

## **AGENDA**

### **Monroe County Community Justice Response Committee**

**Monday, January 09, 2023, 4:30 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.**

*Nat U. Hill Meeting Room, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Courthouse*

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Statement of Guiding Principles
4. Electronic Attendance Policy for Public Meetings
5. Survey updates (Board of Judges, Monroe County)
6. Jail Design and Construction
  - a. Land Update (Commissioners)
  - b. Request for Qualifications (RFQ) Update (RFQ Committee Members)
7. Treatment
  - a. Update on Phoenix trip (Trip Attendees)
8. Public Comment
9. Adjournment

**Community Justice Response Committee meets the first and third Monday of each month.**

**In-Person Attendance: Nat U Hill Meeting Room - Third floor of the Courthouse**

**Virtual Attendance:**

<https://monroecounty-in.zoom.us/j/84490159346?pwd=SkIhN0NnRDNnckFPcjd5a2xpeEtRZz09>

Meeting ID: 844 9015 9346

Password: 560796

**Dial by your location**

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

Meeting ID: 844 9015 9346

For meeting documents including past agendas and minutes, commissioned reports, list of committee members, and documents referenced in meetings please visit the Committee website:

<https://www.co.monroe.in.us/departments/board.php?structureid=178>



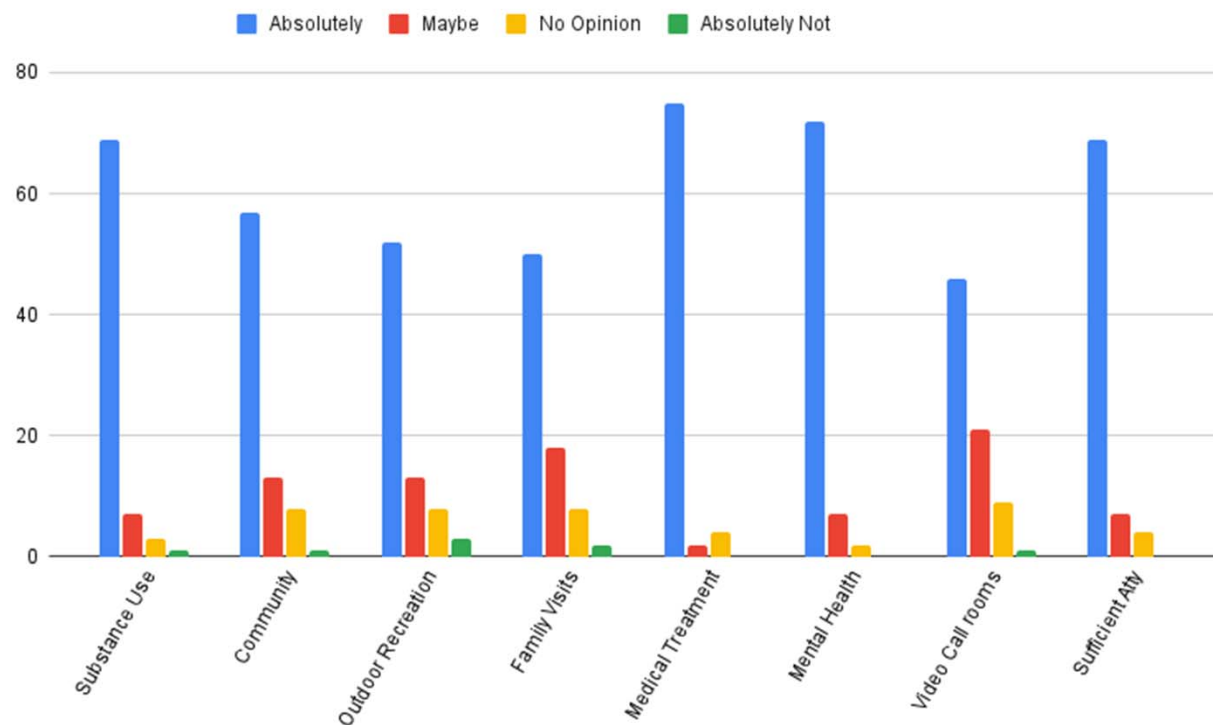
# FEEDBACK FROM JUDICIAL BRANCH

Including Judges, Court Services, Court Reporters, Bailiffs, and Probation

# Judicial Branch Survey

- 82 responses Total
- 46 from Probation
- 36 from Courts

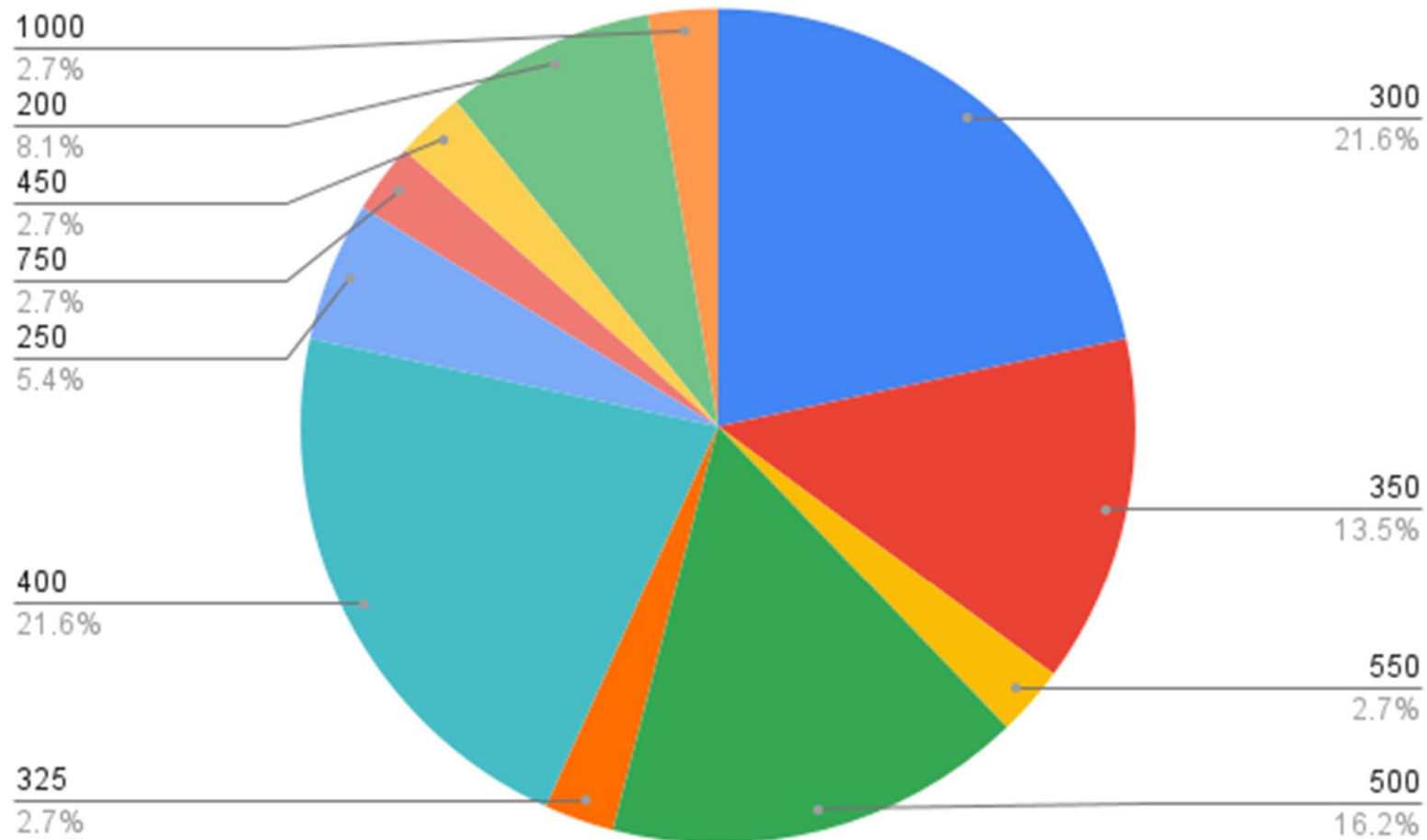
