

Introduction

On May 24, 2005, the Board of Supervisors approved continuing architectural services associated with Program Updating, Master Planning, and Schematic Design for a new County Jail. This section details the work that has been done in this regard.

The proposed facility would be located on approximately 50 acres in the southeast quadrant of the Laguna County Sanitation District (LCSD) site. This area was preferred for development to minimize the off-site development cost for site access and utilities. It is anticipated that the primary access to the site would be from State Highway 1.



The site is void of large vegetation and would require minimum site clearing and grubbing. The site gradient falls gently across the site, allowing for a single story footprint for the majority of the facility.

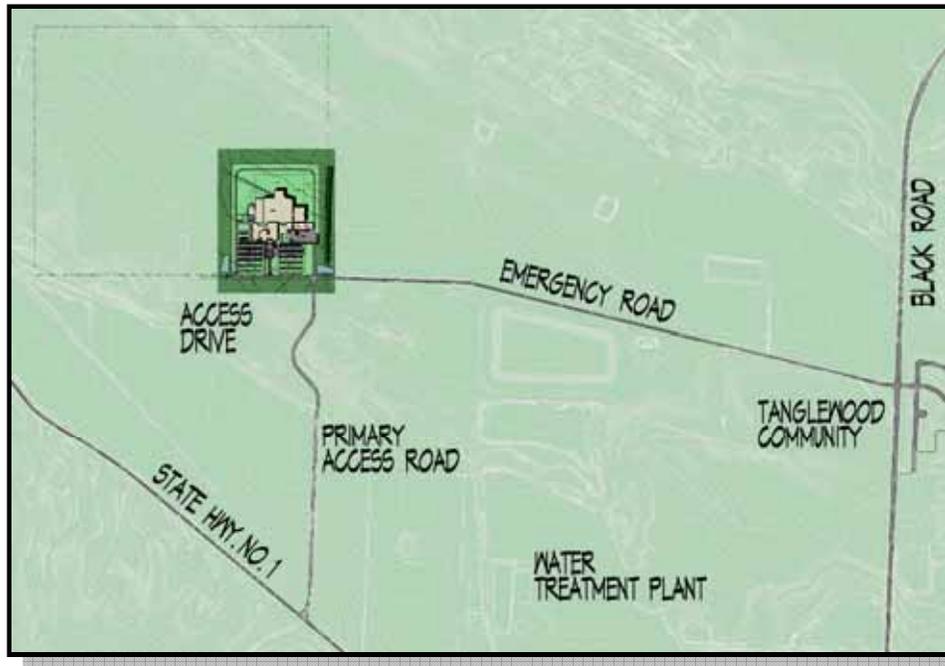
The site plan is organized to separate public, inmate services, and staff access points. This arrangement would provide segregation of incompatible vehicular and pedestrian circulation patterns. This is accomplished by locating the public and service portions of the building in a “support building” in front of, and separated from, the detention housing portion. Additionally, this arrangement promotes economic and efficient building expansion as well as minimizing any view corridor obstruction.

Public vehicular and pedestrian arrival would be from the south or front approach to the support building via designated public parking and entrance plaza. Service vehicles access the secured and screened service yard at the east side of the support building. Provision for a future court facility with associated secured judges’ parking is also planned at the east boundary of the support building. Inmates would be brought to the facility at the west side of the support building via enclosed, secured vehicular sally ports. Staff would access the facility via a fenced staff parking area at the east boundary of the support building.



Facility Design

The exterior wall of the building would be the primary security barrier with with maintenance fence providing control of pedestrian access to the site. The complex would be looped with a services and fire fighting drive located outside the facility maintenance fence.



Site Plan



Exterior Footprint



The design solution for the new County Jail reflects an approach to accommodate a total population of 808 (readily expandable to 1520) inmates beds. The detention building would be expandable by locating additional housing units along extensions of the initial corridor system. Functions in the support building such as Intake, Food Service, Administration, Staff Support, Maintenance and the like are designed to accommodate the full build-out of 1520 inmate beds. Available proven technologies for security, such as the touch screen control and CCTV monitoring system, electronic security verification system, and jail management records system are included in the design.

Housing areas are provided as follows:

The inmate housing areas would be laid out in a “street grid” fashion with straight, intersecting corridors. Each housing area would have an exercise yard, court video booth, video visitation area, a multipurpose classroom, and access to medical and dental exam rooms. This would allow for the services to come to the inmate, thereby considerably reducing the amount of inmate movement and save on personnel costs related to facility design.

