

**SB 844 Public Comments  
Contra Costa Jail Expansion**

**Total Calls**            **167**  
**Total Letters**       **55**  
**Total Emails**         **138**  
**Total Received**      **360**

<b>Date Received</b>	<b>Name/ Organization</b>	<b>Support / Oppose</b>	<b>Type</b>	<b>Addressed To</b>
5/30/2017	Connie Lowery	Oppose	Letter	BOARD
5/25/2017	Masood Ahmed	Oppose	Letter	BOARD
5/25/2017	Colleen Martin	Oppose	Letter	BOARD
5/24/2017	Kelli Glaser	Oppose	Email	Deputy Director
5/24/2017	Sheli Cryderman	Oppose	Email	Deputy Director
5/23/2017	Karen Lewis	Oppose	Email	BOARD
5/23/2017	Linda Newton	Oppose	Email	BOARD
5/23/2017	Brooke Buckman	Oppose	Email	Deputy Director
5/23/2017	Thomas Neu	Oppose	Email	Deputy Director
5/23/2017	Matthew Blackwell	Oppose	Letter	Executive Director
5/23/2017	Alice Towey	Oppose	Letter	Executive Director
5/23/2017	NAACP	Oppose	Letter	BOARD
5/23/2017	Kathy Beek	Oppose	Letter	BOARD
5/23/2017	Ione Grassi	Oppose	Letter	BOARD
5/23/2017	Jennifer Huber	Oppose	Letter	BOARD
5/22/2017	Kathleen Engelberg	Oppose	Email	BOARD
5/22/2017	Ady Olvera	Oppose	Email	BOARD
5/22/2017	Latondra Goode	Oppose	Email	Deputy Director
5/22/2017	Gail Lancaster	Oppose	Email	Deputy Director
5/22/2017	Dimari Epps	Oppose	Email	Deputy Director
5/22/2017	Roxann	Oppose	Letter	Executive Director
5/22/2017	Unknown	Oppose	Letter	Executive Director
5/22/2017	Unknown	Oppose	Letter	Executive Director
5/22/2017	Judith Tannenbaum	Oppose	Letter	BOARD
5/22/2017	Jennifer Wirks	Oppose	Letter	BOARD
5/22/2017	Kevin Richmond	Oppose	Letter	BOARD
5/22/2017	Holly, San Pablo	Oppose	Letter	BOARD
5/22/2017	Carrie Carter	Oppose	Letter	BOARD
5/22/2017	Michelle Baker	Oppose	Letter	BOARD
5/22/2017	Eliz Wills	Oppose	Letter	BOARD
5/21/2017	Andrew Brosnan	Oppose	Email	BOARD
5/20/2017	Judy Ballinger	Oppose	Email	BOARD
5/20/2017	Pierre Labossiere	Oppose	Email	BOARD
5/19/2017	Maggie Leigh	Oppose	Email	BOARD
5/19/2017	Rene Castle	Oppose	Email	BOARD
5/19/2017	Cindy Franks	Oppose	Email	BOARD
5/19/2017	Cee Hammil	Oppose	Email	BOARD
5/19/2017	Diane Crowe	Oppose	Email	BOARD
5/19/2017	JOAN BARTULOVICH	Oppose	Email	BOARD
5/19/2017	Kishana Harley	Oppose	Email	BOARD
5/19/2017	Robin Taylor	Oppose	Email	BOARD
5/19/2017	Kimberly Suzuki	Oppose	Email	BOARD
5/18/2017	Ed Diaz	Oppose	Email	BOARD
5/18/2017	Bruce Onisko	Oppose	Email	BOARD
5/18/2017	Talia Rubin	Oppose	Email	BOARD
5/18/2017	Howard Cook	Oppose	Email	BOARD
5/18/2017	Anneka Puntch	Oppose	Email	BOARD
5/18/2017	Quanah Brightman	Oppose	Email	BOARD
5/18/2017	Dr. Kathleen McAfee	Oppose	Email	BOARD
5/18/2017	Carole Johnson	Oppose	Email	BOARD
5/18/2017	Katherine McStravick	Oppose	Email	BOARD

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5/18/2017	Gretchen Blais	Oppose	Email	BOARD
5/18/2017	Michael Eichenholtz	Oppose	Email	BOARD
5/18/2017	Chris Darling	Oppose	Email	BOARD
5/18/2017	Senya Means	Oppose	Email	BOARD
5/18/2017	Bonnie Roth	Oppose	Email	BOARD
5/18/2017	Ausberto Beltran	Oppose	Email	BOARD
5/18/2017	Allison Jolley	Oppose	Email	BOARD
5/18/2017	Erik Schnabel	Oppose	Email	BOARD
5/18/2017	Bruce McGaw	Oppose	Email	BOARD
5/16/2017	Cecilia Valdez	Oppose	Letter	Executive Director
5/15/2017	Sandra Portillo-Robins	Oppose	Email	Deputy Director
5/15/2017	Neil Zarchin	Oppose	Letter	Ex. Steering Committee
5/15/2017	Norie Clarke	Oppose	Email	Ex. Steering Committee
5/15/2017	Wendy Hershey	Oppose	Email	Ex. Steering Committee
5/15/2017	Scott Selmanoff	Oppose	Email	Ex. Steering Committee
5/15/2017	Phoebe Anne Sorgen	Oppose	Email	Ex. Steering Committee
5/14/2017	Eddie Matchett	Oppose	Email	Deputy Director
5/14/2017	Trevor Dag	Oppose	Email	Deputy Director
5/14/2017	Catherine Wagner	Oppose	Letter	Executive Director
5/12/2017	Annie Lee	Oppose	Email	Deputy Director
5/12/2017	Debra Lewis	Oppose	Email	Deputy Director
5/12/2017	Elizabeth Copp	Oppose	Email	Deputy Director
5/12/2017	Venise Boykin	Oppose	Email	Deputy Director
5/12/2017	NAMI	Support	Email	Deputy Director
5/12/2017	Carol Schaffer	Oppose	Email	Deputy Director
5/12/2017	Karen Cohen	Support	Email	Deputy Director
5/11/2017	Craig Scott	Oppose	Letter	BOARD
5/11/2017	Katherine Bowman	Oppose	Letter	Deputy Director
5/11/2017	Jennifer Huber	Oppose	Email	Ex. Steering Committee
5/11/2017	Services Not Cells	Oppose	Letter	Ex. Steering Committee
5/11/2017	SEIU 1021	Oppose	Letter	Ex. Steering Committee
5/10/2017	Nancy Burke	Oppose	Email	Deputy Director
5/9/2017	Communications Workers of America	Oppose	Email	Executive Director
5/8/2017	Jennifer Weland	Oppose	Letter	Deputy Director
5/7/2017	Jennifer Weland	Oppose	Email	Ex. Steering Committee
5/5/2017	Assemblymember Tony Thurmond	Oppose	Email	Ex. Steering Committee
5/5/2017	Carol Dvora	Oppose	Email	Ex. Steering Committee
5/5/2017	Duane C. Chapman	Support	Email	Ex. Steering Committee
5/5/2017	Shirley Kaiser	Oppose	Email	Ex. Steering Committee
5/4/2017	AFSCME	Oppose	Letter	Ex. Steering Committee
5/3/2017	Julianna Swent	Oppose	Email	Deputy Director
5/1/2017	ROBERTA BERKMAN	Oppose	Email	BOARD
5/1/2017	Ted Lam	Oppose	Letter	Executive Director
4/30/2017	Lauren Rettagliata	Support	Email	BOARD
4/29/2017	Juliana Mondargon	Oppose	Email	BOARD
4/28/2017	Debora Morrison	Oppose	Email	BOARD
4/27/2017	Meryl Rafferty	Oppose	Letter	BOARD
4/27/2017	Michelle Baptiste	Oppose	Email	BOARD
4/27/2017	Brenda Barnhart	Oppose	Email	BOARD
4/27/2017	Judith Schumacher-Jennings	Oppose	Email	BOARD

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4/27/2017	Diana Howard	Oppose	Email	BOARD
4/27/2017	Marsha Molling	Oppose	Email	BOARD
4/27/2017	Christine Clark	Oppose	Email	BOARD
4/27/2017	Elizabeth Flynn	Oppose	Email	BOARD
4/27/2017	norma phelan	Oppose	Email	BOARD
4/27/2017	laurie Salen	Oppose	Email	BOARD
4/26/2017	Jane Middleton	Oppose	Letter	BOARD
4/26/2017	Jane Middleton	Oppose	Email	BOARD
4/26/2017	Suzanne Yada	Oppose	Email	BOARD
4/26/2017	Ilana Schatz	Oppose	Email	BOARD
4/26/2017	Rose Holmes	Oppose	Email	BOARD
4/26/2017	Susan Waldorf	Oppose	Email	BOARD
4/26/2017	Maya Gutierrez	Oppose	Email	BOARD
4/26/2017	Kyra Legaroff	Oppose	Email	BOARD
4/26/2017	Theodore Lam	Oppose	Email	BOARD
4/26/2017	Gregg Bambo	Oppose	Email	BOARD
4/26/2017	Shirley Kaiser	Oppose	Email	BOARD
4/26/2017	Anna Mahony	Oppose	Email	BOARD
4/26/2017	David Montgomery	Oppose	Email	BOARD
4/26/2017	Toby Gould	Oppose	Email	BOARD
4/26/2017	Helen Dickey	Oppose	Email	BOARD
4/26/2017	Michael Daveiga	Oppose	Email	BOARD
4/26/2017	Richard Bell	Oppose	Email	BOARD
4/26/2017	Carol Dvora	Oppose	Email	BOARD
4/26/2017	Wendy Fieirng	Oppose	Email	BOARD
4/26/2017	Ruth Sasaki	Oppose	Email	BOARD
4/26/2017	Annie Hayes	Oppose	Email	BOARD
4/26/2017	Jesakka Tarr	Oppose	Email	BOARD
4/26/2017	Margie Akin, PhD	Oppose	Email	BOARD
4/26/2017	Zach Bartley	Oppose	Email	BOARD
4/26/2017	Mathilda Varban	Oppose	Email	BOARD
4/26/2017	Ronald Bogin	Oppose	Email	BOARD
4/26/2017	Annette Madden	Oppose	Email	BOARD
4/26/2017	Bhavesh Shah	Oppose	Email	BOARD
4/26/2017	Lynne Gumina	Oppose	Email	BOARD
4/26/2017	Elise August	Oppose	Email	BOARD
4/26/2017	Sarah Colard	Oppose	Email	BOARD
4/26/2017	Liz Keate	Oppose	Email	BOARD
4/26/2017	Michele Brynjulson	Oppose	Email	BOARD
4/26/2017	Arati Om de la Roziere	Oppose	Email	BOARD
4/26/2017	Harry Miller	Oppose	Email	BOARD
4/26/2017	Joy Zuber	Oppose	Email	BOARD
4/26/2017	Cindy Kaczmarek	Oppose	Email	BOARD
4/26/2017	Marlene Lerner-Bigley	Oppose	Email	BOARD
4/26/2017	Christine Soto	Oppose	Email	BOARD
4/22/2017	Kara Lucca	Oppose	Letter	BOARD
4/13/2017	El Cerrito Progrssives	Oppose	Letter	FIELD REP
4/12/2017	Gwynne Gilson	Oppose	Letter	BOARD
4/10/2017	Marlene Keller	Oppose	Email	Ex. Steering Committee
4/5/2017	Janet Abelson	Oppose	Email	Executive Director

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4/4/2017	Central Labor Council Contra Costa	Oppose	Letter	Executive Director
4/4/2017	Genoveva Calloway	Oppose	Email	Ex. Steering Committee
4/3/2017	Melinda Silva	Oppose	Letter	Deputy Director
4/2/2017	Evanne Jordan	Oppose	Email	Ex. Steering Committee
3/31/2017	Cindy Maxim	Oppose	Email	Ex. Steering Committee
3/27/2017	Terry Kupers	Oppose	Email	Ex. Steering Committee
3/23/2017	Elaine Fielding	Oppose	Email	PD
3/22/2017	Margaretha Derasary	Oppose	Letter	BOARD
3/22/2017	Democratic Party of Contra Costa County	Oppose	Email	Ex. Steering Committee
3/20/2017	Irene McPhail	Oppose	Email	Ex. Steering Committee
3/20/2017	Marti Roach	Oppose	Email	Ex. Steering Committee
3/19/2017	Charla Gabert	Oppose	Letter	Ex. Steering Committee
3/17/2017	Debra Kaiyala	Oppose	Letter	BOARD
3/17/2017	Amelia Gurley	Oppose	Email	Ex. Steering Committee
3/16/2017	Maria Alegria	Oppose	Email	Ex. Steering Committee
3/15/2017	Ellen Furnari	Oppose	Email	Ex. Steering Committee
3/14/2017	Camille Parker	Oppose	Email	Ex. Steering Committee
3/14/2017	Hanko Asakura	Oppose	Letter	Ex. Steering Committee
3/14/2017	Liz Keate	Oppose	Email	Ex. Steering Committee
3/14/2017	Sara Oremland	Oppose	Email	Ex. Steering Committee
3/13/2017	Julie Davis	Oppose	Letter	Deputy Director
3/13/2017	Connie Chiba	Oppose	Email	Ex. Steering Committee
3/13/2017	Ginny Tremblay Geoghegan	Oppose	Email	Ex. Steering Committee
3/13/2017	Josh Klavir	Oppose	Email	Ex. Steering Committee
3/13/2017	Julie Stokol	Oppose	Letter	Ex. Steering Committee
3/13/2017	Paul Hughes	Oppose	Letter	FIELD REP
3/13/2017	Paul Hughes	Oppose	Call	FIELD REP
3/13/2017	Paul Hughes	Oppose	Email	PD
3/11/2017	Jovita Kerner	Oppose	Letter	Ex. Steering Committee
3/10/2017	Sasha Keller	Oppose	Letter	Deputy Director
3/10/2017	Franklin Burroughs	Oppose	Letter	PD
3/9/2017	Genoveva Calloway	Oppose	Email	Ex. Steering Committee
3/8/2017	Anita Johnson	Oppose	Letter	BOARD
3/7/2017	Suzanne Llewellyn	Oppose	Letter	BOARD
3/7/2017	Maria Rivera	Oppose	Email	Ex. Steering Committee
3/1/2017	Barbara Metcalf	Oppose	Letter	BOARD
2/23/2017	Tommie Mayfield	Oppose	Letter	BOARD
2/22/2017	Rosemary Healy	Oppose	Letter	Executive Director
2/22/2017	William Lindsay	Oppose	Letter	Executive Director
2/20/2017	Elizabeth Brown	Oppose	Letter	BOARD
2/17/2017	Judith Tannenbaum	Oppose	Letter	BOARD
2/17/2017	Ashley Coates	Oppose	Letter	Ex. Steering Committee
2/6/2017	Andrew Dadko CAN	Oppose	Email	Ex. Steering Committee

# Letters Received by the BSCC

SB 844

Attachment H-2

## West Contra Costa County Jail Expansion

5/23/17



WWW.NAACP.ORG

NAACP

**EL CERRITO, CA BRANCH #1033**

P. O. Box 844 / El Cerrito, CA 94530 / 510-559-3517

[www.elcerritoNAACP.org](http://www.elcerritoNAACP.org)

2017 OFFICERS

*Cora J. Ward*  
President

*Ann Munoz*  
1<sup>st</sup> Vice-President

*Gerald Martin*  
2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-President

*Estelle Avelino*  
3<sup>rd</sup> Vice President

*Shirley Haney*  
Secretary

*Horacio Avelino*  
Treasurer

May 23, 2017

Board of State and Community Corrections  
2590 Ventura Oaks Way, Suite 200  
Sacramento, CA 95833

RE: West Contra Costa County Jail Expansion

Dear Members of the Board:

The El Cerrito branch of the NAACP was founded in 1967 and is part of the national organization established in 1909. The mission of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) is to ensure the political, educational, social and economic equality of rights of all persons and to eliminate race-based discrimination. With more than a half million members and supporters throughout the United States and the world, the branches of the NAACP are the premier advocates for civil rights in their communities, conducting voter mobilization and monitoring equal opportunity in the public and private sectors and ending mass incarceration which has affected African Americans disproportionately and disrupted their communities.