# Desired Features for a New Jail



- Substance Use Programming
- Community Programming
- Outdoor Recreation
- Family Visits Room
- Medical Treatment
- Mental Health Treatment
- Video Call Rooms
- Attorney Conference Rooms

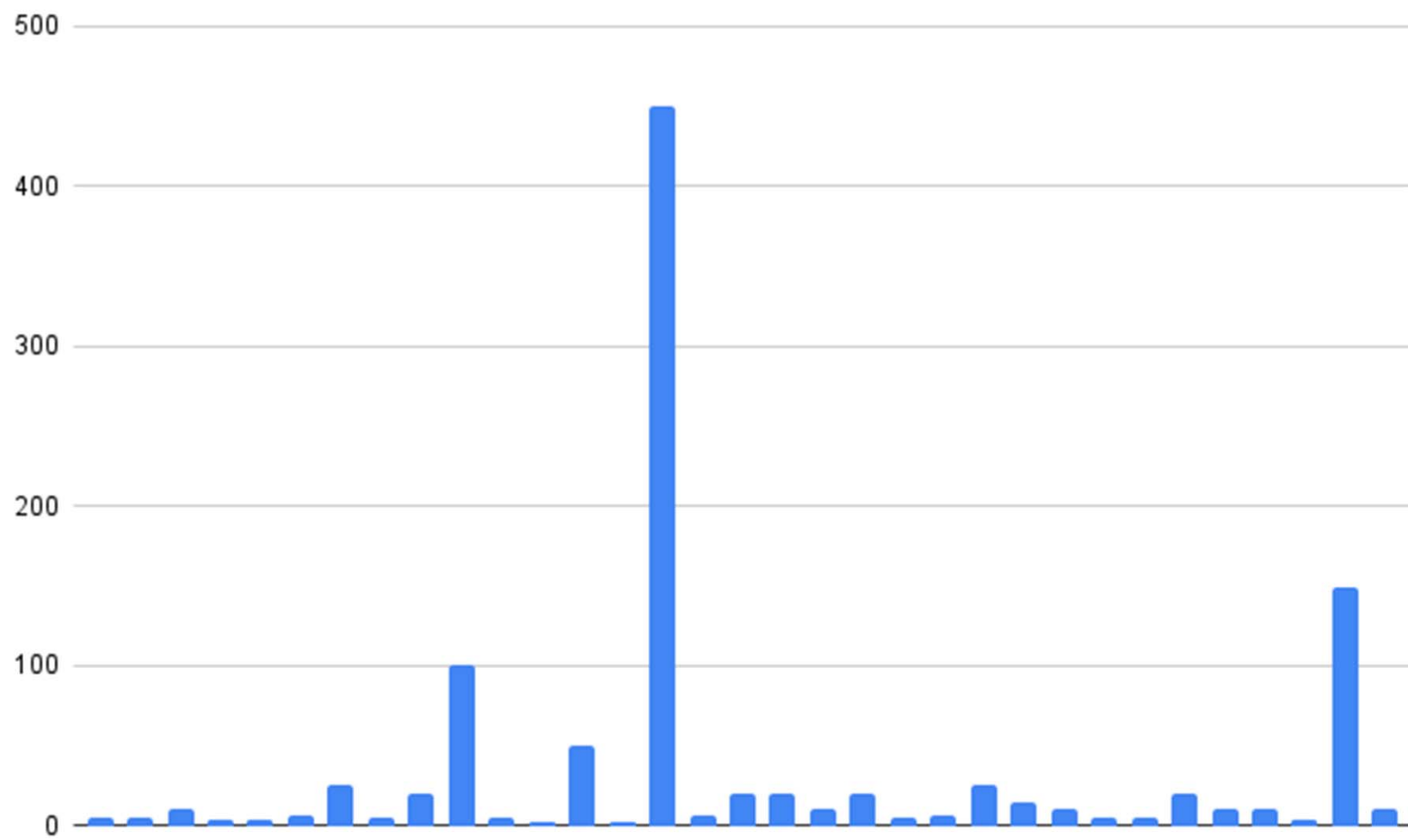
# Recommended Total Bed Capacity

- 65 out of 82 folks responded
- 17 out of 82 folks had no response
- No Opinion – 23 responses
- Per the Report – 4 responses
- Range – 200 to 1000 beds
- Average (mean) – 393 beds
- Median – 350 beds



# Padded Cell Capacity

- 61 out of 82 folks responded
- 21 out of 82 folks had no response
- No Opinion – 26 responses
- Per the Report – 2 responses
- Range – 4 to 450 padded cells
- Average (mean) – 29.4 padded cells
- Median – 10 padded cells





# Comments on What Works Well

(53 out of 82 folks provided comments)

- I don't know
- Communication between the Court and staff -- and availability of inmate transport
- NOTHING
- Not sure
- it is close to the courtrooms
- At the moment I'm not sure.
- Mostly escape proof, convenient location and ease of transporting inmates to and from court.
- close proximity to the court and other court affiliated offices
- central downtown location for services for inmates when they are released.
- Nothing
- That it's close to the courts
- more staff
- current flow
- Being able to call and have someone brought down ASAP
- easy access to the courts, able to transport for hearings quickly, easy to get paperwork to them
- All county offices involved are in proximity to the Jail
- Officers are doing the best they can with what they have.
- The staff
- Hard workers like they have right now.

