

DRAFT

May XX, 2021

The Honorable Alex Padilla
112 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

RE: Humboldt County Community Corrections Re-Entry Resource Center Project

Dear Senator Padilla:

On behalf of the Humboldt County Board of Supervisors, I'm writing to urge you to support our County's request for \$1,624,815 in Congressionally Directed Funding for the Community Corrections Re-Entry Resource Center Project.

The proposed Humboldt County Community Corrections Re-Entry Resource Center is planned to be built next to the existing Humboldt County Correctional Facility (HCCF). The structure would house a small (44 beds – 28 male, 10 female, & 6 mental health) minimum security in-custody, program oriented, custody unit that focuses on preparing inmates to successfully re-enter society. These 44 minimum security beds would help relieve the HCCF of much needed higher security beds to house the shift from inmates previously sentenced to State prison.

The facility also would focus on out-of-custody re-entry programming. The County's current Day Reporting Center would move into this facility and pick up much needed space. The Sheriff's Work Alternative Program (SWAP) also would move into the new space, thus allowing that program to expand its re-entry programs. These out-of-custody programs would incorporate additional intense case management, evidence-based programs, mental health, and substance abuse services geared toward reduction of recidivism in Humboldt County. The overall goal of the facility is to provide offenders with transition from an institutional setting to that of an independent and responsible community living.

It should be noted that the Sheriff's Office completed a jail needs assessment of the impact that California Assembly Bill 109 (AB 109) has had on the average daily population. State Assembly Bill AB 109 (Public Safety Realignment Act County Jail Prison) was enacted in 2011 and shifted thousands of lower level state inmates back to county jails. These inmates bring an entirely different set of needs to the county jails and have had a tremendous impact statewide on county jails. The inmate population and probationer caseload has changed from lower level criminals to that of a much higher, sophisticated criminal level. The focus is also changing from a "lock 'em up" mentality to that of a program oriented "re-entry to society" theme that is based on intervention programs.

Again, Humboldt County strongly supports this project and we urge you to seek fiscal year 2022 appropriations to help fund this important work.

Sincerely,

Virginia Bass, Chair
Humboldt County Board of Supervisors

Requesting Entity Staff Contact Information – Phone Number and Email:

Sheriff William Honsal
707-268-3618
whonsal@co.humboldt.ca.us

Title of Project: Humboldt County Community Corrections Re-Entry Resource Center Project #170223

Departmental Priority:

1. Project Name

Humboldt County Community Corrections Re-Entry Resource Center Project #170223

2. Amount of Federal Funding Requested for the Project

One million six hundred twenty-four thousand eight hundred fifteen dollars (\$1,624,815). Total project cost is \$25,088,129.

3. Total Cost of Project and breakdown of funding sources (Detail all local, state and/or private funds. Are these funds secured, expected, or you are still seeking?).

Total Cost of Project:

<u>Funding Source</u>	<u>Value</u>	<u>% of Total</u>
California State SB-863 Project Funding (State):	\$20,000,000 (Secured)	79.7%
Humboldt County Board of Supervisors (Local)		
Authorized Funding including In-Kind Land Value:	\$ 3,463,314 (Secured)	13.8%
<u>Additional Funding Sought:</u>	<u>\$ 1,624,815</u>	<u>6.5%</u>
Total Cost of Project:	\$25,088,129	100%

4. Possible Congressional Subcommittee

Homeland Security

5. General Project Description

The proposed Humboldt County Community Corrections Re-Entry Resource Center is planned to be built next to the existing Humboldt County Correctional Facility. The structure would house a small (44 beds – 28 male, 10 female, & 6 mental health) minimum security in-custody, program oriented, custody unit that focuses on preparing inmates to successfully re-enter society. These 44 minimum security beds would help relieve the HCCF of much needed higher security beds to house the shift from inmates previously sentenced to State prison.

The facility would also focus on out-of-custody re-entry programing. The current Day Reporting Center would move into this facility and pick up much needed space. The Sheriff's Work Alternative Program (SWAP) would also move into this facility, thus allowing that program to expand its re-entry programs. These out-of-custody programs would incorporate additional intense case management, evidence-based programs, mental health, and substance abuse services geared toward reduction of recidivism in Humboldt County.

The overall goal of the facility is to provide offenders with transition from an institutional setting to that of an independent and responsible community living.

6. Project Justification (Need for the project).

The Sheriff’s Office completed a jail needs assessment of the impact that California Assembly Bill 109 (AB 109) has had on the average daily population. State Assembly Bill AB 109 (Public Safety Realignment Act County Jail Prison), was enacted in 2011 and shifted thousands of lower level state inmates back to county jails. These inmates bring an entirely different set of needs to the county jails and has had a tremendous impact, statewide, on county jails. The inmate population and probationer caseload has changed from lower level criminals to that of a much higher, sophisticated criminal level. The focus is also changing from a “lock ‘em up” mentality to that of a program oriented “re-entry to society” theme that is based on intervention programs.

7. Justification for why the project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds and is a public benefit.

The proposed project will provide a single consolidated facility and the physical infrastructure for preparing inmates for re-entry into civil society with the intent of keeping them out of jail. Training, meeting and interfacing with their probation officer prior to release, and training and support following release will be provided in a central facility, in an easy to access location.

8. Explanation of how federal funds will be spent (for example on equipment, construction, labor, etc.)

Requested funding will be used to supplement construction costs, including materials and labor; administration and consultant costs for construction oversight; furniture, fixtures and equipment (FF&E); and required improvements to adjacent public rights-of-way, including sidewalks and landscaping.

Breakdown of Additional Funding Request :

Additional Estimated Construction Cost:	\$712,674
Additional Estimated Furniture Fixtures & Equipment Cost	\$315,500
Additional Cost for Special Inspections, Testing, and Construction Administration	\$596,641

Total Additional Funding Sought: \$1,624,815

Estimates for this request are based on work from consultant’s cost estimate 2/22/21, and Humboldt County Department of Public Works cost estimation of additional costs of 4/5/21.

9. List of Any Stakeholder Groups or Elected Officials Who Support the Request

- Assm. Wood
- Sen. McGuire
- Behavioral Health Board
- Probation