Because of the disproportionate number of African Americans who are incarcerated, five times more than Whites (US Census, 2010), the NAACP has established a national platform on sentencing reform. The NAACP seeks to eliminate harsh and unfair sentencing practices that are responsible for mass incarceration and racial disparities in the prison system.

Attachment H-2

Board of State and Community Corrections

May 23, 2017

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At a time in California history of rethinking past criminal justice policies that too quickly resort to incarceration, Contra Costa County plans to build 416 new high-security beds at the County jail facility in Richmond.

The NAACP El Cerrito branch calls for policy and administrative changes that will:

- Establish justice reinvestment commissions that will downscale prisons and shift resources from prisons to education budgets;
- Eliminate mandatory minimum sentences for drug offenses;
- Advocate for treatment as opposed to incarceration for non-violent offenders;
- Eliminate sentencing of juveniles to life without parole (LWOP);
- Place a moratorium on the death penalty.

The State must reinforce spending priorities that support critical public services that provide the greatest benefit. The growing needs in communities within West County require that public funds be invested in advancing outcomes in education, community health and improving quality of life. We cannot afford to direct scarce public funds for projects that counteract local public safety and community policing efforts.

Therefore, the El Cerrito branch of the NAACP strongly opposes the anticipated jail expansion in West Contra Costa County. We urge you to deny Sheriff David Livingston's application for State money towards this jail expansion project. We do not need to contribute to a prison system that has reached epidemic proportions and destroyed communities. We should be downsizing prisons and shifting resources to educational budgets and social services.

Sincerely,

*Cora J. Ward*

Cora J. Ward

President

Board of State and Community Corrections

May 23, 2017

Page -3-

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cc: Alice Huffman, NAACP President, State Conference of California and Hawaii  
Congressman Mark DeSaulnier  
Assemblyman Tony Thurmond  
Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors *[email]*  
El Cerrito City Council *[email]*  
Richmond City Council *[email]*

Attachment H-2



5/23/17

Our county funds are desperately needed for prevention, mental health, health care job training, affordable housing and reentry services  
To prevent new & further incarceration.

Fund These Programs  
Instead

Attachment H-2

To: BSCC Board  
Members



Our county funds are needed for prevention, mental health, health care and other services to prevent new incarceration. Please let's fund these programs instead.  
Jince Ghassi  
94803

BSCC Board Members  
c/o John Prince  
Board of State & Community Corrections  
2590 Venture Oaks Way  
Ste 200  
Sacramento, CA 95833

5/23/17

Jennifer Haben  
310 Shirley Vista  
El Sobrante, CA 94803

OAKLAND CA 946  
31 MAY 2017 PM 4 L



BSCC Board Members  
c/o John Prince  
Board of State & Community  
Connections  
2590 Venture Oaks Way  
Suite 200  
Sacramento, CA 95833

Attachment #12

ICE fills  
20% of the jail  
eliminate ICE contract  
& reduce over crowding  
No jail expansion  
No!

The Butchart Gardens  
Victoria BC Canada



west county resident  
THE SUNKEN GARDEN  
The lovely Sunken Garden at Vancouver Island's world famous floral attraction, would not exist today if a bleak and sadly worn-out quarry had not piqued the ingenuity of a remarkable woman. Jennie Butchart's Sunken Garden stands as a thrilling testimony to the power of human creativity. Visitors to the 50 acres of gardens are welcomed every day of the year. During summer, illumination and entertainment reward the night time visitor.

BSCC Board  
members  
c/o John Prince  
Board of State  
& Community Correction  
2590 Venture Oaks  
Way  
Sac. Ca. Suite 200  
95833

For further information or shopping online:  
[www.butchartgardens.com](http://www.butchartgardens.com)

BG 84

Printed in Australia on wood free paper

5/22/17

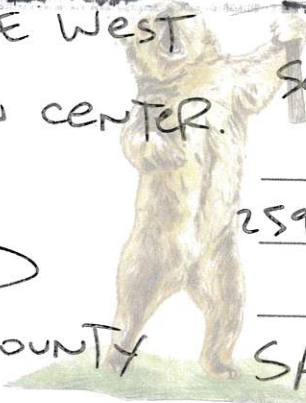


I OPPOSE THE \$95 MILLION  
EXPANSION OF THE WEST  
COUNTY DETENTION CENTER.



SCOTT BUDNICK  
BSCC  
2590 VENTURE OAKS WY.  
SUITE 200  
SACRAMENTO CA  
95833

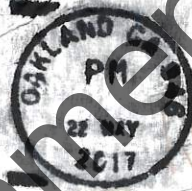
MASOOD AHMED  
CONTRA COSTA COUNTY  
RICHMOND



CALIFORNIA RESISTS BY MELISSAGARDEN.COM



I strongly oppose the \$95 million  
Expansion of the West County D  
Detention Center. Please consider  
Services, NOT cells!



BSCC David Bejarano  
2590 Venture Oaks Way  
Suite 200  
Sacramento, CA 95833

Eli Wills,  
CCG  
Richmond  
CA



CALIFORNIA RESISTS BY MELISSAGARDEN.COM

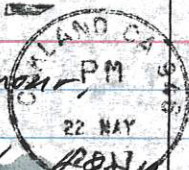

5/22/17

Dear Director Tourneur,

I strongly oppose the expansion of the West County Detention Center. Protecting public safety means investing our tax dollars for services for our communities not investing in cells!

Respectfully,  
Michelle Baker  
Richmond, CA

Francine Tourneur  
B S C C  
2590 Venture Oaks Way  
Suite 200  
Sacramento, CA  
95833

★ Dear Ms. Garrett,


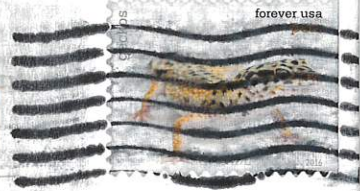

I strongly oppose the \$95 million expansion of the West County Detention Center. Taxpayer funds should be invested in our county + community services.

Public Safety means investing in Services, NOT cells!

Came Carlin  
Pt Richmond, CC county

Ramona Garrett  
Retired Judge Solano County  
2590 Venture Oaks Way  
Suite 200  
Sacramento, CA  
95833

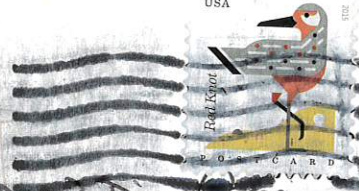
CALIFORNIA RESISTS BY MELISSA GARDEN.COM

5/22/17

★ Jeffrey Green,

I strongly oppose the \$95 million expansion of the West County Detention Center. Our taxpayer funds should be invested in Contra Costa County Services for our community. Protecting public safety means investing in services, not cells!  
- Holly, San Pablo, CA



CDER Dir. Green  
BSCC

2590 Venture Oaks Way, Ste 200  
Sacramento, CA  
95833

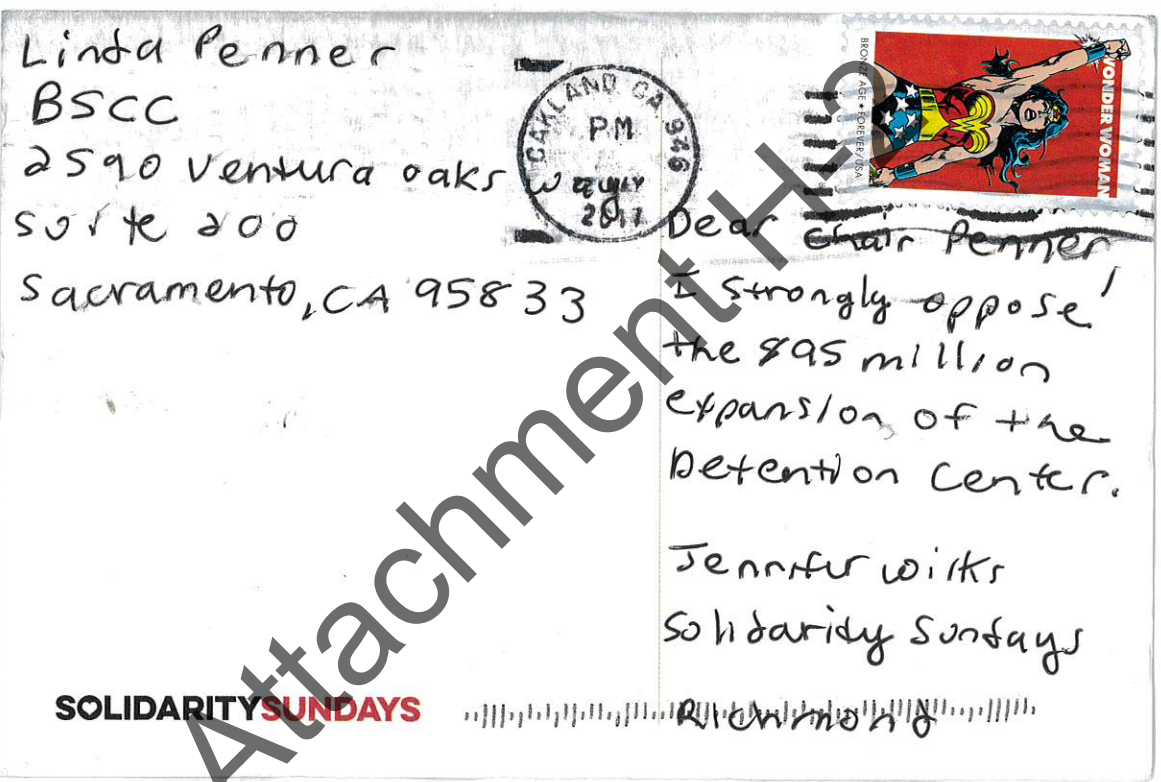
CALIFORNIA RESISTS BY MELISSAGARDEN.COM

DEAR RAMONA GARRETT  
I STRONGLY OPPOSE THE \$95 MILLION EXPANSION OF THE WEST COUNTY DETENTION CENTER. OUR TAXPAYER FUNDS SHOULD BE FOR CONTRA COSTA COUNTY SERVICES, NOT MORE JAIL CELLS. PLEASE HELP OUR KIDS BEFORE THEY GET IN TROUBLE. IT IS CHEAPER AND IT IS JUST.  
**SOLIDARITY SUNDAYS**  
- KEVIN RICHMOND

RAMONA GARRETT  
BOARD OF STATE & COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS  
2590 VENTURE OAKS WAY  
SUITE 200  
SACRAMENTO CA.  
95833



5/22/17



5/22/17 1

May 22, 2017

Linda Penner, Chair  
Board of State and Community Corrections  
2590 Venture Oaks Way, Suite 200  
Sacramento, CA 94833

Dear Ms. Penner:

I know that the Executive Steering Committee gave Contra Costa County Sheriff Livingston's proposal a high score on May 17, but I urge the Board to turn down this proposal when you vote on June 8. I understand that the ESC is obligated to score according to guidelines without any other considerations. But the Board can look more broadly to be sure proposals meet, not merely a narrow interpretation, but the deeper intent of AB 109 and subsequent legislation.

Everyone I know in Contra Costa agrees that conditions in the Martinez Detention Facility are bad. Everyone agrees that the people we lock up should have decent conditions, programming, and necessary services. The debate concerns how best to do that: both in terms of spending state and county money and also in terms of making decisions most likely to prevent people from going (or returning) to jail or prison.

Here are a few reasons why the Sheriff's proposal – though it meets guidelines – is not the way to go either in terms of money or intention:

- If the Sheriff didn't have his contract with I.C.E., there would be plenty of room to provide programming and services; there would be no need for expansion. The State itself may prohibit future money going to counties with ICE contracts (SB 630).
- A large proportion of individuals in the jail are there only because they cannot afford bail. If we get rid of money bail, we'll drastically reduce the numbers inside. This may well happen on the State level (AB 42 and SB 10).
- The Sheriff's proposal describes only a small number of beds dedicated to intensive mental health treatment and even this small number is subject to downsizing in the future when public budgets might well be cut.
- Research consistently shows that providing mental health care in correctional facilities is the most expensive and least effective way to get these services to those who need them.

5/22/17 2

- Our County (which has recently seen the closing of Doctors Hospital) can't afford to commit \$25 million for construction and another \$5 million (or more) per year to operate the jail. There has been no public discussion about whether this is the best use of our money or about whether such money will even be there in 2021 and beyond.

I understand that you expect much of the discussion about these points to occur internally, but our Board of Supervisors didn't invite a true public conversation before they voted to support the Sheriff's proposal. Yes, they took public comments (as they are legally obliged to) but there was no indication that any supervisor other than John Gioia listened or chose to take these into consideration.

As you know, three cities in Contra Costa – El Cerrito, Richmond, and San Pablo – have voted to oppose the proposal and to write letters to you expressing this opposition. As you also probably know, Senator Skinner wrote a letter to the Board of Supervisors opposing the proposal and there have been many editorials and op/ed pieces in opposition published in local papers.

AB109 was part of a big effort to move away from decades of mass incarceration. It's hard to change long-standing practices, but AB 109 asks us to do so. If we step back from what we've gotten used to, we can see that there are many actions we can take to reduce the existing jail population thereby giving the space to provide services without any expansion. If the Sheriff had been interested in coming up with a plan that would truly serve Contra Costa County, he could have gone to the Board of Supervisors and the public and – together – we would have created a proposal that would have served real needs without costing \$95 million and more.

