



Santa Barbara Sheriff's
Department
North County Jail Facility Planning
And
Property Acquisition
April 12, 2005

History

Commanding the entire east wing of the Santa Barbara County Court House, the Sheriff's Office and County Jail rose six stories above Santa Barbara Street. The jail began accepting prisoners in 1931. The jail had beds for 168 male and 13 female prisoners. In spite of the 168 male beds, the jail was considered at maximum capacity at about 150 prisoners.

By the early 1960's, after more than 30 years of hard continuous use, the old jail was grossly overcrowded, generally dilapidated and almost worn out. At this time, weekend populations were approaching or exceeding 200 prisoners.

The focus of intensive Grand Jury investigations in 1965, 1966, 1967 and 1968, the Santa Barbara County Jail was characterized as "medieval" by one 1967 Grand Jury member.

Santa Barbara County Population=169,000

1961 – Minimum Security Male Honor Farm Constructed

First major addition to County Jail in 30 Years

Rated for 86 beds



1971 – Santa Barbara Main Jail Opens

Constructed on property adjacent to the Honor Farm.

Board of Corrections rating for 312 male and 40 female beds.



1970 Santa Barbara County Population=264,300

1971 – Santa Maria Branch Jail Opens



**Temporary Holding facility
with 34 male beds and 4
female beds.**



1982 – Jail Needs Assessment Planning Committee.

- **Formed to address the chronic overcrowding occurring by 1980**
- **Comprised of Sheriff's administrative officials and local government representatives**
- **Was a precursor to the Jail Overcrowding Task Force formed in 1985**

1982 – Sheriff's Work Alternative Program is instituted.

- **Began as a companion to the Sheriff's Work Furlough Program**

1985 – Jail Overcrowding Committee

Comprised of representatives from the Courts, Public Defender's Office, County Counsel, District Attorney's Office, Sheriff, local Police agencies, Mental Health, Probation and the Court's Own Recognizance Unit.

Developed many of the jail overcrowding interventions which later appeared in the Superior Court Order issued in 1989.

Was later renamed the Jail Overcrowding Task Force

1987 - Maximum Security Housing Unit Constructed

**120 maximum-security
beds added to Northwest
of Main Jail Facility.**

**Included conversion of
a large storage area in
the Main Jail basement
into a 32-bed dormitory**



Rated for only 68 Beds

1988 – Superior Court Order Issued

- **Directed the County, through the Jail Overcrowding Task Force, to prepare and present a report outlining specific recommendations with regard to various programs designed to alleviate overcrowding at the Santa Barbara County Jail**

1989 - Superior Court Order Issued

- **Court Stated “In order to prevent the jail from being increasingly overcrowded and to prevent floor sleepers, measures need to be taken to reduce the main jail population.”**

SHERIFF

- **Implement an expanded field cite release plan**
- **Assign pre-trial inmates to the Honor Farm**
- **Within his classification discretion, to assign to the Honor Farm certain sentenced inmates previously deemed ineligible**
- **Implement necessary facility modifications and staffing to create a holding unit at the Honor Farm for persons arrested for Public Intoxication and Driving Under the Influence**

COURTS

- **The Own Recognizance Units' (O.R.) staff in both the North and South County are to be expanded to allow for more timely processing of interviews and releasing of arrests**
- **O.R Unit to evaluate misdemeanor arrestees not otherwise cite released and persons arrested on misdemeanor warrants to determine eligibility for O.R. Release**
- **Develop criteria to liberalize existing O.R. release criteria for arrestees and to establish administrative release procedure for persons arrested on warrants based upon criteria developed by the Municipal Courts**

1990 – Superior Court Order Issued

- **Established a Main Jail population Cap of 65 female inmates**

1992 – North Santa Barbara County Correctional Master Plan

- **Proposed an 800-bed facility be constructed in North County to relieve the overcrowding in the Main Jail, replace the inadequate facility in Santa Maria, and meet projected bed space needs within the County**

1992- Site Criteria Developed

- **Minimum of 100 Acres**
- **Within 25 minute drive (approx. 20 miles) from Santa Maria Court facilities.**
- **Compatible with existing land**
- **Accessible from existing major roads and to public transportation**
- **Absence of Biological/Environmental Resources and Hazardous Waste Contamination**
- **Absence of Prime Agricultural Land**

