



**Transportation, Infrastructure, and Capitals
Appropriations Subcommittee**

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Iowa Joint Training Needs

Iowa Department of Public Safety

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Current Situation

DPS, IA ARNG and ILEA currently facilitate ongoing training on Camp Dodge

- DPS and ILEA currently use limited space to conduct basic training academies for new Law Enforcement Officers
 - Barracks/dorms, cafeteria, classrooms and office space
- Currently, there is **no** training space or facilities for practical application of skills dedicated to law enforcement training anywhere on Camp Dodge.



Current Situation

Approximately **336 hours (49%) of the 680** hour Basic Academy takes place in the existing building. As we continue to increase scenario-based training and practical application of skills, more training hours will take place outside of the existing ILEA building.

Due to lack of current law enforcement training facilities, DPS and ILEA rent space, **when it's available**, throughout Camp Dodge and most commonly away from Camp Dodge.



Current Situation

More importantly, lack of dedicated training space...

- **Limits our ability to schedule** the applicable training programs at the most advantageous times within a training cycle.
- Every training schedule is **built around space availability and logistics** rather than **research-driven best practices**.
- Current lack of facilities **diminish our overall training product**.



Joint Training Priorities

- 1) Emergency Vehicle Operator Course (EVOC) Training Space
- 2) Designated Firearms Ranges
- 3) ALERRT/Active Shooter Training Space



Priority #1 - EVOC - Current Situation

ILEA provides EVOC training to LEO's in order to **meet the statutory requirements of 321.231B(1)(c) for immunity protections.**

All ILEA Basic Academy recruits receive a **minimum of 56 hours** of EVOC training.

Law enforcement agencies request EVOC in-service training throughout the year.



EVOC - Quick Facts

Law Enforcement Officers spend more time in their vehicles than anywhere else.

According to 2023 statistics, motor vehicle crashes account for more than **50% of accidental** law enforcement line of duty deaths and nearly **30% of all** line of duty deaths. [National LEO Memorial Foundation](#)

Iowa is the only state in the Midwest and believed to be one of two states nationally (Hawaii) **without a dedicated EVOC facility.** (IADLEST)



EVOC - Quick Facts

Current locations utilized for EVOC training

- Adventureland parking lot
- Camp Dodge parking lots
- Farm Progress Show (Boone)
- Iowa Speedway (Newton)
- Iowa State Fairgrounds
- ISU parking lots (Ames)
- Johnston High School parking lots
- Saylorville Lake boat ramp parking lots

Other than the Iowa Speedway, which is unavailable during the summer months, **none** of the **current facilities meet the needs of a law enforcement EVOC training program.**



Current EVOC Restrictions and Limitations

Not having a dedicated EVOC facility results in **dangerous training conditions** for ILEA staff and those completing training at locations not designed or intended for this purpose.

ILEA enters into **liability agreements** with entities for use of their facilities that were not designed or intended for EVOC training.

EVOC training is the #1 scheduling priority for each 16 week Basic Academy due to space availability which results in **“checkbox” training** rather building blocks and progressive skill acquisition.

ILEA staff spends an incredible **amount of time moving our training vehicle fleet** and designing & building EVOC courses from site to site. Many times in back to back days or consecutive weeks.

ILEA recruits **lose valuable training time** while conveying from Camp Dodge to off-site training locations.

ILEA **can't facilitate the statutory requirements and immunity protections of 321.231B(1)(c)**