Sincerely,



Judith Tannenbaum  
3120 Yosemite Avenue  
El Cerrito, CA 94530



5/22/17 3

CAPITOL OFFICE  
STATE CAPITOL  
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SACRAMENTO, CA 95814  
TEL (916) 651-4009  
FAX (916) 651-4909

DISTRICT OFFICE  
1515 CLAY STREET  
SUITE 2202  
OAKLAND, CA 94612  
TEL (510) 286-1333  
FAX (510) 286-3885

SENATOR.SKINNER@SENATE.CA.GOV

# California State Senate

SENATOR  
NANCY SKINNER  
MAJORITY WHIP  
NINTH SENATORIAL DISTRICT



CHAIR  
PUBLIC SAFETY  
BUDGET & FISCAL REVIEW  
SUBCOMMITTEE 5:  
PUBLIC SAFETY & LABOR

COMMITTEES  
ENERGY, UTILITIES &  
COMMUNICATIONS  
ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY  
TRANSPORTATION & HOUSING

April 14, 2017

Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors  
Board Chambers Room 107  
Administration Building  
651 Pine Street  
Martinez, California 94553-1229

Dear Contra Costa County Supervisors,

I write to respectfully ask the Board to not move forward with expanding the West County Detention Facility. If the state awards the grant for this project, the County can reverse course by not appropriating General Fund dollars, and not accepting the grant award. I urge the Board to take this course of action.

I stand in support of Supervisor John Gioia, the Contra Costa Racial Justice Coalition and the many residents, advocates and community organizations who oppose Contra Costa County's plan to build 416 new high-security beds at the County jail facility in Richmond.

The County is proposing to spend \$25 million in county resources, and has asked the state for \$70 million to pay for construction of the proposed jail expansion.

We are at a point in California's history of rethinking past criminal justice policies that too quickly resorted to incarceration with little to no focus on crime prevention, community impact, or rehabilitation. We have also had to confront the fact that our "incarceration only" mindset has disproportionately and unfairly impacted our impoverished and minority residents.

As a result, California's voters and the Legislature have made reforms to sentencing practices, decreased commitments to state prison and increased the number of people housed and rehabilitated in county jails and local criminal justice systems. Given the State's emphasis on housing and rehabilitating more people in local facilities, an argument to invest resources in county jail beds may appear to make sense. However, there are numerous evidence based policies and practices available to both the State and Contra Costa County that can reduce the need for more beds in either state prison or county jails.

Advocates in opposition to the Richmond jail expansion have correctly highlighted the fact that the majority of those currently being held in Contra Costa County jail, approximately 70%, haven't been convicted of a crime. To the contrary, many are simply awaiting trial for non-serious offenses. In fact, their inability to afford bail is the key factor for many of them being held.

Attachment H-2



5/22/17 4

Written Presentation by Terry A. Kupers, M.D., M.S.P., about the proposed expansion of the West Contra Costa County Detention Facility. May, 2017.

I regret not being able to attend tonight's meeting. A very important discussion is occurring and a decision is about to be made that will shape mental health treatment and public safety in Contra Costa County for many years to come.

I am a physician, board-certified psychiatrist, Professor at The Wright Institute in Berkeley, and author of many professional articles and two books about mental illness and the correctional system. The books are Prison Madness: The Mental Health Crisis Behind Bars and What We Must Do About It (1999), and Solitary: The Inside Story of Supermax Isolation and How We Can Abolish It (University of California Press, 2017). I testify often as a psychiatric expert witness in class action lawsuits challenging abusive conditions and inadequate mental health care in correctional facilities.

I have spent most of my career as a community psychiatrist advocating for quality mental health treatment for individuals with serious mental illness who spend time behind bars, in jails and prisons. Contra Costa County is at a crossroads in this regard. The Sheriff is proposing expansion of the West County Detention Facility to ease the dreadful crowding at the Martinez Detention Facility, and promising that expanded mental health treatment programs will be a central part of the expansion. I know that quite a few people are concerned about

5/22/17  
5

jail, and the harsh conditions, especially crowding and solitary confinement, greatly exacerbate their mental illness and worsen both their disability and their prognosis. I know that there is great concern among legislators and folks at this meeting about individuals who fail to adhere to treatment, act out, and repeatedly run afoul of the law. But the way to handle that problem is not to give them more time in jail, even in a mental health jail, because that will only worsen their mental illness and disability. Rather, research shows that the better the quality of the therapeutic relationship with a mental health professional, the more likely individuals with serious mental illness are to adhere to their treatment, remain clean and sober, and thrive. On the other hand, in jail, they are likely to spend most of their time in a single cell by themselves – solitary confinement even though it is not officially called that – and their condition is likely to deteriorate badly. They need what is called “diversion,” where they are sent to halfway houses and other community treatments as an alternative to jail time. I know that the proposed expanded West County Detention Facility is being called a “mental health jail.” But it is still a jail, there is still a culture of punishment that is pervasive in jail and very counter-therapeutic, and it is clear to a growing group of mental health professionals that “diversion,” with quality mental health care in the community offered as an alternative to jail, makes for much more effective mental health treatment. A behavioral health court could usefully administer the diversion program, where individuals are rewarded with less jail time the more they adhere to their treatment. Similarly the drug court that already exists in the county could be expanded to keep quite a few others out of

5/25/17

Colleen Martin  
231 Arlington Ave.  
Kensington, CA 94707  
colleenjmartin@gmail.com  
May 22, 2017

Kathleen Howard, Executive Director  
California Board of State and Community Corrections  
2590 Venture Oaks Way, Suite 200  
Sacramento CA 95833  
916-445-5073  
kathleen.howard@bscc.ca.gov

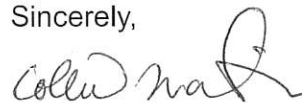
Dear Director Howard,

I am a resident and taxpayer living in Contra Costa County. I write to express my concerns about the proposed expansion of the West County Detention Facility. I share the concerns of Contra Costa County Supervisor John Gioia and State Senator Nancy Skinner about the proposal. As you know, many residents, advocates, and community leaders in District 1 have already spoken out in opposition to or actively demonstrated against the plan to build 419 new high-security beds at the County Jail facility in Richmond.

The County is proposing to spend \$25 million in county resources and has asked the state for \$70 million to pay for construction of the proposed expansion. As a criminal defense attorney, I have seen first-hand the failures of mass incarceration. This proposal seeks to spend public money on further mass incarceration. Realignment was meant to lower, not raise, the jail population throughout the state, and this proposal flies in the face of the aims of realignment. Moreover, 20% of our existing bed capacity is currently under contract to the DOJ Immigration and Customs Enforcement. Rather than assisting the federal government in its harsh anti-immigrant enforcement actions (which lessen rather than increase public safety), the County could repurpose those beds from federal to local needs. This would both save scarce public funds and increase public safety.

I respectfully request that you reject the proposal to expand the Detention Center. Thank you for your consideration and for your service to the people of California.

Sincerely,



Colleen Martin

5/22/17



RE: Jail Expansion in West Contra Costa County – Richmond

Dear BSCC Supervisors and Steering Committee,

**Please do NOT approve the expansion of the jail in Richmond.**

- This community cannot afford to maintain a new jail for millions of \$ each year. We just lost our hospital !
  - Deterrence PRIOR to incarceration is a better use of \$. Reduce mass incarceration. Decriminalize marijuana use.
  - Reform the bail system to reduce pretrial inmate population
  - “Stepping Up” initiative needs support to reduce/decriminalize mental illness in jails.
  - Over capacity is due to ICE detentions ! Local law enforcement should not be doing the job of the Federal agency.
- Thank you for NOT approving the jail expansion!  
C. A. Sweet – El Sobrante, Ca.

Board of Supervisors  
 State + Community  
 Corrections  
 2590 Venture Oaks  
 Way #  
 200  
 Sacramento CA  
 95833

Attachment H-2

958333200 R033

5/22/17

kittens

forever usa  
pets



RE: Jail Expansion in West Contra Costa County – Richmond

Dear BSCC Supervisors and Steering Committee,

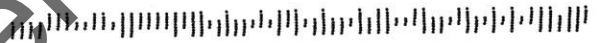
**Please do NOT approve the expansion of the jail in Richmond.**

- This community cannot afford to maintain a new jail for millions of \$ each year. We just lost our hospital !
  - Deterrence PRIOR to incarceration is a better use of \$. Reduce mass incarceration. Decriminalize marijuana use.
  - Reform the bail system to reduce pretrial inmate population
  - “Stepping Up” initiative needs support to reduce/decriminalize mental illness in jails.
  - Over capacity is due to ICE detentions ! Local law enforcement should not be doing the job of the Federal agency.
- Thank you for NOT approving the jail expansion!  
C. A. Sweet – El Sobrante, Ca.

Exec. Steering Comm.  
 State + Community  
 2590 Venture Oaks  
 Way #200  
 Sacramento CA  
 95833

Attachment H-2

958333200 R033



No new jail  
No No No  
put our hospital back in Richmond  
Please

—  
Roxann

Attachment H-2

May 16, 2017



E-Transmittal and U.S. Regular Mail: [kathleen.howard@bscc.ca.gov](mailto:kathleen.howard@bscc.ca.gov)

Ms. Kathleen Howard  
Executive Director  
California Board of State and Community Corrections  
2590 Venture Oaks Way  
Sacramento, CA 95833

**Re: San Pablo City Council – Opposition to the proposed expansion of the West Contra Costa County Detention Facility (WCDF) located in Richmond, California**

Dear Ms. Howard:

At its meeting of May 15, 2017, the San Pablo City Council discussed and adopted Resolution 2017-095 (4-1 vote) which summarized their opposition and significant concerns over the proposed expansion of the West Contra Costa County Detention Facility (WCDF), for which Contra Costa County has submitted a \$70 million grant proposal to the Criminal Justice Facilities Construction Fund of the California Board of State and Community Corrections (BSCC) (see Attachment).

As you know, on February 7, 2017, the Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors voted 4-1 to move forward with a proposal to expand the West County Detention Facility in Richmond. Contra Costa County Supervisor John Gioia, First District, was the opposing vote. During their deliberations, the Contra Costa County Sheriff's Office (Sheriff's Office) states there is a great need for the expansion due to the overcrowding at the Martinez Detention Facility (MDF), which is currently housing significantly more inmates than operationally recommended.

The proposed WCDF expansion project plan proposes to add a new wing to the existing WCDF facility that is close to 120,000 square feet, including space for 400 beds and child-visitation, re-entry and rehabilitation centers. The proposal also includes a mental health treatment facility; however, there is speculation that there is a minimal amount of beds dedicated to inmates with mental illness. Additionally, the City of San Pablo understands that 70% of all inmates housed at the current Martinez Detention Facility (MDF) are detained awaiting upcoming court proceedings, and/or remain at MDF due to lack of resources for posting bail. Moreover, the City understands that a significant portion of 200 beds are being utilized and earmarked for U.S. Federal Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) detainees under a cooperative agreement with Sheriff's Office; thereby,

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Main: 510-215-3000 • Fax: 510-215-3011

[www.SanPabloCA.gov](http://www.SanPabloCA.gov)



displacing critical inmate housing for local inmates due to these federal immigration responsibilities. Due to these concerns over inmate housing issues, it is unclear if the Sheriff's Office proposed WCDF expansion project will result in addressing an actual inmate population housing shortage as a justifiable reason for this project expansion.

#### **Previous City Council Consideration**

On May 26, 2015, following notification of a DRAFT EIR and Notice of Public Hearing for the WCDF Re-Entry and Treatment Expansion Project, the City's former Mayor Chao Rothberg transmitted a letter to the Office of the Contra Costa County Sheriff expressing the City's initial concerns over the proposed project. On June 15, 2015, the San Pablo City Council received a presentation from the Sheriff's Office regarding the proposed project expansion. A City Council Ad Hoc Subcommittee was established and was provided an overview of facility project expansion during a scheduled tour in July 2015. No formal policy matter was discussed at that time or directed by the San Pablo City Council.

#### **Other West County Cities Actions**

On August 3, 2015, the City of Richmond City Council, as host City for the WCDF expansion project, adopted a Resolution of Opposition (#86-15) to the West County Detention Facility Expansion Project. On April 4, 2017, following discussion on March 21, 2017, the City of El Cerrito City Council authorized a letter of opposition to the State of California Board of State and Community Corrections (BSCC) to express the City's opposition to the proposed expansion project and the \$70M grant proposal for the Contra Costa County Sheriff's Office.

As evidenced by actions taken to date from other West Contra Costa County cities, which are in direct and in close proximity of the proposed WCDF expansion project, the San Pablo City Council felt compelled to adopt a Resolution officially opposing the WCDF expansion project to cumulatively support the West County regional concerns over this proposed project.

#### **Opportunity Cost Issues**

Most significantly, the Sheriff's Office plans to submit a proposal for a \$70 million grant from the Criminal Justice Facilities Construction Fund. As a criteria of the grant, the Contra Costa County BOS agreed to meet the 10% local matching requirements for large Counties. If awarded, a \$7M local matching (10%) contribution would need to be allocated in order to complete and ultimately maintain its operations, potentially taking away funding from other critically needed County-wide mental health and health and human programs and services. The opportunity cost of which would enable the establishment of critically needed County provided treatment programs for the mentally ill who considerably represent a significant proportion of the current County inmate population at MDF, and WCDF facilities.

Therefore, for the above stated concerns, the City of San Pablo City Council is **opposed** to this WCDF expansion project.

Ms. Kathleen Howard, Executive Director  
California Board of State and Community Corrections  
May 16, 2017

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

  
Cecilia Valdez, Mayor  
City of San Pablo

Attachment: San Pablo City Council Resolution 2017-095

cc: Contra Costa County Supervisor John Gioia, First District  
San Pablo City Council  
City Manager  
City Attorney

Attachment H-2

## RESOLUTION 2017-095

**RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SAN PABLO OPPOSING THE WEST CONTRA COSTA COUNTY RE-ENTRY AND TREATMENT EXPANSION (WCDF) PROJECT**

WHEREAS, on April 17, 2017, the San Pablo City Council added the policy item: *Proposed Expansion of the West County Detention Facility (WCDF)* to the FY 2015-17 Council Priority Workplan, effective October 1, 2017;

WHEREAS, the Contra Costa County Sheriff presented an overview of the jail expansion plan to the San Pablo City Council on June 15, 2015 upon the San Pablo City Council's request on May 25, 2015 to express its concerns and gather information about the proposed jail expansion project, with the City Council not electing to take a policy position on the proposed project at that time;

WHEREAS, on February 7, 2017, the Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors approved (4-1), with Supervisor John Gioia casting the opposing vote, to proceed with a \$70M grant submission to the State of California Board of State and Community Corrections (BSCC) to fund the WCDF expansion project;

WHEREAS, the State of California has built 21 state prisons since 1980 while investments in education and essential public services have been cut severely over the last three decades;

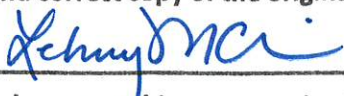
WHEREAS, the City of San Pablo provided official comments on the DRAFT EIR for the West County Detention Facility Expansion project in 2015, and found significant issues concerning the project;

WHEREAS, the Contra Costa County Sheriff's proposal entails addressing the need for the expansion due to the overcrowding at the County Martinez (MDF) Jail Facility which is currently housing significantly more inmates than recommended;

WHEREAS, the WCDF jail expansion project proposes to add a new wing to the Richmond facility that is close to 120,000 sq. ft. including space for 400 beds and child visitation, re-entry and rehabilitation centers, and a mental health treatment facility with a minimum amount of beds dedicated to the treatment of inmates with mental illness; and

WHEREAS, the Contra Costa County Sheriff's proposal for the expansion of the WCDF is a significant increase in jail housing capacity which contradicts the legislative purposes of State funds (i.e. SB 863) which are earmarked and intended to replace existing jail housing capacity, realizing only a minimal increase in capacity, without a clear report or document which demonstrates an existing jail housing deficiency to warrant expansion of the WCDF.

