

Kansas Bureau of Investigation Budget **Replacement of the HVAC System at the Great Bend Laboratory**

Joint Committee on State Building Construction Recommendation

The House Committee on Appropriations deleted \$910,000 SGF for the replacement of an HVAC system at the Great Bend laboratory for FY 2024, pending review by the Joint Committee on State Building Construction. The Joint Committee subsequently reviewed the matter and recommends adding \$910,000 SGF for the Great Bend HVAC system to FY 2024.

Project Description

The agency requests funding to replace an HVAC system, and make associated room renovations, at the Great Bend laboratory. Expenditures include purchase and installation of a new HVAC system, ductwork, plumbing rerouting, reconfiguration of room space, as well as installation of LED lighting and new data lines. The estimate includes architectural and engineering fees and Office of Information Technology fees to data line installation. The agency reports the current HVAC system is over 40 years old and has surpassed its useful life.

Background

On September 8, 2022, the Joint Committee on State Building Construction (Joint Committee) heard the agency's five-year capital improvement plan, which included \$910,000 SGF for replacement of the HVAC system at the Great Bend laboratory. The Joint Committee approved the plan and recommended the agency increase expenditures for rehabilitation and repair of all agency facilities by \$200,000.

The agency submitted an enhancement request to the 2023 Legislature for additional operational support for FY 2024, which included increased expenditures for rehabilitation and repair of agency facilities (\$200,000 SGF) and replacement of an HVAC system at the Great Bend laboratory (\$910,000 SGF). The agency noted a request for federal ARPA funds was submitted to the SPARK Task Force.

The Governor's recommendation to the 2023 Legislature included increased expenditures for rehabilitation and repair (\$200,000 SGF) in FY 2024 but did not include funding for the Great Bend HVAC system. The Governor recommended that federal ARPA funds be pursued.

The Joint Committee on State Building Construction (Joint Committee) heard the agency's capital improvements budget request on February 2, 2023. The Joint Committee concurred with the Governor's recommendation, meaning that funding for the Great Bend HVAC system was not recommended.

The House Budget Committee on Transportation and Public Safety (Budget Committee) heard the agency's budget request, including capital improvements, on February 7, 2023. The agency reported that ARPA funding for the Great Bend HVAC system was not approved and noted that the system was over 40 years old. The House Budget Committee recommended adding \$910,000 SGF for the Great Bend HVAC system for FY 2024.

The House Committee on Appropriations (House Committee) heard the Budget Committee's recommendation on February 10, 2023. The House Committee deleted \$910,000 SGF for the

Great Bend HVAC system, referred the matter to the Joint Committee for further review, and will reconsider funding for Great Bend HVAC system prior to finalization of the budget.

The Joint Committee reviewed the matter on February 13, 2023, and recommends adding \$910,000 SGF for the Great Bend HVAC system for FY 2024. The agency indicates that HVAC systems at laboratories are uniquely complex, and replacement of Great Bend system is necessary due to recent humidity challenges. The agency operates four laboratories, with the Great Bend lab providing services to the Western Kansas region involving latent fingerprints, and chemical and biological evidence.