- The proximity to the Courts, Courtrooms, Public Defender's Office, Probation - in order for all parts to run efficiently.
- The ability to have the jail, courts, probation, public defenders, prosecutors, community corrections and the local Sheriff's Department all together. The ability to service the public, the justice system and safety of all included flows well.
- Proximity to the Courts
- Pretrial Release cooperation. Proximity to court and Probation for assessments
- There is very little that works well in our current jail
- Location / proximity to courts, public defenders, etc
- The staff works very hard.
- same location, close to probation
- Easy transporting inmates to court
- Location. It is centrally located on the justice campus downtown making it easy to transport inmates. Also easy for probation/community corrections and attorneys to conduct business with them.
- Not alot, really need mental health and substance treatment
- staff try to bring in as much as they can to help the inmates prepare for release
- Unsure
- Allowing Centerstone to provide treatment programs in jail that then have an outside of jail component.
- Unsure
- video conferencing for Court hearings and other appointments.
- Nothing

- Programming, when available. Medical care when available. Things have changed overtime and I am uncertain to the current medical practice.
  - Location and proximity to other court related offices (Public Defender, Probation, Community Corrections, Stride Center, etc.)
  - Not much right now
  - I think the staff does a great job with what they have to work with. The current set up is not very functional.
  - Proximity to the Courts, public defenders, and probation officers.
  - The different levels. The classroom. The staff.
  - proximity to courtrooms
- 
- jail trustee program, inmate transport, meal prep and distribution, specialty dorms/units
  - location
  - inmates can be transported to the courtrooms fairly easily
  - Nothing
  - No Escapes
  - I am not familiar with the current jail so I can't answer that
  - It incapacitates people and removes them from our community.
  - Holding people
  - Transport from jail to courtrooms.

# Concerns about the Jail

(66 out of 82 folks provided comments)

- Lack of outdoor space -- especially for long-term stays. Lack of vocational/rehabilitative education and services. Poor nutritional services for long-term stays.
- Age and danger to staff
- lawsuit waiting to happen.
- over crowded, location to court offices, dirty
- the fact that it leaks into the court offices, noise into the court offices, over crowded
- low staffing/available beds/mental health & substance treatment availability
- Very dated and future costs. Overcrowding and not enough staff to run it safely.
- outdated, location in current building always causing maintenance issues
- Plumbing concerns being over court offices
- unsafe and lack of community programming, no outdoor time, no exit planning for inmates when they are released, lack of job training, mental health services, visits with families, lack of civil legal services.
- Employees leaving and not properly trained and treated poorly. To much outside distance brought in.

- Overcrowding and understaffed
- short staff
- not enough correctional officers
- it is run down and not functioning
- Overcrowded and not enough jailers
- Not enough cells, understaffed
- The jail is poorly designed, it is in constant need of repairs. The ventilation is horrible.
- The lack of room has been a great concern.
- The inmates/jail are above the courts and offices. Not enough room for the inmates we currently have, not enough mental health care and other counties send their released inmates here for care and they end up in our facility. The building isn't made to house the type of inmates we have or sustain the care they require. Facilities are insufficient to handle the number of people.
- Nothing if we would only house medium and high level inmates. And have State run mental health facilities. Not the county.

- The jail itself is too small. There is no sufficient room for programming. There are safety concerns issues for the inmates themselves. The jail offices could be situated more efficiently for jail workflow. The Justice Building itself is in constant need of repair --the ventilation in this building horrific. The entire building, mainly due to the jail being placed on top of office space, has created a sick environment not only for inmates but for staff due constant leaks, ventilation, and mold issues. Building employees have continuous allergy/sinus problems.
- Not being able to maintain staff, the conditions of the jail/justice building as a whole, inability to provide treatment to inmates easily.
- Structure/organization is inefficient
- No work release beds
- Intake/Drunk tank is dirty and insufficient, little to no programming, limited mental health services, limited access to physical health services, staffing levels
- Bigger means we can detain more. Proximity to public defenders, courts, probation
- Not enough cells/beds for inmates
- Polycom system is inadequate / understaffed

- Drug use inside the jail
- staffing and transport issues even when already located together
- Overcrowding and old infrastructure.
- -Infrastructure.
  - No privacy for probation/community corrections to conduct business. For example, pretrial has to conduct assessments in the hallway when not using video conferencing.
  - Minimal programming space.
- Too many mental health inmates not getting what they need
- not big enough. not able to offer enough services
- We need a work release program
- Need more emphasis on programming and there isn't enough space.
- needs more space, up to date/safe facilities, treatment opportunities for both substance use and mental health disorders, partnerships with outside service providing agencies
- Unsure

- Outdated equipment, business practices and facility
- Overcrowding.
- Lack of staffing, falling apart, minimal in-house services
- Limited recreation and programming.
- Disrepair
- There should be separate dorms for treatment needs like substance use and mental health and dedicated staff to work those dorms. Treatment should be available in the treatment dorms. There should be High, Moderate and Low risk general population blocks as well.
- It's very old and in need of constant repair. The jail being above the court rooms and offices isn't a good layout. There also doesn't appear to be enough room for inmates pods and for other functions that need to happen there.
- The location, crowdedness, and lack of recreation area.
- Under staffed and not enough beds



- Overcrowding
- Not a lot of recreation options. No windows.
- layout, no real yard, sanitation
- inadequate bed space, inadequate medical facilities and inmate observation (especially regarding mental health concerns), outdated plumbing system
- Over crowding
- There is no room for programming or office space for pretrial/probation staff to conduct assessments or meetings with inmates.
- none besides perhaps the age of the building
- Over crowding, understaffed . Ive heard the holding tank is filthy, extremely dirty, unsanitary
- Out of date
- Condition is terrible, see report that county paid
- Over crowding, communication with Attorneys, staffing

- I am not familiar with the current jail so I can't answer that
- No space for appropriate programs, treatment, visitation, and care for those who are in it.
- Lack of services
- To small and not adequately set up for any outside time.
- It does not meet Constitutional standards; its location over offices allows inmates to flood the offices; there is no room for training/programming to allow inmates to work on improving their lives while they are in the jail (with the exception of the Serve Safe program); limited (if any?) recreational space/opportunities for inmates
- The current jail does not meet the needs of the community for effective safety and programming.

# Features to Consider

(52 of 82 folks provided comments)

What other features are important to include in the jail?

- Dedicated rom for video conferencing with Court when needed;
- Not sure
- A library, a quiet area for inmate computers/ipad for zoom calls with courts.
- Ease of managing with minimal staffing and location.
- ???
- Lots of community involvement, training, job training, mental health, family visits, outdoor time, safety for jail staff and inmates, distance from courts so that any noise from inmates does not disturb other staff or court.
- Better training will help a faculty work better.
- bigger booking area
- none...after all its not a day
- Courts and courtrooms in same building as the jail
- Mail/female segregation, separate for mental health inmates
- Meal preparation facility, laundry, a Clergy.