**I hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true and correct copy of the original document.**



**Lehny M. Corbin, Deputy City Clerk**

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED the City Council of the City of San Pablo resolves and authorizes the following:

1. The San Pablo City Council is opposed to the expansion project for the West Contra Costa Detention Facility; and
2. Recommends a letter of opposition be sent to the Executive Director of the State of California State of California Board of State and Community Corrections (BSCC) opposing the Contra Costa County Sheriff's \$70M grant submission for the WCDF expansion project.

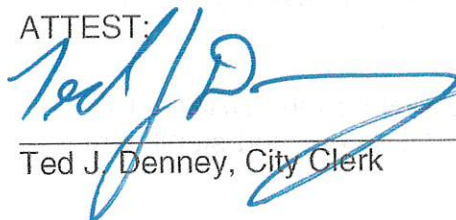
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the foregoing recitations are true and correct, and are included herein by reference as findings.

\*\*\*\*\*

ADOPTED this 15<sup>th</sup> date of May, 2017, by the following vote:

AYES:	COUNCILMEMBERS:	Cruz, Morris, Calloway and Valdez
NOES:	COUNCILMEMBERS:	Kinney
ABSENT:	COUNCILMEMBERS:	None
ABSTAIN:	COUNCILMEMBERS:	None

ATTEST:

  
 Ted J. Denney, City Clerk

APPROVED:

  
 Cecilia Valdez, Mayor

Attachment H-2

5/15/17

Neil Zarchin  
4828 Meadowbrook Dr.  
El Sobrante, CA 94803  
[neil.zarchin@gmail.com](mailto:neil.zarchin@gmail.com)  
925.639.3736

Executive Steering Committee  
c/o John Prince  
Board of State and Community Corrections  
2590 Venture Oaks Ct.  
Sacramento, CA 95833

Dear Steering Committee,

I am writing to express my opposition to funding the expansion of the West County Detention Center in Richmond, CA.

There are several financial factors that inform my position.

Financial considerations include, but are not limited to:

- Contra Costa County cannot afford the costs associated with the jail expansion. While most of the construction costs are covered by the grant, the remainder of the costs must be borne by the county. As a resident of West Contra Costa, I would much rather see the funds go to build a hospital, as ours closed its doors in 2015.
- There are numerous studies, not to mention common sense, that show prevention being less expensive than incarceration. These funds could be spent on infrastructure that makes law enforcement more effective and safer.

I appreciate the opportunity to give my input, and thank you for the hard work you do.

Sincerely,

  
Neil Zarchin

Contact: Catherine Wagner  
220 Lake Drive  
Kensington, CA 94708  
[cathywag@gmail.com](mailto:cathywag@gmail.com)

May 14, 2017

To: Kathleen Howard, Executive Director  
California Board of State and Community Corrections  
2590 Venture Oaks Way, Suite 200  
Sacramento CA 95833  
916-445-5073  
[kathleen.howard@bscc.ca.gov](mailto:kathleen.howard@bscc.ca.gov)

Dear Director Howard,

We are writing to you as citizens of Contra Costa County to let you know that we share the concerns of our Contra Costa County Supervisor John Gioia and our State Senator Nancy Skinner about the proposal to expand the West County Detention Facility. As you know, many residents, advocates, and community leaders in District 1 have already spoken out in opposition to or actively demonstrated against the plan to build 419 new high-security beds at the County Jail facility in Richmond.

As you know, the County is proposing to spend \$25 million in county resources and had asked the state for \$70 million to pay for construction of the proposed expansion. We are opposed to this expenditure of public money because (1) it is an extension of our really problematic 'lock-em-up' policy of the last decades that has swollen the jail and prison populations at a time when we need to be rethinking our criminal justice strategies, not simply extending them; (2) and because bail reform—as Senator Nancy Skinner has argued—is a saner and fairer way to deal with the existing bed capacity in our jails than building more cells to lock up poor people who can't make bail and are being incarcerated for relatively minor offenses; (3) and because the 20% of existing bed capacity that is under contract to the U/S. Justice Department's Immigration and Customs Enforcement can be repurposed to meet the needs of the county rather than the federal agenda to round up and deport undocumented citizens who live and work among us.

For these reasons, we are asking you to reject the proposal to expand the Detention Center.

Thanks for your work on behalf of the people of California.

Sincerely,  
Robert Hass  
Brenda Hillman  
Barbara Metcalf  
Jennifer Villarina  
Paula Kasler

Ellen Oliensis  
Barbara Sternfeld  
Irene David  
Roger Gould  
Catherine Wagner

I am a resident of Contra Costa County.

Please include my name in the letter being sent to the California Board of State and Community Corrections, regarding The proposal to expand the West County Detention Facility.

Name

Address

Nancy Burke  
Jack Moynihan  
Helem Stue

nlburke@sbcglobal.net  
jmoyn52@gmail.com  
80 W Hookston Rd, P. Hill

Judith Weatherly

2606 Sheldon Pr., Richmond Lafayette

GWEN WATSON

Gwen 306 Maverick Ct

Father Brian Joyce

199 Brandon Rd, Pleasant Hill

Anne Daniels

Antioch, CA

Ronna Braddy

912 Norvell St. El Cerrito 94530

Elaine Fox

235 Willamette Ave Kensington 94708

Tina Marzell

146 Ramona Ave, El Cerrito

JANE ORIEL

115 Carmel Ave. El Cerrito 94530

Donna Crawford

122 Carmel Ave. El Cerrito 94530

Susan Singh

3815 Lake side Dr E113, Richmond 94506

Bea Hartman

710 Colusa Ave., El Cerrito, CA 94530

MARY-JANE WOOD

3136 CURROVA WY, LAFAYETTE, CA 94549

Tom Rudderow

351 SANTA CLARA AVE OAKLAND 94610

Fr. Peter Champion

703 Mariposa Ave. Rodeo 94572

Mother Susan Champion

703 Mariposa Ave. Rodeo 94572

Sharon V. Roberts

131 Ardmore Rd. Kensington 94707

Elena C. Ramirez

1801 Mendocino St.

Richmond, CA 94804

CRAIG SCOTT

1027 CRAWFORD AVE.

Berkeley 94708

Glenda Pawsey

1127 Fresno Ave, Berkeley, 94707

Susan Champion

703 Mariposa Ave, Rodeo 94572

SH Emjuro

244 TRINITY AVE

~~Steve S~~

KENSINGTON, CA

Steve Smith

200 Willamette Ave, Kensington, CA 94708

Attachment H-2





5/11/17

May 11, 2017

To: California Board of State and Community Corrections (BSCC) Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors

SEIU 1021 strongly opposes the \$95 million expansion of the West County Detention Center. Our union represents over 54,000 employees in local governments, non-profit agencies, health care programs and schools throughout Northern California. Several thousand of them work for Contra Costa County and many more reside there.

We are asking you to vote against the proposed detention center expansion. Contra Costa County can't afford an expanded prison system that it does not need. Spending money to expand West County Detention Center will rob Contra Costa residents of crucial services. The expansion will require at least \$25 million from general and reserve funds, draining crucial community-based human services like rehabilitation and preventative services that protect County residents and help them thrive

A recent poll of Contra Costa voters showed strong opposition to any expansion of the West County Detention Center and more than half believe that the Contra Costa County Sheriff should not collaborate with Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

Unlike the collaborative process advocated by the BSCC to develop policy and programs, the Sheriff's Office proposal to expand the detention center was developed without input from key groups and is facing strong opposition. We believe state and local taxpayer funds should be invested in Contra Costa County and services for our communities.

The Sheriff's Office expansion of its jail system broadens activities helping President Donald Trump initiate a mass deportation of immigrants in the United States—a frightening and radical vision of rounding up, interning, and deporting immigrants.

We need to invest in services for our residents so they don't end up in jail. The County needs services, not cells.

Sincerely,

Roxanne Sanchez  
SEIU 1021 President

- Roxanne Sanchez**  
President
- Sunny Santiago**  
VP Region A (North Central)
- Tom Popenuck**  
VP Region B (North Coast)
- Gary Jimenez**  
VP Region C (East Bay)
- Joseph Bryant**  
VP Region D (San Francisco)
- Marcus Williams**  
VP Region E  
(Amador/Calaveras/San Joaquin)

- Jan Schardt**  
Secretary
- Amos Eaton**  
Treasurer
- Theresa Rutherford**  
VP of Representation

- Alysbeth Alexander**  
VP of Politics
- Ramses Teon-Nichols**  
VP of Organizing

**Executive Board**

- Pete Albert
- John Arantes
- Akbar Bibb
- Derrick Boutte
- Lorraine Bowser
- Theresa Breakfield
- Monique Broussard
- Norlissa Cooper
- Gregory Correa
- Felipe Cuevas
- Evelyn Curiel
- Karla Faucett
- Al Fernandez
- Geneva Haines
- Dellfinia Hardy
- Dan Jameyson
- Cynthia Landry
- Omar Medina
- Yeon Park
- Mercedes Riggelman
- Mary Sandberg
- Eric Stern
- Robert Taylor
- Angel Valdez
- Jim Wise
- Janice Wong

**Executive Board & Budget & Finance Committee**

- Kathryn Cavness
- Rhea Davis
- Tina Diep
- Mary Duncan
- Peggy LaRossa
- Julie Meyers
- Cristin Perez

California Board of State and Community Corrections (BSCC)

I strongly oppose the \$95 million expansion of the West County Detention Center. Taxpayer funds should be invested in Contra Costa County and services for our communities.

The proposed expansion of the West County Detention Center is in direct opposition to the goals of realignment of the criminal justice system and the Contra Costa Sheriff's contract with Immigration Customs Enforcement (ICE) should disqualify the county from receiving state funds under SB 844.

The Contra Costa Sheriff's Department is paid \$82 per night and over \$6 million a year to detain as many as 200 people. The Board of State and Community Corrections (BSCC) Request for Proposal under SB 844 that the Contra Costa Sheriff applied for clearly states:

A participating county with a request resulting in any increase in capacity using this financing authority shall be required to certify and covenant in writing that the county **is not**, and will not be, leasing housing capacity to any other public or private entity for a period of 10 years beyond completion date of the adult local criminal justice facility.

The Contra Costa Sheriff's proposal should not be eligible to receive \$70 million in state funds under SB 844 because of the current contract with ICE, and \$25 in county funds should not be used to complete this \$95 million jail expansion.

Contra Costa County data has shown the racial disparities for people of color at every stage of the criminal justice process within the County. Our funds must go towards investment in services for our residents before they end up in jail. The youth, families and workers of our County need services, not cells.

Sincerely,

*Arnulfo De la Cruz*



Katherine Bowman, Ph.D.  
185 Avenida Drive  
Berkeley, CA 94708

May 11, 2017

Executive Steering Committee  
c/o John Prince  
Board of State and Community Corrections  
2590 Venture Oaks Court  
Sacramento, CA

Dear Mr. Prince:

As a citizen of the State of California I am concerned about the use of state funds for expansion of jail facilities in Contra Costa County. First of all, there is currently overcapacity in the West Contra Costa County detention facility. It is being used to house 200 US Immigration and Customs Enforcement detainees, not criminals. This is not an appropriate use. A bigger jail is not needed to reduce criminality in this county. Secondly Contra Costa County desperately needs to use the money they would have to contribute for jail expansion to put toward prevention if recidivism, mental health treatment facilities within jails and primary prevention of criminality in the first place.

Thank you for consideration of my opinions.

*Katherine A. Bowman PhD*

Katherine Bowman, Ph.D.

5/11/17

1027 Cragmont Ave.  
Berkeley, CA 94708  
510 365-6042  
[craigscottuu@att.net](mailto:craigscottuu@att.net)

Board of State and Community Corrections  
2590 Venture Oaks Way, Suite 200  
Sacramento, CA 95833

Re: Contra Costa Sheriff's Application for State Grant

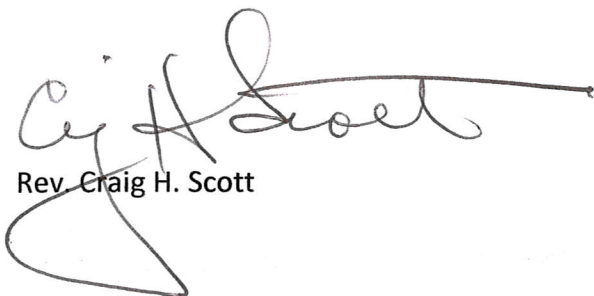
To the Board:

I urge you NOT to grant funds for the proposed expansion of West Contra Costa County Detention Facility, located in Richmond, Ca.

I write as a Unitarian Universalist minister working with the Social Justice Council of the UU Church of Berkeley, CA. Our church is actually located in Contra Costa County (Kensington), and our social justice work focuses on Richmond and nearby cities, through organizations such as CCISCO and Richmond Ceasefire. In this capacity, I have also visited prisoners and helped to organize community vigils at the West County Detention Facility.

The grant proposal purports to be for services, such as mental health services, but it will actually be used largely to add 416 new high-security beds and to pay the additional staffing that would be required. Money for mental health services would be better spent providing services outside the jail context. We need to invest our resources in programs designed to keep people out of jail rather than in increasing our incarcerated population.

Sincerely,



Rev. Craig H. Scott

## Oakland

80 Swan Way Suite 110  
Oakland CA 94621-1438  
Toll Free 800-244-8122  
Phone 510-577-9694  
Fax 510-383-9613  
www.afscme57.org

May 4, 2017

Federal Glover, Chair  
Karen Mitchoff, Vice Chair  
John Gioia, Supervisor  
Candace Andersen, Supervisor  
Diane Burgis, Supervisor

Re: West Contra Costa Detention Center Expansion -- OPPOSE

Dear Contra Costa County Supervisors:

The members of AFSCME Council 57 strongly oppose the \$95 million expansion of the West County Detention Center. Our Union represents thousand employees in local governments, public agencies, and health care programs who live and work in Contra Costa County.

Contra Costa residents do not want to spend their money building cells the county does not need. In a recent poll of Contra Costa voters, half of the 400 participants oppose any expansion of the West County Detention Center and more than half believe that the Contra Costa County Sheriff should not collaborate with Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

Unlike the collaborative process advocated by the Board of State and Community Corrections to develop policy and programs, the Sheriff's Office proposal was developed without input from key groups and has developed strong opposition.