Seven (7) Direct Supervision Housing Units would house up to 72 inmates in 36 two-person cells, and will share a dental and medical treatment room with the adjacent General Population Housing unit. These rooms, located between the housing units, would be accessed by a common vestibule. This design also allows staff members to have visual contact of each others work station.

One (1) Administrative Segregation Indirect Supervision Housing Unit would house up to 64 inmates in single person cells. These housing units would have four sections of 16 cells (eight upper, eight lower). Each section would have a dayroom and yard. The upper level has been designed to allow officers access between sections so that a security check of the entire upper level can be completed (all four sections) at one time. A separate control room would control door access in this housing unit.

Three (3) Combination Direct/Indirect Housing Units would house up to 64 general population inmates and 16 segregation inmates. The segregation housing would have yards and dayrooms separate from the General Population area. It is anticipated that these housing units would be used to house the female and mental health inmates.

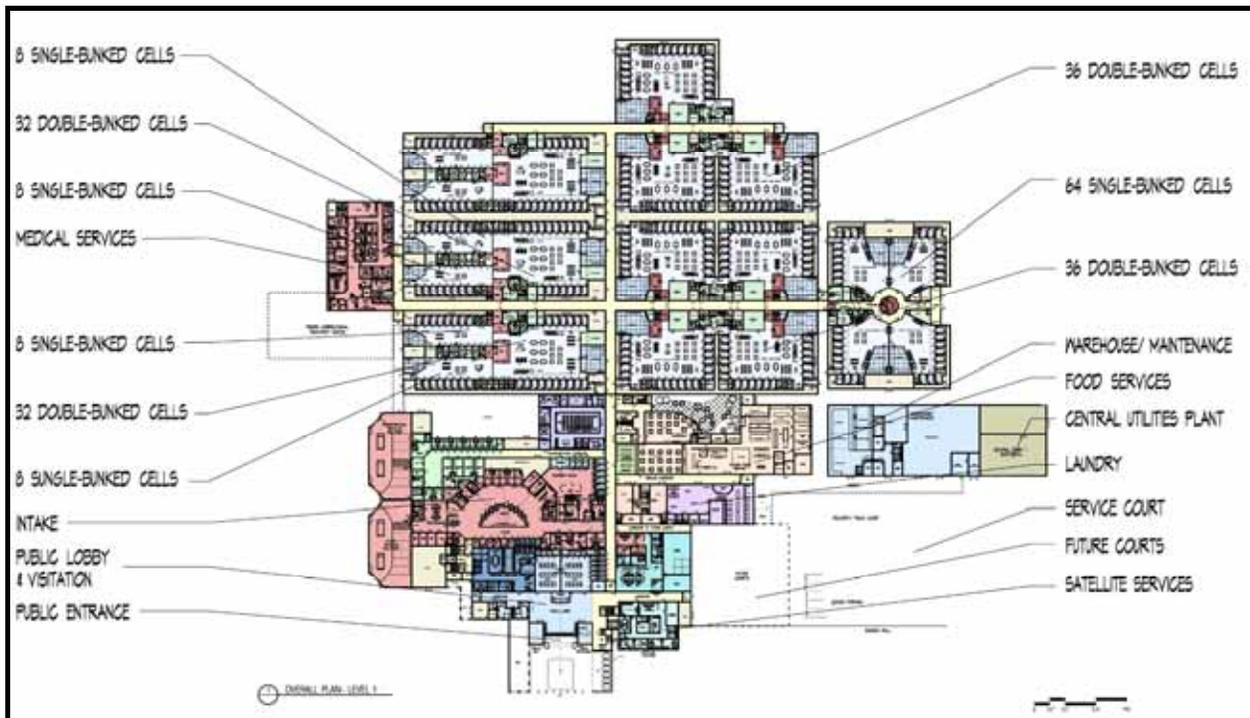
The recreation yards provide for maximization of natural lighting into the dayrooms. The windowless cells incorporate natural lighting via “borrowed dayroom light. This configuration also allows the preferred perimeter chase system and provides for greater security in the recreation yards.



Facility Design



Architectural Rendering



Interior Footprint



Summary

The proposed design for a new County Jail not only meets the current needs of the County of Santa Barbara, but also allows great flexibility for self-contained expansion in the future. The design has been created in such a way to provide for maximized use of the site and the facility, a highly functional environment, and provides for segregation of unique inmate populations. Additionally, through the use of state-of-the-art technology and thoughtful facility design, the design provides a safe environment for staff, inmates, and the surrounding community.