- Not to make it a home away from home by giving them so much freedom.
- Sufficient equipment/rooms for inmates to be available for hearings by video/zoom equipment (not just phones). Availability to meet with mediators in civil matters.
- work release, job programming
- Areas for video conferencing with mental health evaluators, the Courts, tunnels for safe transport around a judicial complex. A judicial complex as a whole to keep all departments flowing cohesively and to ensure inmates are receiving the proper services with Probation/Community Corrections and able to make it to their appointments swiftly after release from jail.
- transportation once released.
- Work Release beds
- mental health unit, sufficient visitation area, conference rooms/area for probation officers to meet with inmates, outdoor recreation areas
- transportation options for families. I don't know if all of the 'collateral' agencies need to be housed in the jail (unless there is a campus long-term plan) but certainly adequate meeting space

- safety, ease of location with courts
- Security cameras, more staffing
- close proximity is important for all entities being considered
- Mental health pods as well as substance abuse pods. A decent size recreation area. Good size booking and sally port area.
- Probation and Community Corrections co-located with the jail for ease to the clients.  
Space for private 1-1 meetings.  
Space for group programming.  
Mental health services.  
Reentry services such as education and employment services.
- Same as above
- Exercise facility for county staff as a way to relieve stress and maintain mental health. There use be an exercise area in the jail prior to the latest remodel

- Unsure
- Work Release Facility, Detention Center for Juveniles
- Substance Abuse services.
- Perhaps, a Veterans Block where Veterans Affairs Administration can get veterans plugged into services. Connecting veterans with other veterans in jail may prove beneficial upon their release. Order and cleanliness will likely be kept in a Veterans Block
- Treatment services
- Risk assessment in order to separate the low risk from the high risk. Plenty of programming and recreation.
- Better physical/mental health care for incarcerated individuals
- Education opportunities
- REC area, a decent video chat room for PO's and attorney's to conduct a virtual appointment. Maybe bigger pods so that inmates are more spread out. All inmates should have a bed assigned to them. I think it's also important to have proper security features to protect staff, etc.

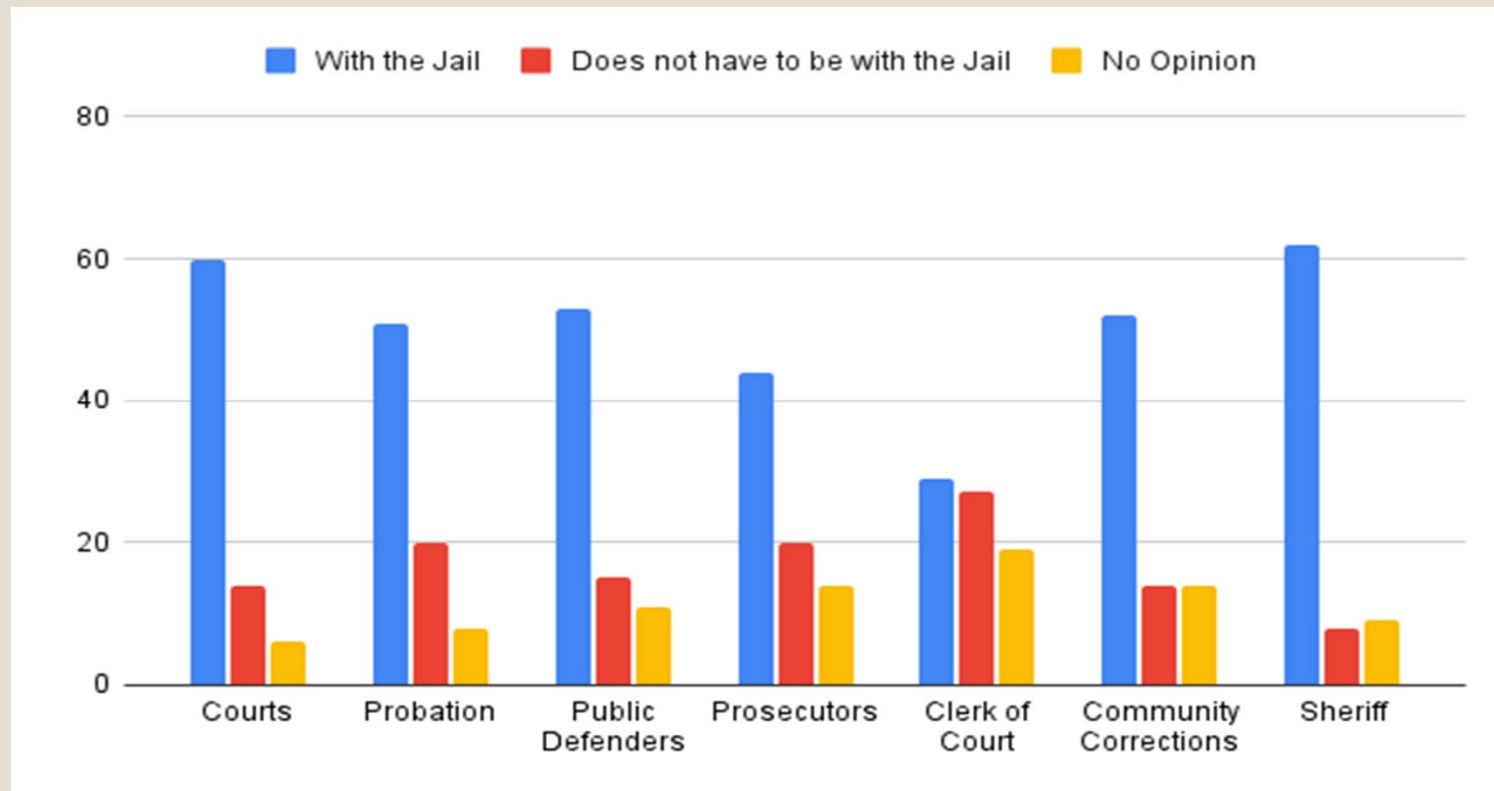
- |   |
|---|
| • An inside and outside recreation area.  |
| • ?   |
| • Space for attorney, probation and/or video conference   |
| • no opinion  |
| • security cameras, durable bedding, shower space(s), safety zones for staff (to include break rooms and bathrooms) |
| • more room   |
| • Space for pretrial/probation to meet with clients to conduct assessments and Pre-Sentence Reports.                |
| • I don't know. Not too familiar with the current jail.   |
| • defer to jail staff   |

- Ability for video court when necessary
- Library, exercise area, a place for family visits.
- In addition to adequate space for programs, treatment, and visitation, it is very important to have safe and adequate space for professional visitation.
- Better accommodations
- large so can accommodate many people



# Co-Location

(for each item, there were an average of 79.6 out of 82 possible responses)



# Co-Location Comments

(53 out of 82 folks provided comments)

Any other thoughts on co-location issues?

- It would be beneficial to have some criminal courtroom space co-located, but not all courts need/should be there. Also, the Fullerton Pike location has accessibility issues for the county population at large -- It does not make sense to have all services located so far from the town center.
- A justice center/campus or complex would be most efficient
- Court staff should be separate as it gets too loud and distracting with the jail over our heads
- The jail should not be upstairs from the people who put them there.
- Transportation, not only Defendants to/from Court, but attorneys and probation officers for interviews and such.
- it is inefficient logistically as well as financially for all offices indicated as well as the public to be at different locations.

- I am concerned about transport of inmates, ability of the public to reach the new location, and ease of public defenders in meeting their clients.
- All need to be together
- no
- convenient for outgoing and incoming transports and emergency vehicles
- The jail and the offices above absolutely must co-locate
- Everything needs to be together and near downtown.
- All offices checked above need to be in the same proximity of the Jail, in order for it to be efficient. In order to make sure that the whole Judicial process works as it should.