It appears that the main reason the Sheriff's Office would need to expand its jail system is to broaden activities helping President Donald Trump's initiate a mass deportation of immigrants in the United States.

We believe state and local taxpayer funds should be invested in Contra Costa County's long time deficits in fair wages for its employees who have suffered greatly for many years, and are well below the standard of economic viability for families living in this county, so that the county could remain on its feet and continue providing excellent services for our communities, not on delivering a frightening and radical vision of rounding up, interning and deporting immigrants, family members, or clients.

We have employees who live in their cars and are even homeless themselves, or many who don't even own cars to get to work, yet this county continues to victimize the people who are struggling the hardest in our communities. Our own.

Further the expansion will require at least \$25 million from general and reserve funds, ignoring a debt to low income employees and their sacrifices, never paid back, as well as draining crucial community-based human services like rehabilitation and preventative services that protect County residents and help them thrive.

Contra Costa County can't afford an expanded prison system that it does not need. Spending money to expand West County Detention Center will rob Contra Costa residents of crucial services, and programs, including those that our employees have struggled to provide.

Data shows racial disparities at every stage of the criminal justice system in Contra Costa County. The laws of supply and demand ensure that increasing the supply of jail cells will increase the demand for bodies to fill them—and those bodies are likely to be people of color, and low incomes.

The poverty that our county has caused our employees could perpetuate crime and thus, perpetuate the need for more jails. There have been situations in which our families have found their children incarcerated because the family could not survive on their low incomes in this world of hugely increasing costs for everything. Our members are feeling desperate and hopeless and our Sheriff is taunting the public that he has the answer. More jails.

Public service is supposed to be to make families whole. Make their lives sustainable. We need to invest in our employees and in public services for our residents *before* they end up in jail. The youth, families and workers of our County need *services*, not cells.

Sincerely,



Ruben Rodriguez

AFSCME Council 57 President

cc: California Board of State and Community Corrections (BSCC)

# Central Labor Council

## Contra Costa County AFL-CIO

May 4, 2017

Ms. Kathleen Howard  
Executive Director  
California Board of State and Community Corrections  
2590 Venture Oaks Way  
Sacramento, CA 95833

**RE: SB 844 Proposal for Expansion of the West Contra Costa Detention Facility -- OPPOSE**

Dear Ms. Howard:

The Contra Costa AFL-CIO Labor Council represents 75 affiliated unions and more than 80,000 working families. We are proud to represent seven affiliates – nearly 8,000 workers - who represent county workers, providing such vital services as health care, food & housing assistance, health care and public safety.

Our Labor Council opposes the expansion of the West County Detention Facility (WCDF) in Contra Costa for many reasons.

A recent poll of 400 Contra Costa voters showed half opposed any expansion of the WCDF and more than half believe the CCC Sheriff should not collaborate with Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE). No bond or tax measure could pass in Contra Costa to pay for this project.

Furthermore, we object to using \$95 million in taxpayer funds – between \$13 - \$25 million from the County's reserve fund - while we have unmet and growing needs for health care, youth services, infrastructure, prevention & rehabilitation programs, and job training. Between 2010 and 2015, the Sheriff's Department has enjoyed a 26% increase of General Fund expenditures, while hospitals have closed and mental health services have been cut.

Other attempts to expand the WCDF were predicated on relieving overcrowding, providing mental health services or partnering with ICE. We reject these as unfounded and wrong.

Overcrowding can be effectively addressed by ending the current contract with ICE and freeing up 200 beds. Contra Costa is the only Bay Area County with not one, but **two**, ICE detention centers. The Sheriff's Department nets approximately \$3 million from this contract. We believe it is the Sheriff's intention is to expand this contract, using our California taxpayer's money against our wishes and values.

According to the BSCC's *Jail Profile Summary*, 76% of people in our jails are awaiting case resolution and can't afford bail. Contra Costans voted 66% for Proposition 47. Alternative courts and bail reform would also alleviate overcrowding.

The Contra Costa AFL-CIO Labor Council ♦ 1333 Pine Street, Ste. E, Martinez California 94553 ♦ (925) 228-0161

With regards to an expanded jail facility being the best place or provider of mental health services, we know the BSCC received a letter from Dr. Terry Kupers where he states: *“As a general matter, investments in new jails are unlikely to significantly improve the treatment of inmates with mental illness or reduce the prevalence of substance abuse and resistance to treatment. I strongly recommend that you [Board of Supervisors] choose the diversion option, which will enable the County to save money in both the short and long term....A plan to address the current unacceptable housing and treatment of inmates with mental illness that relies primarily on building a new “mental health jail” is doomed to failure, no matter how well-intentioned it may be.”*

The Sheriff’s current contract with ICE is also problematic in that it erodes the community’s trust in law enforcement. Current data shows racial disparities at every stage of the criminal justice system in Contra Costa County.

Finally, we’d draw your attention to the recent retaliation against the City of El Cerrito by Sheriff Livingston as further proof that he ignores the will of the people and discards the public’s ideas on criminal justice.

We urge you to reject the application of the Contra Costa Sheriff.

Sincerely,

Steve Older  
President

Margaret Hanlon-Gradie  
Executive Director

Attachment H-2

CC: BSCC Finance Construction Committee Members; Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors;

The Contra Costa AFL-CIO Labor Council ♦ 1333 Pine Street, Ste. E, Martinez California 94553 ♦ (925) 228-0161



5/1/2017

5/1/17

To: Kathleen Howard, Executive Director  
California Board of State and Community Corrections  
2590 Venture Oaks Way, Suite 200  
Sacramento CA 95833  
916-445-5073  
kathleen.howard@bscc.ca.gov

Dear Director Howard,

I am writing to you as a citizen of Contra Costa County to let you know that I share the concerns of our Contra Costa County Supervisor John Gioia and our State Senator Nancy Skinner about the proposal to expand the West County Detention Facility. As you know, many residents, advocates, and community leaders in District 1 have already spoken out in opposition to or actively demonstrated against the plan to build 419 new high-security beds at the County Jail facility in Richmond.

As you know, the County is proposing to spend \$25 million in county resources and had asked the state for \$70 million to pay for construction of the proposed expansion. I am opposed to this expenditure of public money because (1) it is an extension of our really problematic 'lock-em-up' policy of the last decades that has swollen the jail and prison populations at a time when we need to be rethinking our criminal justice strategies, not simply extending them; (2) and because bail reform—as Senator Nancy Skinner has argued—is a saner and fairer way to deal with the existing bed capacity in our jails than building more cells to lock up poor people who can't make bail and are being incarcerated for relatively minor offenses; (3) and because the 20% of existing bed capacity that is under contract to the U.S. Justice Department's Immigration and Customs Enforcement can be repurposed to meet the needs of the county rather than the federal agenda to round up and deport undocumented citizens who live and work among us.

For these reasons, I am asking you to reject the proposal to expand the Detention Center.

Thanks for your work on behalf of the people of California.

Sincerely,

*Jed Sam*

Board of State and Community Corrections  
2590 Venture Oaks Way Suite 200  
Sacramento, CA 95833

April 27, 2017

Dear Board Members,

I am a resident of West Contra Costa County, and am strongly opposed to the new plan to expand jail services at the West County Detention Facility. Not only would this plan compete for much needed funds for social services to keep people out of prison, it would also potentially open beds to hold undocumented immigrants for federal officials. Investing today in mental health and after school programs makes more sense than expanding this facility at this time. As one speaker noted, "The great irony of this project is that you have to first get arrested in order to obtain any services."

I want my taxpayer dollars to go first to education and mental health services that would keep individuals out of prison, not to expand existing prisons or to contribute to incentives to imprison undocumented immigrants.

I am aware that this is a complex issue, but for just that reason, I ask you to defer your decision to allow more time for public discussion. Most county residents, like me, only recently became aware of this project.

Please do not approve this plan, but send it back to the county for further public input.

Thank you for your consideration,

Meryl Rafferty  
77 Edgcroft Road  
Kensington, CA 94707



Jane Middleton  
744 Ocean Ave.  
Richmond, CA 94801

April 26, 2017

Board of State and Community Corrections  
2590 Venture Oaks Way  
Sacramento, CA 95833

To the Board of State and Community Corrections:

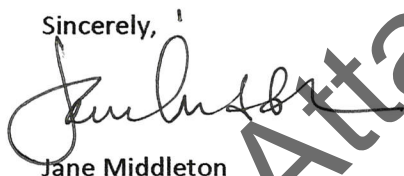
I am writing as a resident of Contra Costa County who is concerned about the proposed expansion of the West Contra Costa County Detention Facility in Richmond. I urge you NOT to grant funds for the jail expansion.

The grant proposal purports to be for services, but the vast majority of the additional square footage will be for 416 new high-security beds.

The myth of mass incarceration as a means to securing our communities has now been debunked. To increase security and reduce crime *we need to reduce the incentive for people to resort to crime by investing in the policies and programs that will keep people out of jail.*

Sheriff Livingstone is on the wrong side of history. Don't join him there.

Sincerely,



Jane Middleton

4/22/17

Mr. John Prince  
Construction Financing Committee of the Board of State and Community Corrections  
2590 Venture Oaks Way, Suite 200  
Sacramento, CA 95833

Dear Mr. Prince and Board Members:

I am writing to you as a resident of a Contra Costa County who opposes the West County Detention facility expansion. Because Contra Costa County is building a robust alternative to incarceration for mentally ill individuals, a jail expansion would only create a need to fill those beds, rather than diverting people to appropriate services *before* they are incarcerated. Jails are not the appropriate place for people to receive mental health treatment; mental illness should not be criminalized.

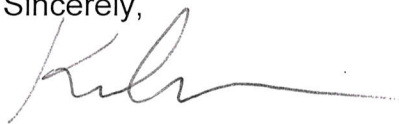
In addition, any cooperation with the Trump administration's irrational and unjustly aggressive anti-immigrant stance is immoral. Furthermore, it puts our communities more at risk by driving law-abiding residents underground, making them less likely to cooperate with law enforcement. In the long run, it will increase costs to our communities. To justify increasing local detention facilities as a way for families to be closer to their loved ones implies that it is justified to detain their loved ones in the first place. This way of thinking must be opposed.

The vote by county supervisors on this expansion was executed with insufficient notice to the public, unfairly reducing the ability for concerned citizens to voice their opposition. Despite this lack of notice, there was a strong showing at the supervisor's meeting, which demonstrates that the opposition expressed is the tip of the iceberg.

The systematic oppression of people of color in the United States has a long and twisted history. Using "mental health treatment" as a justification for increasing the size of jails is just another incarnation of a "war on crime" that is primarily a war on the poor and marginalized. This history of oppression needs to be recognized, acknowledged, and confronted, rather than perpetuated.

Please consider the many reasons this expansion would be bad for all Contra Costa County residents and *deny the grant* for the West County Detention Center.

Sincerely,



Kara Lucca  
1120 Polson Circle, Martinez, CA 94553

4/12/17

1770 Gilardy Drive  
Concord, CA 94518

Mr. John Prince  
Construction Financing Committee of the Board of State and Community Corrections  
2590 Venture Oaks Way Suite 200  
Sacramento, CA 95833

Dear Mr. Prince and Board Members,

I am writing to you as a resident of a Contra Costa County, who opposes the West County Detention facility expansion. First of all, Contra Costa County is building a robust alternative to incarceration for mentally individuals, and a jail expansion would only create a need to fill those beds, rather than diverting people to appropriate services BEFORE they are incarcerated. Jails are not the appropriate place for people to receive mental health treatment. The mentally ill should not be criminalized. Experience shows that prevention and reentry services outside the jail are the most cost effective and successful method of keeping people out of jail.

Any cooperation with the Trump administration's irrational and unjustly aggressive anti-immigrant stance is immoral. Furthermore, it puts our communities more at risk by driving law-abiding residents underground, making them less likely to cooperate with law enforcement. In the long run, it will increase costs to our communities. To justify increasing local detention facilities as a way for families to be closer to their loved ones implies that it is justified to detain their loved ones in the first place. This way of thinking must be opposed.

The vote by county supervisors on this expansion was executed with insufficient notice to the general public, and did not allow for concerned citizens to voice their opposition. Even so, there was a strong showing at the supervisor's meeting considering it was organized at the last minute, which should tell you that the opposition expressed is the tip of the iceberg.

The systematic oppression of people of color in the United States has a long and twisted history. Using "mental health treatment" as a justification for increasing the size of the jail is just another incarnation of a "war on crime" that is primarily a war on the poor and marginalized. This history of oppression needs to be recognized, acknowledged, and confronted, rather than perpetuated.

Please do not approve the grant for the West County Detention Center. There are many other reasons to deny it in addition to the ones stated here. In our mutual quest for a more fair and inclusive society, the citizens of Contra Costa County ask you to deny this grant.

Sincerely,



Gwynne Gilson



**EL CERRITO  
PROGRESSIVES**  
PROGRESSIVE CIVIC  
ENGAGEMENT

April 13, 2017

Mr. Oscar Villegas  
Field Representative (CFC)  
Board of State and Community Corrections  
2590 Venture Oaks Way, Suite 200  
Sacramento, CA 95833

Dear Mr. Villegas,

We are writing as an organization located in Contra Costa County and as residents of the county. We are concerned about the proposed expansion of the West (Contra Costa) County Detention Facility in Richmond, CA. Please DO NOT grant funds for the expansion of our county detention facility.

We need investments in affordable housing, job training, and youth services to prevent people from being incarcerated. We also need to reform our bail system, expand substance abuse treatment and the Behavioral Health Court. We DO NOT need or want funds for 416 new high security beds.

When the proposed application was submitted by the Sheriff's Department, the West County Detention Facility had over 50% of its beds available. The grant is not really dedicated to services, but to expansion (which is not the intent of the funds). The proposal proposes building a 150,000 square foot structure, with only 22,000 square feet of space for services. What percentage would be used to supply services and what percentage would be used to house new inmates? This grant is really being used to improve the Martinez facility. Although we have no problems bettering conditions for inmates, we believe this money should be directed to applications that truly provide services.

Thank you very much for your consideration.

Respectfully,

**El Cerrito Progressives**  
Progressive Civic Engagement

4/3/17

Melinda Silva  
2779 Eastgate Ave.  
Concord, CA. 94520

April 3, 2017

**Board of State and Community Corrections (BSCC)**

2590 Venture Oaks Way Suite 200  
Sacramento, CA 95833

Dear BSCC Construction Program,

I am writing as a resident of Concord, concerned about the proposed expansion of the West (Contra Costa) County Detention Facility in Richmond, CA. Please DO NOT grant funds for the expansion of our county detention facility.

We need investments in affordable housing, job training, and youth services to prevent people from being incarcerated. We also need to reform our bail system, expand substance abuse treatment and the Behavioral Health Court. We DO NOT need or want funds for 416 new high security beds.

*From the commentary by John Gioia, Jane Fischberg and Claudia Jimenez in the East Bay Times 2/14/17:*

The Prison Law Office, a well-respected nonprofit public interest law firm specializing in jail system reform, wrote to the Board of Supervisors that “The County would better serve its population by expanding efforts to reduce the jail population instead of expanding the capacity of its jails.”

