ILLINOIS

# CAMPUS SAFETY. COMMUNITY IMPACT.

## DIVISION OF PUBLIC SAFETY STRATEGIC PLAN 2026-2028



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## MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF

Dear campus community member:



At the University of Illinois Division of Public Safety (DPS), we approach community policing with thoughtfulness, transparency, and intention. Guided by the six pillars of **21st Century Policing,** our mission, vision, and values reflect a deep commitment to building trust and legitimacy with those we serve.

While DPS has long been a leader in establishing and adopting progressive campus safety initiatives, we recognize that meaningful work remains. This strategic plan outlines our key priorities for the next three years, which are intentionally designed to address the evolving needs of our campus community. We hope that by achieving the goals outlined in this plan, we can continue to foster strong relationships with our community and work together to reduce crime.

We acknowledge the history of policing and pledge to lead with humility, learning from past events and continually striving for improvement. Criminal justice reform will serve as a guiding thread throughout our efforts, offering opportunities to enhance service delivery, introduce inclusive and trauma-informed resources, and foster genuine dialogue about what safety means for all members of our community.

Our goal is to leverage every available resource, including innovation, technology, and social media, to maintain a safe and welcoming environment for students, faculty, and staff. We will continue to support our community through education, outreach, and engagement, ensuring that every individual feels seen, heard, and protected. We also remain committed to officer wellness and safety, recognizing that a healthy and well-supported team is essential to effective policing.

Thank you for your continued partnership in building a safer, stronger, and more equitable campus.

Sincerely,

**Matthew J. Ballinger**
Assistant Vice Chancellor for Public Safety and Chief of Police

## LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

As part of a land-grant institution, the Division of Public Safety recognizes its responsibility to acknowledge the historical context in which it exists. Our facilities are located on the lands of the Peoria, Kaskaskia, Piankashaw, Wea, Miami, Mascoutin, Odawa, Sauk, Mesquaki, Kickapoo, Potawatomi, Ojibwe, and Chickasaw Nations.

It is essential to honor these Native Nations and actively engage with them as we move forward. We envision a vibrant community that embraces all differences with Native peoples at the core of our efforts.

## WHO WE ARE

The Division of Public Safety works to further the Illinois academic mission by providing a safe place where students, faculty, and staff can excel academically and professionally.

The University of Illinois Police Department operates 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. Our officers have full police authority just like any other police department. UIPD is a fully accredited department, and we offer all the traditional police services. However, our services are uniquely tailored to meet the specific needs of our campus in a community-based manner. Our integrated approach to policing and public safety supports our mission to promote a safe and secure environment where education, research, and public safety can flourish.

### UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS POLICE DEPARTMENT

- Our 24-hour patrol operations are the backbone of campus safety, providing rapid response to 911 calls and other emergencies.
- The Community Outreach and Support Team (COAST) provides educational and community-oriented programming to empower our campus community members to look out for themselves and others. COAST also offers Therapy K9s for campus events.
- The Response, Evaluation, and Crisis Help (REACH) initiative pairs police officers with social workers in a unified patrol unit to support individuals experiencing mental health crises.
- Detectives in our Investigations Division are specially trained to support survivors of criminal activity and investigate other violent crimes.
- Internal units offer specialized resources for campus safety, including bomb detection and disposal, special weapons and tactics, therapy K9s, patrol K9s, victim support services, crime scene technicians, and bicycle/ATV patrols.
- The Real-Time Information Center (RTIC) serves as a centralized hub, using live data and technology to provide officers with rapid situational awareness and investigative leads.

### DIVISION OF PUBLIC SAFETY

- Emergency Management (EM) ensures our campus is prepared to respond and recover quickly by working collaboratively with police, fire, EMS, campus stakeholders, and community members to anticipate challenges and address them effectively.
- Community Service Officers respond to calls for service that do not involve crimes in progress or immediate threats to physical safety.
- Compliance staff members work in an ongoing effort to maintain campus compliance with mandates set forth in legislation like the Clery Act, Violence Against Women Act, Title IX, Preventing Sexual Violence in Higher Education Act, protection of minors, and many other federal and state laws that regulate university procedures. These experts are specially trained in interpreting very complex statutes which would subject the university to significant penalties if it were to fall or remain out of compliance.

## HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The University of Illinois Police Department (UIPD) traces its origins to 1895, when University of Illinois President Andrew Draper appointed night watch personnel to address rising campus crime. By 1911, the initiative had proven effective enough to warrant the hiring of two full-time police officers, marking the formal establishment of UIPD.

In its early years, officers performed minor duties such as locking doors and reporting smokers. However, the 1960s brought increased complexity to campus policing due to community growth and political unrest.

In 1964, the Illinois General Assembly passed the University of Illinois Act (110 ILCS 305/7), granting the Board of Trustees authority to appoint university police officers with the same powers as municipal departments. This legislation catalyzed UIPD's transformation from a security unit into a fully accredited police department, the first of its kind among Illinois universities.

We recognize that the history of policing in the United States includes troubling chapters, particularly in the treatment of marginalized communities. Acknowledging this reality is essential to understanding its impact and forging a path forward. We remain committed to eliminating systemic inequities and amplifying the positive role of policing in community safety.

## STRATEGIC VISION STATEMENT

The Division of Public Safety envisions becoming a national leader in advancing modern policing through collaboration, outreach, and technology. Our strategic priorities are grounded in the six pillars of **21st Century Policing:** *Building Trust and Legitimacy, Policy and Oversight, Technology and Social Media, Community Policing and Crime Reduction, Training and Education, and Officer Wellness and Safety.* These pillars continue to serve as a foundational framework for our three-year goals. These priorities are also aligned with key objectives from the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign's strategic plan, "Illinois Leads."

Our goals reflect a broader institutional commitment to removing barriers, challenging assumptions, and addressing biases that limit opportunity. In alignment with the pillar of *Training and Education,* our employees undergo regular training in areas such as civil rights, cultural competency, mental health awareness, and other relevant topics to support the university's commitment.

This strategic plan is ambitious yet grounded in our dedication to community engagement, transparency, and alignment with institutional goals. It acknowledges the challenges posed by the current national climate and embraces this moment as an opportunity to reimagine public engagement. In the spirit of *Community Policing and Crime Reduction*, meaningful interaction with our community will continue to be a foundation of our operations, fostering shared responsibility for public safety.

Through thoughtful resource management, service innovation, and a focus on operational efficiency, we aim to conserve financial resources that can be reinvested across our strategic priorities. Our use of *Technology and Social Media* will enhance service delivery, improve communication, and support data-informed decision-making.

Our long-standing core values of justice, respect, integrity, inclusion, and trust have always guided our work. We now seek to elevate these principles through intentional partnerships and open dialogue with our stakeholders, reinforcing the pillar of *Building Trust and Legitimacy*. We must lead in promoting diversity and equity across all aspects of our operations, from internal policies and practices to our field interactions. At the heart of this effort is a commitment to fostering genuine relationships between police officers and community members, ensuring transparency, accountability, and mutual respect in all our actions.

This vision reflects the university's emphasis on public service, collaboration, innovation, and employee development. Our focus on innovation, equity, and community engagement aligns with the university's strategic direction, as outlined in "Illinois Leads," and strengthens our alignment with the six pillars of **21st Century Policing.**

## OUR STRATEGIC INITIATIVES

1. Community Collaboration
2. Technology
3. Organizational Health
4. Structure and Infrastructure

These initiatives serve as the operational pillars of our strategic plan, each designed to support our mission and align with institutional goals.

## OUR SHARED VISION

As the public safety division of the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, we are committed to supporting the university's vision of being a preeminent public research institution with a land-grant mission and global impact.

The university's strategic plan, "Illinois Leads," emphasizes collaboration, authentic inclusion, empowerment, and a shared commitment to serving students, faculty, staff, and the broader community. These values guide our efforts to foster a safe and welcoming campus environment where all members of our community can learn, work, and thrive.

Through innovative public safety practices, meaningful community partnerships, responsible stewardship of resources, and a commitment to continuous improvement, we strive to strengthen public trust, support the university's mission, and contribute to a better future for those we serve.

## UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS URBANA-CHAMPAIGN GOALS SUPPORTED

This plan supports the following goals outlined in "Illinois Leads."