- Jail should be its own building, administrative should be their own building(s). Do not put the jail and the courts/clerk of court in the same building, definitely not on top of each other. Transporting inmates to court that is located a distance away (miles away) would be inconvenient to the jail, courts and use a lot of resources. A centralized complex would be ideal.
- Co-location is the best choice to keep the optimal flow of the judicial system.
- If it doesn't happen the County will be in a bigger mess than they already are.
- Probation should be co-located with the Courts
- Probation needs to be with the courts for sure
- A Justice Campus is long overdue. Locating all services in a central location will facilitate better coordination of services and easier access for clients

- In order for probation officers to attend hearings (which can sometimes be 3-4 days in the week), the probation offices would be best located with the Courts. The only issue I can see is Community Corrections is a central location and easily accessible for drug screens and daily reporting/ on a bus route. If that were to move, it would need to be on a bus route!
- Yes - close proximity would facilitate those relationships - of note, the new location will create difficulty for offenders to obtain services
- We should all be near each other, as many clients do not have transportation or the means to travel to different sides of town.
- Yes, they should be. Everyone works hand in hand. Most people have a hard enough time coming from one building to another while they are next door to one another, if they were to separate then clients are going to have an even harder time. Also have to think about transportation, some people rely on rides/buses/ scooters, having all locations separated create more barriers for offenders to be successful.

- No, it does not have to be with the jail
- close proximity of probation and Courts, if not able to be located together
- For the ease of not having to transport inmates to court. Cost and manpower associated could add up.
- Ideally Probation and Community Corrections would be co-located with the jail. It is a luxury for Probation Officers to just have to walk up the street to attend court. But I do think it's a necessity to have the courts, probation, and jail co-located. Clients are released from jail with the directive to immediately report to probation or CC and it will be a hardship for many to find transportation. Or often POs have to escort a client to the Court directly from our office due to safety concerns or a violation and not being co-located will be difficult. The Court often calls POs for unplanned requests to come to Court or go to the jail to meet with a client and right now, it's easy to work that in with everyone being co-located. Lastly, we, probation/CC, work for the Court. We are an arm of the Court. Being located apart from each other just doesn't make sense.

- Yes, probation and Community Corrections
- Probation absolutely needs to be with courts and the jail
- Pre-trial should be with the jail as they mostly work with Defendants prior to sentencing
- It makes sense that Probation be co-located with the Courts since the Probation Staff are required to attend court hearings.
- N/A
- Probation should be located with Courts.
- If Probation is not co-located, there should be a way to conduct Court hearings via Zoom to limit transportation to/from Court
- Location is fine. I do think probation should be co-located. We should not be viewed as an extension of law enforcement.

- probation should absolutely be located with the Courts
- safety
- Yes all offices which are part of the Court system should all be located within a campus with the jail
- Probation/Community Corrections definitely needs to be with the courts. This function would make working as a team easier plus it provides easy access for the probationers. They shouldn't have to travel to 3 separate buildings to attend court, pay fees and see their probation officer or case manager at Community Corrections.
- Public defenders, probation officers, courtrooms, and bailiffs should be included in the campus space. A small juvenile detention center should also be considered in this space.
- Yes, probation should be close to the courts

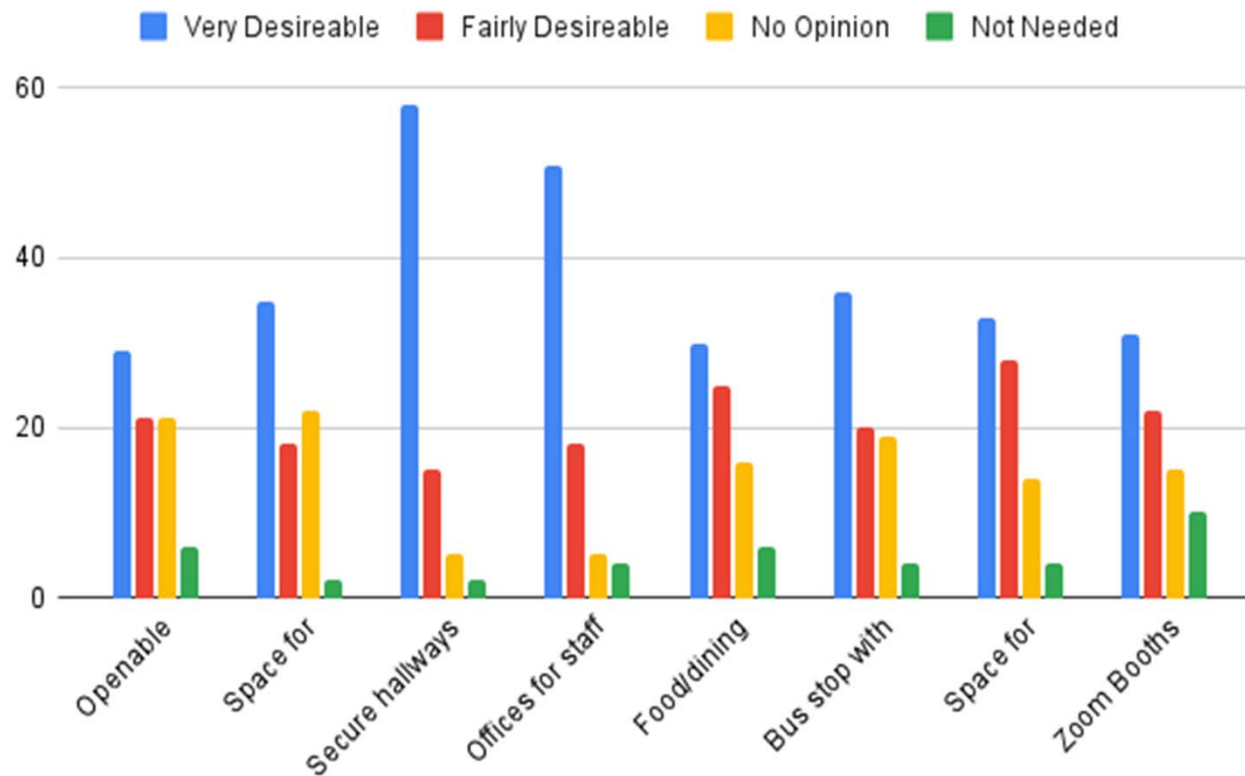


- no opinion
- It would obviously be efficient if the courts, public defenders, prosecutors, and probation were all within a few blocks of each other.
- Probation and Community Corrections (since they are one department in this county) should be located with the Courts since they are under the Courts' jurisdiction and serve at the pleasure of the Judges. Probation Officers are required to appear in court to provide testimony and recommendations. Officers are sometimes called to court for unscheduled hearings and/or requests for drug and alcohol testing. Most importantly is that Probation and Community Corrections be housed together (currently housed in separate buildings).
- It is important for Probation/Pretrial to be co-located with the jail/justice center. We work very closely with the jail to complete pretrial assessments and pre-sentence reports. We also need to be co-located with the Courts due to efficiency with attending court hearings, filing pretrial assessment reports, walking clients to court to deal with unplanned immediate concerns/issues in which a Judge is needed. The Probation Department has a need for classroom space to facilitate Prime for Life (substance abuse education class), cognitive behavioral therapy, such as MRT. We also need space for outside agencies such as HIRE and Work One to meet with probation clients and provide services such as life skills, interviewing skills, resume writing, etc. Probation needs a meeting room for staff training and staff meetings that is big enough to hold all PO's in our department (60 right now, looking into the future that could be 75).