“Also, the sheriff can create capacity in the West County jail instead of building new cells. Nearly 200 individuals are being held for possible deportation at the West County jail under a sheriff’s contract with the U.S. Department of Justice to house ICE (Immigration and Customs Enforcement) detainees. That’s 20 percent of the jail’s capacity that could be used to meet the county’s needs, not the federal government’s.

Contra Costa is the only Bay Area County with such a contract. This cooperation with ICE should end. It erodes our hard-working immigrant community’s trust in local law enforcement and county government.”

Thank you very much for your consideration.

Sincerely



Melinda Silva

3/22/17

Board of State and Community Corrections  
2590 Venture Oaks Way, Suite 200  
Sacramento, Ca 95833

March 22, 2017

To the Members of the Board

This is a request not to grant money to Contra Costa County for an expansion of the jail in Martinez, which is against the wishes of the City of Martinez.

As long as the County has excess beds to rent out to ICE at a cost to the taxpayers of \$86 per day per detainee, something is wrong. As a taxpayer this is not where I want my money to go. It tells me that an expansion of the jail is not needed at this time. I hope you will come to the same conclusion.

Stories of children crying in detention centers and fathers being picked up in front of their children make it all wrong.

The immigration order has many problems:

There is no way to prove you have been here more than two years.

The border patrol agents are given too wide ranging powers.

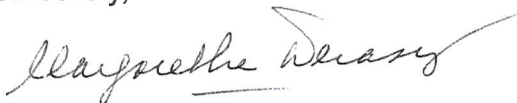
Sending people back into poverty and possibly into areas where they may be murdered or raped is not merciful. It is not just.

Rounding people up as is being done now is not American, does not mean freedom, does not help the economy, destroys the thing America is loved for, and makes America hated.

The idea that immigrants are the problem is convenient politically, but shields the real problems with the economy and the real guilty parties.

The sheriff wants to improve conditions for maximum security prisoners, but has no plans to reduce the prison population. Community members prefer finding alternatives to jail expansion. As you know the US has an unfavorably high rate of incarceration. The State of California could be a leader in changing that rate and finding ways to reduce the number of prisoners. I would support such efforts.

Sincerely,



Margaretha Derasary  
7281 Sayre Drive  
Oakland, CA 94611



March 19, 2017

Board of State and Community Corrections (BSCC)  
Construction Financing Department  
2590 Venture Oaks Way Suite 200  
Sacramento, CA 95833

Der BSCC Construction Program,

I am writing as a resident of Alamo, CA in Contra Costa County. I am very concerned about the proposed expansion of the West County Detention Facility in Richmond, CA (Contra Costa County). Please do NOT grant funds for the expansion of our county detention facility.

We need investments in affordable housing, job training, and youth services to prevent people from being incarcerated. We also need to reform our bail system, expand substance abuse treatment, and expand the Behavioral Health Court. We DO NOT need or want funds for 416 new high-security beds.

The Prison Law Office, a well-respected nonprofit public interest law firm specializing in jail system reform, wrote to the County Board of Supervisors that, "The county would better serve its population by expanding efforts to reduce the jail population instead of expanding the capacity of its jails."

"Also, the sheriff can create capacity in the West County jail instead of building new cells. Nearly 200 individuals are being held for possible deportation at the West County jail under a sheriff's contract with the US Department of Justice to house ICE detainees. That's 20 percent of the jail's capacity that could be used to meet the county's needs, not the federal governments."

(Editorial in the *East Bay Times*, February 14, 2017 by John Gioa, Jane Fischberg and Claudia Jimenez.)

Contra Costa County is the only Bay Area county with such a contract. This cooperation with ICE should end. It erodes our hard-working immigrant community's trust in local law enforcement and county government.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



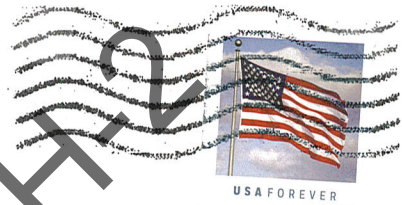
Charla Gabert  
150 Castle Crest Rd  
Alamo, CA 94507

3/17/17

To the Members of  
the Construction Financing  
Committee

SACRAMENTO, CA 95833

15 MAR 2017 PM 7 L



I live in Contra Costa  
County and I oppose the  
expansion of the West  
County Detention Center. I  
would like to see these funds  
go to mental health treatment,  
job training, affordable housing,  
healthcare and education.

Please do not approve  
the grant for the expansion  
of the Contra Costa County  
West County Detention Center.  
Thank you Debra Kadiyala

Construction Financing  
Committee of the Board  
of State and Community  
Corrections.

2590 Ventura Oaks Way  
Suite 200  
Sacramento CA

95833

Dear BSCC Construction Program,

As a resident of the East Bay I am concerned about the proposed expansion of the West (Contra Costa) County Detention Facility in Richmond, CA. Please DO NOT grant funds for the expansion of our county detention facility!

We DO NOT need or want funds for 416 new high security beds! Please, rather spend the money to expand substance abuse treatment and the Behavioral Health Court. We really want you to invest in youth services, job training, and affordable housing -- all these can help prevent people from being incarcerated. These are better long term solutions.

We need investments in affordable housing, job training, and youth services to prevent people from being incarcerated. We also need to reform our bail system, expand substance abuse treatment and the Behavioral Health Court. We DO NOT need or want funds for 416 new high security beds. According to The Prison Law Office, a well-respected nonprofit public interest law firm specializing in jail system reform, the sheriff can create capacity in the West County jail rather than spend money to build new cells.

One other thing, why does the sheriff's department have an agreement with ICE to hold people for them? No one else has that kind of agreement in California. They should be serving our community and not doing the Federal Government's job by holding ICE detainees. In fact, by holding ICE detainees they are undermining the trust our immigrant community has in local law enforcement. Why would one of our residents who is anxious about their immigration status want to cooperate with police in helping solve crimes when they don't know if their good deed will backfire? Why would someone who has family who are anxious about immigration status want to help police with valuable information about crimes at such great risk to their families?

No, we really do not want the jail expansion as it not only shifts the proper focus of local law enforcement away from protection of our communities; in fact, it takes away from the trust between the people and the police which is integral for successful protection of our communities.

Thank you very much for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Hanako Asakura

Attachment 12

3/13/17

21 Cutting Court  
Walnut Creek, CA 94596  
March 13, 2017

John Prince  
Construction Financing Committee of the Board of State and Community Corrections  
2590 Venture Oaks Way Suite 200  
Sacramento, CA 95833

Dear Mr. Prince and Board Members,

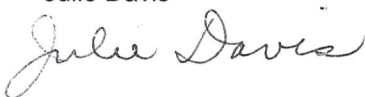
I am writing to you as a constituent of a Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors member who voted in favor of the West County Detention Center grant. I want you to know that Supervisor Candace Andersen voted to spend money for this project without any advance opportunity for public awareness and input from voters in our district. The people most affected by this jail expansion in Supervisor Gioia's district had only a few days notice but were able to gather people to speak in protest at the Board of Supervisor's meeting.

The residents of West Contra Costa County have a vision for their community: No school to prison pipeline, education and jobs for their young people, a place where everyone feels secure and is a part of society, and an end to the criminalization of the poor and people of color. While money is desperately needed for prevention, mental health, job training, affordable housing, and reentry services to prevent new and further incarceration, the Supervisors (except for Supervisor Gioia) have voted to provide a \$20.2 million cash match and over \$5 million each year going forward to maintain the facility. \$2 million of that will be to hire additional deputies. Experience shows that prevention and reentry services outside the jail are the most cost effective and successful method of keeping people out of jail.

In a meeting with Supervisor Andersen, a group of us expressed our concerns and asked her how she could fail to acknowledge the efforts and concerns of a large number of people from the community most affected by the expansion. Her comment was that "those people" in West County always manage to turn out a large group, but that she votes on facts, not how many people turn out. She does not seem to realize that "those people" have no money and no power except to physically show up to protest. Also, her facts are not their facts. Andersen additionally stated that they should not be upset about having a jail in their community because the city of Dublin has one that is surrounded by million dollar houses. That comment and others display a jaw-dropping disassociation from the reality of life in West County.

Recently, people in all parts of the county have become increasingly incensed about racial and social injustices in our midst. We are joining forces to make everyone aware of how our tax money is being spent and asking our Supervisors, Sheriff, and other local officials to account for how they treat residents throughout Contra Costa County. Had we known sooner about Sheriff Livingston's proposal, you might not have received this letter because we would have lobbied our Supervisors in advance of the vote. I'm certain that this is not the only letter you will receive asking you not to approve the grant for the West County Detention Center, and there are many other reasons to deny it in addition to the ones stated here. Having met with and listened to the good people of West Contra Costa, I can tell you that allocating state and county resources for a jail expansion is a denial of their hopes for a fair and inclusive community and the perpetuation of a system that exacerbates the problems.

Sincerely,  
Julie Davis



3/13/17

Julie Stokol  
217 San Antonio Way  
Walnut Creek, CA 94598

March 13, 2017

Board of State and Community Corrections  
Attn: Construction Financing Committee  
2590 Venture Oaks Way, Suite 200  
Sacramento, CA 95833

Dear Members of the BSCC Construction Financing Committee:

I am writing to ask you to deny approval of the pending grant request for the Contra Costa County West County Detention Center. As a resident of Contra Costa County, I oppose this proposed expansion of the West County Detention Center for several reasons.

I was alarmed to read an article in *The East Bay Times* stating that 20 percent of the West County Jail's current capacity is being used to house approximately 200 ICE detainees under a sheriff's contract with the federal government. I do not wish for our county jail to be a holding area for detainees, particularly those who demonstrate no danger to society. Nor was I proud to read elsewhere that Contra Costa County has the highest rate of "non-criminal" deportations in Northern California.

Contra Costa County needs greater investment in mental health treatment, job training, affordable housing and services to keep people from being incarcerated, not a larger West County Jail. Please do not approve the grant for the Contra Costa County West County Detention Center.

Thank you,



Julie Stokol

Cc: Karen Mitchoff, Contra Costa County Supervisor, District 4

3/13/17

Paul Hughes  
3375 Carlson Blvd. #3  
El Cerrito, Calif. 94530

Mar. 13, 2017

Oscar Villegas  
Field Representative (CFC)  
Board of State and Community Corrections  
2590 Venture Oaks Way, suite 200  
Sacramento, California 95833

Dear Mr. Villegas,

I am writing as a resident of El Cerrito, Calif., concerned about the proposed expansion of the West (Contra Costa) County Detention Facility in Richmond, Calif. Please DO NOT grant funds for the expansion of our county detention facility.

We need investments in affordable housing, job training, and youth services to prevent people from being incarcerated in the first place. We also need to reform our bail system, expand substance abuse treatment and the Behavioral Health Court. We DO NOT need or want funds for 416 new high security beds.

The Prison Law Office, a well-respected nonprofit public interest law firm specializing in jail system reform, wrote to the Contra Costa Board of Supervisors that, "The county would better serve its population by expanding efforts to reduce the jail population instead of expanding the capacity of its jails."

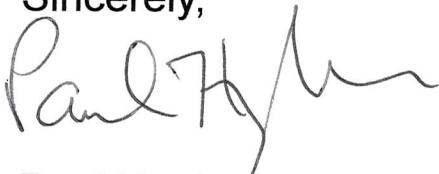
Also the sheriff can create capacity in the West County jail instead of building new cells. Nearly 200 individuals are being held for possible deportation at the West County jail under a sheriff's contract with the U.S. Department of Justice to house ICE (Immigration and Customs

Enforcement) detainees. That's 20 percent of the jail's capacity that could be used to meet the county's needs, not the federal government's.

Contra Costa is the only Bay Area county with such a contract. This cooperation with ICE should end. It erodes our hard-working immigrant community's trust in local law enforcement and county government.

Thank you very much for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Paul Hughes

Attachment H-2

3/11/17

*Jovita Kerner*

*1917 Ascot Drive  
Moraga, CA 94556*

March 11, 2017

Dear Board of State and Community Corrections Construction Program:

I am a resident of Moraga in Contra Costa County and I am writing about my concerns regarding the proposed expansion of the West Contra Costa County Detention Facility in Richmond. This is a **very bad idea** from a taxpayer standpoint as well as a humanitarian perspective.

**We do not need funds for 416 new high-security beds.** If we get the funding, the County will have to expend an additional twenty-million dollars in addition to expand the Detention Facility and it will cost an additional five-million dollars a year to maintain. We have enough high-security jail beds but they are being occupied by individuals being held for possible deportation under a contract between the sheriff and the US Department of Justice to house ICE (Immigration and Customs Enforcement) detainees. This contract pays our county approximately six-million dollars a year. Do the math: to make sure those beds are free for ICE, we now get six-million dollars a year, but it will cost us twenty-million plus five-million dollars a year to replace those beds and maintain new facilities.

Does this make fiscal sense? Especially when Contra Costa County so badly needs investments in affordable housing, job training, mental health and youth services to prevent people from being incarcerated. It is understandable that our sheriff wants to cooperate with other law enforcement agencies but Contra Costa County is the only Bay Area county with such a contract. This contract should end.

Please do not award funding for new jail facilities when we taxpayers will pay so much more for them than is necessary.

Sincerely,

*Jovita Kerner*  
Jovita Kerner



3/10/17

1200 Washington Avenue  
Albany, CA 94706

March 10, 2017

Board of State and Community Corrections (BSCC)  
2590 Venture Oaks Way Suite 200  
Sacramento, CA 95833

Dear BSCC Construction Program Administrators,

I am deeply concerned about the proposed expansion of the West (Contra Costa) County Detention Facility in Richmond, CA. As someone who has lived in and near Contra Costa County with populations who need access to health care, affordable housing, job training, high-quality public education, youth and adult services, but not jails, I'm urging you to not grant funds for the expansion of the county's detention facility.

We need investments in the facilities and services to prevent the downward spiral to incarceration. Contra Costa County's most vulnerable communities will not benefit from expanded detention facilities. And if they don't benefit, neither does the rest of our community. We DO NOT need or want funds for 416 new high security beds. Contra Costa residents would be better served by reducing rather than increasing its jail population.

To the extent more space is needed, I strongly recommend that all cooperation with U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement is ceased. If you discontinue using the existing West County Detention Center as a deportation holding facility, the county could then use the facility to meet the county's needs rather than the federal government's needs.

Thank you very much for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Sasha A. Keller

3/10/17

March 10, 2017

Mr. Robert Oates  
Project Director III (CFC)  
Board of State and Community Corrections Construction Program  
2590 Venture Oaks Way  
Suite 200  
Sacramento, CA 95833

Dear Mr. Oates:

I am a resident of Walnut Creek and am writing this letter to express my opposition to the proposed expansion of the West Contra Costa County Detention Facility in Richmond. Rather than using funds for the proposed expansion, the county could and should use the funds to reduce the jail population.