EVOC - The Solution



Professionalism Through Training



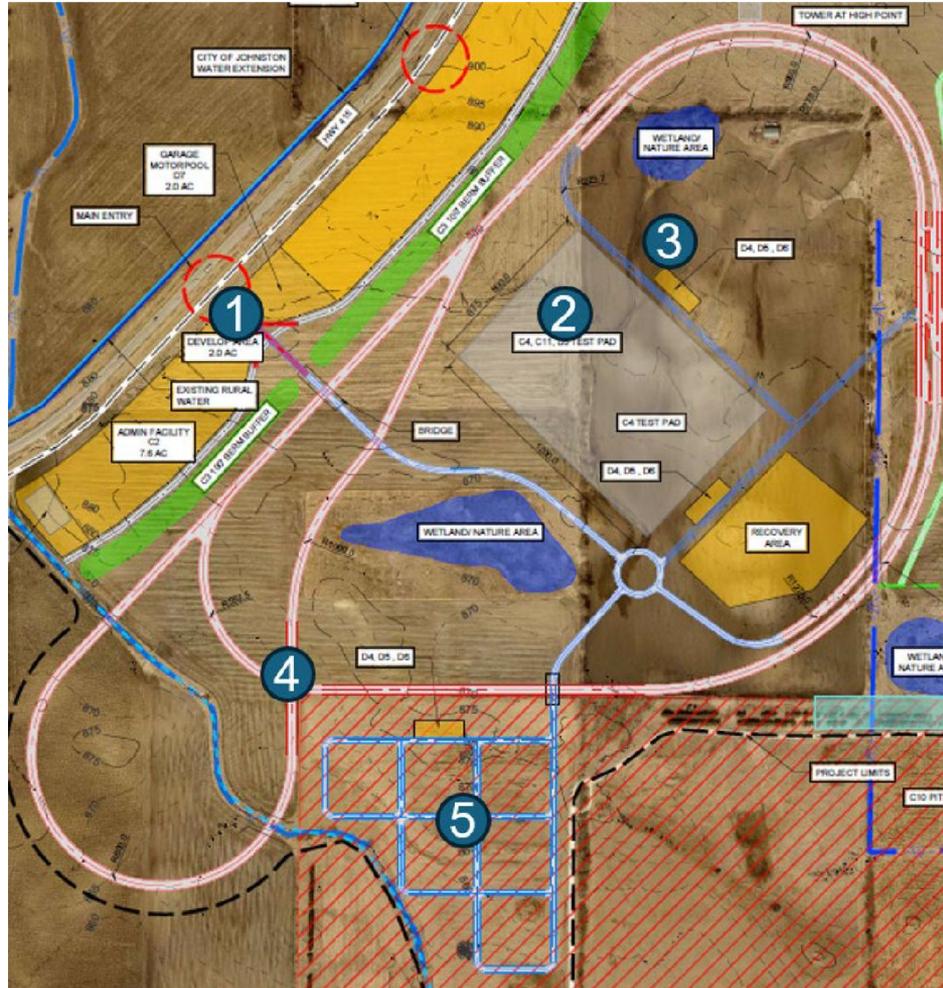
EVOC - The Solution

Iowa Vehicle Operations Training Center (VOTC)

The proposed Iowa Vehicle Operations Training Center (VOTC) would provide a consolidated venue for driver training and skills development for the Iowa Law Enforcement Academy (ILEA), the Iowa Department of Public Safety (DPS), the Iowa Department of Transportation (DOT) and the Iowa Army National Guard (IA ARNG), and other state agencies, as needed.

The VOTC would be located on Camp Dodge and accessed off Highway 415, which is adjacent to Highway 141, and seven miles from I-80/I-35.





Professionalism Through Training



Proposed VOTC

Phase 1

- Access to multi-use training and testing pad
- Venue parking space
- 1200' x 800' multi-use training and testing pad
- 10" concrete to support all vehicles including military vehicles, fire trucks, EMS vehicles, plows, etc.
 - Orange cone courses for civilian and tactical vehicles, "skid pad", TIM training in support of traffic safety
- Estimate \$16.6 million
 - Largely dependent upon cement pricing



Proposed VOTC

Phase 2

- Highway Skills Course
- Two-mile, multi-lane course allowing for vehicle speeds up to 65 mph
- Highway on and off ramps, tightening curves and diverging diamond intersection
- High speed pursuit training, highway traffic stop training, crash scene investigation/reconstruction scenarios, TIM training, snow plow operator training, etc
- Allows for experience and confidence while operating different speeds, vehicle types and vehicle weights in a controlled environment.
- Estimate \$13.1 million
 - Largely dependent upon cement pricing
 - Much of the site prep could be completed during Phase 1



Proposed VOTC

Phase 3

- Rural and Urban Course
- Controlled and uncontrolled intersections, roundabout, curves, changes in speed and changes in surface (cement, asphalt and gravel) would simulate rural and urban work environments.
- Law enforcement, accident investigations/reconstruction, military personnel, snow plows and TIM training
- Estimate \$6.1 million
 - Much of the site prep could be completed during Phase 1 and/or Phase 2



Proposed VOTC

Support facilities

- 5,000 sq foot vehicle support building
 - Tire changes, ongoing training fleet maintenance, cone and VOTC training supplies storage
- Lighting to facilitate night-time training
- Vehicle recovery area
 - Support wheeled and tracked military vehicles
 - Vehicle recovery training and practice for civilian towing and recovery in support of highway clearance operations
- Estimate \$1.25 million



Proposed VOTC

Multi-agency collaboration from inception

- General Osborne and the Iowa National Guard have designated the space on Camp Dodge for multi-agency use.
- Director Marler and the Iowa DOT are providing subject matter experts to assist with ongoing design, engineering and project management.
- DPS and ILEA have ongoing training needs that would be met by the proposed VOTC.





