

A RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR'S REVISED PUBLIC SAFETY & JUSTICE RECOMMENDATION AND AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR TO TAKE ALL ACTION NEEDED TO IMPLEMENT THE RECOMMENDATION

WASHTENAW COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

August 3, 2005

WHEREAS, the public safety and justice system in Washtenaw County is badly in need of capital, infrastructure, safety and operational upgrades; and

WHEREAS, the County jail has been chronically overcrowded for the past several years, resulting in the statutorily mandated early release of inmates from the jail, including both misdemeanants and felons; and

WHEREAS, the 14-A District court at the County's Service Center is an unsecured facility that must be replaced; and

WHEREAS, the key members of the County's public safety and justice system have been meeting at the Criminal Justice Collaborative Counsel ("CJCC") to address these issues; and

WHEREAS, in the fall of 2004, the CJCC recommended a comprehensive long-term solution to the problems facing the County's public safety and justice system consisting of (1) expanding the bed capacity in the County jail; (2) upgrading the court system by locating the 14-A District Court in the Huron Valley Ambulance building located at the Service Center, once HVA moves to its new facility; (3) improving the infrastructure and security for existing facilities within the system; and (4) implementing programming and diversion programs, including mental health diversion programs and the construction of a Probation Residential Center; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners adopted the CJCC's recommendation and placed a County-wide millage request of .75 mills for twenty years on the February 22, 2005 ballot to fund these recommendations; and

WHEREAS, this millage request was defeated by Washtenaw County voters; and

WHEREAS, on April 6, 2005, the County Administrator presented a Revised Public Safety and Justice recommendation to the Board of Commissioners at their Working Session ; and

WHEREAS, the key players within the Public Safety and Justice community in the County have reviewed and commented on the Revised Recommendation; and

WHEREAS, as a result of this input, the Administrator has revised his April 6, 2005 proposal and is now recommending the following actions be taken: (1) expand the County jail by 96 beds along with the additional operational costs needed to operate the expanded jail; (2) build a Probation Residential Center at the County's Service Center on Hogback Road; (3) provide \$1 million dollars for annual operating expenses for mental health diversion programming, including annual police training on mental health issues and the creation of an Assertive Community Treatment ("ACT") program specifically designed to deal with potential inmates with mental health issues; (4) build a scaled back version of the 14-A District court with one courtroom, a hearing room, judge's chambers, staff space and records storage in the HVA facility on Hogback Road once HVA moves to its new location in Pittsfield Township; and (5) provide security upgrades for the existing 14-A District Court, new 14-A District Court,

Downtown Ann Arbor Courthouse and the Juvenile Court Facility on Platt Road; and

WHEREAS, the Administrator's Revised Public Safety and Justice Recommendation reduces the capital costs of the requested upgrades from \$48 million dollars under the original CJCC Recommendation to \$26.4 million with operating costs being reduced from \$8 million to \$3.0 million dollars; and

WHEREAS, it is proposed that the \$26.4 million dollars in capital costs to implement the Administrator's recommendation be paid for by a bond issue to be repaid over 20 years; and

WHEREAS, the County has determined that it would be more cost efficient to include the proposed Saline District Court costs (approximately \$2.4 million dollars) in this bond issue rather than bonding for it as a stand-alone project at a later date; and

WHEREAS, adding the Saline Court costs, along with contingency costs and bonding fees would require a total bond of approximately ~~\$32.5~~ **\$29.9** million dollars, to be repaid over an 20 year period; and

WHEREAS, programmatic and operational costs related to the Recommendation will be paid from savings realized by the County from its new police service methodology to be implemented in the County contracts with the local contracting governmental entities; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners will create the Public Safety and Justice Oversight Committee to be comprised of the following positions: (1) Chair of the Board of Commissioners – Wes Prater; (2) County Administrator – Bob Guenzel; (3) Chief Judge of the 22nd Judicial Circuit Court – Archie Brown; (4) Chief Judge of the 14A District Court – J. Cedric Simpson; and (5) County Sheriff – Dan Minzey, whose duty shall be to oversee the construction of the capital projects in the Recommendation, including, the review and approval of contracts, bills and other documents relating to the construction of such projects and to select an architect or architects to design such projects, after having reviewed the recommendation of the County's Architect Selection Committee; and

WHEREAS, this matter has been reviewed by Corporation Counsel, the County Administrator's office and the Ways & Means Committee

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Washtenaw County Board of Commissioners adopts the County's Administrator's Revised Public Safety and Justice Recommendation consisting of the following actions: (1) expand the County jail by 96 beds along with the additional operational costs needed to operate the expanded jail; (2) build a Probation Residential Center at the County's Service Center on Hogback Road, along with the additional operational costs needed to operate the PRC; (3) provide \$1 million dollars for annual operating expenses for mental health diversion programming, including annual police training on mental health issues and the creation of an Assertive Community Treatment ("ACT") program specifically designed to deal with potential inmates with mental health issues; (4) build a scaled back version of the 14-A District court with one courtroom, a hearing room, judge's chambers, staff space and records storage in the HVA facility on Hogback Road once HVA moves to its new location in Pittsfield Township; and (5) provide security upgrades for the existing 14-A District Court, new 14-A District Court, Downtown Ann Arbor Courthouse and the Juvenile Court Facility on Platt Road

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners approves the construction of the proposed Saline Court, with the costs of such project to be added to

the capital costs of the Administrator's Revised Public Safety & Justice Recommendation.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners authorizes the funding of these capital projects by a bond issue of approximately ~~\$32.5~~ **\$29.9** million dollars for 20 years with the debt service on that bond to be paid for from the savings realized by the County from its new police service methodology to be implemented in the County contracts with the local contracting governmental entities for the 2006-2009 period, as well as annual payments of \$140,000 per year from the Public Improvement Fund which funds shall be used to pay that portion of the debt service for the Saline Court.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners authorizes the funding of programmatic and operational costs associated with the Recommendation be funded by the savings realized by the County from its new police service methodology to be implemented in the County contracts with the local contracting governmental entities.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners creates the Public Safety and Justice Oversight Committee to be comprised of the following positions: (1) Chair of the Board of Commissioners-Wes Prater; (2) County Administrator-Bob Guenzel; (3) Chief Judge of the 22nd Judicial Circuit Court-Archie Brown; (4) Chief Judge of the 14A District Court-J. Cedric Simpson; and (5) County Sheriff-Dan Minzey.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Public Safety and Justice Oversight Committee shall be charged with overseeing the construction of the capital projects contained in the County Administrator's Recommendation. It shall have the power to review and approve contracts, bills and any other documents related to the capital projects in the Administrator's Recommendation. Further, it shall have the power to choose an architect or architects to design such capital projects, after reviewing the recommendation of the County's Architect Selection Committee. Finally, the County's Finance Director, Facilities Management Director and Corporation Counsel shall serve as staff for the Committee.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Washtenaw County Board of Commissioners authorizes the County Administrator to take all steps necessary to implement the Revised Public Safety and Justice Recommendation.