



# CITY OF RED BLUFF

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## **SPECIAL JOINT WORKSHOP OF THE RED BLUFF CITY COUNCIL AND THE TEHAMA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

### **MINUTES**

**Date of Meeting:** Monday, October 26, 2015  
**Time of Meeting:** 6:00 p.m. – Call to Order  
**Place of Meeting:** County of Tehama Administrative Building  
Board of Supervisors Chamber  
727 Oak Street  
Red Bluff, CA

**Councilmembers Present:** Clay Parker, Mayor  
Rob Schmid  
Suren Patel  
Gary Jones  
Daniele Jackson, Mayor Pro Tem

**Councilmembers Absent:** None

**Staff Present:** Rick Crabtree, City Manager/City Attorney  
Cheryl Smith, Deputy City Clerk  
Ray Barber, Fire Chief  
Kyle Sanders, Police Chief  
Bruce Henz, Public Works Director

### **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Burt Bundy, Board of Supervisors Chairperson led the Pledge of Allegiance and the assembly joined in.

**CITIZENS COMMENTS:**

Pastor Scott Camp provided a prayer for the City Council, Board of Supervisors and those in attendance.

Michael Deckard commented that he was surprised that the City and County were working together.

**TEHAMA COUNTY COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS RE-ENTRY FACILITY/JOINT STUDY SESSION**

Bill Goodwin, Chief Administrator County of Tehama, reviewed the staff report, provided a Re-Entry Facility Fact Sheet that showed that the Jail Needs Analysis was completed on September 9, 2014 and showed that 64 additional beds were needed by 2014. The recommendation was to build a new facility on the site adjacent to the existing jail facility. The Tehama Community Corrections re-entry and Day Reporting Center would contain space for (a) re-entry male/female inmate housing, (b) probation day reporting center, (c) Sheriff's Work Release and Employment Program, (d) Sheriff's Home Detention/Electronic Monitoring Program, (e) medical/mental health staff, (f) kitchen, and (g) laundry. The Day report services have been accommodated at the Antelope Boulevard site. The proximity to the existing jail is essential for budget and public safety, as well as dedicated access across Madison Street is essential.

Maynard Freist of Lionakis provided additional information on the proposed project and the costs associated with the various options. The need is for an additional 64 beds, functional program space, medical/mental health space, kitchen and laundry. There would be daily crossings of Madison Street, so the area would have to be secure to limit contraband and interaction with inmates; this is why the realignment of Madison Street is on the list of options (cost est. of \$690,000.00).

Mike Dormer, Sharrah Dunlap Sawyer, explained the realignment of Madison Street along the railroad right-of-way, which would allow for three lanes of traffic at the intersection of Oak Street, southbound, would have both a left and right turn lanes, and northbound would be a single lane. There is also an AT&T fiber optic line that runs along the front of the existing building and new waterlines would have to be provided.

Mr. Freist also expanded on the other options available, which would be a pedestrian bridge, with elevators, over the top of Madison, but this option would choke down Madison Street and is a costly proposal. The other option that is also costly is putting in a tunnel under Madison Street. This would comprise of going down 4 to 5 feet with a ramp and then elevating the road over the top. Both of these options would take away money from what was obtained for building the facility and the additional money would have to come from County funds.

Sheriff Dave Hencratt reported that due to AB 109 and Prop 47 additional jail space is needed in order to keep the residents of the County and City safe.

Supervisor Dennis Garton questioned if the footprint of the proposed building be rotated a ¼ turn and then connect to the current jail or if it was discussed to purchase the church property to the north.

Mr. Freist stated that there would still be delivery issues and would depend on the requirements of the Fire Marshall. He continued by saying that it still would not fit if rotated and that a lot of the utilities would have to be relocated.

Mr. Goodwin stated that staff would not take down a 100 year old church.

Chairperson Bundy opened the floor for Public Comment.

