

NAPA COUNTY
RESPONSE TO THE GRAND JURY FINAL REPORT ON
NEW NAPA COUNTY JAIL
WHO'S PAYING FOR ALL OF THIS?

August 14, 2018

Findings

Finding 1: The new jail and Re-entry Facility Construction timelines and funding have been and continue to be confusing to the public.

Response, Board of Supervisors: The Board of Supervisors disagrees with the finding. Timelines and funding for construction of the Re-entry Facility and new jail have been the subject of discussion at several public meetings of the Board of Supervisors allowing opportunity for the public to remain engaged and informed. In addition to the August 14, 2018 comprehensive discussion of the Re-entry Facility and the jail, the other most recent discussion occurred on May 15, 2018, at which time a chronology of both projects was provided to the Board and the public. Based on previous direction from the Board, staff is developing additional information about funding, project timing and progress and will be posting this on the County's public website to extend opportunities for public access to information.

Finding 2: Funding and financial instruments for the new jail are complicated; the taxpayers are not fully informed of funding sources and the effects of the options.

Response, Board of Supervisors: The Board of Supervisors disagrees with the finding. Funding and financial instruments for the new jail have been the subject of discussion at several public meetings of the Board of Supervisors allowing opportunity for the public to remain engaged and informed. In addition, the County Executive Officer and the Auditor-Controller have met with members of the Taxpayer's Association as well as members of the nonprofit community to discuss funding for the new jail. Based on previous direction from the Board, staff is developing additional information about project funding and will be posting this on the County's public website to extend opportunities for public access to information.

Finding 3: The Re-entry Facility will assist inmates transitioning back to the community.

Invited Response, Acting Director of Corrections: The Acting Director of Corrections agrees with the finding. The County 72-bed Re-entry Facility collaboration between Corrections and Probation is on track for completion in November 2018. It is anticipated that there will be a "soft" opening of the facility in mid-December. The vision for the facility is an environment that fosters cognitive behavioral changes and allows clients to build a solid foundation for transition back into the community. Upon processing into the jail, detainees eligible for programming, and

who meet the jail classification and Probation risk assessment requirements would be moved from the main jail and into the Re-entry Facility.

While at the Re-entry Facility, each client will be assigned a Probation case manager who would work with them to develop a needs assessment that addresses their rehabilitation plan and prepares them for life outside of confinement, and reduces the likelihood that they will return to custody. Program participants will be required to participate in employment readiness training, job search assistance, educational goals, as well as evidence based cognitive behavioral groups. Participants will also be offered programs which focus on GED preparation and testing, anger management, parenting classes, life skills, individual counseling, criminal thinking and substance abuse treatment. In support of the re-entry goals, opportunities to participate in pro-social activities and learn how to engage with their peers without engaging in disruptive behavior will also be offered.

Many of these programs will be offered in-house at the facility, but clients may also be directed to social services, non-profits or other community-based organizations to augment their programming. The case manager will also assist residents by helping them apply for qualifying social services, employment readiness, community based vocational programs, and housing assistance programs or services for continuum of care for mental health needs as they prepare for pre-release.

Response, Board of Supervisors: The Board of Supervisors agrees with the finding.

Recommendations

Recommendation 1: Napa County Board of Supervisors direct appropriate staff to produce a dedicated, easily-accessible timeline on the County website that informs Napa County residents of the progress and funding of the jail by October 1, 2018.

Response, Board of Supervisors: The recommendation has not been implemented, but will be implemented by the recommended date of October 1, 2018, based on prior direction from the Board.

Recommendation 2: The Board of Supervisors generate greater publicity for all proposed funding sources of financing, holding public hearings throughout the County to justify the need and rationale for the use of particular funding mechanisms by October 1, 2018.

Response, Board of Supervisors: The recommendation will not be implemented because it is not warranted. Public meetings will continue to be held by the Board of Supervisors and televised on Napa Valley TV Channel 28. In addition, information about the jail project and its financing will be posted on the County's public website.