estimated cost of \$75,000.

Minor Capital:

Legislative Management is finalizing bid specifications to repair the sidewalks and roadways at the Capitol Complex with an estimated cost of \$3,700,000. The Legislative budget included funding of \$1,800,000 in each Fiscal Year. The request is to carryforward the unspent balance in the Minor Capital SID.

Redistricting:

The Redistricting process is expected to be completed during Fiscal Year 2023. The request is to carryforward the unspent balance in this SID.

Connecticut Television Network

The Judicial Branch contacted Legislative Management requesting to have CT-N provide coverage of all Supreme court proceedings. This initiative requires additional equipment and ongoing costs for staffing, fiber connectivity and maintenance support. The equipment is a one-time purchase of \$130,000 and the ongoing cost is \$125,000 annually. We are also reaching out to the Executive Branch to determine if they also require an expansion of services.

Since CT-N's funding is from the tax imposed on public service companies providing community antenna television service, we plan to ask the Finance Revenue and Bonding Committee to restore the funding level to \$3,200,000.

Statutory Change Request:

Another concern is the statutory requirement to advertise, in at least three newspapers, competitive bids over \$50,000. A one-day ad can cost up to \$800. Legislative Management is asking to update the language for advertising to be in line with the Department of Administrative Services requirement to only post RFP's to the statewide contracting portal. We will be asking the Office of Fiscal Analysis to include this change in the budget implementer.

Thank you for reviewing our information, we are available to answer any questions.