



Vigo County Council

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June 28, 2017

Vigo County Commissioners
650 South 1st Street
Terre Haute, IN 47807

As we continue through the process of determining the necessary funding for a new security center in Vigo County, it is apparent there are additional questions of the Council and the public. I have reached out to my fellow council members to compile a list of our top questions to submit to you. I would appreciate it if you could respond to the following questions:

1. What is your current timeline for the project and the ramifications of not meeting the timeline or specific benchmarks?
2. Please fully disclose the process used in selecting DLZ for the needs assessment study and the architectural contract as well as Garmong for the construction manager contract. Please provide the contact information for each along with the individual charged with the project oversight.
3. Would you be in support of having an independent needs assessment conducted?
4. Have you reviewed options for the facility at various cost points such as \$35 million, \$45 million, and \$60 million? If so, please share results.
5. The Commissioners have mentioned multiple times there have been revisions to the preliminary design.
 - a. Based on the revisions, what is the cost per bed?
 - b. Does the inclusion of a classroom inside each jail pod remain in the latest jail design? What types of programs are being envisioned for these classrooms?
 - c. Are there dedicated pods for mentally ill inmates? If so, how many beds are proposed, and what is the anticipated availability of mental health professionals for those inmates?
 - d. Will the Council see the final building plans before being asked to fund said plan?
6. Please explain the feasibility of the Jail and Sheriff administrative offices to be housed in a multi-level facility with the jail on one level and administrative offices on upper levels? If it is feasible, what are the estimated acreage requirements?
7. Is the 13th and Hulman property completely ruled out as a potential location for the jail? If so, why? Reports indicate there are 8-10 acres of clean ground on the north end of the property which could support at least the initial project size, with the opportunity to remediate additional land as the need for expansion may be created.

8. Please identify Vigo County's cost obligation to fund the proposed jail in terms of personnel, transportation costs, liability/insurance, utilities, and other standard jail costs. What will the difference be in operating costs for the new jail compared to the current jail?
9. Please identify Vigo County's cost obligation to fund the use of the existing jail once the new jail has been made operational.
 - a. Will the existing jail continue to be used to house inmates? Where will inmates be housed after they have been transported to the Vigo County Courthouse from the new jail?
 - b. Who will supervise these inmates? Will additional officers be needed at the courthouse once the new jail becomes operational?
 - c. Will any renovation be required if repurposed? If so, what are the anticipated renovation costs?
 - d. What are the anticipated annual operating costs if the existing jail will be continued to be used?

I anticipate there will be more questions of the Council and it is important the questions be answered to move forward with the funding of any project associated with the construction or renovation of the Jail.

Sincerely,

Bill Thomas
Vigo County Council President

Cc: Members of the Vigo County Council
Robert Effner, Council Attorney
Kylissa Miller, Council Administrator
Michael Wright, County Attorney