Professionalism Through Training



Proposed VOTC

Law Enforcement

- Initial and advanced driver's training
- Traffic stop safety and training
- Commercial motor vehicle inspection training
- Emergency Vehicle Operator Course (EVOC)
- High-speed pursuit training
- Police Intervention Technique (PIT) training



Proposed VOTC

Military

- On & off road tactical driving
- Vehicle recovery
 - On-road
 - Overturns
 - Embankments
 - Mires



Proposed VOTC

Traffic Incident Management (TIM) Training

- Communication and command
- Scene safety and safe vehicle positioning
- Traffic management
- Roadway clearance and termination



Proposed VOTC

Fire, Rescue and EMS

- EVOG training
- Fire suppression and spill containment
- Cable barrier release
- On-scene photo interpretation/triage



Proposed VOTC

Highway Maintenance

- High-tension cable-stayed barrier release/restoration
- Snowplow operation
- Infrastructure inspections



Proposed VOTC

Towing and Recovery

- Safe driving opportunities
- Stopping/starting in heavy traffic
- Equipment familiarization and practice
- Basic roadside service techniques



Proposed VOTC...

...would benefit multiple state agencies, multiple professions and the citizens of Iowa

- No land purchase is needed!
- Current state agency subject matter experts are utilizing various skill sets to maximize effectiveness and efficiency for a VOTC.
- Adequately and safely training Iowa's professionals is of the utmost importance!



Priority #2 - Outdoor Firearms Range

ILEA provides firearms training for Basic Academy recruits and Firearms Instructor training for county, local and State law enforcement agencies.

- Basic Academy recruits get **96 hours of firearms training** during each 16 week training cycle.
- ILEA endorsed firearms instructors go through a **40 hours training course** to receive their initial endorsement.
 - Attend **8 hour** instructor renewal **every three years**



Firearms - Current Situation

ILEA has used all of these training spaces in one 16 week training cycle due to weather and space availability

- Camp Dodge ranges (when available)
- Altoona Police Department
- Crossroads Shooting Sports (Johnston)
- Polk County Sheriff's Office
- West Des Moines Police Department



Firearms - Current Situation

More importantly, lack of dedicated training space...

- Firearms training is Basic Academy **scheduling priority #2** behind EVOC
- **Limits our ability to schedule** the applicable training programs at the most advantageous times within a training cycle.
- Every training schedule is **built around space availability and logistics** rather than **research-driven best practices**.
- Current lack of facilities **diminish our overall training product**.



Firearms - Current Situation

DPS and ILEA have been utilizing the Iowa Army National Guard (IA ARNG)'s S-15 Pistol Range. The IA ARNG is currently working on plans to convert the S-15 Pistol Range to a crew served weapon range (machine gun). As a result, ILEA and DPS would no longer have access to an appropriate outdoor range on Camp Dodge, which would require both organizations to utilize other firing ranges across the state.

The S-11 M16 Qualification Range is no longer useable as designed due to the change in military ammunition. As a result, DPS, ILEA and IA ARNG are recommending re-purposing the S-11 M16 Qualification Range. This would provide a firing range that both ILEA and DPS could utilize without having to use other local firing ranges (Altoona PD, Crossroads Shooting Sports, Polk County Sheriff's Office, Brownells, etc.).





Professionalism Through Training



Firearms - Training Needs

Core Needs

- 300 yard range
- 50 firing lanes
- Blast wall separating range into two 25-lane firing ranges for simultaneous operation
- Range Tower



Firearms - Training Needs

Secondary Needs

Range

- Turning targets for enhanced range safety and quality of training
- Covered & heated canopy over 50 yards to allow for year-round training

Range Support Building

- Dedicated 150 person classroom
 - Would provide adequate space for firearms training, in-service training and Basic Academy training
- Staff offices (2)
- Virtual Reality Training Simulation Rooms for use of force and de-escalation training (2)
- Latrines and breakroom
- Equipment storage, weapons cleaning space and armoring room





Professionalism Through Training



Priority #3 - ALERRT and Jailer Training Space

DPS and ILEA provide scenario-based Advanced Law Enforcement Rapid Response Training (ALERRT) training to all Basic Academy Recruits

DPS and the Governor's School Safety Bureau (GSSB) provide ongoing training for law enforcement and first responders.

