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Why is Itasca County investing in a new Justice Center?

Due to aging infrastructure and its outdated design, the Itasca County Jail is no longer able to meet several standards for health and safety set by



Rendering courtesy of Klein McCarthy

Architects

Corrections (DOC). As a result, the DOC issued a Notice of Deficiency to the Itasca County Sheriff in 2018 and ordered the county to develop a plan to provide a compliant jail facility by Fall of 2023.

In addition, the county's court facilities - which are attached to the jail - have been deemed unsafe and deficient by Itasca County judges and the Ninth Judicial District. The courts face similar challenges to the jail, including inadequate security, failing infrastructure, and courtrooms that are too small to handle increased caseloads.

After studying ways to address the current facility deficiencies and gathering community input, Itasca County commissioners developed and approved a plan to build a new jail and court facility. Construction has already begun, and is on schedule to be completed by Fall 2024.

This website is intended to help residents of Itasca County learn more about the Itasca County Justice Center project and make an informed decision in the referendum on November 8, 2022.

What happens next?



The construction of the Itasca County Justice Center is already underway to meet the 2023 jail sunset deadline set by the DOC.

During the November 8, 2022 election,

finance the project by voting on a 1% local option sales tax. If voters reject the sales tax, the project will be funded via a general property tax increase.

Learn more about the proposed sales tax

Learn more about the planned Justice Center



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Prepared and paid for by Itasca County

123 NE 4th Street Grand Rapids, MN 55744

This website is not circulated on behalf of any candidate or ballot question.

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