



**DATE:** February 11, 2025

**TO:** Cumberland County Board of Supervisors  
Derek Stamey, County Administrator

**FROM:** Derek Stamey, County Administrator

**RE:** Cumberland Courthouse Renovation/Expansion

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### **Background**

In the Spring of 2022, the Virginia Department of General Services conducted an analysis of the Cumberland County Courthouse and deemed the Courthouse to be inadequate. In the Fall of 2023, the County entered into a contract with HBA Architects to perform a further analysis of the Courthouse facility. The resulting analysis indicated that the current Cumberland Courthouse scored poorly on the assessment results.

In addition to addressing the Courthouse shortcomings, the assessment identified long term needs for the Courthouse and other judicial functions based upon space requirements, staffing, and caseloads. HBA Architects presented several options for consideration including the recommended option to expand and renovate the existing Courthouse (Courthouse Annex) to address current Courthouse concerns as well as to meet the needs of the Courthouse and associated functions for the next 30 to 40 years. This renovation option is currently estimated to cost \$37 million dollars to construct.

Next steps in the process would include the development of a Request for Proposals for Architectural and Engineering services which would then be advertised and ultimately brought back to the Board for consideration. The design process could take between 10 and 14 months to complete at which time we will have a better understanding of costs and potential borrowing scenarios for the project. For there the Board could authorize a renovation and expansion of the Courthouse which would take approximately 18 months to complete.

Judge Donald C. Blessing has submitted (2) letters to the County Administrator dated December 16, 2024 and February 3, 2025 respectively. The most recent letter included a request to act on the Courthouse Renovation and Expansion project with a mention of pursuing alternative means to move the project forward if the Board does not act.

### **Recommendation**

County administration recommends that the Board of Supervisors consider authorizing county staff to continue the Cumberland Courthouse Renovation and Expansion project.