



ARAPAHOE COUNTY
COLORADO'S FIRST

Nancy Jackson
County Commissioner District 4

COMMISSIONERS' OFFICE
5334 South Prince Street
Littleton, Colorado 80120-1136
Phone: 303-795-4630
Fax: 303-738-7894
Relay Colorado: 711
www.arapahoegov.com
njackson@arapahoegov.com

Handout for Arapahoe County Briefing to Interim Legislative Council, July 17, 2017

Arapahoe County **assessment** of Public Safety System was completed in spring of 2017 in order to provide safe and secure facilities which the County is required to fund:

- **Immediate and future needs:**

- Courthouse/Judicial Center

- Request from Chief Judge to construct a new courthouse complex to alleviate space, security, efficiency, modernization and maintenance issues
- County also considering project to only expand/modernize existing complex
- Would include an expansion to the existing District Attorney building or relocation of the District Attorney back to the Judicial Center
- **Cost estimates:**
 - **Capital costs: range from \$251-\$355 million**
 - **Operating costs: approximately \$4 million per year additional**

- Jail/Detention Center

- The current booking and release facilities in existing jail are inadequate to meet safety needs of the Sheriff's Office
- Despite a lower average daily population in the jail, the number of bookings and releases has continued to rise and creates safety and efficiency problems in current facility
- Proposal to expand the current detention facility with the construction of a booking and release center
 - **Cost estimates:**
 - **Capital costs: approximately \$64 million**
 - **Operating costs: estimated at \$1.5 to \$2 million per year additional**
- At some point in the future, the 30-year old jail will need to be replaced but timing and cost estimates have not been calculated at this point
- Continued use of the facility at a capacity that is more than it was designed for has put stress on the infrastructure of the facility and led to maintenance issues
- Significant maintenance expenditures on the current detention facility are needed to keep it in good operating condition

- **Programs to Alleviate Issues:**
 - Courthouse
 - Spent over \$14 million on constructing additional courtrooms in the Justice Center and moved Judicial Services, Probation, and District Attorney to other nearby facilities that were also County-purchased for about \$16 million
 - Established a **Justice Coordinating Committee** that has worked to implement measures to decrease the jail population, increase alternative sentencing, increasing participation in the work release program, and decreasing failures to appear for court dates
 - Detention Facility
 - Increased jail capacity through the reconfiguration of some pods and dayrooms within the current facility as well as implementing triple-bunking in cells
 - Increased efficiency measures including increased work release program
- **What is on wish list?**
 - Courthouse
 - **Replacement of Judicial Complex rather than expansion and modernization**
 - **Movement of District Attorney's Office** back to Judicial complex rather than continue at the current off-site location
 - Both of above add **about \$100 million to the \$250 million cost for expansion and modernization**
 - Jail/Detention Facility
 - Construction of a **detoxification facility at a cost of \$8.2 million**
 - Construction of **additional facility for the RISE program at a cost of \$10.7 million**
 - Longer-term horizon – potential replacement of the existing detention facility that was constructed in 1987
- **Budgetary Restraints:**
 - These facilities are very large and expensive to construct and operate
 - **Total costs of construction:**
 - Courthouse - \$250-350 million, depending on options
 - Jail/Detention Facility - \$64-84 million, depending on options
 - **Debt service costs** for construction on an annual basis:
 - Courthouse: \$20-30 million per year
 - Jail/Detention Facility: \$5-6.5 million per year
 - Estimated annual **operating** costs for these facilities:
 - Courthouse: about \$4 million per year
 - Jail/Detention Facility: \$1.5-2 million per year
 - Annual revenue streams are inadequate to fund these increased amounts on an annual basis:
 - Annual County property tax collections of approx. \$125 million Tabor Limited

Arapahoe County Detention Facility May Releases - Length of Stay in Days