ILEA is responsible for providing the initial 40 hours of basic training for all new Jailers across the State



ALERRT and Jail Training - Current Situation

There is no dedicated ALERRT training space in Iowa

- ILEA and DPS utilize a variety of vacant spaces to include Franklin Library and Des Moines University to facilitate training requirements.
 - ALERRT is **force-on-force training**, so intentional and dedicated space **limits exposure** to civilians in the area, **enhances** the quality of training and **reduces the State's liability** while renting current venues.



ALERT and Jail Training - Current Situation

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ALERT and Jail Training Needs

An intentional and dedicated facility would include:

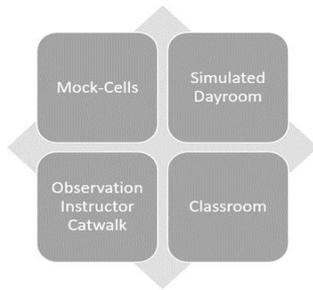
- Multiple hallways that allow for continuous movement.
- The hallways must replicate schools and businesses with the doors into the rooms being inward and outward opening doors.
- The hallway and room setup would include a mixture of center-fed and corner-fed room entries.
- Rooms would include chairs, tables and other classroom items to simulate searching for survivors and a suspect(s)

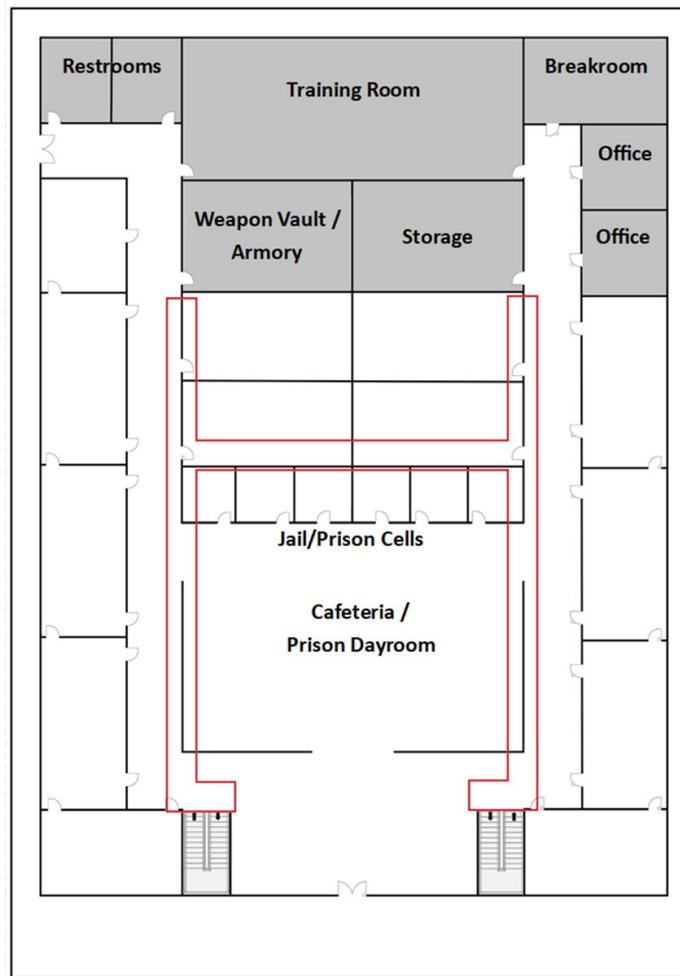


ALERRT and Jail Training Needs

An intentional and dedicated facility would include:

- Classroom space for training attendees
- Mock jail cells to simulate cell searches and dealing with confrontational/violent subjects
- Instructor observation catwalk





ALERRT and Jail Training Needs

Designated land on the north end of Camp Dodge could support this structure

No land purchase is required

Structure would support multiple State agencies and professionals

Intentional design could support multiple training programs

- ALERRT and Jailers