- Preparing Future Leaders
  - » Cultivate a community of belonging by supporting student safety, mental health, and well-being.
  - » Enhance cocurricular engagement through public safety education, outreach, and student involvement.
- Shaping the Future with Research
  - » Advance innovative, data-driven public safety practices through emerging technologies, real-time intelligence, and investigative tools.
  - » Support interdisciplinary collaboration and human-centered approaches to public safety through initiatives that integrate law enforcement, social work, and mental health services.
- Serving the Public
  - » Build lasting partnerships with campus and community stakeholders.
  - » Strengthen community engagement, public trust, and collaboration.
- Developing Economies
  - » Support regional economic development by providing employment opportunities and attracting and retaining qualified public safety professionals.
  - » Strengthen workforce development through professional training, mentorship, and career advancement opportunities.
- Working Together
  - » Strengthen collaboration across university units and external agencies.
  - » Invest in employee development, organizational effectiveness, and operational efficiency.

## DIVISION OF PUBLIC SAFETY MISSION STATEMENT

Our mission is to promote a safe and secure campus environment where education, research and public service can flourish.

## DIVISION OF PUBLIC SAFETY VISION STATEMENT

Our vision is to continue to be a leader in policing and public service to strengthen our position as an integral part of the university and community at-large.

## CORE VALUES

Our core values are based on the ideal of community-based public safety:

### JUSTICE

We are committed to the administration of law and order based on the constitutional idea of justice where every person will be treated with dignity and fairness. We value our duty in safeguarding constitutional rights in serving and protecting our community.

### RESPECT

We value human life, safety, and dignity. We are firmly committed to treating all persons with the utmost respect, compassion, and concern. As a foundation of our Division, we embrace an attitude of respect, the protection of worth, dignity, and the rights of those we serve.

### TRUST

We seek to enhance our community's confidence in us as public safety resource providers, and we value the community's feedback on everything that we do. We build this trust by cultivating genuine relationships with the people we serve and through our unwavering commitment to transparency.

### INTEGRITY

We value candor, honesty, and ethical behavior in our members and the trust of our community, holding ourselves accountable to the highest degree.

### INCLUSION

We seek opportunities to engage with individuals who have varied experiences, ideas and viewpoints, and we incorporate diverse perspectives into our philosophies as they make us stronger as an organization and as public servants.

# STRATEGIC INITIATIVE 1: COMMUNITY COLLABORATION

## INTERAGENCY COLLABORATION.

Establish a centralized hub that supports multi-agency response and investigation while proactively building trusted partnerships, sharing intelligence in real time, and streamlining joint operations.

- Enable cross-agency access to shared platforms (e.g., camera feeds, RMS data, etc.).
- Develop a cross-agency inventory of deployable cameras and drones for rapid incident response.
- Encourage our community partners to sponsor liaison officers or analysts to participate in RTIC operations to foster trust and workflow familiarity.
- Explore opportunities for shared technology upgrades, analytics software, and specialized training.
- Document an increase in coordinated multi-agency response events compared to FY2025 baseline.

**Success indicators**

- Enabled cross-agency access to shared platforms (camera feeds, RMS data, etc.) for 100% of participating partner agencies.
- Developed and maintained a real-time inventory of deployable cameras and drones accessible to all partner agencies.
- Hosted at least 6 RTIC integration sessions annually with liaison officers or analysts from external agencies.
- Completed at least three joint technology upgrades or shared training initiatives with measurable operational benefits.

## INCREASED ENGAGEMENT.

Create new opportunities for Division members and the campus community to engage with one another. Develop educational programming that addresses the evolving needs and concerns of students, faculty, and staff.

- Expand successful community engagement efforts with increased frequency and new formats for public dialogue.
- Collaborate with campus partners to identify crime trends affecting students, faculty, and staff, and provide targeted prevention education.

**Success indicators**

- Hosted community engagement events annually, including new formats such as town halls, pop-up booths, and virtual forums.
- Collaborated with at least five campus partner units to identify emerging crime trends and co-develop targeted prevention education.
- Delivered educational programming to residence halls, academic departments, and student organizations annually.
- Delivered Emergency Action Plan Training at least once annually to each college and functional area.
- Documented an increase in proactive safety inquiries and service requests from students, faculty, and staff compared to FY2025 baseline.