- In my opinion, it is absolutely critical for all aspects of the Criminal Justice System, probation included to be co-located with the Jail. For the system to work, all "spokes" of the "wheel" must be together.
- Transportation issues would be a nightmare if not co-located. Also when inmates are released they need easy access to services.
- Parking for both public and employees, preferably separated to avoid any conflicts with disgruntled parties of cases, Close law enforcement for response to problems with inmates.
- concern would be transport if the jail is located away from the Courts. the man power for transporting could be a serious issue.
- Because probation is an arm of the court and we work very closely, it is imperative that probation be co-located with the courts. Having other criminal justice partners located with the courts creates efficiency and expediency.
- no
- It is beneficial to have the Courts and Probation staff located within close proximity for communication and support.

# Features to Include in a New Campus

(each item had an average of 80.5 responses out of 82 possible)



- Openable Window for Ventilation
- Space for Witnesses to Wait Privately
- Secure hallways for staff away from litigants
- Offices for staff that cannot be seen into from the outside
- Food/dining options
- Bus stop with covered waiting area
- Space for attorneys to wait, make copies
- Zoom Booths

## Thoughts on Fullerton Pike Proposed Location?

(50 out of 82 folks provided comments)

- Any other thoughts on the proposed location on I69 and Fullerton Pike?
- Too far from town center to create an all-services type of campus.
- n/a
- I think the location will be more difficult for attorneys who put their offices downtown to be close to the court facilities. Additionally I think it will be more difficult for litigants who are homeless to get there.
- I think it could cause an issue when Defendants are released (especially the homeless population) with transportation from the jail (currently no buses run that far, and none run late at night when some are released/bonded).
- I think the location is incredibly convenient due to access of the interstate. Especially if the sheriff's office will be located on site.
- No easy access to the public, no nearby food providers, no ease of access for observers, community volunteers, family attempting to visit inmates, inmates being released in the middle of nowhere.

- Sounds like a horrible idea if all departments can not be at the location.
- none
- curry pike and east 46 would be better
- Too far away from other entities needed for day to day
- it is too far away from downtown. Too close to interstate. I think it is a bad option.
- If this location is to be considered, all aspects of travel for all involved in these cases need to be seriously considered.
- If jail gets relocated.... it only makes sense to put ALL of us together for continuity.
- It's not a place for releasing inmates, there are no resources there for them (nothing but maybe a bus stop), no access to walk-up restaurants for employees - we can't afford to order in lunch all the time, too far to drive home if we get a lunch "hour". We'd need a cafeteria/cafe type of option with many choices - there are many vegetarian/vegan & special dietary restricted employees. Will the complex be enclosed to prevent inmate escapes, enabled to be locked down in a crisis? Most of the legal offices in Monroe County are downtown because the Courts are downtown and it is convenient to walk to court from their locations. Will it be detrimental to downtown if the courts and administrative offices, along with all it's employees are removed? The businesses here will suffer.

- Need to stop and recollect our options and definitely not hurry into it. Just months ago it was brought up with a hard fist finally. But take a breather and look it all over. Talk to the Boots on the ground with any decision to do with the jail. The boots that hit the concrete are the ones that make it happen!
- The Jail can not be built without the other entities co locating together.
- Very far away from the courts
- That would be perfect
- This seems like a good location if bus services are available
- I support this location, but definitely needs to be on a bus route.
- I'd love to know why and how this location was chosen and who in the county benefitted from that choice.
- A bus stop would need to be near this new location. Many clients utilize the bus to come to court/probation/etc.

- secure parking and office access
- I believe it should be located closer to down town. The logistics of having it away from town would cost more in transporting inmates unless the jail was located on campus or the majority of hearing were held via zoom.
- N/A
- no
- Is it big enough? We really need to have a justice campus with all agencies in the same location. It is too difficult for the clients to find us if we are all spread out and they have to go to different locations for different things.
- Great location...especially regarding medical needs as it is close to Monroe Hosp
- N/A
- TRANSPORTATION-What is the plan for getting people to scheduled court hearings??

- Sounds like a great location.
- NA
- Fine by me.
- I have concerns about transportation and how defendants will be able to consistently travel to this location which is not currently served by public transit.
- There should be outdoor walking paths for staff to use with nice landscaping, There should be filtered water to refill water bottles. There should be natural lighting and clean air as well as adequate meeting rooms for conferences and full staff meetings
- Not at this time.
- Great area. A plan to incorporate transportation through Bloomington City Transit should be considered.
- Seems far away from the courts



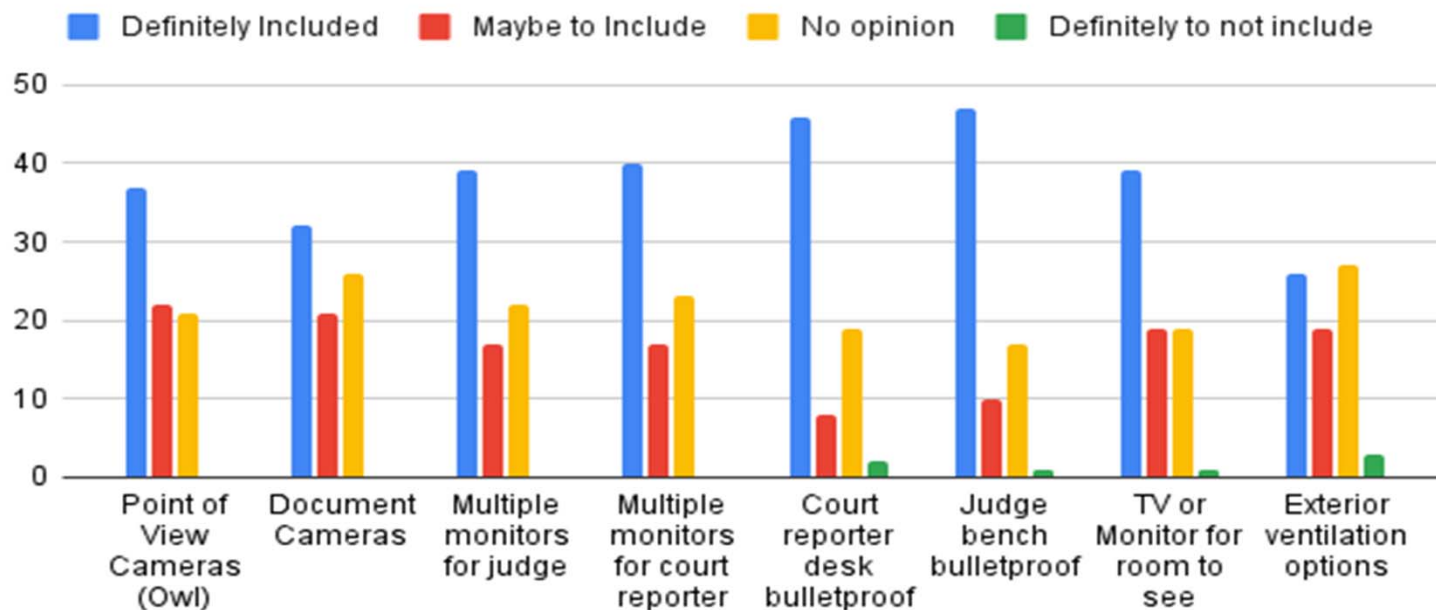
- n/a
- If it is just the jail, that is fine. Inmates have been transported to the courts in every other city I have worked for. It just takes a little scheduling and organization.
- There is concern that area is not centrally located. However, if there is a bus route, that would be less of an issue. Another concern is the actual amount of build-able acreage there is at that site. Will there be space to include adequate parking? Does it allow for a larger footprint than the current building? Will it allow for future expansion as needed for office space and services?
- In my opinion, being downtown is the perfect location. It's a central location and close to public transportation hubs. Ideally, the current facility should be updated or torn down and rebuilt.
- Not a desirable location, far from services, far for employees to travel
- If only the jail is relocated how will transport work? Will the courts have to schedule hearings differently to get inmates to appear? Is the County prepared to pay additional employees for a larger jail and transport officers?
- if the courts are separate from the jail i would be concerned about transporting inmates

