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State Dept. plans Queen Anne's training site

Washington Business Journal - by [Sarah Krouse](#)

The State Department is drawing up a master plan for a 1,250-acre Foreign Affairs Security Training Center that will turn a patch of rural Centreville, Md., into a mixture of classroom and office space, firing ranges, driving tracks and an explosives testing area.

The department and the **General Services Administration**, which are spending \$70 million in stimulus funds to acquire the Queen Anne's County site, have been working with D.C.-based architects **Karn Charuhas Chapman & Twohey PC** on the massive project, which will consolidate diplomatic training now done at 19 facilities.

"We don't own the facilities. We lease or contract through them," said Ellyn Goldkind, architect for the project at the State Department. "Some might be Marine or Department of Defense-based. It's very inefficient and piecemeal. So there's a long-term effort to consolidate and get a facility owned by the department to have operational efficiencies."

The department did not disclose an overall cost estimate for the training center, which will host about 10,000 students a year and include a 450-bed dormitory.