## PREPARED AS ONE.

Conduct annual multi-agency drills, including full-scale and tabletop exercises, to strengthen coordinated response capabilities.

- Rotate scenarios involving active threats, hazardous materials, severe weather, and more.
- Include campus, city, and county agencies (Police, Fire, EMS) and conduct after-action reviews to improve future performance.

**Success indicators**

- Conducted at least one full-scale and one tabletop multi-agency drill annually, rotating among active threat, hazardous materials, and severe weather scenarios.
- Engaged campus, city, and county agencies to participate in exercises, with documented participation and role clarity.
- Completed after-action reviews within 30 days of each exercise, with improvement recommendations tracked and implemented.

## ENHANCING CUSTOMER SERVICE WITH CSOs.

Empower the Community Service Officer (CSO) program as a trusted channel for reporting incidents and building relationships with the campus community. Position CSOs as part of an information-sharing network.

- Elevate the CSO program by enhancing skill sets and expanding services offered to university partners.

**Success indicators**

- Provided enhanced training to all active CSOs in customer service, incident reporting, and campus engagement protocols.
- Documented an increase in incident reports initiated through CSO channels, reflecting improved trust and accessibility.
- Integrated CSOs into the campus information-sharing network, with weekly briefings and participation in RTIC coordination meetings.

## INTERNATIONAL STUDENT AMBASSADOR PROGRAM (COAST).

Bridge the gap between the Division of Public Safety and international students through a dedicated ambassador program.

- Partner with ISSS to recruit international students as public safety ambassadors.
- Provide education on safety protocols, scam prevention, and other relevant topics.

**Success indicators**

- Recruited and trained at least 10 international student ambassadors in partnership with ISSS.
- Delivered safety education sessions to incoming international students each academic year.
- Produced and distributed multilingual educational materials on safety protocols and scam prevention, with a minimum reach of 5,000 views annually across digital platforms.
- Hosted at least four campus-wide engagement events annually to promote trust and awareness between UIPD and international student communities.

# STRATEGIC INITIATIVE 2: TECHNOLOGY

## FususConnect PROGRAM.

Improve public safety and investigative efficiency by deploying the Fusus Connect Program across participating agencies. Integrate real-time camera access, evidence sharing, and analytics into a unified platform to enhance emergency response, crime prevention, and collaboration.

- Host community outreach events to educate residents and businesses on FususConnect, camera registration, and privacy safeguards.
- Launch a dedicated site or integrate into the current DPS website for private camera registration.
- Train relevant personnel (RTIC analysts, detectives, command staff) prior to system go-live.

**Success indicators**

- Hosted at least 3 outreach events to educate the public on FususConnect.
- Showed a marked increase in registered private cameras within 12 months of outreach and website launch.
- Trained RTIC analysts, detectives, and command staff prior to system go-live.

## REAL-TIME INFORMATION CENTER (RTIC) AND INVESTIGATIVE TECHNOLOGY.

Expand RTIC capabilities to include investigative technologies and digital forensics. Fully staff the Real-Time Information Center to provide timely, accurate, and actionable intelligence that supports crime prevention, strategic deployment, and leadership decision-making.

- Conduct a department-wide audit of current investigative technologies; prioritize upgrades with the highest case impact.
- Establish a technology investment budget and provide specialized training for sworn and civilian investigators.
- Staff ten trained RTIC analysts.
- Expand RTIC operational coverage to 16 hours per day, 7 days a week.
- Implement redundant staffing during major campus events to ensure uninterrupted service.
- Produce daily and weekly intelligence bulletins summarizing incidents, suspect descriptions, and emerging trends.
- Partner with detectives to develop suspect profiles and maintain real-time BOLO boards.
- Create interactive dashboards showing hot spots, incident timelines, and repeat offender activity; provide monthly and quarterly trend analysis.
- Monitor social media and open-source intelligence (OSINT) for credible threats and emergency events.
- Use historical data and predictive models to anticipate high-risk times and locations.
- Share vetted intelligence with partner agencies to support joint investigations.
- Hire a dedicated crime analyst to lead intelligence product creation and conduct deep-dive case analysis.