1993 – Inmate Reception Center Opened

Originally planned as an intake/release center and a 64-bed single cell housing Unit

BOC approved double bunking, increasing the number of beds to 128



1998 Jail Overcrowding Task Force Reconvened

- Recommended removal of triple bunks and dayroom bunks to return to original capacity of 587 male inmates
- Recommended Early Release Criteria for Cap Release (low risk sentenced inmates)
- Included exclusion of 116 felony charges

1999 – Superior Court Order Issued

- Established a Main Jail population cap of 587 male inmates
- Included a flex cap of 530 to allow for release of inmates when flex cap was reached
- Provide for appropriate classification

1999 - Violent Offender Unit Added

- **Small housing unit consisting of 14 single person cells and two small recreation yards.**





Santa Barbara Main Jail Campus

2000 – Santa Barbara North County Jail Operational and Architectural Program

- **Planners and programmers from Lenvik Minor and Associates (Rosser International) met with personnel from the divisions within the jail to develop the overall philosophy, objectives and goals for the North County Jail.**



Architectural rendering of planned North County Jail

2002 – North County Property Acquisition Charter Formed

- **Sheriff's Department and General Services Real Property**
- **Reviewed and revised site selection criteria and evaluation guidelines**

2003 – Selected Preferred Site for the North County Jail

- **232 Acre Laguna Sanitation District located off of Black Road**



Laguna Sanitation District Site

Status Today

Current BOC RATED Capacity - 779

Main Jail

- 543 Male Beds
- 75 Female Beds

HONOR FARM

- 122 Male Beds
- 39 Female Beds

CRITICAL EVENT

On April 2, 2004, the Main Jail rose to 638 male inmates.

Based on the criteria established by the Jail Overcrowding Task Force the number of qualifying inmates for Cap release to the street was a total of seven (7) inmates.

Once these inmates were cap released and that day's court releases were processed, the Main Jail count remained at 620 males.

2004 Jail Overcrowding Task Force Reconvened

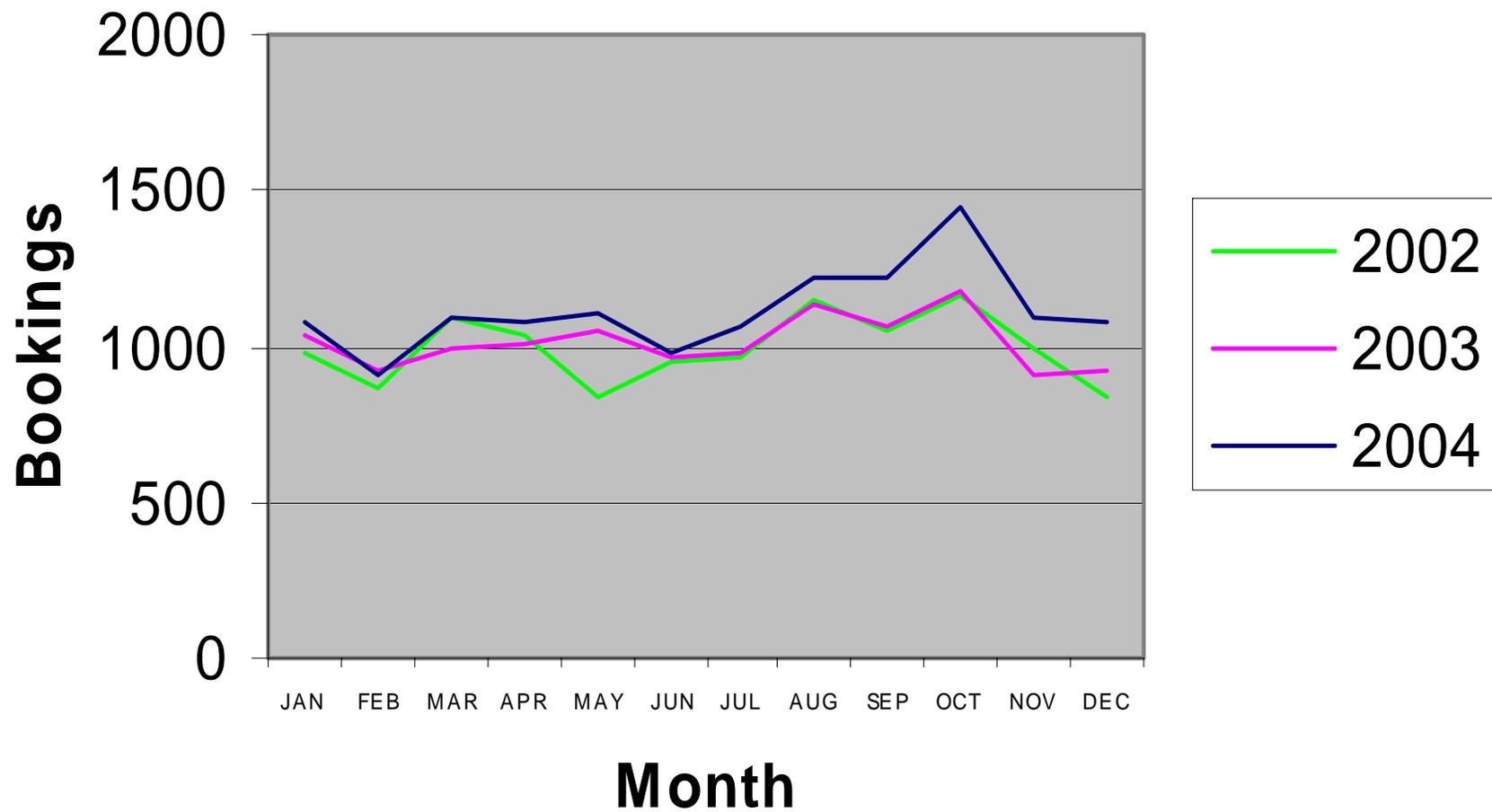
Met to discuss current overcrowding and population management status.