Because of the financial-operational partnership between Contra Costa County and ICE, the immigrant community's trust in the local law enforcement and county government remains minimal; granting funds for the expansion of the county Detention Facility will reduce even further the level of trust. I, therefore, am requesting that you not grant funds for the expansion of the Facility.

Yours sincerely,

*Franklin Burroughs*

Franklin T. Burroughs  
428 Augustus Court  
Walnut Creek, CA 94598

Attachment #2

Anita Johnson  
19 Brandon Oaks Place  
Walnut Creek, CA 94597

3/8/17

Board of State and Community Corrections (BSCC)  
2590 Venture Oaks Way Suite 200  
Sacramento, CA 95833

March 8, 2017

Dear Board Members,

Please DO NOT grant funds for the expansion of a county detention facility Richmond, CA. As a resident of Walnut Creek, I am concerned about the vulnerable people in my county who seem to be incarcerated all too often. The county needs to spend more on mental health facilities, low-income housing, support for the homeless, and medical services. I do not want the county using scarce funding to maintain and staff a new facility. If the Sheriff stopped using County resources to support the destructive federal ICE program, there would be enough space in the current jail.

We DO NOT need or want funds for 416 new high security beds.

I agree with the experts at The Prison Law Office: "The county would better serve its population by expanding efforts to reduce the jail population instead of expanding the capacity of its jails."

Thank you very much for your consideration.

Sincerely,

  
Anita Johnson

3/7/17

March 7, 2017

Board of State and Community Corrections (BSCC)  
2590 Venture Oaks Way Suite 200  
Sacramento, CA 95833

Dear BSCC Board Members,

I am writing as a resident of Walnut Creek, CA. I am deeply concerned about the proposed expansion of the West County Detention Facility in Richmond, CA. Please DO NOT grant funds for the expansion of our county detention facility.

We need investments in affordable housing, job training, and youth services to prevent people from being incarcerated. We also need to reform our bail system, expand substance abuse treatment and the Behavioral Health Court. We DO NOT need or want funds for 416 new high security beds.

The Sheriff claims the proposed facility would provide much-needed mental health services. I don't believe a law enforcement agency can deliver appropriate mental health services, nor do I think people will respond well to treatment while imprisoned. A jail is not conducive to mental health recovery.

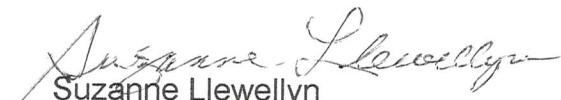
The Prison Law Office, a well-respected nonprofit public interest law firm specializing in jail system reform, wrote to the Board of Supervisors that "The county would better serve its population by reducing the jail population instead of expanding the capacity of its jails."

The sheriff already has adequate capacity in the West County jail, but is renting space to Immigration Customs and Enforcement (ICE) to detain nearly 200 immigrants. That's 20 percent of the jail's capacity that could be used to meet the county's needs, not the federal government's.

Contra Costa is the only Bay Area county with such a contract. This cooperation with ICE should end. It erodes our hard-working immigrant community's trust in local law enforcement and county government.

Thank you for taking my view into consideration.

Sincerely,

  
Suzanne Llewellyn  
946 Sousa Drive  
Walnut Creek, CA 94597

send the grant application back to county for further public input. 3/1/17

Barbara Metcalf  
123 Ardmore Road

Barbara Metcalf

Kensington/ Berkeley, California 94707 -1310

Members of the Board of State + Comm. Correctional  
site the vote of 4/5 of our county  
supervisors in favor, I respectfully  
request deferral of the decision to  
allow time for public discussion on  
proposed remodel of the WCDC  
(West County Detention Center).  
The grant (\$90m) to  
remodel, in my opinion needs to be  
conditional on a reversal of the  
contract with ACE & implementation  
which appears to violate the Trust Act.  
Moreover, there needs to be more  
discussion of whether the county's  
share (\$25m) should be put to other use.

Attachment H-2

2/23/17

Dear BSCC members:

I oppose all expansion of  
jail projects. Incarceration  
is not the answer. Tax dollars  
should be spent on better  
education.

*Tommie Mayfield*



Ms. Tommie Mayfield  
1744 Walnut Street  
El Cerrito, CA 94530-1919

Attachment H-2

OAKLAND CA 945

21 FEB 2017 PM 6 L

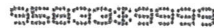


RECEIVED  
OFFICE OF STATE AFFAIRS  
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT  
2017 FEB 23 11:11 AM

BSCC

2950 Venture Oaks Way, Ste. 200

Sacramento, CA 95833



2/22/17

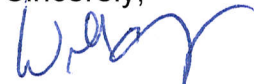
Richmond facility that is close to 120,000 square feet, including space for 400 beds and child-visitation, re-entry and rehabilitation centers. The proposal also includes a mental health treatment facility. However, despite the Sheriff's assertions that the new facilities would serve the mental health community, there are a minimal amount of beds dedicated to inmates with mental illness, and there is no specific plan to bring mental health services to these inmates.

It is the unanimous view of the Richmond City Council that state and county resources should be invested in needed services that reduce jail populations and support successful reentry and reintegration. Public resources should not be committed to jail expansion while these other critical services go underfunded. In this context, it is important to note that Contra Costa County would need to commit \$20 million in local funding for the project – dollars which would far better be used for mental health and other inmate services that promote successful reentry.

In sum, the California Board of State and Community Corrections should not fund this wasteful, unnecessary, and misdirected project to expand the West Contra Costa County Detention Facility.

Please feel free to contact me at 510-620-6512 or [bill\\_lindsay@ci.richmond.ca.us](mailto:bill_lindsay@ci.richmond.ca.us) if you have any questions or need any additional information.

Sincerely,



William A. Lindsay  
City Manager

cc: Mayor and City Council  
Bruce Goodmiller, City Attorney  
Allwyn Brown, Police Chief



February 22, 2017

Ms. Kathleen Howard  
Executive Director  
California Board of State and Community Corrections  
2590 Venture Oaks Way  
Sacramento, CA 95833

Via email and U.S. mail: [kathleen.howard@bscc.ca.gov](mailto:kathleen.howard@bscc.ca.gov)

**Subject: Richmond City Council opposition to the proposed expansion of the West Contra Costa County Detention Facility located in Richmond, California**

Dear Ms. Howard:

At its meeting of February 21, 2017, the Richmond City Council discussed, and expressed significant concern over, the proposed expansion of the West Contra Costa County Detention Facility, for which Contra Costa County has submitted a \$70 million grant proposal to the Criminal Justice Facilities Construction Fund of the California Board of State and Community Corrections. Following this discussion, the Council voted unanimously to oppose the project and its associated grant funding.

Several years ago, at its July 28, 2015 meeting, the Richmond City Council received a presentation from the Contra Costa County Sheriff's Office regarding the proposed expansion of the West Contra Costa County Detention Facility (WCCCDF), and the grant proposal to be submitted at that time to the California Board of State and Community Corrections to fund the project. Following the presentation, and thoughtful discussion and consideration of the proposal, the City Council voted then to adopt a resolution opposing the project and the associated grant funding.

During the nearly two years that have passed since the Richmond City Council, echoing concerns by the Richmond community, expressed its opposition to the proposed expansion of the WCCCDF, the Contra Costa County Sheriff's Office has not – in any way – engaged the community in meaningful dialogue, and has done nothing to change the project scope to address valid concerns that were raised at that time. As a result, the Council's opposition to the project remains unchanged.

We understand that the Sheriff's Office asserts the need for expansion of the WCCCDF due to the overcrowding at the Martinez jail, which is currently housing significantly more inmates than recommended. The plan proposes to add a new wing to the

450 Civic Center Plaza, Richmond, CA 94804-1630

Telephone: (510) 620-6512 Fax: (510) 620-6542 [www.ci.richmond.ca.us](http://www.ci.richmond.ca.us)



2/22/17

Dear Board of State and Community Corrections,

My name is Rosemary Healy, a resident of Richmond in Contra Costa County. I am writing to urge you to **deny** the request for \$70 million in state funding to expand the West County Detention Facility in Richmond. If you want to serve the population of Contra Costa County, reducing the jail population instead of expanding jail capacity seems to me to be a much better approach. Preventing incarceration by investing in mental health treatment, job training, affordable housing and youth services will prove to be more successful and cost efficient in the long run.

I do understand the need to alleviate the overcrowding in our jails. I'm married to a county inspector who has spoken time and again about the overcrowding in the county's jails. But we need to address the reason why so many people are being sent to jail, not continue to justify sending people to jail who will not be rehabilitated by the simple act of incarceration. There is no evidence based practice that demonstrates incarceration provides sustainable behavioral treatment. Maybe we spend more money training our officers to deal with the mentally ill and addicts. Maybe we invest in state, county or privately run programs that can help people who are not "bad guys" but actually need help and support to get back on their feet so they can begin contributing to the community again.

I urge you to ask yourself, is this really the best solution? Every 5 years throwing 70 million more dollars to expand again? When will it end? Surely you can see how prevention is the answer, the only answer. Again I urge you to consider how you are contributing to the safety and progress of Contra Costa County by granting this money. I am asking my county board of supervisors to focus on spending our limited tax dollars on programs that are proven to keep people out of jail and help previously incarcerated individuals successfully re-enter their communities after serving time.

Thank you for your time,

Rosemary Healy



Hazel Ave  
Richmond, CA. 94805

2/20/17

*A personal note ...*

2/20/17

44 Beverly Rd.  
Kensington  
CA 94707

To: Board of State & Community Corrections  
Re: possible West CC Co. expansion of jail

this is to express my strong  
opposition to the plan of Contra Costa  
Co. Sheriff Livingston to seek state  
funding for expanding the West Co.  
Detention facility.

this request is being made while  
space in the facility is being rented  
to ICE and while funds going  
toward jail expansion & no funds  
are being used to address the  
closure of the best hospital, except  
for Kaiser, in the West CC Co  
area!

Mrs. Elizabeth R. Brown

Attachment 2

2/17/17

February 17, 2017

Board of State and Community Corrections (BSCC)  
2590 Venture Oaks Way Suite 200  
Sacramento, CA 95833

Dear Members of the Board:

I join with my Supervisor, John Gioia, in opposing jail expansion in West Contra Costa County and I urge you to deny Sheriff Livingston's application for state money toward this project. As I know many of you understand, our communities need the human services and programs that keep people from going to prison. I am completely opposed to spending \$25 million in county funds on jail expansion instead of on such services.

Twenty percent of the present jail's present capacity is used -- under a sheriff's contract with the U.S. Department of Justice -- to house ICE detainees. Contra Costa is the only Bay Area county with such a contract. Without this contract, there would be no argument that more lock-up space is needed. Even more importantly, cooperation with ICE destroys any trust our hard-working immigrant communities might have in local law enforcement and county government. We all know that, given the statements and policies of our new president, fear in immigrant communities has escalated enormously. I want to live in a community that protects the most vulnerable and not one that feeds that fear.

I ask you to deny state money for the expansion of the West Contra Costa County jail.



Judith Tannenbaum  
3120 Yosemite Avenue  
El Cerrito, CA 94530

2/17/17

3902 Paseo Grande  
Moraga CA 94556  
February 17, 2017

Board of State and Community Corrections (BSCC)  
2590 Venture Oaks Way Suite 200  
Sacramento, CA 95833

Re: Contra Costa County application for \$70 million for jail construction

I urge you to DENY Contra Costa County's application for \$70 million to add 416 high-security beds at the West County Detention Facility in Richmond. These beds are not needed.

We should be able to reduce Contra Costa's jail population via several strategies, including:

- Not contracting to hold ICE detainees
- Holding fewer people awaiting trial, by setting bail by seriousness of crime
- Mental health treatment
- Drug abuse treatment
- Re-entry programs that include housing and job training

Please focus funding on these types of programs rather than building more jail cells.

Sincerely,



Ashley Coates

Attachment H-2

# Emails Received by the BSCC

SB 844

Attachment H-2

## West Contra Costa County Jail Expansion

**Lwin, Adam@BSCC**

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**Subject:** FW: No more jails!

**From:** Thomas Neu [<mailto:2beneu@gmail.com>]

**Sent:** Tuesday, May 23, 2017 4:20 PM

**To:** Prince2, John@BSCC <[John.Prince2@bscc.ca.gov](mailto:John.Prince2@bscc.ca.gov)>

**Subject:** No more jails!

I vehemently oppose spending any more money on expanding our jails. Let's spend the money on more worthwhile causes.. homeless, shelter, feeding the poor, education.

And as we are trying to improve Richmond's reputation, the last thing we need is a larger jail!

Please do everything in your power to oppose the expansion of the jail.

Regards,

Thomas Neu

Attachment H-2

---

**Subject:** FW: Funding

**From:** Kelli Glaser [<mailto:kellig1964@gmail.com>]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 24, 2017 11:35 AM  
**To:** Prince2, John@BSCC <[John.Prince2@bscc.ca.gov](mailto:John.Prince2@bscc.ca.gov)>  
**Subject:** Funding

As a resident of Contra Costa County I am letting you know, I would like it more if education received the funding instead of larger jails. Thank you, Kelli Glaser

Attachment H-2

**Lwin, Adam@BSCC**

---

**Subject:** FW: No to jail expansion/ personal request

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**From:** [shelic@lycos.com](mailto:shelic@lycos.com) [<mailto:shelic@lycos.com>]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 24, 2017 12:31 PM  
**To:** Prince2, John@BSCC <[John.Prince2@bscc.ca.gov](mailto:John.Prince2@bscc.ca.gov)>  
**Subject:** No to jail expansion/ personal request

I attended the open meeting in Martinez on May 23rd. First of all, I wanted to say I am grateful for a forum such as this where anyone may have two minutes to express their concerns or support regarding government proposals. There are so many different backgrounds and stories that are brought forth; I hope this broadens your viewpoints and horizons. Thank you for listening.

I am against the proposal to expand the west county jail. I just do not see how it will serve any community and the additional support offered with the new budget is minimal. I do not ultimately believe that this is "free money" either. I am an optimist so taking the ultimate optimist opinion, taking this money makes a statement and starts a pattern of funding that will be too easy to access for punitive measures. Wouldn't it be great if state governments realized we do not need to set or grant funds for this purpose? Whereas putting money back into community services could create just as many jobs and support so many people. If you truly are for the jail, please come up with more supportive services and workers to show for this in the budget.

I am disabled with dystonia Parkinson's. Although I did not speak, you may have seen me with my two hiking poles, getting up stiffly after three hours of sitting. I am in my 40's and was fully active before. I have a 10 year old boy and a 15 year old girl. We take full advantage of community services including reduced cost school meals, Scouts, library events, Kids fly free- concord airport, scouts, junior giants free non competitive baseball. I am not able to drive and often at the end of day my husband brings a wheelchair to me. I am lucky to have a mom nearby that does school drop off with me for my kids. I also live in Concord in a relatively "nice" community ----because we have libraries and programs nearby. Finding all these resources takes time, the biggest one, my mother----is inherited. How do single parents do it, especially if they have a crisis, be it health, family, etc. WE NEED TO PROVIDE MORE OF THESE PROGRAMS AND ACCESS TO THEM. We would love help in building more community----not buildings.

