

Office of the Sheriff

SANTA BARBARA COUNTY

STATIONS

Buellton
140 W. Highway 246
Buellton, CA 93427
Phone (805) 686-8150

Carpinteria
5775 Carpinteria Avenue
Carpinteria, CA 93013
Phone (805) 684-4561

Isla Vista
6504 Trigo Road
Isla Vista, CA 93117
Phone (805) 681-4179

Lompoc
3500 Harris Grade Road
Lompoc, CA 93436
Phone (805) 737-7737

New Cuyama
70 Newsome Street
New Cuyama, CA 93254
Phone (661) 766-2310

Santa Maria
812-A W. Foster Road
Santa Maria, CA 93455
Phone (805) 934-6150

Solvang
1745 Mission Drive
Solvang, CA 93463
Phone (805) 686-5000

Sheriff - Coroner Office
66 S. San Antonio Road
Santa Barbara, CA 93110
Phone (805) 681-4145

Main Jail
4436 Calle Real
Santa Barbara, CA 93110
Phone (805) 681-4260

COURT SERVICES CIVIL OFFICES

Santa Barbara
1105 Santa Barbara Street
P.O. Box 690
Santa Barbara, CA 93102
Phone (805) 568-2900

Santa Maria
312 E. Cook Street, "O"
P.O. Box 5049
Santa Maria, CA 93456
Phone (805) 346-7430

HEADQUARTERS
P.O. Box 6427 • 4434 Calle Real • Santa Barbara, California 93160
Phone (805) 681-4100 • Fax (805) 681-4322
www.sbsheriff.org

January 13, 2016

BILL BROWN
Sheriff - Coroner

BERNARD MELEKIAN
Undersheriff

County of Santa Barbara
Board of Supervisors
105 E. Anapamu Street, 4th Floor
Santa Barbara, CA 93101

Dear Chair and Members of the Board:

Unfortunately a previously scheduled commitment will cause me to be out of town for your meeting of January 19, 2016, when you will be considering further action on the SB1022 award from the State.

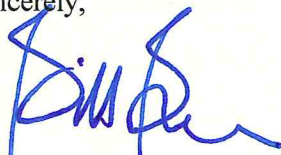
Although Undersheriff Melekian will ably present our alternative proposal for your consideration, I wanted to send this letter and an attachment summarizing our proposed reworking of the initial SB1022 proposal to better address the significant needs of mentally ill and substance-addicted offenders who are brought into our criminal justice system.

My staff and I have had a series of positive and encouraging meetings and discussions about this concept with Dr. Alice Gleghorn and the staff of the County's Alcohol, Drug and Mental Health Services, with Board of State and Community Corrections staff, and with other experts in this field. We believe that a viable partnership can be forged in this endeavor.

The attached summary of the reworked proposal points out a number of important reasons to authorize the Sheriff's Office to proceed with presenting this reworked proposal to the BSCC. In addition to the preeminent need for increased mental health/drug treatment services, I would also remind the Board of the considerable positive economic impact that the infusion of almost \$40 million into our local economy would have on Santa Barbara County, especially the North County.

Accordingly I ask that you not relinquish our SB1022 award to the State of California, and instead that you authorize us to proceed with our effort to secure BSCC approval for the modified proposal.

Sincerely,



BILL BROWN
Sheriff - Coroner

Attachment

C: Mona Miyasato, CEO

Proposal for Re-working SB1022 State Award of \$38.9 million to:

Utilize the previously proposed 100-bed Re-entry Step-Down Unit as an Unlocked, Alternative-to-Custody Mental Health/Substance Abuse Treatment Facility operated by ADMHS

- This unlocked facility would be operated solely by the County's Department of Alcohol, Drug and Mental Health Services (ADMHS) per an MOU with the Sheriff. The facility would be used as a diversion from the criminal justice system and alternative to traditional jail.
- ADMHS would bill Medicaid (Medi-Cal) for patient care in order to cover its operating/treatment expenses, including personnel.

