NAVAL SHIPYARDS

Key Actions Remain to Improve Infrastructure to Better Support Navy Operations

What GAO Found

The Navy’s 2018 Shipyard Infrastructure Optimization Plan includes actions to address critical deficiencies at the shipyards, but the extent to which the plan fully addresses those deficiencies remains to be seen as the proposed actions are complex and years away from being implemented. The plan includes steps to address dry dock deficiencies, which the Navy expects will provide it with the capacity and capability to perform 67 of 68 ship maintenance periods it is currently unable to support through fiscal year 2040. Once area development plans are complete (see figure), the Navy projects it will take at least $21 billion over 20 years to fully implement the plan.

Figure: Navy’s Planned Activities to Address Shipyard Deficiencies through 2022

- The Navy is identifying key information and resources used in the shipyards’ current maintenance process.
- The Navy is using that information to create computer models of the shipyards. The Navy began this process at Pearl Harbor in February 2019 and plans to begin at other shipyards in September 2019.
- The Navy will use the computer models to simulate the impact on shipyard operations from different potential layouts (“potential shipyards”). The Navy plans to complete this phase by the end of fiscal year 2020.
- The Navy will then decide on which “potential shipyard” designs it would like to pursue.
- The shipyards will develop unique master plans, called area development plans, that outline all the necessary resources needed to achieve the “potential shipyard” design. The Navy plans to complete this phase by the end of fiscal year 2021.
- The Navy will use the area development plans to create a prioritized list of projects that it can use to guide investments. The Navy plans to complete this phase by the end of fiscal year 2022.

What GAO Recommends

GAO recommends that the Navy enhance the quality and reliability of its shipyard infrastructure plan by incorporating GAO’s cost estimating best practices and determining clear shipyard roles and responsibilities for implementing the plan. The Navy concurred with these recommendations.

View GAO-20-64. For more information, contact Diana Maurer at (202) 512-9627 or MaurerD@gao.gov.