- It would be nice to be located downtown, but there is very little (if any) space in the downtown area for what's needed in a criminal justice/legal system campus. As long as public transportation can be included in the plan to build at Fullerton Pike, other businesses and supportive services will begin to build around the area of the new campus. Being next to the highway also has some advantages.
- no
- If the jail is located at I69 and Fullerton Pike without the rest of the court system being co-located, inmates will have significant difficulty getting from jail to probation (including pretrial release), community corrections, and/or the public defenders office. They have difficulty getting there now and each of these offices are located within a block or two of the jail. Despite giving inmates a map that includes the address and phone number of each of these offices, they get confused and cannot find the office where they need to be. Aside from the co-location issue, it is very concerning that inmates will be released from the jail and not be within walking distance of Shalom, Centerstone, the homeless shelters, the Monroe County library (which many inmates use for information and some use to print bus tickets for out-of-town trips), and the Bus station. Additionally, if inmates are released in the middle of the night (which is not a rare circumstance), they may have no way of getting in to town or getting to a safe place for shelter. If an inmate was arrested in the summer and released when it is cold, he or she may not have appropriate clothing or footwear to be outside in the elements and the proposed jail location is not close to any place that he or she could get assistance.
- no

# Features for new Courtrooms?

(Each item has an average of 80.25 responses out of a possible 82)

Definitely Included, Maybe to Include, No opinion and Definitely to not include



# Suggestions for Courtrooms

(39 folks provided comments)

- Separation between public and in custody defendants.
- Copies and printer and scanner in every courtroom. Access to a private bathroom facility for court staff and judges.
- Adequate space between defense table and Court Reporter/Judge's Bench and better layout between attorney tables, jury box, and audience seating.
- Building security screening, should eliminate the need for bullet proof benches.
- Easier if each judge has their own courtroom for planning and coordination, with one extra courtroom for special judges and possible future growth.
- Better audio equipment.
- New chairs, equipment, and space between inmates and court reporters. I personally think inmates sit too close to court reporters.
- none
- none
- each court needs to have a courtroom. this will allow the courts to manage their own calendar and can move cases faster.

- Each courtroom should be able to have a jury box. Each courtroom should have a separate entrance for inmates to enter and a separate entrance for judges and court reporters to enter and exit, especially in case of an emergency.
- More space between the Court Reporter and the inmate.
- Climate controlled by the court room, not a computer off-location. We FREEZE in our courtroom while other are roasting in theirs. There is NO control over that. Larger desk for the court reporter station, ergonomic chairs, work stations, keyboards, etc. Printers & scanners in every court room (not a central printer out in a hallway), on-suite room for court reporters & judges to retreat to between hearings or for side-bar conversations. Private restroom(s) in secured hallway to the courtrooms for judges and court reporter use. Public restrooms are always disgusting in this building, people have been found drugged up in them, etc. Litigant tables further away from the court reporter/judge's bench (not much room to navigate between the table & our work area). Sufficient electric outlets for all appliances needed, added at litigant tables to allow for laptops/tables to be used by counsel. Better recording equipment. Sufficient, free, secured parking for ALL employees, including interns, special judges, pro tempore. Ventilation that doesn't lower or raise the temperature of the rooms as well.
- An emergency exit door for Judge and staff if needed
- better audio equipment
- work space for attorneys and probation officer to utilize when waiting for hearings
- None
- video court options for initial hearings

- N/A
- no
- No opinion
- N/A
- 1) a courtroom design that is conscious of overall flow of people  
 2) Space for client and attorneys to speak briefly without being right on top of each other.  
 3) Space so that victims don't have to be right next to their alleged attackers with only a piece of plexiglass separating them. Conversely, space so that offenders may not "sit tall" and communicate with family members, significant others etc in the gallery while awaiting for hearings to begin  
 4) Adequate storage for any supplies that would be needed for a court room (first aid supplies, office supplies, paperwork, resources etc)
- I am not an expert on heating and cooling, but I would recommend that someone collaborate with them to ensure the ventilation is at standard. I would not recommend that the inmates be a floor above the court system. I would also encourage the committee go look at the more modern style of jail to ensure they make data driven decisions and not base the design on economics. If we are sharing that we have many inmates who suffer from addiction and mental health issues, I would encourage the committee to take a look at how other jails address these current issues. They cannot lead this project from the Courthouse.
- no opinion

- I have no opinion about the court rooms
- Maybe a bailiff security station by each courtroom door to monitor who's coming in and out of the courtroom.
- Baliff or deputy on duty.
- N/A
- n/a
- There should be sufficient seating inside the courtrooms for plaintiffs, defendants, family, etc. unless there is an adequate waiting area outside the courtroom. Seating is also necessary (with desk space or chairs with small desks attached) for attorneys and probation officers.
- Two monitors for Court Reporters
- Escape route from courtroom to secure area in case of emergency.
- escape door behind judge's bench

- Courtrooms need to be larger in general and functional for their purpose. Natural light is nice to have and there are several questions about exterior windows to open for ventilation, but having windows that open creates safety issues for anyone on the ground level. There are also several questions about bulletproof benches, etc. and I agree there should be safety measures put in place for staff, but we should ensure that all entrances and egress are appropriately designed for safety to lessen the need for these items. Appropriate screening for everyone entering the buildings on campus is imperative. Having one (or very few) screening entrance points for all areas of a campus will aid in safety of everyone. On another note, there should be space for service navigators to provide help and referral information to anyone involved in the justice system and/or anyone who walks in the door.
- privacy glass in courtroom doors if windows privacy glass (bullet proof)
- Safe exit for the court reporters, judges, and attorneys to quickly leave the room if needed in a dangerous situation. Currently there is no safe way for judge, court reporters, attorneys, and observers to leave the courtroom in a dangerous situation. Do not have the prosecutor's seat in the courtroom be with their back to the door and the people in the gallery -- the prosecutor has no idea who or what may be going on behind them or if there may be a reason they need to move for their safety. There is also currently no safe way for the court reporters to leave their seat if a defendant from jail is causing an unsafe situation without the court reporter having to walk directly into where the jailed defendant is located. Courtrooms should also be ADA compliant for all parties, including judges.



