



Missoula County Sheriff's Office
200 W. Broadway
Missoula, MT 59802

T.J. MCDERMOTT
SHERIFF

Missoula County Sheriff's Office

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09/14/2022

Commissioner Josh Slotnick
Commissioner Juanita Vero
Commissioner Dave Strohmaier
Board of County Commissioners (BCC)
196 West Pine Street
Missoula, MT 59802

Re: MCDF Secure Parking Lot Expansion/TSOS Broadway Access Road

Dear Commissioners Slotnick, Vero & Strohmaier;

Earlier this week, it was brought to my attention that critical cash savings from the Detention account of the Sheriff's Office, in the amount of \$530,00.00, had been transferred. These funds, which were targeted to complete safety and health improvements at Missoula County Detention Facility (MCDF), were transferred without any discussion with me, my Administrative Staff, or our Finance Manager.

Per the notation on "Missoula County – Fiscal Year 2023 Budget - Capital Improvement Projects" report the withdrawal of these funds are being used for the "MCDF Parking Lot Expansion/TSOS Road." (See attached). It is unclear by the notation whether the expansion incorporates the necessary safety measures, such as secure fencing and a secured gate. In addition, does the TSOS road also include exclusive access to the Detention Facility from West Broadway Street? Both items have been agreed upon multiple times and have passed from one entity to another since the onset of the Trinity Project. Initially, there was an assurance that an exclusive access road to the detention facility, along with a secure parking lot for roughly 125 employees would be funded and completed along with the Trinity Project.

Since the onset of this project, we have made ourselves available, attended meetings and communicated the conditions necessary to ensure the Trinity Project, and now the TSOS Project, would not adversely affect the operation of MCDF, the safety of Missoula County residents, our staff, and those entrusted into our care. Although earmarked for public safety growth, we were informed that the use of the land would change, as would ownership from county to private. At that time, we expressed our concerns and provided solutions that would allow crucial housing to be constructed in a manner that ensured the safe operation of MCDF and access by our staff and deputies.

If you recall, we requested an exclusive access for law enforcement, fire and medical from West Broadway to MCDF. This is two-fold. It provides a safe, unobstructed access to our employees, but more importantly, provides the required access for fire and medical responding to emergencies and evacuations if needed at the Detention Facility. The secure parking lot, with a locked gate and only accessible with a key code, provides safety and security to our employees. Undersheriff Maricelli, Captain Taylor, Commander Kowalski and I were assured that these two items would be funded as part of the project.

We have sat as collaborative members with multiple partners as this project progressed, expressing our concerns, and bringing forward our requests. Due to rising building costs, Trinity investors would no longer honor their assurance of exclusive access and secure employee parking. We discussed various options for access and parking, including short- and long-term proposals, with the Project Engineer, the Shelter Project Coordinator and the BCC. In the end, a solution was not agreed upon and the Trinity investors refused to grant an easement to MCDF or the hard-sided TSOS. Not a significant point until you recall that this land was owned by the county and transferred at no cost for this project. Not only had the safety and security issues not been addressed we could not get the access to research other avenues to find solutions to those issues.

Around this time, I was assured by Commissioner Slotnick that those requests and improvements would go forward regardless of the actions by the Trinity investors, and the BCC would also provide the funding for those safety and security measures.

As it has been expressed to me, the lease at the current TSOS is set to expire at the end of October. This has set in motion another obstacle and funding issue. Access must be established to the identified location of the new TSOS, which is also located near MCDF. Logistically, this cannot be accomplished and provide exclusive access to Missoula County Sheriff's Office employees and staff even though this has been established multiple times as a health and safety matter. I would also like to reiterate that the BCC agreed that these two items would be a funded priority in this budget year. The funds would not be provided by existing detention cash savings or Sheriff's Office funds.

A competitive bid process was initiated. The original proposed cost was \$460,000.00 for completion of the secure employee parking lot. The bid process only received one bid at a shocking \$830,000.00. Recommendations from those that have been hired to provide professional insight was to wait and complete the bid process again in the spring of 2023. The pressure of getting the TSOS functional led to the blatant disregard of that professional advice.

Once again, I was assured that the two safety measures needed would be a priority, they would be funded, and the BCC would provide the funding.

That brings us today and the revelation that critical improvement funding has been transferred from the detention cash savings account of the Sheriff's Office. This was not a proposal, it was not discussed, and there was no collaboration.

In addition, a well-established business that has been a good neighbor to MCDF, has not been included in any discussions regarding the plans for property adjacent to them. There has not been an opportunity for these folks to express their concerns. The cash savings funds, which had been accumulated by fiscal responsibility and designated for public safety improvements without asking taxpayers to provide more, are now gone.