Tom Mohler expressed his concerns with the project and questioned if the Ad Hoc Committee had looked at locating this near the new courthouse. He did not want to see Madison Street closed and/or relocated and asked that they look at the tunnel or overpass option.

Joe Gomez stated that he didn't care if the street was closed, but asked the Board to consider extending Pine Street over the railroad tracks to Monroe Street. He also stated that the Board needed to consider putting money aside now to add additional jail space in the future.

Jessie Woods stated that the downtown area already had issues with the homeless and reported that the Downtown Red Bluff Business Association was making great strides to making improvements to the downtown area.

Robert Bills expressed his concerns with blocking Madison Street as he felt it would limit access for help from the Police and Fire Departments in responding to major emergency events. He felt the Board should look at locating this at the end of Plymire Road or the end of Walnut Street where expansion could take place.

Dennis Albright stated that the City didn't own Pine Street as he owns from the center of Pine Street to the easement and that the alley has a portion that is located on private property. He asked that they not re-route Madison Street and consider taking this and locating on Diamond Avenue so that downtown is not turned into a prison.

Janelle Fitzgerald expressed her concerns with the project and stated that moving stones from the church could be done. She stated that downtown is for bringing family together and if the downtown area dies the whole County dies. She asked that the Board locate the jail somewhere else and preserve what is the downtown area.

Shelia Foley-Gildea expressed her concerns with the project and questioned if CEQA and a traffic study had been done on the project. She stated that downtown was not a place to put a prison, put it where no one will see, be forward thinking and be smart.

Maddy Gates asked why the kitchen and laundry services weren't being outsourced and stated that she didn't want trucks going down Main Street.

Bill Belcher stated that he supports the expansion, as beds are needed. He stated that this is a County project and the City has nothing to do with it, but you have to look down the road and consider the costs associated with construction, labor, traffic controls, traffic striping, signage, signalization and lighting.

Michael Deckard stated that this has to happen, as there are a lot of violent and dangerous people and we can't allow these people on our streets. He asked that the Board consider out near the new Court House and then remove everything with the exception of the historic Court House.

John Gumm stated that he would like to see this project out near the new Court House. As a business owner the association has done a lot of work downtown and he would hate to see another street closed.

Nathan Jones expressed his concerns with the criminal element downtown, as well as the increase in the amount of crime and doesn't want his family accosted when they come downtown.

Joe Harrop stated that he respects a lot of what everyone has had to say and that a solution needs to be found that will benefit the law enforcement and the need to come to an agreement of what was going to work for everyone.

Pastor Scott Camp stated that this problem started with the State Prisons being overcrowded and the federal Government forcing the state and counties release inmates back into the counties. He stated that if this facility is not built soon the County will be in the position where law enforcement has to make the decision of who is released. He stated that this was not the time to build somewhere else, 200 beds exist already and this is an expansion to 300 beds.

Erin McCarthy expressed her concerns with the expansion of the current jail that it will create a situation where it will keep getting expanded.

Sheriff Hencratt stated that there are infrastructure issues with the old jail that will not allow adding additional floors. The impact of AB 109 was not felt when it was first started as the jail was not full and staff was able to maintain beds with the work release program. The feasibility study recommended this location because the 200 bed facility already exists.

Supervisor Garton requested and received clarification on the number of inmates currently on alternative programs available.

Sheriff Hencratt stated that 100-130 at this time and that they have had success with the programs.

Supervisor Chamblin requested and received clarification on the average length of stay at the jail.

Sheriff Hencratt stated that some have been there up to 10 years.

Supervisor Carlson questioned how many had mental health issues.

Sheriff Hencratt stated that several, he did not have the exact number, had mental health issues.

Councilmember Gary Jones requested clarification on why only 64 beds and why not reduce the size of the laundry and kitchen areas to allow for more beds.

Sheriff Hencratt stated that you have to think about the future.

Mr. Freist stated that reducing the size of the laundry and kitchen areas wouldn't work as adding beds would be adding additional meals and laundry.

