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Laura Kelly, Governor

February 29, 2024

The Honorable Rick Billinger, Chairperson
Senate Committee on Ways and Means
State Capitol, Room 545-S / 300 SW 10th Avenue
Topeka, KS 66612

Dear Senator Billinger:

The Kansas Highway Patrol (KHP) respectfully submits the following information in response to an inquiry received during the Committee's review of the agency's budget on February 13, 2024. Members requested additional information concerning plans for KHP assets located in Saline County, including the proposed Central Communication facility site. Such information was to contain graphics indicating the locations of current and proposed sites.

KHP's initial FY24-FY25 budget submission included enhancement requests to, 1) support major maintenance and repairs to the existing KHP Training Academy located at the Salina, KS campus in the amount of \$7.23M and, 2) supplemental funding to construct a new Communications Center, also located in Salina, KS on proposed KDOT land in the amount of \$10.0M.

On January 31, 2024, Sen. Claeys requested the agency provide the Corrections and Public Safety Subcommittee with a comprehensive strategic plan for KHP assets located in Salina. A project of that scale required a level of coordination that exceeded the timelines necessary to provide a thorough response to the committee. An excerpt of the response letter to the Honorable Michael Fagg is included with this communication (*Appendix A*).

In response to the Committee's request for visuals of the current and proposed sites, the agency offers a link to the Saline County Parcel Search, as well as Illustrations 1-4 of the current and proposed land parcels under consideration:

Link:

<https://sacoks.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=22f97bf0d0fe45739c971e410f8c1b93>.

Illustration 1. Saline County, KS - Parcel Search

Parcels North & South of Water Well Road:

