

Rehabilitation and Detention Facility Project Frequently Asked Questions



1. ***What is the Justice Facilities Improvement Program (JFIP)?***

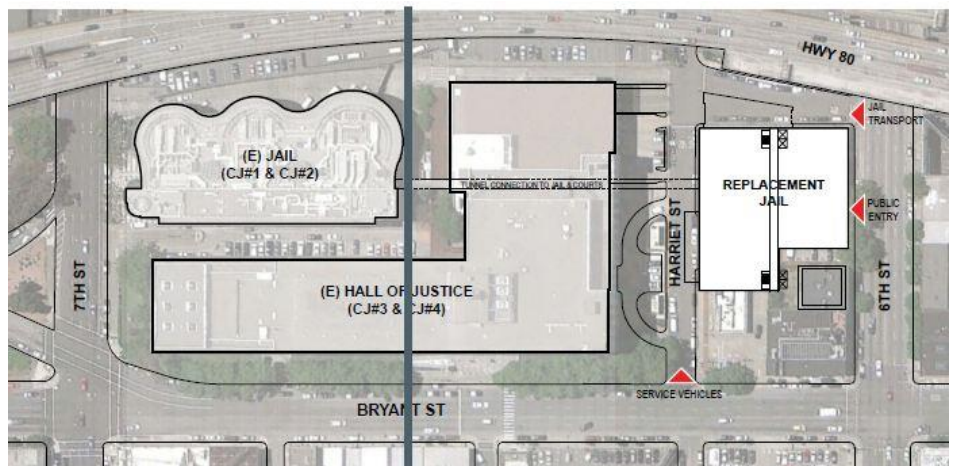
The Justice Facilities Improvement Program sets forth a plan whereby the City will relocate the criminal justice departments from the seismically deficient Hall of Justice to structurally safer buildings. The Hall of Justice is currently occupied by the San Francisco Sheriff's Department, some offices of the Police Department, District Attorney's Office, the Adult Probation Department, and State of California Superior Courts.

2. ***Why does San Francisco need a Jail Replacement/Rehabilitation and Detention Facility (RDF)?***

The demolition of the seismically deficient Hall of Justice will necessitate the closure of county jails #3 and #4, each located in the Hall of Justice. A replacement facility is necessary to meet the needs of the Sheriff's Department to safely, humanely and securely hold in custody all of those commanded by the courts and for the Sheriff's Department to meet its charter mandate to keep the county jail.

3. ***Where will the RDF be located?***

The RDF will be located on a lot immediately adjacent to the current Hall of Justice, maintaining efficiencies and security as the movement of inmates to and from court can be executed via a secure passage way to the existing and future planned State of California Superior Courts.



4. ***County Jail #6 in San Bruno is vacant. Why not house inmates in that location?***

San Francisco County Jail #6 has been closed for years. The jail originally opened in 1989 was constructed quickly in response to severe jail overcrowding that occurred in the mid- to late- 1980's. The success of alternative sentencing and pre-trial diversion has resulted in a significant decrease in low-security inmates. County Jail #6 would require a substantial renovation to house and provide programs and services to the predominantly maximum security inmates currently committed to the custody of the Sheriff by the courts.

5. ***Will any vacant cells be offered to other counties or other law enforcement jurisdictions?***

The Sheriff's Department has no plans to make such offers to other counties or jurisdictions.

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6. *Will the City's jail operations, in part or in whole, ever be operated by a for-profit operator?*

The City and County of San Francisco Charter clearly identifies the Sheriff's Department as the sole operator of the county jail. There will be no whole or in-part inclusion of for-profit jail operators.

7. *How will the final number of beds/cells to be determined?*

The Controller's Office examines and obtains data from all San Francisco criminal justice entities to model future average daily population numbers. All stakeholders meet on a regular basis to discuss and interpret available data. A link to the most recent Controller's Office report is available at sfpublicworks.org/rdf.

8. *Aren't the majority of those incarcerated being held due to inability to afford bond?*

Bail is determined by the Superior Court in and for the City and County of San Francisco. As of July 13, 2015 the bail status of the incarcerated population in the San Francisco County Jail:

No Bail: 44.15%

Under \$100,000.00: 21.77%

Over \$100,000.00: 34.01%

9. *Aren't the crimes for which people are incarcerated typically low-level "quality of life" offenses that should be diverted from incarceration?*

With the advent of Community Justice Courts, Behavioral Health Courts, Drug Courts and Veterans Courts in combination with robust Pre-Trial Diversion and Alternatives to Incarceration, low level offenders are not typically incarcerated in San Francisco County.

10. *What programs and services meant to successfully reintegrate inmates are provided in the RDF?*

The RDF will employ many of the successful inmate programs currently in existence at the San Bruno Facility, particularly vocational training for job readiness and life skills to prepare inmates for the demands of the work place. Of crucial importance is inmate programming and services for those suffering from mental illnesses.

11. *Why not repurpose the funding to alternatives to incarceration?*

Sheriff's Programs in providing alternatives to incarceration and resources to prevent recidivism are robust and highly ranked in the state. Find more information at sfsheriff.com. Only the inmates who have to be incarcerated under the law will be housed at the new RDF.

The Sheriff's Department has very robust Pre-Trial Diversion and Alternatives to Incarceration. However, for offenders that do not meet the eligibility requirements and remain in secure detention, the RDF will provide equally robust in-custody programming geared to prepare offenders for successful re-entry.

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12. How much will the RDF cost and how is it funded?

The total project cost is estimated at \$240 million and it will be funded through the issuance of Certificates of Participation. The City is considering applying for State Funding with the possibility of an award of funding up to \$80 million, reducing the cost of the project to the City by the sum of the award.

Information about the planning and design of the project can be found at sfpublicworks.org/rdf. Find more information about the Sheriff's Department's programs at sfsheriff.com.



County Jail #5 (Inaugurated 2006)



County Jail #4 (Inaugurated 1960)