

# Jail Annex Expansion Project



# Brief History

- The expansion of the Jail Annex and the building of a new housing unit was proposed by the previous Administration and was approved by an earlier Commissioner's Court.
- Their plan, looking to the future was to have enough space available for the increases in inmate population and have enough cells to properly separate those inmates in accordance with T.C.J.S. standards and other regulatory agencies.
- Sheriff Wiles recognized the need for the expansion of the Jail Facility to ensure enough available space for the future growth of the inmate population. His vision for the Jail Annex includes a healthy, safe and secure environment for our growing special needs population.

# Justification

## Detention System

<b>Year</b>	<b>Gen/Seg Pop Space</b>	<b>Average Daily Population</b>	<b>Bookings / Transfers</b>	<b>Releases</b>	<b>Percentage of Capacity Filled</b>
<b>2007</b>	2450	2287	43652	43624	93.35%
<b>2008</b>	2450	2283	43541	43420	93.18%
<b>2009</b>	2450	2211	36929	37258	90.24%
<b>2010</b>	2450	2219	42905	34454	90.57%
<b>2011</b>	2450	2333	45337	34541	95.22%

## **Justification - Inmate Population Growth**

At a growth rate of 17.8% (census changes since 1990), the El Paso County population is expected to reach 943,162 by 2020 and more than 1 million by 2030. With an incarceration rate of 2.01 per 1,000 population (TCJS April 2012), El Paso can expect a daily average state/municipal inmate population increase from 1606 to 1896 by 2020 and an increase to 2233 by 2030.

In addition our DUSM inmate population is currently between 650 to 700 inmates.

This increase does not include the potential increase of inmates if the El Paso Police Department begins booking Class C violators at a higher rate than they currently are.

# General Contractor

- Urban Associates was awarded the contract as the Design/Builder
- Urban Associates is a local contractor
- Urban Associates and its subcontractors will employ approximately 250 workers from the El Paso community during the project

# Expansion

- The Jail Annex Expansion was developed as a 2 phase project.
  - Phase One involves the design and remodel of the services support building to expand capacity
  - Phase Two involves the design and construction of a new 432 bed unit

# Current Status

- Phase One – The design has been completed and construction has begun. Scheduled completion is February 2013.
- Phase Two – On 10/1/12, commissioners court will be asked to go out to RFQ for a Project Manager. Hopefully at that time we can authorize Urban to begin the design phase.

# Expansion Phase 1

- Phase 1 included expansion of several areas of the main building of the Jail Annex.
  - » Increase in the size of the Booking area
  - » The Addition of Clinic Isolation cells
  - » Increase in the size of the Laundry
  - » The Addition of a new Freezer unit and redesign of Kitchen layout
  - » The Addition of more inmate property storage
  - » The Addition of a multi-use room
  - » Increase in size of the Sergeant's office





























# Expansion Phase Two

- The new Housing Unit will consist of the following pods:
  - 2 pods, each containing six cell blocks, with 4 multi-occupancy cells, holding 6 inmates each. Total capacity 288 inmate beds.
  - 2 pods, each containing six cell blocks, with 12 individual cells, holding one inmate each. Total capacity 144 inmate beds.

## **Justification - Classification Impact**

Lack of cell space has created limited classification options:

Security Threat and Disruptive Groups such as the Barrio Azteca and Mexican Mafia

Female population – approximately 40% increase since opening of Annex

Special Needs Inmates such as chronically ill, mentally ill, geriatric, etc. – approximately 30-35% of population

Separation of custody levels as required by the Texas Commission on Jail Standards

Weekenders/Work Releases – housed separately to reduce the introduction of contraband

Trusty Details – require separate housing per the Texas Commission on Jail Standards to reduce introduction of contraband

## **Justification – Improve Operational Efficiency**

The cost to house an inmate at the downtown **Detention Facility** is - **\$120.98** per day. At the **Jail Annex**, the cost is **\$67.62** per day.

As the downtown **Detention Facility** continues to age, costly repairs are required to ensure state standards are met. In FY 2012, \$1,076,000 has been earmarked for renovation of toilets, HVAC, exhaust fans, etc.

The operational intent is to shift the inmate population to the Jail Annex to reduce repair cost, increase inmate security and allow for a more efficient use of staff.

The **mentally ill inmate population** at the Jail Annex steadily increased from 5,371 in 2007 to 7,240 in 2011. A large consumer of staffing hours and medical services, the jail expansion's Phase 2 includes an operational concept whereby a housing design to facilitate more efficient medical and security access for these inmates is incorporated by allowing easier observation and treatment in the housing area.