**Success indicators**

- Increase presentation requests and engagement events.
- Staffed 10 trained RTIC analysts and a dedicated crime analyst, with completion of specialized training in investigative technologies.

- Expanded RTIC operational coverage to 16 hours per day, 7 days a week, with redundant staffing during major campus events.
- Produced daily and weekly intelligence bulletins and document usage by investigative teams.
- Created and maintained interactive dashboards with monthly and quarterly trend analyses, accessed by leadership.
- Completed a department-wide audit of investigative technologies and implemented upgrades with measurable case impact in at least 30 investigations annually.
- Established OSINT monitoring protocols that identify and escalate credible threats within 30 minutes of detection.
- Shared vetted intelligence with partner agencies in joint investigations.

## SECURITY CAMERA EXPANSION AND MANAGEMENT.

Develop a well-maintained camera network that enhances safety, supports investigations, and integrates with RTIC operations while safeguarding privacy.

- Prioritize camera placement at entrances/exits of major buildings, transit hubs, parking structures, event venues, pedestrian corridors, and critical infrastructure.
- Achieve Tier 1 coverage in high-risk areas and Tier 2 coverage along primary pedestrian routes.
- Use high-resolution, low-light capable, encrypted, ONVIF-compliant cameras, including fixed, PTZ, and panoramic units.
- Collaborate with university administration to establish a centralized funding model and increase staffing.
- Implement a phased 3–5 year deployment and replacement schedule with a 10% annual reserve.
- Integrate all cameras into RTIC's VMS for clip retrieval, and event presets; enable on-camera analytics where beneficial.

**Success indicators**

- Achieved Tier 1 camera coverage (50%) in all designated high-risk areas and Tier 2 coverage (40%) along primary pedestrian routes.
- Installed only ONVIF-compliant, encrypted, high-resolution, low-light capable cameras across all new deployments.
- Integrated all available active cameras into RTIC's Video Management System (VMS) with clip retrieval functionality.
- Enabled on-camera analytics in at least 50% of strategic locations to support proactive safety measures.
- Engaged in dialogue to create a centralized funding model and increased staffing to support ongoing maintenance and expansion.
- Maintained an annual reserve for phased replacement and upgrades, aligned with the 3–5 year deployment schedule.
- Demonstrated investigative impact through case assists annually using camera footage.

## DRONE-AS-FIRST RESPONDER (DFR) PROGRAM.

Enhance campus safety and situational awareness by deploying a Drone-as-First-Responder (DFR) Program that provides rapid aerial support, integrates with police operations, and builds community trust in emerging technologies.

- Conduct a campus-wide aerial coverage study to identify optimal drone launch points.

- Integrate the DFR program with public safety dispatch systems for seamless deployment.
- Enable live-stream capability to the Real-Time Information Center.
- Host campus-wide demonstrations to educate students, faculty, and staff on drone capabilities, safety protocols, and privacy protections.
- Produce short educational videos for social media showcasing successful deployments and safety benefits.
- Train designated drone operators to operational standards.
- Enhance the agency website to increase transparency around UIPD's use of drones.
- Integrate DFR program with first responders.

**Success indicators**

- Completed a campus-wide aerial coverage study with documented launch point recommendations.
- Integrated DFR operations with public safety dispatch systems, enabling seamless deployment and response tracking.
- Enabled live-stream capability to the Real-Time Information Center for active drone deployments.
- Trained designated drone operators to operational standards.
- Hosted at least three campus-wide demonstrations and produced educational videos for social media outreach.
- Published a dedicated webpage detailing UIPD's drone usage, privacy safeguards, and operational protocols to ensure transparency.

## INTELLIGENCE ASSISTED INVESTIGATIONS.

Implement tools for evidence review and reporting. Digitize binders and files in the communications room. Transition to E-Citations and E-Crash systems to eliminate hard copies. Develop processes to reduce reliance on printed paperwork. Replace outdated Centrex phones with VoIP technology via Touch Point.

- Pilot new software for transcription, translation, and evidence review. Provide training on ethical use and privacy safeguards, with accessibility for non-English speakers. Evaluate effectiveness annually and expand if successful.
- Continued implementation of E-Citations and E-Crash systems.
- Roll out RisKonnect over a two-year implementation schedule.
- Finalize testing and complete transition to the VoIP system.

