



*A typical jail cell, is designed to be clean and secure, but not comfortable.*

**Q. How did you come up with the number of beds needed?**

A. The County hired Shive-Hattery, an architectural/engineering firm with expertise in jail planning and design, most recently having worked in Faulk County South Dakota, to look at Lake County's inmate history and trends, and to objectively determine the number of beds Lake County will need for 20-30 years out. The final report determined that Lake County would need 60 to 72 beds to accommodate the inmate housing needs, 30 years in the future. Understanding this projection is based on current conditions that could change, the decision was made to provide a 72- bed facility now instead of absorbing an estimated 30% cost increase later.

<sup>1</sup>Lake County currently has arrangements with Moody and Miner Counties, to house their inmates as well.

**Q. How will this plan benefit the citizens of Lake County?**

- A. Improved Safety and Security: Locating the new law enforcement center at the Lakeview Industrial Park, provides excellent highway access to better serve the county. In addition to providing the ability to classify/separate inmates by risk, the new jail will provide an improved secure perimeter, reducing greatly the risk of escape.
- B. Decreased Liability Risk
  - Protect the County from lawsuits for failing to provide minimum jail standards for housing prisoners.
  - Provide handicap accessibility of the PSB. Improving public access for all citizens of Lake County.
- C. Shared cost. The County will be in a stronger position to continue providing inmate housing to Moody and Miner counties with a new jail meeting minimum jail standards. Additionally, Lake County may have increased opportunity to provide housing for other county inmates as well, with Minnehaha's decision to discontinue housing of surrounding county inmates. This added revenue could allow us to **PAY OFF OUR BOND EARLY!**

**Q. How much will this Project cost? Is this the entire project cost?**

A. The estimated project cost for the new Public Safety Center, with jail and renovation of the PSB has been estimated at \$15,621,785. Our recently hired Construction Manager, Henry Carlson Construction, out of Sioux Falls, has worked with our architect, Shive-Hattery, on jail projects before and has provided the above estimate as a Guaranteed Maximum Price (GMP). *This will include everything:* construction, professional fees, furniture, locks, cameras, security systems, door controls, detention equipment, etc.

## The Facts about the proposed Lake County Public Safety Center Safety – Security - Liability Protection

If you have more questions  
please contact one of your Lake

**County Commissioners:**  
**Kelli Wollmann 483-3366**  
**Roger Hageman 485-2247**  
**Aaron Johnson 695-0847**  
**Deb Reinicke 256-4621**  
**Dennis Slaughter 256-4662**

Or

**Lake County Sheriff**  
**Tim Walburg 256-7615**



**Q. What is the current situation?**

A. The current Lake County Public Safety Building (PSB) was constructed in 1976 and contains: Lake County Sheriff’s Office, 24-bed/Jail, E-911 / Communications (Training and Emergency Response Center) and State’s Attorney offices, and Buildings and Grounds. Until the recent replacement of the PSB’s HVAC system, the PSB had suffered from years of deferred maintenance and lack of updates, leading to several areas of concern, including:

- Lack of handicap accessibility for the basement or second floor.
- Significant inmate population increase as a result of SB 70 and Minnehaha County no longer housing out-of-county inmates.
- The current jail does not meet minimum building code requirements for jails including:
  - Lack of sprinkler system
  - Lack of smoke evacuation system
- Plumbing issues under the jail cells.
- Inadequate law enforcement area.
- Liability to accommodate planned growth for:
  - 911/Communications
  - State’s Attorney
  - Emergency Response Center and Training

These conditions contribute to operational and liability concerns, for Lake County residents.

**Q. So what is being proposed?**

A. New Sheriff’s Office and 72-bed jail, and re-use of the existing Public Safety Building. It is the County’s intent that the entire project will conform to modern life safety standards, and the jail portion will conform to minimum ACA (American Correctional Association) standards, allowing for multiple classification of inmates (i.e. male, female, pretrial, adjudicated, etc.) The county has formed a Public Safety Building Advisory Committee (PSBAC) made up of county officials and concerned citizens representing a cross-section of the county residents. Collectively, this committee has reviewed the issues and arrived at this proposed solution.

**Need:**

**Q. Why should we build better quarters for prisoners?**

A. We are not building better quarters for the prisoners. We are providing a safer work environment for our officers and liability protection for the County. The new jail will be made of concrete, block and steel. The average prisoner cell is 75 sf (7’0” x 10’6”) with two steel bunks, a steel combination toilet and sink with a small steel desk and seat permanently attached to the wall. The facility being proposed meets <sup>1</sup>ACA (American Correctional Association) minimum requirements for jails. (See picture on back of this flyer.)

<sup>1</sup>South Dakota does not currently have jail standards. In lieu of state jail standards most counties opt to use nationally recognized ACA standards, to increase safety and provide added liability protection.

**Q. What’s being planned to address the accessibility concerns?**

A. The existing PSB remodel work includes adding a public elevator to provide handicap accessibility. The new law enforcement center and jail will be designed to comply with current ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) accessibility requirements.

**Q. How will this impact our historic courthouse square?**

A. The proposed changes will actually improve the appearance of our historic courthouse square. Moving the jail and sheriff’s office off the square includes removing the current secure outdoor recreation yard east of the courthouse. This will expand the green space, and inmates in jail uniforms will no longer be seen behind the razor ribbon fences.

**Q. What kind of renovation work is being planned?**

- A. The existing PSB will be renovated to include:
- Removing existing jail cells, repairing of below slab plumbing issues and remodeling to provide expanded space for the growing 911-Communications needs.
  - Emergency Management will have an expanded Training and Emergency Response Center, including space for back-up 911-Communications and Public Meetings.
  - Expanded State’s Attorney space providing better public access and storage of sensitive materials.
  - The existing booking/holding area will remain for regular court days for prisoner holding.

**Q. How will we pay for the new Public Safety Center and PSB remodeling?**

A. The County is working with Dougherty & Company on financing of the project. The proposed financing is General Obligation Bonds for 20-years, or until paid off, and assumes an “A” rating. **To figure your tax impact, property value divide by 1,000 and multiple that by \$.71.**

Annual Estimated 2019 Property Tax Impact Valuation	
<u>Taxable</u>	<u>Impact</u>
\$50,000	\$35.69
\$75,000	\$53.53
\$100,000	\$71.38
\$125,000	\$89.22
\$150,000	\$107.07
\$175,000	\$124.91
\$200,000	\$142.75
\$300,000	\$214.13
\$400,000	\$285.51