I was not informed or invited to the City Council meeting held Monday, September 12, where the County has formally requested a variance or wavier to existing regulations and code requirements. The information presented at the meeting was not accurate or consistent with our experience with the Trinity project or TSOS. Unfortunately, what was shared at the meeting was not accurate.

The Sheriff's Office understands and is compassionate to the need for affordable housing in Missoula. We have diligently worked to be a good partner throughout this project. The disregard for health and safety access and features that provide a safe environment for detention facility employees is disturbing. As is the willingness to disregard professional guidance and spend taxpayer funds in such an irresponsible manner. To add insult to injury, this is on the heels of several public safety budget enhancement requests being denied because "there is no money" and an annual budget that includes a very large tax increase to our constituents.

I offer two proposals to move forward and truly make this the collaboration process it was portrayed to be. First, funds transferred from the cash account must be restored. Again, those funds are spoken for and designated for capital improvements which directly impact the health and safety of our staff and inmates. (See attached e-mail).

Next, the advice is followed to rebid the access and secured parking area, along with the TSOS project in the spring of 2023. First responders have expressed the danger of not having an exclusive access road to West Broadway and this needs to be considered with all improvements.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "TJ McDermott", with a stylized flourish at the end.

TJ McDermott
Sheriff



Request for Commission Action

Administrative Public Meeting

Meeting Date: September 21, 2021

Item No.: 9.

Action Information

Meeting Date: 9/21/2021

Action/Motion Requested: Request board approve detention center secured parking lot and Broadway driveway access.

Parties Involved: Missoula County

Fiscal Impact: \$460,000

Budget Action Required:

Requestor Information

Submitter: Rich Maricelli

Department: Sheriff

Submitted: 09/15/2021

E-mail: rmaricelli@missoulacounty.us

Presenter: Richard Maricelli, TJ
McDermott, Jason Hauser

Project Information

Project/Item: Detention Center secured parking lot and Broadway driveway access.

Project Location: Detention Center

Project/Contract Begin:

Project/Contract End:

Action Request Summary

Request board approve detention center secured parking lot and Broadway driveway access.

Action Request Approvals

BCC Admin Staff

BCC Admin Staff

BCC Admin Staff

Created/Initiated - 9/15/2021

Approved - 9/17/2021

Final Approval - 9/17/2021

Commission Actions

Chair

David Strohmaier

Chair Authorized to Sign: No

Commissioner

Janita Pers

A6ACE081F2505A3A08967F7EBBB8C312

ready

Commissioner

6F45D36DCC41E9C2B2D512DC93A576B2

ready

Not available for signature

Action Date

September 21, 2021

OPINION OF PROBABLE COST



Project Name: Missoula Detention Center - Parking Lot Expansion

Project No.: 210715

Prepared By: SG

Approved By: KB

Date: September 15, 2021

Revision:

Description: Based on layout dated 09/15/2021. Electrical Pricing Provided by DC Engineering

PRELIMINARY

Item Number	Description	Quantity	Unit	Unit Price	Total
Demolition					
1	Asphalt Removal	1,326	SY	\$ 5.00	\$ 6,630.00
2	Curb Removal	64	LF	\$ 5.00	\$ 320.00
3	Remove Tree And Rootball And Dispose Of Offsite	4	EA	\$ 500.00	\$ 2,000.00
4	Remove Sump	1	EA	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
5	Remove Sidewalk	234	SF	\$ 2.50	\$ 585.00
6	Remove Fence	40	LF	\$ 3.00	\$ 120.00
				Subtotal	\$ 10,655
Miscellaneous					
1	Mobilization	1	LSUM	\$ 36,000.00	\$ 36,000.00
2	Traffic Control	1	LSUM	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 10,000.00
3	Erosion Control	1	LSUM	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00
4	City / MDT Permits	1	LSUM	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00
				Subtotal	\$ 56,000
Parking Lot					
1	3" Thickness Hot Plant Mix. Type 'B'	1,455	SY	\$ 20.00	\$ 29,100.00
2	6" Thickness 3/4" Minus Crushed Base Course	1,455	SY	\$ 14.00	\$ 20,370.00
3	6" Thickness 3" Minus Crushed Base Course	1,455	SY	\$ 12.00	\$ 17,460.00
4	4" Thickness Concrete	2,437	SF	\$ 5.50	\$ 13,403.50
5	Combined Curb and Gutter	720	LF	\$ 18.00	\$ 12,960.00
6	Payment Markings Paint	2.6	GAL	\$ 160.00	\$ 416.00
7	8-Foot Sump	2	EA	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 7,000.00
8	Absolute Steel Full-Cantilever Carport Frame	6	EA	\$ 2,041.31	\$ 12,247.86
9	Topsoil and Striping	943	CY	\$ 10.00	\$ 9,430.00
				Subtotal	\$ 122,387
Access Road					
1	3" Thickness Hot Plant Mix. Type 'B'	1,057	SY	\$ 20.00	\$ 21,140.00
2	6" Thickness 3/4" Minus Crushed Base Course	1,057	SY	\$ 14.00	\$ 14,798.00
3	6" Thickness 3" Minus Crushed Base Course	1,057	SY	\$ 12.00	\$ 12,684.00
4	4" Thickness Concrete	118	SF	\$ 5.50	\$ 649.00
5	8" Thickness Concrete	454	SF	\$ 9.00	\$ 4,086.00
6	Cove Gutter	64	LF	\$ 23.00	\$ 1,472.00
7	New Signs	1	EA	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00
8	Fence/Security Gate	1	LSUM	\$ 33,000.00	\$ 33,000.00
9	Topsoil and Striping	560	CY	\$ 10.00	\$ 5,600.00
				Subtotal	\$ 93,929
Electrical					
1	Light Poles and Conduits	1	LSUM	\$ 25,757.00	\$ 25,757.00
2	Gate Power Supply	1	LSUM	\$ 26,205.00	\$ 26,205.00
3	Covered Car Parking Structure and additional outlets & lighting	1	LSUM	\$ 1,870.00	\$ 1,870.00
				Subtotal	\$ 53,832
Landscaping					
1	Tree	6	EA	\$ 650.00	\$ 3,900.00
2	Landscape and Irrigation	3,500	SF	\$ 6.00	\$ 21,000.00
				Subtotal	\$ 24,900
				Construction Total	\$ 361,703
				Project Construction Subtotal	\$ 361,703
				Professional Services (10%)	\$ 36,170
				Construction Contingency (20%)	\$ 72,341
				Construction Total with Contingency	\$ 470,214

