

OPTION No. 2. HEAD START

Description: The program will provide funding to build Head Start facilities at all of the elementary schools that currently do not have such programs.

Purpose: To provide Head Start programs throughout the county.

Planning Assumptions:

- These generally small renovation projects, when combined with operational grants to support appropriate staffing, will have a significant effect on the preparedness of children to enter kindergarten.
- In some cases, an addition may be needed to support the Head Start program.

Planning Goals Addressed:

- *Address the largest number of the most critical facility deficiencies*
The projects will address one major facility deficiency, the absence of Head Start programs at the majority of the elementary schools, but will have limited impact on other deficiencies.
- *Improve the learning environment for the largest number of students*
By supporting the early education of all children who need Head Start services, the program will benefit the students throughout their educational careers. Their improved school performance will indirectly benefit all students in the school system.
- *Correct inequities in the quality of facilities*
The projects will correct inequities related to a single programmatic deficiency, the absence of Head Start in most of the elementary schools. The renovations may allow other building deficiencies in the area of impact to also be corrected, e.g. noncompliant ADA features.
- *Improve the efficiency of operations*
The renovations will have marginal effect on the efficiency of operations. New addition space will have improved efficiency of operation.

Planning Objectives Addressed:

- *Educational excellence:* The projects will enhance the education setting for a large number of the youngest students, promising improved performance throughout their educational careers.
- *Equity:* The projects will correct the imbalance between those elementary schools that currently have Head Start programs and those that do not.
- *Community:* Head Start provides very strong community benefits, directly by providing services for the youngest children in need, and indirectly by the long-term improvement in behaviors and learning outcomes of these students.
- *Safety and Security:* Although the renovations will be secure in themselves, they will have marginal effect on overall building security.

Benefits:

- Provides an educational setting for the crucial pre-school age groups.
- Involves relatively little cost.
- The projects will be incremental in scope, allowing the work to be carried out as funds become available; projects may be combined with other small projects, for example those identified under Option 1.1.
- The projects are likely to have substantial community support.

Detriments:

- Focusing resources on this program will necessarily mean that other projects will be deferred.

Implementation:

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- Determine if information already available allows the scope, schedule, and cost of the overall program to be determined, as well as priorities among the Head Start projects.
 - Develop concept-level budgets for purposes of funding applications to the State and County.
- Engage an architectural firm to develop the design for each school:
 - Develop the detailed schedule for implementation, based on the committee's recommendations and prioritization of projects, and on the anticipated availability of funding.
- Seek State and local funding approval:
 - State: FY 20__
 - County:
 - Planning and design: FY 20__
 - Construction: FY 20__
 - Other: grants, donations, etc.
- Develop project designs:
 - Detailed architectural/engineering design
 - Detailed cost projection and schedule for design and construction
 - Project delivery method.
 - Special considerations (safety, special needs students, timing of grant funds, etc.)
- Suggested timeframe (initial round of projects):
 - Design: FY 20__
 - Construction: FY 20__

Budgetary Implications:

- Estimated cost of improvements: \$ _____
- Estimated cost of equipment: \$ _____
- Estimated cost of training: \$ _____
- Misc. other: \$ _____
- **Total** \$ _____