

## **2015 BUDGET SUBCOMMITTEE QUESTIONS**

### **PROGRAM PERFORMANCE**

- a. Do you have defined outcomes or measurements for your program(s)? What are they and are these measures listed somewhere so the public can see them?

*The Department of Administrative Services (DAS) has established performance measurements. The DAS is charged, as are all Executive Branch departments, with helping Governor Branstad attain his goals for State Government. The DAS Performance Report is available on the Department of Management website at the following URL: [http://www.dom.state.ia.us/planning\\_performance/plans\\_reports/reports.html](http://www.dom.state.ia.us/planning_performance/plans_reports/reports.html)*

- b. What data is available to show Iowans that your program(s) are an effective investment of taxpayer dollars? Where can Iowans find this data?

- *Offset Program data is available on the DAS-State Accounting Enterprise page*
- *Scope of Services by Enterprise is available on the DAS website*
- *The annual Infrastructure State Report is available on the LSA website*

- c. Can you provide the committee with performance data for your programs over the last 5 or 10 years?

*In most cases we are able to provide at least 5 years of performance data.*

### **PROGRAM EFFICIENCY**

- a. Have you examined what other states are doing to improve performance and reduce costs?

*The Department is active in several national organizations through which best practices, success stories and ideas are exchanged among state representatives.*

- b. Can you share with the committee what other states are doing?

*Examples of improvements in other states that are being considered in the DAS are E-Payment, Electronic Management Control and new standards for internal controls over State Procurement Card usage.*

- c. Which of these ideas are you considering for implementation here in Iowa?

*Examples of best practices adopted from other states include:*

- *Vendor Self-Service (VSS), software module used in conjunction with the I/3 systems that will enable electronic bidding by vendors, providing a central location for providing other agencies with bidding software. VSS will enhance efficiency by providing a central location that will include all agency bid opportunities and will interface with I/3, thereby enhancing state efficiency and facilitating all aspects of the bidding process for vendors. Suppliers will also be able to independently register with the State as a vendor and receive email notification of bidding opportunities.*
- *Western States Contracting Alliance (WSCA) – is an organization that orchestrates bid and Request for Proposal (RFP) opportunities of interest to member states. As a consortium, WSCA states enhanced bargaining power and WSCA agreements ultimately become master agreements for Iowa and are used by other state agencies as well as the DAS.*

- d. Are there websites or organizations we could go to obtain more information on what other states' programs are doing to provide more efficient services?  
*National Association of State Auditors, Comptrollers and Treasurers (NASCAT) – <http://www.nascat.org/committees>  
National Association of State Purchasing Officials (NASPO) – <http://www.naspo.org/dnn/default.aspx>  
National Association of State Facilities Administrators (NASFA) – <http://www.nasfa.net/>*
- e. Do you have an email address or a comment section on your website where lowans can suggest improvements to your program or agency?  
*The Department presently does not have a section or website address that offer the opportunity for lowans to suggest improvements. However, DAS email addresses, links to each enterprise and the main phone number is listed on the main page of the DAS website.*

#### **PROGRAM DUPLICATION**

- a. Are there any other programs that are providing the same or similar services?  
*Not internally to the DAS. We are aware of human resources staff within the state agencies that may be duplicating, or providing similar services provided through the Human Resources Enterprise. The Departments of Transportation, Natural Resources, Public Defense, and Board of Regents each provide internal facility management and design/construction services that are similar to those provided by the General Services Enterprise.*
- b. Is there a reason why we need more than one program providing the same or similar service?  
*The Government Efficiencies Bill (SF 2338, 2012 Session) addressed consolidation of some of the duplication of effort. Further study is needed to determine whether it is most economical to centralize these functions.*
- c. Have you had any discussions with the other agencies or programs to find ways to maximize the use of the taxpayer's dollars?  
*We are always searching for ways to maximize funds and have discussed with various agencies additional methods of streamlining processes.*
- d. Are there any laws or administrative rules that would limit your ability to work with the other programs or departments?  
*Not sure how to answer this question.*
- e. Are there any laws or administrative rules that could be changed to make your program or agency work better?  
*We have worked closely with the Governor's Office and the Legislature to eliminate any laws that hamper the ability of DAS to function efficiently. Most recently, we have worked with the Legislature and the Attorney General's Office on our Offset Program to change Administrative Rules in order to clarify and simplify the process.*

## Suppository

### OTHER

- a. Would it be a burden to your agency to ask that your presentations be delivered to the Legislative Services Agency 48 hours in advance of your appearance before the committee?
- b. If you are required to reduce your budget by 1%, 5%, or 10%, where would you suggest we focus our attention?

*Any reduction in general fund appropriations will result in reduced services to the State and various agencies. Impacts range from a weakening of internal controls on all financial management practices, resulting in the potential for increased theft and maleficence, to an inability to pay utility bills for the Capitol Complex.*