# Other Suggestions

(36 folks out of 82 provided additional comments)

- The entire complex needs to be expandable for future needs, including staff and room/space for counsel and public defenders/private counsel.
- electrical outlets in all bathrooms.
- Charging stations throughout public areas like in Community Hospital North. A waiting area for the public. An onsite daycare for employees would be hugely beneficial. A small cafe for food/drink for the public and the employees.
- I think that it would make much more sense to build a whole new Court facility/complex instead of just a jail (or treatment facility). I believe that by not creating one location for all Courts, Prosecutors, Public Defender's, and Probation Officers with the jail, it would be creating more logistical problems than it would solve.  
I also think it would be incredibly stupid to build ONLY a treatment facility. While I do agree that we need a better treatment facility option, it makes zero sense to NOT have a jail. Yes, substance abuse issues result in a lot of crimes, but there are MANY that are NOT substance related. What about Domestic Abuse cases? Child Molestation cases? Murders? We NEED a new jail.

- If the facility is ultimately designed with a multi-purpose function that has a main entrance shared by the public. It must meet the security standards of the officers in charge of building security. That means doors and glass or lack of. There must also be a public announcement system for the building!!
- Juror waiting area/check in room away from public and inmates, larger rooms for jury deliberation, conference room(s)
- nope
- none
- The jail must be co-located. The County can find more bond money- the County would be wasting this opportunity if they do not co-locate.
- Transportation is a BIG issue for parties in cases and inmates when they are released. It will also be a problem for sheriff's office to transport to the court's if they are not co-located. ZOOM hearings are not reliable and should be done in person.
- Safety, continuity and space should be the main focus when building a new jail.

- Bigger restrooms that have exhaust FANS in them and storage options - most of the staff is female. The court offices need to come equipped with a fridge larger than a mini fridge. There are at least 4 people in each office (including a judge). If we move to a different campus with no food options, everyone has to bring their lunch. A mini fridge won't suffice. For the love of Pete don't put the inmates above any offices! They have caused so much damage stopping up drains, toilets, sinks...the offices call it "jail juice" and want to know if it's gray water or the "other" at this point. You can't have a phone conversation with litigants for the beating and screaming coming from the inmates upstairs which can last for weeks.
- parking, walking paths/ trails
- We have no large meetings room available, no extra office space, no break areas to sit and eat lunch. A decompression or regulation room for staff would be nice to have and have been implemented by other counties for their probation offices. Our waiting room needs to be bigger with space for clients to not be sitting right next to other clients.
- I think it would be nice for Probation and Community Corrections to be in the same building/location.
- None
- Current jail space is not efficient; with two tier system. A pod system would be more efficient. Mental health and Substance abuse pod's are important to address inmates needs.

- Regarding current space: Probation/CC has already out grown not only the space we are currently in but also the usefulness of the space. Community Corrections building is old and dated. Half the time equipment doesn't work and the HVAC system is miserable.

We are in the business of helping people change their lives and the office space is not always conducive to anyone making changes. As much as we've tried to fill the halls with change-oriented artifacts and make the buildings less institutional, the limited space and dated offices still lend themselves to an intimidating justice environment.

Additionally, it's disappointing that all of probation and community corrections cannot be in one space. It makes it very difficult to conduct business. We've had it this way for 20+ years so we've adapted but I do believe we have missed out on opportunities for networking and learning by being spread across two buildings and multiple city blocks. Probation Officers best serve clients when employees can staff cases, observe each other, and practice cognitive behavioral interventions together. Right now, we are so siloed between the buildings that we can go weeks without seeing the staff in the "other building".

We also desperately need classroom/conference meeting space. We have necessary and vital trainings and learning opportunities throughout the year which are currently impossible to do all together because not everyone can fit in one meeting space. This wastes not only networking time but also resources by having to buy double or triple the trainer, the materials, food, and renting space offsite.

- Would like for it to be a true and total Justice Center
- I'm hoping this jail will be utilized as a place to house Defendants in need of mental health and substance treatment, instead of just releasing Defendant's who are a high risk to themselves and residence of the community, untreated and dangerous. There is an opportunity to help Defendant's that in the past who keep committing crimes due to long term substance issues and untreated mental health needs. No more releasing people due to "jail overcrowding" . This jail should be designed to hold Defendant's for their full sentences if needed...no more early inmate releases due to lack of space or resources.
- Probation and Community Corrections needs more space. These departments have outgrown their locations.
- N/A
- no opinion
- I believe a nice new space encourages a much more positive mindset for employees as well as for members of the public. The current facilities are run down, deteriorating and downtrodden. There should be enough employee parking for all staff to park.
- No

- Our current space is pitiful and an insult to the employees, staff, inmates, and their families. A campus which includes recreational area for the inmates, family visitation areas, and quick access to public defenders, probation officers, courtrooms would be the perfect solution.
- N/A
- n/a
- The current jail has inadequate space - even when the population is kept under mandatory minimums. The plumbing system has been a repeated issue that has directly impacted the Courts in a negative way in terms of contamination, water damage, and health concerns.

- As I previously mentioned, I cannot see a new jail that doesn't include Courts, Prosecutors, Public Defenders, Probation, Community Corrections, and the Clerk. I With Monroe County supporting evidence based practices and looking for alternatives to incarceration, I see the Probation Department needing more space as we begin to grow services and staff. In particular with my job, I believe it is critical that Probation have space within the jail to complete interviews for Pre-Sentence Investigations.

The Probation Department conducts programs internally, such as Substance Abuse Education. In addition, we provide outside agencies space to meet with department clients. It is crucial that space be included for this to continue. Ideally, a new probation space would have a mixture of large and small rooms to allow for meetings, classes, and trainings.

I would recommend a room big enough to hold all staff meetings and smaller rooms to utilize for programming with clients.

- Something has to be done about current Justice Building. Unsafe working conditions. Floods are common, mold must be everywhere. No adequate evacuation plan.

- if there aren't any restaurants nearby then a large shared kitchen would be helpful.
- Probation and community corrections need to be with the courts, jail, and a part of any justice campus space. We currently do not have adequate space. Anything built needs to address space issues and growth over the next 50-60 years and needs to include all probation staff in one building. Thus, buildings need to be built with future expansion in mind and/or created with the additional space for growth already developed. It is extremely important that probation has adequate space for programming and all the services we provide now and what may be developed in the future. We need several large classroom spaces (perhaps a very large space that could be divided with temporary walls), smaller meeting spaces for families, case conferences, divisional staff meetings, and group orientations. We need several conference rooms and communal spaces so we can invite service providers into the space so clients can engage in services quickly and seamlessly. We need to have work spaces and drop in services for clients to be able to come in and work on anything that will promote positive changes (resume writing, homework, etc.). There are models we should begin to look at that have space created as a community justice support center (Boston) where those who are justice involved can receive the services and programming they need.
- locked areas for staff hide if active shooter situation
- The current space has some visibility concerns for the lobby area/waiting area and sound barriers that can make communication difficult.





QUESTIONS?