Recommended a review of 14 areas of concern. These areas included the Cap Release Criteria, Exclusionary Codes, Cite Release Criteria, Courts and Probation.

CLASSIFICATION ISSUES

The Classification Plan is designed to properly assign inmates to housing units and activities according to the categories of sex, age, criminal sophistication, seriousness of crime charged, physical or mental health needs, assaultive/non-assaultive behavior and other criteria which will provide for the safety of the inmates and staff. Such housing unit assignment shall be accomplished to the extent possible within the limits of the available number of distinct housing units or cells in a facility.

Santa Barbara Main Jail Booking Comparison 2002-2004



2004 AVERAGE DAILY POPULATION

Main Jail

717

16% OVER RATED CAPACITY

5% increase in population from the year 2003

**70% of all Inmates housed at the Main Jail
were booked on Felony Charges**

4% increase in from the year 2003

2004 AVERAGE DAILY POPULATION

MAIN JAIL AND HONOR FARM

924

19% OVER RATED CAPACITY

INMATES FROM NORTH COUNTY

502

55% Housed Population in Santa Barbara

SYSTEM WIDE ADP = 1,150

TOTAL UNSENTENCED POPULATION

596

525 MAIN JAIL

71 HONOR FARM

**73% OF THE MAIN JAIL POPULATION
IS UNSENTENCED**

274 NORTH COUNTY COURTS

TOTAL ADP SENTENCED POPULATION

325

189 MAIN JAIL

136 HONOR FARM

**ONLY 27% OF THE MAIN JAIL POPULATION
IS SENTENCED**

228 NORTH COUNTY COURTS

North County

Transportation Costs for 2004

\$354,768

2004

1,598 - Males were released at an average of 15 days early.

- **1,270 were released directly to the street**

300 - females were released at an average of 13 days early

- **251 were released directly to the street**

Failure Statistics

Male: 6.70% Female: 4.33%

February 1999 through December 2004

7,265 - Males were released at an average of 16.48 days early.

- **3,535 were released directly to the street**

794 - Females were released at an average of 24.46 days early.

- **489 were released directly to the street**

Failure Statistics

Male: 7.63%

Female: 8.19%

PROFILE OF CAP RELEASED INMATES

SNAP SHOT TAKEN SEPTEMBER OF 2004.

98 Inmates were released

21 had previous Exclusionary Charges

These exclusionary charges ranged from assault, to possession for sale, to murder

20 had been in prison prior to the current charge.

