

Purpose/Bond History

Proposed purpose of the new facility: New Sheriff's Office and Jail

Year and # of bonds tried before for new jail: Most recent were 2012 and 2013

Capacity

Max capacity of jail-92 beds.

Operational Capacity is 65

Avg daily population—2024 ADP was 86

Bed number/capacity (old vs new): New jail recommendation is 140 beds to accommodate growth for next 20 years

Condition

Engineers report: These studies can all be found here:

<https://www.johnsoncountyiowa.gov/sheriff/jail-stats>

Cost

Estimated cost of new facility: –80 Million

Safety/Services/Programs

Staff/inmate safety: The building is aging and deteriorating which leads to numerous infrastructure problems including structural concerns, leaking water and sewer pipes, failing HVAC, etc. This leads to poor air quality and mold. The structural integrity concerns also create health and safety risks to staff and inmates as well as expose the county to significant liability should something happen.

Diversion: There are numerous jail diversion efforts underway by multiple stakeholders including the jail, healthcare partners, housing services, mental health providers, and the County Attorney's Office, just to name a few.

10/2/2025 Resolution (County is NOT pursuing joint facility with Iowa City Police Department)

[Further information to be provided by Erin Shane]