



Facilities and Infrastructure

GOAL

To provide the appropriate infrastructure to ensure a safe and healthy working environment to enable the Naval Surface Warfare Center Dahlgren Division (NSWCDD) to effectively support its mission and customer requirements.

Background

At NSWCDD, facilities and infrastructure continue to be an essential thrust for NSWCDD. In recent years, the warfare center invested about \$20 million per year in facility sustainment, restoration and modernization (SRM) projects to update existing facilities on base. Investing a substantial portion of the budget in facilities ultimately supports NSWCDD's mission and provides increased capabilities to the warfighter. NSWCDD is committed to providing modern facilities that contribute to agile, collaborative development and enable a culture of creative problem solving. NSWCDD has developed and implemented a 5-year strategic infrastructure planning process that fully utilizes available authorities to increase, renovate and modernize our physical footprint.

Objectives

Execution of Minor Construction Project

The Strategic Infrastructure Plan includes an annual \$9 million Minor Construction (MINCON) budget. Focus is currently on previous years' MINCONs. One project is the Systems Integration Facility. The minor construction project involves building a high-bay facility that will serve as a complex for weapons systems development and integration in a central location that can be expanded. Another project is the Building 1490 addition. The impetus for the project is the growing need to expand Sensitive Compartmented Information Facility (SCIF) and OSS workspaces – particularly those that facilitate seamless collaboration. In 2024, we will also focus on the design of our FY25 MINCONs, which are building 997 renovation, building 1470 high power microwave expansion, and Dahlgren Proving Ground Integration Lab. With the additional 1 percent of NISE R&R funding, we are also looking at the development of a prioritized project plan for laboratory revitalization and recapitalization projects based on strategic technical needs.

Increase organic capabilities and capacities to meet demand

NSWCDD has been utilizing Section 233 authority for over six years to explore other avenues for various facility projects. We will be continuing the utilization of our Architect-Engineering (A-E) and Construction Indefinite Delivery Indefinite Quantity (IDIQ) contracts, and looking at how to streamline the contracting process. We will also continue to identify and utilize new service providers and avenues for design and construction. In addition, our focus will be on utilizing our own Contracts Department for MINCON projects. NSWCDD is overseeing the first-ever WFC alpha contract for a minor construction project. These initiatives have enhanced customer focus and provided regular oversight of designs for facilities projects in support of mission requirements and workplace enhancement. These include space reconfigurations for collaboration and maximizing seating, as well as providing customer-specific concepts with thorough details and specifications to facilitate the implementation of projects. The initiatives of the Infrastructure Division have resulted in significant workplace enhancements, as well as increased capacities and more efficient facilities.

Assess our Power Infrastructure and SCIF space

NSWCDD requires additional electrical capacity at various substations to support an increase in electrical capacity/reliability to serve NSWCDD buildings and test sites based upon current and future electrical demands. We will develop a plan for substation and generator renovations and additions, power redundancy, and load balancing to ensure adequate power is available for future mission requirements. We will also be conducting an assessment of our SCIF Space. The goal is to assess our current SCIF space and determine path forward for new SCIF requirements. The demand for SCIF space continues to increase, and in conjunction with MINCON projects and our organic capabilities, we will be looking at the best and quickest path to meet that need.

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