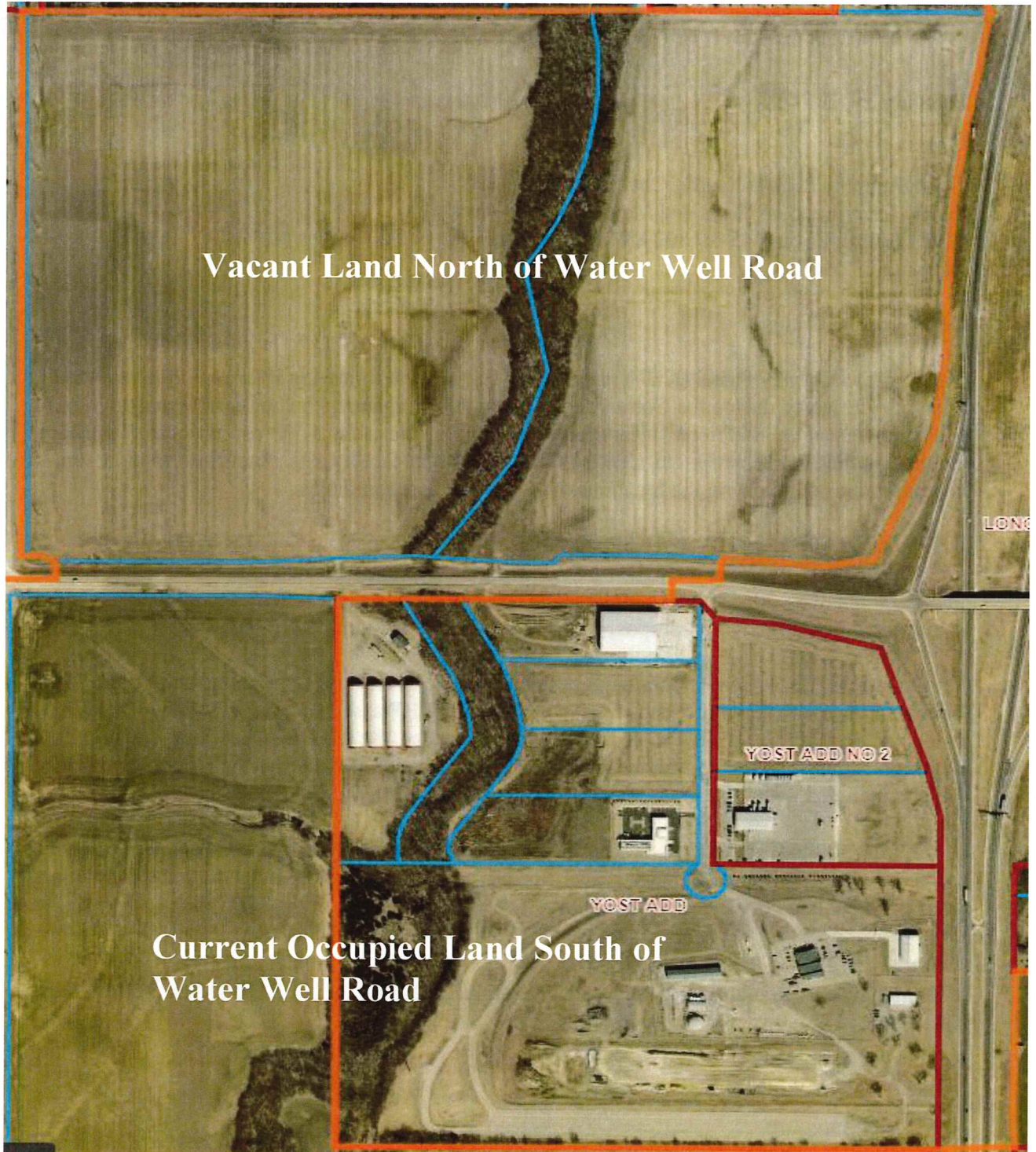


Illustration 2: Current KHP/KDOT Development (West of I35 & South of Water Well Road):



Illustration 3: KHP Training Academy (2025 E Iron Avenue, Salina, KS):