**Success indicators**

- Piloted and evaluated new assisted tools for transcription, translation, and evidence review, with staff training completion and annual effectiveness review.
- Digitized communications room binders and files, with secure digital access protocols in place.
- Fully transitioned to E-Citations and E-Crash systems, eliminating hard copy processing for traffic-related incidents.
- Reduced overall printed paperwork volume by 50% compared to FY2025 baseline.
- Completed VoIP system rollout via Touch Point, replacing all Centrex phones and achieving operational coverage.
- Implemented RisKonnect across all relevant units within the two-year schedule, with usage metrics tracked regularly.

# STRATEGIC INITIATIVE 3: ORGANIZATIONAL HEALTH

## MENTORSHIP PROGRAM AND TRAINING.

Establish a formal mentoring program to support employees and help identify career goals. Provide ongoing training opportunities for both sworn and professional staff to promote advancement and equitable development. Create pathways for employees to request assistance when needed.

- Develop and implement policies and procedures for the mentoring program based on best practices and successful model program for new and existing employees.
- Provide training for mentors.
- Schedule regular meetings to identify career goals and training opportunities for all staff.
- Enable cross-training, temporary upgrades, and job mirroring to expose employees to future roles and build redundancy and leadership experience throughout the Division.
- Identify staff who can be resources for specific skills and skill deficits to allow a person seeking mentoring to self-access and self-identify potential topic mentors.

**Success indicators**

- Established a formal mentoring program for new employees and assigned a mentor within their first 30 days.
- Delivered mentor training across all participating staff.
- Scheduled and conducted regular career development meetings for all sworn and professional staff.
- Implemented cross-training, temporary upgrades, or job mirroring for eligible staff with a focus on establishing redundancy and leadership experience throughout the division.

## UP-TO-DATE POLICIES AND PROCEDURES.

Ensure all policies and procedures are current, accurate, and complete.

- Implement a review process assigning small policy sections to relevant staff for evaluation and updates based on current practices.
- Differentiate which policies and procedures apply to sworn staff versus professional staff to make acknowledgment more efficient.

**Success indicators**

- Completed a full review of active policies and procedures.
- Assigned all policy sections to relevant staff with documented review and update cycles.
- Updated policies to reflect current practices, legal standards, and operational needs.
- Established an annual review calendar with automated reminders and tracking.
- Achieved a compliance rate in internal audits verifying policy accuracy and completeness.
- Ensured policies relevant to the specific staffing demographic area identified, read and acknowledged.

## ENHANCE RECRUITING EFFORTS.

Strengthen recruitment strategies and adopt innovative approaches to attract highly qualified and diverse applicants. Expand the applicant pool for both professional and sworn positions by promoting inclusivity and leveraging modern outreach tools.

- Assess the effectiveness of current recruitment practices and explore innovative alternatives.
- Launch a digital marketing campaign to promote open positions.

**Success indicators**

- Increased the total number of applicants across both professional and sworn positions.
- Improved applicant diversity year-over-year, with measurable gains in underrepresented groups based on EEO data.
- Launched and sustained a digital marketing campaign that generates an increased interest in available and future DPS positions.
- Reduced average time-to-fill for open positions.

## ONBOARDING AND OFFBOARDING PROGRAM.

Create a streamlined process for onboarding and offboarding employees.

- Identify and implement software to facilitate smooth transitions.
- Develop onboarding modules focused on communications policies and procedures, including guidelines for personal social media use and media interactions.

**Success indicators**

- Implemented an onboarding/offboarding program used in employee transitions.
- Delivered communications training modules to all new hires.
- Achieved a completion rate of onboarding modules across all new employees.
- Reduced onboarding time.

## SAFETY IN YOUR POCKET.

Develop a student-centered mobile campus safety app using App Amour, integrating all Division of Public Safety and campus-related functions.

- Build app features including one-tap emergency calling, anonymous tips, and location sharing. Integrate with i-card and campus notifications. Promote during new student orientation.
- Include emergency guides, mental health resources, and weather alerts.
- Add features such as sidewalk mapping, virtual blue light, and report filing options.

