Tennessee: Who will pay for repairs

Documents shed light on needed repairs, price tag at Silverdale Detention Center Channel 3 has been requesting access to a list of needed repairs for more than a month to get a better idea of what needs to be fixed and the price tag. Channel 3 is getting a better idea of repairs needed at Silverdale Detention Center before the county's inmates are consolidated at the facility. The move is slated to come at the end of the year when private jail service provider, CoreCivic, ends its agreement with Hamilton County.

CoreCivic stated in their termination letter that conditions inside the facility prompted their decision to end the contract with the sheriff's office early. Sheriff Jim Hammond has acknowledged the aging facility is in desperate need of repairs. Channel 3 has been requesting access to a list of needed repairs for more than a month to get a better idea of what needs to be fixed and the price tag. An 11 item list of big ticket items compiled by CoreCivic was sent to the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office in April. It states the following: 12 doors are beyond repair, The roof over the Charlie and Bravo buildings need to be replaced, stating they leak when it rains, Fire panel is at the end of it's life and needs replacing, Lock and control panel is being run on outdated software Major plumbing issues in the Bravo and Charlie buildings and dozens of toilet and sink combinations needing repairs and replacement, several need immediate attention. In previous interviews, Sheriff Jim Hammond has acknowledged the cost of repairs reaches into the hundreds of thousands of dollars, but another document obtained by Channel 3 brings the cost into a better focus. A capital budget request was sent to the sheriff's office in January and asks for $392,000 to replace the roof over the Charlie building, replace the fire alarm panel and device and install new door lock pockets in the George building, citing the current design compromises safety and security of staff and inmates because it allows for inmates to fish the locks and open cells. The documents show some items have already been repaired, like a broken HVAC unit in the Bravo building. Other items have been ordered and others have quotes on file. A spokesperson for the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office tells Channel 3 CoreCivic is responsible for repairs under $7,500. Anything over that amount will be the responsibility of the sheriff's office. Channel 3 asked the sheriff's office to provide a list of items that have been repaired, but have not received one. Last month, Hammond said he was going to present his transition plan to Hamilton County Commission. That has not happened and it's unclear when he will present his plan.