Swap Old Jail Beds (Rated and Unrated) for New, More Efficient, ADA-Compliant Beds

- Building the two new 64-bed jail housing units in our SB1022 proposal would allow the closure of the entire Medium Security Facility (only the male portion is slated to be closed upon completion of the AB900 project) and all the Male Dormitories in the Main Jail basement. These are the custody system's most dilapidated, overcrowded, archaically-designed, staff-intensive and least-ADA compliant facilities.
- The trade-off would be 165 existing beds (104 rated & 61 unrated) currently operated by 3 staff positions (16.11 employee positions) for 128 new and efficient *rated* beds operated by 2 staff positions (10.74 employee positions).

Retain the Alternative Sentencing Bureau

- This would allow the old Alternative Sentencing Bureau office in Santa Maria to be closed and existing staff relocated to the new site.

Reduce Maintenance Costs by at least \$1,500,000 over the next 10 years

- Under this plan the 54 year-old Medium Security Facility could be demolished, thus avoiding maintenance expenses recently estimated to be \$1.5 million over the next few years, and eliminating an undetermined amount in ongoing maintenance costs.
- Basement areas of the Main Jail would be either mothballed or converted back to storage and/or meeting areas, with minimal associated ongoing maintenance costs.

Ongoing Operations Will Not Require Any Additional Funding

- Ongoing operational costs of the 100-bed Mental Health / Substance Abuse Treatment Facility would be covered by Medicaid/Medi-Cal reimbursement and in cost savings as detailed below.
- Ongoing operation of the two 64-bed units and the relocated Alternative Sentencing Bureau would be cost neutral, since inmates, staff and service/supply-related expenses would be transferred from the Main Jail's Medium Security Facility (Female Section), one of the Male Basement dormitories, and the existing Alternative Sentencing Bureau office in Santa Maria.

- The remaining Male Basement staff could be eliminated and the cost savings for one Custody Deputy post (5.37 Custody Deputies – approximately \$621,341 annually) could be used to offset any unreimbursed expenses relating to the operation of the 100-bed Mental Health/Substance Abuse Treatment Unit (i.e. facility maintenance, utilities, meals, etc.)
- Moving inmates to their required recreation time and programming from the aforementioned antiquated areas of the MSF and Main Jail would no longer be required, since the two new pods would have their own integral recreation yards and multi-purpose rooms. This would allow for better use of existing staff time for remaining inmate movement and service provider protection at the Main Jail.

Our position:

We believe this modified proposal achieves the balance of a meaningful change in our initial proposal to address the needs of mentally ill and substance-addicted offenders (many of whom suffer from co-occurring afflictions), and yet one that does not constitute a radical change in scope that would cause rejection by the BSCC.

- The County would still be building what it originally told the state it would build, i.e. 228 rated beds.
- The County would still use the 100-bed unit as a re-entry facility, just for a different type of clientele.
- The substantive differences to the County's original proposal would be that it would:
 - o Serve as an alternative to custody (i.e. inmates would be diverted and treated rather than being held in a traditional jail facility)
 - o Be run by ADMHS (but remain under Sheriff's jurisdiction per an MOU)
 - o Be unlocked rather than locked

Each and every one of these changes in scope are permissible under, and meet the legislative intent of, SB1022.

Important Update:

Since the Board's earlier decision on November 17, 2015, the Governor has released his proposed State Budget. This contains \$250 million for the renovation/replacement of jail facilities statewide. This is only one-half the amount previously authorized in each of three former rounds of funding per AB900, SB1022 and SB863. New rules are clear that no county that has received a full award under AB900, SB1022 or SB863 may apply for these new funds. ***Thus, there are no alternative funds available to Santa Barbara County for the construction of any jail renovation/replacement or mental health-related facilities now or in the foreseeable future.***

Request:

That the Board of Supervisors not relinquish Santa Barbara County's SB1022 award and, instead, that it authorize the Sheriff, in partnership with ADMHS, to prepare and deliver the aforementioned modified proposal to the Board of State and Community Corrections.