**Success indicators**

- Successfully launched the App Amour campus safety app with full integration of DPS and campus functions.
- Achieved an adoption rate among enrolled students within the first year of release.
- Integrated one-tap emergency calling, anonymous tips, and location sharing with verified functionality across all campus zones.
- Embedded emergency guides, mental health resources, and weather alerts accessible from the app's home screen.
- Enabled virtual blue light and report filing features with user interactions logged in the first year.
- Received satisfaction rating in student feedback surveys regarding app usability and relevance.
- Integrated with the Illinois App.

# STRATEGIC INITIATIVE 4: STRUCTURE AND INFRASTRUCTURE

## CENTRALIZED ACCESS CONTROL.

Begin the research to unify campus access control systems into a single platform to enhance security, streamline management, and improve emergency response.

- Audit existing infrastructure for compatibility and upgrade needs.
- Propose an enterprise-grade platform that integrates with RTIC systems.
- Research the steps to enable real-time monitoring and centralized control from RTIC, including rapid lockdown capabilities.
- Develop a presentation with a cost analysis and procedure to roll a centralized system in prioritized phases to minimize disruption and retire legacy systems.
- Within that presentation, suggest governance policies for credential issuance, revocation, and periodic audits.
- Plan for future scalability, including biometrics, visitor management, and cross-agency interoperability.

**Success indicators**

- Completed infrastructure audit and determined a finalized platform selection with RTIC integration.
- Presented a plan to centralize an access control system across 100% of Tier 1 priority buildings with the ability to enable real-time lockdown capability for all integrated facilities.
- Within that presentation:
    - » Established credential governance policies with 100% compliance in issuance and audit cycles.
    - » Outlined a 90% reduction in manual access management tasks through automation.
    - » Developed a scalability roadmap including biometric access and visitor management, with pilot programs launched in at least two buildings.

## FACILITY REMODEL AND COMMUNICATIONS AREA IMPROVEMENTS.

Collaborate with campus officials to remodel the current facility, add office space, and improve the communications and records area. Update furniture and stabilize camera systems in the TC room. Work with CCS to phase out Andover computers.

- Continue collaboration with CCS on Andover systems.
- Stabilize camera computer functionality across TC room displays.
- Explore furniture alternatives and assess space layout for efficiency.
- Identify and implement remodel opportunities within the DPS building.

**Success indicators**

- Completed the facility remodel with 100% of identified improvements implemented.
- Achieved full stabilization of camera systems across TC room displays to eliminate recurring outages.
- Replaced outdated furniture with space-saving, ergonomic alternatives.
- Successfully phased out Andover computers, with all systems transitioned to modern platforms.

## VEHICLE AND EQUIPMENT REPLACEMENT PLAN.

Develop a comprehensive plan to replace and rotate vehicles and equipment across all units, based on usage and expiration timelines.

- Assess current vehicle needs and usage; reallocate as necessary.
- Identify needs for additional or reduced vehicles.
- Implement telematics and technology to guide decision-making.
- Partner with an upfitter capable of processing multiple vehicles simultaneously.
- Determine equipment setup including storage, lighting, and mounting.
- Create a database (e.g., PS Tracker) to monitor vehicle and equipment lifecycles and forecast funding needs.

**Success indicators**

- Established a fully operational PS Tracker database with 100% of fleet and equipment inventoried and lifecycle timelines documented.
- Based on the vehicle/equipment rotational guideline, developed a comprehensive budget to allow for annual replacement of vehicles and equipment with an annually projected budget.
- Achieved an improvement in maintenance efficiency and cost savings through telematics-guided decision-making.
- Completed upfitting of all new vehicles within 60 days of acquisition.

## CENTRALIZED EQUIPMENT AND STAFFING LOCATION.

Acquire facilities to house all Division of Public Safety employees and equipment in one centralized location near the main building.

- Secure space in a building closer to DPS to better serve staff needs.
- Acquire centralized space to store all DPS equipment.

**Success indicators**

- By the end of FY2028, the Division will have successfully relocated all personnel and equipment to a centralized facility within close proximity to the main DPS building. This will be measured by:
    - » 100% of DPS staff operating from the same geographical location.
    - » Consolidation of equipment storage into one managed site.