1) Mobilization cost approximately 10% of construction Total

2) Absolute Steel Full- Cantilever Carport Frame cost - <https://www.absoluterv.com/carport-kits-commercial/full-cantilever-system/>



Missoula COUNTY

FISCAL YEAR 2023 BUDGET

Capital improvement projects

The FY 23 budget also include funding for the following capital improvement projects:

Project	Dept.	Amount	Funding
Radio and body camera replacement project	Sheriff	\$500,000.44	Cash savings
Elections Office renovation	Elections	\$2,657,852.11	Debt service
Detention Center tube station	Detention	\$128,000	Cash savings
Detention Center chiller repair	Detention	\$80,000	Cash savings
Detention Center water pipe replacement	Detention	\$50,000	Cash Savings
Detention Center safety railing	Detention	\$125,000	Cash Savings
Courthouse electronic door access panel upgrades and door re-key	Facilities	\$235,019	Cash Savings
Enterprise Resource Planning financial software	Finance	\$100,000	Cash Savings
County Open Space Projects	PTOL	\$1,000,000	Debt Service
Shooting Range Improvements	Sheriff	\$125,000	Cash Savings
Courthouse Heat Exchanger	Facilities	\$45,000	Cash Savings
Countywide LED Lighting Replacement	Facilities	\$25,000	Cash Savings
Rocky Mountain Gardens and Exploration Center	Weed/Extension	\$14,000,000	Debt Service
LaLonde Ranch Rehabilitation	PTOL	\$250,000	Cash Savings and Debt Service
MCDF Parking Lot Expansion/TSOS Road	Detention	\$530,000	Cash Savings

Richard Maricelli

From: Jeremiah Petersen
Sent: Tuesday, September 13, 2022 10:31 AM
To: TJ McDermott; Richard Maricelli; Rob Taylor
Subject: Fw: Detention Center needs

FYI-

Jeremiah Petersen
Captain Jail Division
Missoula County Sheriff's Office
jpetersen@missoulacounty.us
(406)531-0316



From: Jason Hauser <jhauser@missoulacounty.us>
Sent: Tuesday, September 13, 2022 10:28 AM
To: Jeremiah Petersen <jpetersen@missoulacounty.us>; Sheryl Ziegler <sziegler@missoulacounty.us>
Cc: Jess Ebel <jebel@missoulacounty.us>
Subject: Detention Center needs

As requested we have identified some up coming needs for the Detention Center. There are but not limited to, all shower resealing and repairs= \$150,000, kitchen make up air hoods=\$80,000+, cooling tower replacement with a ground source heat pump= \$1,000,000, outdoor rec. cement repairs= \$100,000+, and Broadway re-piping= \$75,000+. This list id by far not all that needs to be done and Jess if there is something that you have though of since you helped with put it together please feel free to add. JP, Sheryl if you need anything else please let us know. Thank you.



Jason Hauser

Facilities Director

Missoula County Facilities

406.258.4756
406.531.0686

 jhauser@missoulacounty.us