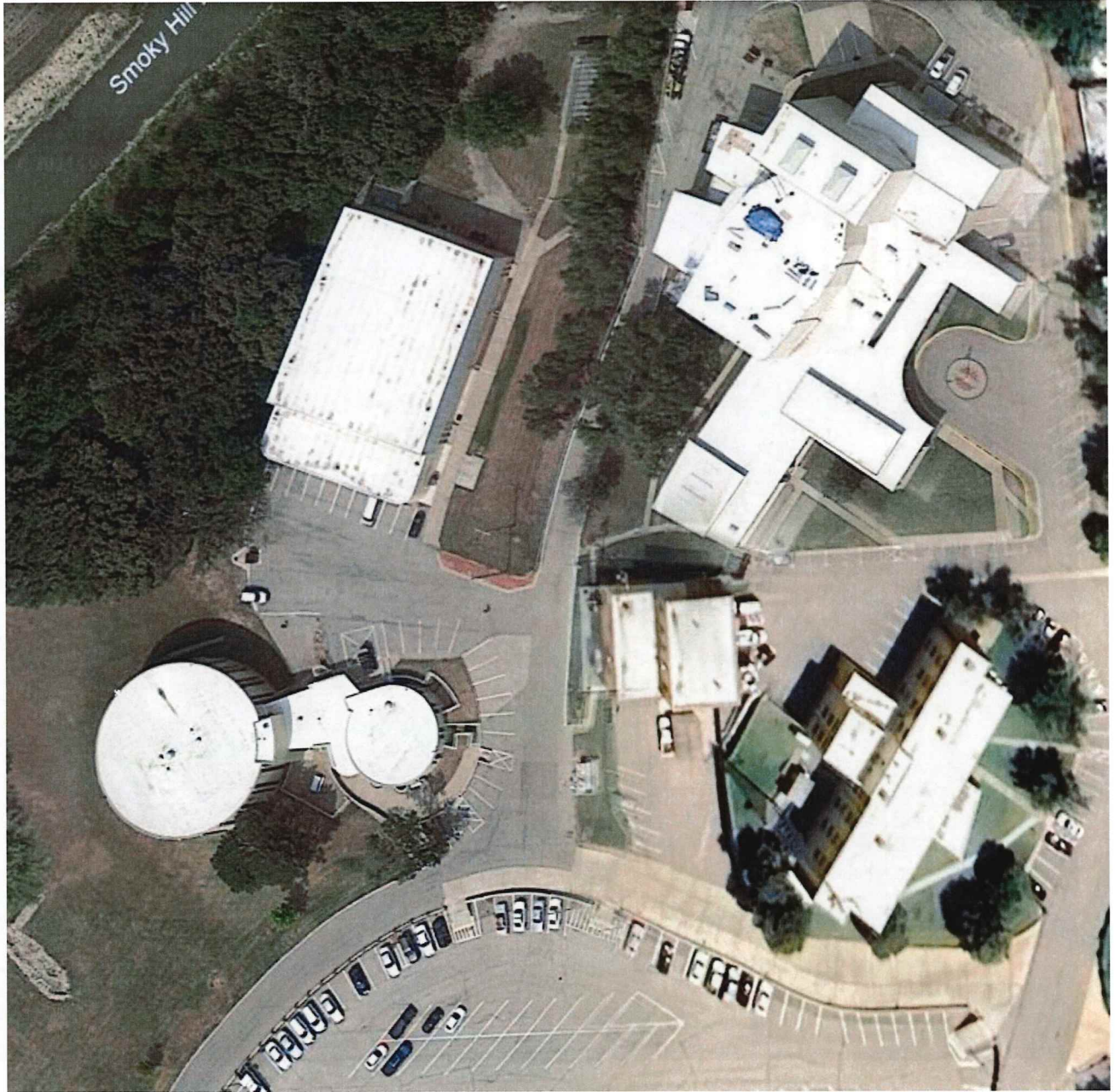


Illustration 4: KHP Shooting Range (Southwest of I-70 and Hwy 81)



Should a comprehensive plan be required by the Committee before moving forward with a decision on the KHP's budget enhancements, the agency would respectfully request consideration of funding for this initiative to better assemble the anticipated costs.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide additional information and the committee's continued support of the Kansas Highway Patrol.

Colonel Erik Smith
Superintendent

cc: Lt. Colonel John Lehnerr, Asst. Superintendent
Deputy Secretary Sherry Macke, Administrative Services
Murl Riedel, KLRD Analyst

Appendix A:

Excerpt of the KHP's response to the Honorable Michael Fagg, Corrections and Public Safety Subcommittee, Ways and Means, dated February 7, 2024.

January 31:

1. Sen. Claeyes requested KHP provide a comprehensive strategic plan for KHP assets located in Salina. This would be supplemental to the agency's response to the January 25th Joint Committee on State Building Construction inquiries.

Response: The enhancement request submitted by the agency and recommended in the Governor's proposed budget represents the austere but adequate needs of the agency to bring the KHP Training Academy up to useable standards and construct a modern communications facility. However, should policy makers and appropriators determine that it is in the best fiscal and operational needs of the agency and its stakeholders to proceed in a different direction, the capital needs (real estate, construction, infrastructure, technology) are significant and as such, I would like to caution that it in turn would require massive investments.

Specific to your question, for example, KHP has identified the following assets associated with an entirely new facility for the statewide Communications Center, Troop C Headquarters, and Training Academy (which would include an emergency vehicle operations course, indoor/outdoor firing range and associated ammunition storage bunker, K-9/SRT/bomb disposal special operations training, and motor carrier safety training). Complete consolidation may or may not contemplate the relocation of KHP's statewide Central Evidence facility, which is currently on KDOT property that is not sufficient in size or scale to accommodate the aforementioned needs as identified in Table 2.

Table 2:
KHP Salina Operations Summary

KHP Salina Operations Summary		
Troop/Unit	Sq. Footage	Acreage
Troop J		
Academic and Maint.Bldg (70,184)	109,708	30
Dormitory (42,903)	55,000	"
Gymnasium (20,402)	40,804	"
Indoor Track	See Gymnasium	"
Auditorium 1	See Academic	"
Auditorium 2	See Academic	"
Cafeteria	See Academic	"
Driving Range		100
Shooting Range - Indoor	15,700	3
Shooting Range & Storage - Outdoor		10
Driving Range Building	5,000	
Total Troop J	226,212	143
Troop N		
Central Evidence Facility	7,600	3
Total Troop N	7,600	3
Troop C		
Office, Central Supply & Storage Space	39,000	Included in J
Total Troop C	39,000	-
Troop S		
Special Ops Training/Storage Space	7,600	3
Total Troop S	7,600	3
Troop M/Communications Center	16,000	6
Total Troop M	16,000	6
Total	296,412	155

A project of this scale would require a level of coordination that exceeds the timelines necessary to provide a comprehensive response to your committee, but a sample of those considerations include:

- A campus would require a land parcel of approximately 155 acres (larger than the current KDOT facility) for a fully consolidated site.
- The construction of an academic campus approximately 300,000 square feet, to accommodate KHP and other state law enforcement partners (KBI, KDWP, KSFM). This includes current amenities at the Marymount campus, such as a larger dormitory, gymnasium, track, classrooms, and auditorium.
- Zoning and public input.
- Market conditions and considerations, to include open bids process.