



DRAFT: Four-Phases for the Installation of Climate Control Equipment

The core mission of the Texas Department of Criminal Justice (TDCJ) is to protect the public by safely incarcerating individuals within correctional facilities. Much has changed over the past 174 years within the state's criminal justice system, including significant advancements in rehabilitating inmates, assisting crime victims, and reducing the number of people returning to prison. The agency, however, has not seen as many advancements within its facilities. Many are 75 years or older, and updating their infrastructure is an ongoing challenge. This is particularly evident in the agency's ability to control temperatures inside facilities:

- 14% have no air conditioning in housing areas
- 55% have limited pockets of air conditioning in housing areas. Ranges from small segregation areas (less than 10 beds) to large housing areas (more than 1,800 beds).
- 31% have air conditioning in all housing areas

Elevated indoor temperatures impact the correctional staff working in the unairconditioned areas and the incarcerated population that reside at the facilities. Much like the agency's infrastructure, the inmate population is also aging, and many suffer from health issues that put them at a higher risk for heat illness.

To further mitigate these issues, and in response to legislative direction, TDCJ has drafted a four-phased plan to install permanent air conditioning inside inmate housing areas. The specifics of this plan are subject to change based on legislative input. A phased approach allows cooling to be prioritized for populations with acute needs and within facilities with the lowest barriers to implementation.

Phase 1 - FY 2024-25: The first phase prioritizes facilities that receive inmates from county jails and facilities with higher concentrations of inmates with special needs. County jails, which are governed by different standards than prisons, are required to control temperatures within their facilities.

| Phase 1 - FY2024-25 | Estimated Cost | Facilities | Beds | Annual Operating Cost* |
|---------------------|----------------|--|--------|------------------------|
| | \$225,860,032 | Design and Construction (16) Design Only (20) | 24,825 | \$4,212,108 |

Phase 2 - FY 2026-27: The second phase prioritizes facilities built in the late 1980s and 1990s that are similar in their layout (1,000-bed or 2,250-bed prototypes). Prioritizing newer and uniform facility designs will allow quicker access to cooling for our staff and the inmate population.

| Phase 2 - FY2026-27 | Estimated Cost | Facilities | Beds | Annual Operating Cost* |
|---------------------|----------------|---|--------|------------------------|
| | \$319,321,794 | Design and/or Construction (30) Design Only (12) | 37,289 | \$12,239,204 |

Phase 3 - FY 2028-29: The third phase prioritizes facilities built before 1987 with unique layouts.

| Phase 3 - FY2028-29 | Estimated Cost | Facilities | Beds | Annual Operating Cost* |
|---------------------|----------------|--|--------|------------------------|
| | \$322,397,186 | Design Only (11) Construction Only (12) | 28,841 | \$15,959,232 |

Phase 4 - FY 2030-31: The fourth phase prioritizes facilities built before 1950 with unique layouts.

| Phase 4 - FY2030-31 | Estimated Cost | Facilities | Beds | Annual Operating Cost* |
|---------------------|----------------|---|--------|------------------------|
| | \$237,300,578 | Design and Construction (4) Construction Only (11) | 22,820 | \$19,768,562 |

**Annual Operating Cost is Cumulative*

Total: \$1,104,879,589 (73 Facilities)
Estimated annual operating costs once fully implemented: \$20 million

Plaintiffs' Exhibit
Ex. 323

Texas Department of Criminal Justice



Four-Phase Air Conditioning Plan



The core mission of the Texas Department of Criminal Justice (TDCJ) is to protect the public by safely incarcerating individuals within correctional facilities. The agency has been carrying out this responsibility since 1848.

Much has changed over the 174 years within the state’s criminal justice system to include significant advancements in rehabilitating inmates, assisting crime victims, and reducing the number of people returning to prison. The agency, however, has not seen as many advancements within its facilities. Many are 75 years or older, and updating their infrastructure is an ongoing challenge. This is particularly evident in the agency’s ability to control temperatures inside facilities. 20% have no air conditioning in housing areas, 50% have limited pockets of air conditioning in housing areas, and 30% have air conditioning in all housing areas.

Elevated indoor temperatures impact the correctional staff working in the unairconditioned areas and the incarcerated population that reside at the facilities. Much like the agency’s infrastructure, the inmate population is also aging, and many suffer from health issues that put them at a higher risk for heat illness.

To further mitigate these issues, TDCJ is proposing a four-phased plan to install permanent air conditioning inside inmate housing areas.

Phase 1 - FY 2024-25: The first phase will prioritize facilities that receive inmates from county jails and facilities with higher concentrations of inmates with special needs.

| Phase 1 - FY2024-25 | Estimated Cost | Facilities |
|---------------------|----------------|--|
| | \$225,860,032 | Design and Construction (16) Design Only (20) |

Phase 2 - FY 2026-27: The second phase will prioritize facilities built in the late 1980s and 1990s that are similar in their layout (1,000-bed or 2,250-bed prototypes).

| Phase 2 - FY2026-27 | Estimated Cost | Facilities |
|---------------------|----------------|---|
| | \$319,321,794 | Design and/or Construction (30) Design Only (12) |

Phase 3 - FY 2028-29: The third phase will prioritize facilities built before 1987 with unique layouts.

| Phase 3 - FY2028-29 | Estimated Cost | Facilities |
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Total: \$1,104,879,589 (73 Facilities)
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