Gayle Locke stated that the current kitchen at the jail is very small and difficult to use. Staff needs to have both the kitchen and laundry facilities to do more, along with training of job skills for inmates.

Supervisor Carlson reported that she had toured the jail and that the kitchen facility was not adequate and that the laundry goes 24/7. She stated that it's important to keep the prisoners active. She doesn't like the idea of having the jail downtown, but it's already there and this will not be the day reporting center so there would not be people going in and out all day.

Councilmember Patel requested clarification on why a facility out by the new Court House was not a possibility.

Mr. Goodwin stated that it was cost prohibitive (est. 100 million) and that the Airport approach zone limits the types of buildings that can be located on Walnut Street. He continued by saying that the jail is already downtown and that this discussion is whether or not to close Madison Street or realign the Street.

Supervisor Williams stated that the Ad Hoc Committee had looked at all options.

Chairperson Bundy stated that the Board and Council needed to focus on Madison Street and what can be done.

Mayor Pro Tem Jackson stated that she wanted to continue to look at other options, as only 2 of the 4 were vetted and all options should have been. She stated that the closure and relocation of Madison Street was not an option.

Councilmember Jones stated that he felt closing the street was not an option and asked that the tunnel option be investigated further.

Councilmember Patel stated that he agreed with Councilmembers Jackson and Jones that Madison Street should not be closed and that the tunnel idea was better.

Councilmember Schmid stated that this was a bad idea in 1970 and now a prison complex proposed. He stated that the County could take by eminent domain and as a citizen he doesn't like the idea, yes we need the expansion, but will it be out of date in 5 years. He is against closing and/or re-routing Madison Street and would prefer the tunnel and/or bridge should it continue.

Mayor Parker stated that in a perfect world, people wouldn't be creating crimes, but if we don't move forward people will scream more. He stated that he is against closing Madison Street but could live with re-routing Madison Street.

Supervisor Chamblin stated that he was against closing Madison Street, but wants to have a safe and sane place to live, so we have to do something.

Supervisor Garton stated that he was against closing Madison Street and was against re-routing Madison Street until he drove it. He stated that a facility needs to be provided for the Sheriff to do his job, but the building needs to be tied together some way to provide safety, so he would support the alternative routing of Madison Street.

Supervisor Williams stated that closing Madison Street is not a good idea, but Officer safety, as well as community safety was important, so he was in support of the re-routing of Madison Street. He stated that as tunneling and/or the bridge would not be cost effective and that a fire lane for access would also be needed.

Supervisor Carlson stated that she could only support the alternate route and that there should be some way of connecting the buildings.

Mr. Goodwin stated that re-routing Madison Street would allow solid fencing.

Chairperson Bundy stated that re-routing Madison Street was the best solution.

Pastor Camp encouraged the architect to consider a covered parking area and to design for additional levels. He suggested that those Councilmembers and Supervisors who had not already toured the jail to do so.

Arthur Wylene, County Counsel, stated that if the City doesn't allow the re-routing of Madison Street then the County could take by eminent domain.

Mr. Goodwin stated that there was a timeline for the County to spend the funding received.

Councilmember Jones as that the County consider reviewing the costs of re-routing Madison Street versus a tunnel option.

Robert Jackson stated that his biggest concern was that no one wanted to look at the tunnel measure. He asked that staff obtain the costs for the tunnel and then if its cost prohibited re-route the street.

Mr. Freist stated that the tunnel option doesn't work as inmate would be pushing carts down and up and even with the tunnel Madison Street would be narrower.

Dennis Albright requested clarification on the cost of building 250 feet of roadway, signage etc.

Chairperson Bundy stated that the estimate was \$700,000.00.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

There being no further business Mayor Parker adjourned the meeting at 8:41 p.m. until the meeting of November 3, 2015.



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Clay Parker, Mayor

ATTEST:

*Cheryl Smith, Deputy City Clerk*  
for Jo Anna Lopez, City Clerk