

**COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO  
CALIFORNIA**

For the Agenda of:  
September 14, 2006

To: Board of Supervisors

From: Sheriff's Department

Subject: REPORT BACK – Efforts to Address Prisoner Overcrowding Issues

Contact: Gene Webb, Chief Departmental Administrative Services, 874-6235

**Overview**

This document provides the requested information concerning efforts to address prisoner overcrowding issues within the Sacramento County Jails.

**Recommendation**

That the Board receive and file this requested information.

**Measures/Evaluation**

Not applicable

**Fiscal Impact**

This report back has no fiscal impact on either the General Fund or any other Fund.

**BACKGROUND:**

Overcrowding within the Sacramento County jails continues to be a problem. As previously reported, the Average Daily Population (ADP) increased from 3164 inmates in 2000 to 4239 inmates in 2005, an increase of approximately 34%. While the ADP of the Main Jail over the past four years has been fairly constant, hovering near its capacity of 2400 inmates, the majority of the inmate population increase has occurred at the Rio Cosumnes Correctional Center.

The ADP of the Rio Cosumnes Correctional Center drastically increased from 1184 inmates in 2000 to 1914 inmates in 2005, an increase of approximately 62%. Through August of 2006, the ADP at the Rio Cosumnes Correctional Center is 2005 inmates, an additional increase of approximately 5% from the previous year. As noted by the Corrections Standards Authority, formerly known as the California State Board of Corrections, this facility is designed to hold only 1625 inmates. As it stands, the Department is almost completely out of available bed space at both jail facilities.

The County has taken significant action in Fiscal Years 2005/2006 and 2006/2007 to address the overcrowding issue. The following table shows the resources which have been applied, recommended and requested:

<b>Resources Applied to Corrections in Fiscal Years 2005/2006 &amp; 2006/2007</b>			
<b>Item</b>	<b>Added FTE</b>	<b>Added \$ in Millions</b>	<b>Added Bed Space</b>
<b>Actions already taken by the County</b>			
Approve Renovation of Roger Bauman Facility (scheduled completion Feb 2007)		\$2.4	225
Additional Sworn positions added for RBF reopening (4 Sergeants & 18 Deputies)	22.0	\$2.6	
<b>Total additional resources already applied</b>	<b>22.0</b>	<b>\$5.0</b>	<b>225</b>
<b>Additional resources requested by Sheriff &amp; recommended by CEO</b>			
Sworn personnel for command and control (2 Lieutenants & 6 Sergeants)	8.0	\$1.3	
Correctional Health Professional Services for Forensic Testing		\$0.4	
Closed Circuit Monitoring System (\$1.5M for RCCC & \$0.5M for MJ)		\$2.0	
<b>Total additional resources recommended</b>	<b>8.0</b>	<b>\$3.7</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Additional resources requested by Sheriff</b>			
Sworn positions for corrections support (4 deputies for MJ sick call & 6 deputies for RCCC Honors barracks)	10.0	\$1.0	
Non-sworn Correctional Health Positions for RCCC (1 Nurse Practitioner, 7 Registered Nurses, and 1 Office Assistant)	9.0	\$0.9	
<b>Total additional resources requested</b>	<b>19.0</b>	<b>\$1.9</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Grand Total of Resources applied, recommended, &amp; requested</b>	<b>49.0</b>	<b>\$10.6</b>	<b>225</b>

The Sheriff's Department has also attempted to alleviate some of the overcrowding issues through increased inmate participation in the Work Project program. While the increased participation has freed up bed space in the jails, it has also had a negative impact on the community. In order to release more inmates into the Work Project program, the Department had to lower the program selection criteria and standards. This has ultimately resulted in more inmates failing to complete their Work Project sentences, and more arrest warrants being issued.

The Adult Facilities Planning and Operations Committee (AFPOC), that meets monthly, continues to discuss the issues of jail overcrowding and facility expansion. Members of the committee, which includes the Sheriff's Department, the County Executive's office, the Probation Department, the District Attorney and Public Defenders office, and General Services have also discussed and toured pre-fabricated jail facilities in use by other counties. These pre-cast facilities allow for jail expansion at a fraction of the time and cost involved in traditional jail construction. This may well be the best approach to providing additional bed space fairly quickly since the available bed space will be exhausted by December 2008 if the ADP continues to grow at an annual rate of 5-7%.

Immediately following the Los Angeles County jail riots earlier this year, the Sheriff's Department drastically increased staffing in minimum security (honor side) of RCCC by utilizing officers on overtime. As little as four officers previously supervised this area, which houses approximately 600 inmates. Since implementing the overtime officers, eight to nine officers now supervise the minimum-security inmates, effectively providing increased security and supervision while lowering the inmate to officer ratio. Additional staffing shortages experienced in Corrections are attributed primarily to recruitment and retention issues, which the Sheriff's Department is addressing.

As shown in the matrix table, the Sheriff's Department is also planning to utilize increased electronic surveillance to compensate for the increased inmate population and lack of increased officer staffing. The CCTV recorded video project at the Main Jail will be expanded and enhanced, while a new CCTV recorded video project will be installed at RCCC. Currently, no recorded video exists anywhere in RCCC, and video monitoring is extremely limited. In fact, there is no video monitoring anywhere in minimum security, the area that has the least direct supervision by officers. Cameras will allow the officers to view numerous inmates from a central control point, reducing the need for increased staffing for direct inmate supervision. The Department is proceeding forward with the installation of a CCTV video recording and surveillance project at RCCC, which is expect to cost approximately \$1.5 million – funds that will be borne by the Inmate Welfare Fund.

**DISCUSSION:**

The Sheriff's Department has recommended that the Board of Supervisors receive and file this information.

**MEASURES/EVALUATION:**

None

**FINANCIAL ANALYSIS:**

This report back has no fiscal Impact on either the General Fund or any other Fund.

Respectfully submitted,

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JOHN MCGINNESS, Sheriff  
Sacramento County Sheriff's Department

CONCUR:  
TERRY SCHUTTEN  
County Executive

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
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