Future Needs

A 1999 Needs Assessment Study conducted by Rosser Justice Systems forecasted that, by the year 2020, the total inmate population for the Santa Barbara County Jail will reach **1,575**. The projected number of beds needed for North County inmates is

986

2002 Santa Barbara County Population=407,900

PLANNING ISSUES

SITE ACQUISITION

\$1.6 million in Fund

CONSTRUCTION FUNDING

Bond Measures, Tax increases, Lease Purchase Agreements and Certificates of Participation.

\$100 Million Dollar Facility = 12 Million Annually for 20 Years for Debt Service

OPERATIONAL FUNDING

NORTH

COUNTY

SPLIT

CONSTRUCTION COSTS 2004

Description	Square Footage	Cost per Sq. Ft.	Total Cost
Housing Unit = 800 beds, day rooms, yard and program space	137,640	\$256	\$35,235,840
Support Space	70,386	\$115	\$8,094,390
Intake and Release	16,320	\$232	\$3,786,240
Kitchen	10,247	\$295	\$3,022,865
Site Improvements	-	-	\$10,000,000
Design and Construction Administration			\$2,809,360
Schematic Design			\$850,000
10 % Contingency			\$6,379,870
1% Arts	-	-	\$637,987
Total Cost			\$70,816,552

CONSTRUCTION COSTS 2004

Description	Square Footage	Cost per Sq. Ft.	Total Cost
Housing Unit = 408 beds, day rooms, yard and program space	68,820	\$256	\$17,617,920
Support Space	70,386	\$115	\$8,094,390
Intake and Release	16,320	\$232	\$3,786,240
Kitchen	10,247	\$295	\$3,022,865
Site Improvements	-	-	\$10,000,000
Design and Construction Administration			\$2,809,360
Schematic Design			\$850,000
10 % Contingency			\$4,618,078
1% Arts	-	-	\$461,808
Total Cost			\$51,260,661

STAFFING CONSIDERATIONS

It is difficult to estimate staffing costs without knowing the design of the facility and operation plan. Any staffing plan will depend greatly on facility design, type of supervision (Direct/Indirect), and technology implemented.

The Board of Corrections Title 15 Minimum Standards for Adult Detention Facilities recommends “adequate staffing to operate the facility in a safe and secure manner, while providing for implementation and operation of all programs required by Title 15 regulations.”

Contract Personnel, Support Staff, and staff from other County Departments must be considered as well.

CUSTODY OPERATIONS

Administration

Commander

Administrative Secretary

Operations

Day Shift

2 Corrections Lieutenant
1 Corrections Sergeant
1 Classification Officer
3 Control Room
1 Receiving
1 Identification
1 Prowler
2 Housing
1 Utility Worker
2 Booking IRS/Record
2 Alternative Sentencing Programs

Evening Shift

1 Corrections Sergeant
1 Classification
3 Control Room
1 Receiving
1 Identification
1 Prowler
2 Housing
1 Utility Worker
2 Booking IRS/Record

STRATEGIC PLAN GOALS

2010

ACQUIRED JAIL SITE

IDENTIFIED FUNDING SOURCES

UPDATED ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN

COMPLETED CONSTRUCTION PLANS

COMPLETED CONSTRUCTION

TIME LINE

**SITE ACQUISITION – PURCHASE SUITABLE
PROPERTY WITHIN 1 YEAR.**

IDENTIFY FUNDING SOURCES – ONGOING

**DESIGN AND DEVELOPMENT DRAWINGS –
WITHIN 12 MONTHS OF UPDATED ASSESMENT.**

**CONSTRUCTION DOCUMENTS – WITHIN 12
MONTHS OF DESIGN AND DEVELOPMENT**

**BID DEVELOPMENT AND AWARD – WITHIN
3 MONTHS OF CONSTRUCTION DOCUMENTS**

**CONSTRUCTION – WITHIN 2 YEARS OF
AWARD.**

SUMMARY

The Santa Barbara County Sheriff's Department has been dealing with Jail Overcrowding since the 1960's.

The current facility is over 34 years old and in a constant state of repair. The average life span of a Jail is 30 years.

Over 55% of the Inmate Population is from the North County.

There is a **CRITICAL** need for a North County Facility.