Thanks for listening, I admire your open hearts

Sheli Cryderman



5/23/17

**Lwin, Adam@BSCC**

---

**Subject:** FW: Schools not jails

From: Brook Buckman [mailto:brookbuckman@icloud.com]  
Sent: Tuesday, May 23, 2017 5:20 PM  
To: Prince2, John@BSCC <John.Prince2@bscc.ca.gov>  
Subject: Schools not jails

I believe the smart money is in schools and help for seniors. Also it is morally correct.  
Brook Buckman  
El Sobrante

Attachment H-2

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**Subject:** FW: Community Opposition to the Richmond Jail Expansion

-----Original Message-----

From: Latondra Goode [mailto:Lt2goode@aol.com]  
Sent: Monday, May 22, 2017 5:16 PM  
To: Prince2, John@BSCC <John.Prince2@bscc.ca.gov>  
Subject: Community Opposition to the Richmond Jail Expansion

Hi John,

I wanted to share with you my opposition, and the overwhelming agreement of my community of over 400 homes in Richmond Country Club Vista, which is located near the West County Detention Center. We do not support the use of our tax dollar to increase the size of jails in our community, especially given the fact we are a sanctuary city and this facility is also being used to hold non-offending ICE detainees. Our community, our city, and state representatives have all opposed this expansion both the first time it was proposed and now. Please represent us to the board, and the deciding members, our United opposition to this expansion and what we feel is the misallocation of our limited budget - West County need better school and social services, not more inmates. Thank you for any assistance you can provide and please update me with any action our neighborhood can take to stop this expansion from happening.

Sincerely,  
Latondra Goode

Attachment H-2

**Subject:** FW: Jails versus educating our youth

**From:** Gail Lancaster [<mailto:g Lancaster9012@gmail.com>]

**Sent:** Monday, May 22, 2017 4:52 PM

**To:** Prince2, John@BSCC <[John.Prince2@bscc.ca.gov](mailto:John.Prince2@bscc.ca.gov)>

**Subject:** Jails versus educating our youth

Dear John, a group of us who belong to a "NextDoor" group in Tara Hills (San Pablo and Pinole areas) have had some messages among us about the cost of incarceration versus the cost of educating youth so they have a shot at life and won't need to be jailed in the first place. Member Scarlett Herrera has encouraged us to write to you. According to some statistics she has quoted, in California the cost to incarcerate an adult is \$60,000. To incarcerate a minor its \$230,000. The cost to educate a student is \$12,000.

Please do not support the building of more jails but rather support education of our youth. As an adult who was not educated until very late in life, I can say from personal experience that getting an education as a young person could have made a difference for me.

Thank you.

Gail Lancaster  
510-691-9012

Attachment H-2

**Subject:** FW: Funds for Education

-----Original Message-----

From: Dimari Epps [mailto:dimari.epps@distilnetworks.com]

Sent: Monday, May 22, 2017 9:10 PM

To: Prince2, John@BSCC <John.Prince2@bscc.ca.gov>

Subject: Funds for Education

Hello John,

I am writing as a home owner from the beautiful town of Pinole. I beg and urge you to spend available funds on Education and on youth programs rather than incarceration facilities. Let's focus on improving the future rather than mass incarceration.

Dimari Epps

Sent from my iPhone

Attachment H-2

5/16/17

**Lwin, Adam@BSCC**

---

**Subject:** FW: Contra Costa County's jail expansion proposal  
**Attachments:** CNA\_OPPOSES\_Contra Costa Jail Expansion\_Letter.pdf

---

**From:** Alyssa Kang [<mailto:akang@nationalnursesunited.org>]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 16, 2017 6:05 PM  
**To:** Prince2, John@BSCC <[John.Prince2@bscc.ca.gov](mailto:John.Prince2@bscc.ca.gov)>  
**Subject:** Contra Costa County's jail expansion proposal

Dear Mr. Prince,

Attached is CNA/NNU's letter to the Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors, expressing our opposition to the proposal to expand the West County Detention Facility.

Best regards,

Alyssa Kang  
Organizer  
National Nurses United  
[akang@nationalnursesunited.org](mailto:akang@nationalnursesunited.org)  
(213) 305-8277 cell



[www.NationalNursesUnited.org](http://www.NationalNursesUnited.org)  
[@NationalNurses](https://twitter.com/NationalNurses)

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Attachment H-2

February 6, 2017

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

**Diane Burgis  
Contra Costa County  
Board of Supervisors District III  
3361 Walnut Boulevard Suite 140  
Brentwood, CA 94513**

**Re: Opposition to the expansion of the West County Detention Facility.**

**Dear Supervisor Burgis,**

On behalf of the California Nurses Association, I am writing to urge you to vote against the County's proposal to fund the expansion of the West County Detention Facility.

In April of 2015, Doctors Medical Center, the only public hospital serving residents in West County, was shut down, leaving West Contra Costa residents without a community full-service acute care facility. The County is now on a pathway to continue to divest in vital medical services, including at Contra Costa County Medical Center and the critical clinics. Yet the County is poised to spend millions to expand jail facilities.

There are significant reasons why jail expansion is the wrong path. The first is that expanding the West County Detention Facility would cost the County millions of dollars that could benefit other public services. The total projected cost for the proposed jail expansion is \$95.2 million and, of that, \$15 million would need to come from the County's general reserve fund. In addition to the millions in construction costs, the County would have to pay \$5 million annually for operation costs.

Secondly, County money would be better spent on projects that cultivate healthy communities such as improving access to education, mental health and health care, drug treatment programs, affordable housing, recreation, and other services, instead of incarceration.

We have to ask, what message does it send to the community and to our children that an investment of this size and scope is to expand our jail, as opposed to public works projects that contribute to a brighter future and to having healthier neighborhoods? It sends the wrong message and offers little hope about what our expectations are for the generations to come.

We strongly urge the Board of Supervisors to OPPOSE the County's proposal to fund the expansion of the West County Detention Facility.

**Sincerely,**

**Andrew Dadko  
CNA Labor Representative**

**Lwin, Adam@BSCC**

---

**Subject:** FW: NO expansion of the West County Detention Center

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Phoebe Anne Sorgen <[phoebes0@earthlink.net](mailto:phoebes0@earthlink.net)>  
Date: May 15, 2017 4:55 PM  
Subject: NO expansion of the West County Detention Center  
To: "Prince2, John@BSCC" <[John.Prince2@bscc.ca.gov](mailto:John.Prince2@bscc.ca.gov)>  
Cc:

To the California Board of State and Community Corrections (BSCC) and the Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors:

Thank you for serving the public.

I strongly oppose the \$95 million expansion of the West County Detention Center. Taxpayer funds should be invested in Contra Costa County and services for our communities.

In a recent poll of Contra Costa voters, half of the 400 participants oppose any expansion of the West County Detention Center and more than half believe that the Contra Costa County Sheriff should not collaborate with Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

At least \$25 million of the funding for the West County Detention Center expansion must come from general and reserve funds. These County funds need to go towards community-based human services like rehabilitation and preventative services, to address these disparities and help all who live here.

Contra Costa County data has shown the racial disparities for people of color at every stage of the criminal justice process within the County. Our funds must go towards investment in services for our residents before they end up in jail. The youth, families and workers of our County need services, not cells.

Sincerely,

Phoebe Sorgen, member of UUCB in Kensington

Attachment H-2

**Lwin, Adam@BSCC**

---

**Subject:** FW: No More Money for Detention Centers

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Scott Selmanoff <[scotty1575@gmail.com](mailto:scotty1575@gmail.com)>  
Date: May 15, 2017 6:22 PM  
Subject: No More Money for Detention Centers  
To: "Prince2, John@BSCC" <[John.Prince2@bscc.ca.gov](mailto:John.Prince2@bscc.ca.gov)>  
Cc:

Dear Mr. Prince,

No More Money for Detention Centers.

Put money into prevention and rehabilitation.

Save lives, real people and their families.

Thank you,  
Scott Selmanoff  
93 Sunset Trail  
Berkeley, Ca 94705

Attachment H-2



**Lwin, Adam@BSCC**

---

**Subject:** FW: SERVICES NOT JAILS - DO NOT SPEND MY TAXPAYER MONEY FOR MORE JAILS

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Norie Clarke <[norieclarke@gmail.com](mailto:norieclarke@gmail.com)>

Date: May 15, 2017 3:15 PM

Subject: SERVICES NOT JAILS - DO NOT SPEND MY TAXPAYER MONEY FOR MORE JAILS

To: "Prince2, John@BSCC" <[John.Prince2@bscc.ca.gov](mailto:John.Prince2@bscc.ca.gov)>

Cc:

To: California Board of State and Community Corrections (BSCC)

Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors

I strongly oppose the \$95 million expansion of the West County Detention Center. Taxpayer funds should be invested in Contra Costa County and services for our communities.

In a recent poll of Contra Costa voters, half of the 400 participants oppose any expansion of the West County Detention Center and more than half believe that the Contra Costa County Sheriff should not collaborate with Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

And now with Senate Bill 630, moving through the Senate denying any state funds for the expansion of jails to be given to any jails leasing the jails to any other public or private entity, and specifically not using any beds for ICE detainees, is NOT the time to push ahead with any such expansion.

At least \$25 million of the funding for the West County Detention Center expansion must come from general and reserve funds. These County funds need to go towards community-based human services like rehabilitation and preventative services, to address these disparities and help all who live here.

Contra Costa County data has shown the racial disparities for people of color at every stage of the criminal justice process within the County. Our funds must go towards investment in services for our residents before they end up in jail. The youth, families and workers of our County need services, not cells.

Sincerely,

Norie Clarke

1 Lawson Rd.

Kensington, CA

[norieclarke@gmail.com](mailto:norieclarke@gmail.com)

Norie Clarke

**Subject:** FW: No Jail Expansion

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Sandra Portillo-Robins <[seportrob@gmail.com](mailto:seportrob@gmail.com)>  
Date: May 15, 2017 11:40 AM  
Subject: No Jail Expansion  
To: "Prince2, John@BSCC" <[John.Prince2@bscc.ca.gov](mailto:John.Prince2@bscc.ca.gov)>  
Cc:

Dear Mr. Price,

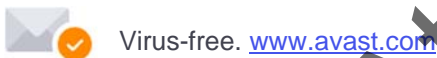
I am writing to urge you not to support \$95 million jail expansion of the West County Detention Center. As a taxpayer those, funds should be invested in Contra Costa County and services for our communities.

In a recent poll of Contra Costa voters, half of the 400 participants oppose any expansion of the West County Detention Center and more than half believe that the Contra Costa County Sheriff should not collaborate with Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

At least \$25 million of the funding for the West County Detention Center expansion must come from general and reserve funds. These County funds need to go towards community-based human services like rehabilitation and preventative services, to address these disparities and help all who live here.

Contra Costa County data has shown the racial disparities for people of color at every stage of the criminal justice process within the County. Our funds must go towards investment in services for our residents before they end up in jail. The youth, families and workers of our County need services, not cells.

Sincerely,  
Sandra Portillo-Robins



Attachment H-2

**Lwin, Adam@BSCC**

---

**Subject:** FW: No Jail Expansion

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Sandra Portillo-Robins <[seportrob@gmail.com](mailto:seportrob@gmail.com)>  
Date: May 15, 2017 11:40 AM  
Subject: No Jail Expansion  
To: "Prince2, John@BSCC" <[John.Prince2@bscc.ca.gov](mailto:John.Prince2@bscc.ca.gov)>  
Cc:

Dear Mr. Price,

I am writing to urge you not to support \$95 million jail expansion of the West County Detention Center. As a taxpayer those, funds should be invested in Contra Costa County and services for our communities.

In a recent poll of Contra Costa voters, half of the 400 participants oppose any expansion of the West County Detention Center and more than half believe that the Contra Costa County Sheriff should not collaborate with Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

At least \$25 million of the funding for the West County Detention Center expansion must come from general and reserve funds. These County funds need to go towards community-based human services like rehabilitation and preventative services, to address these disparities and help all who live here.

Contra Costa County data has shown the racial disparities for people of color at every stage of the criminal justice process within the County. Our funds must go towards investment in services for our residents before they end up in jail. The youth, families and workers of our County need services, not cells.

Sincerely,  
Sandra Portillo-Robins

Virus-free. [www.avast.com](http://www.avast.com)

Attachment H-2

**Lwin, Adam@BSCC**

---

**Subject:** FW: No more jails

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Eddie Matchett <[mseddie2@icloud.com](mailto:mseddie2@icloud.com)>

Date: May 14, 2017 10:55 PM

Subject: No more jails

To: "Prince2, John@BSCC" <[John.Prince2@bscc.ca.gov](mailto:John.Prince2@bscc.ca.gov)>

Cc:

Please use the funds for schools and training to lift people up rather than make harder criminals.

Thank you,

E. Matchett

Attachment H-2

**Lwin, Adam@BSCC**

---

**Subject:** FW: Jail

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Trevor Dag <[trevrey1@gmail.com](mailto:trevrey1@gmail.com)>

Date: May 14, 2017 11:16 AM

Subject: Jail

To: "Prince2, John@BSCC" <[John.Prince2@bscc.ca.gov](mailto:John.Prince2@bscc.ca.gov)>

Cc:

Build more jails, have the DA prosecute the bad offenders lock them up and throw away the key until time has been served.

Sent from my iPhone

Attachment H-2

**Lwin, Adam@BSCC**

---

**Subject:** FW: NAMI CC Strongly Supports the West County Reentry and Mental Health Treatment Facility Project  
**Attachments:** Ltr Support New Jail 5-12-17.pdf

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Charlie Madison <[C\\_Madison@msn.com](mailto:C_Madison@msn.com)>  
Date: May 13, 2017 10:43 AM  
Subject: NAMI CC Strongly Supports the West County Reentry and Mental Health Treatment Facility Project  
To: "Prince2, John@BSCC" <[John.Prince2@bscc.ca.gov](mailto:John.Prince2@bscc.ca.gov)>  
Cc: David O Linvingston Sheriff CCC Scty Susan <[dliivi@so.cccounty.us](mailto:dliivi@so.cccounty.us)>,"BOS John M Gioia, Dist I" <[district1@bos.cccounty.us](mailto:district1@bos.cccounty.us)>,"BOS Diane Burgis" <[diane.burgis@bos.cccounty.us](mailto:diane.burgis@bos.cccounty.us)>,"Candace Andersen BOS Dist 2" <[supervisorandersen@bos.cccounty.us](mailto:supervisorandersen@bos.cccounty.us)>,"Karen Mitchoff BOS Dist" <[supervisormitchoff@bos.cccounty.us](mailto:supervisormitchoff@bos.cccounty.us)>,"BOS Federal D Glover, Dist V" <[district5@bos.cccounty.us](mailto:district5@bos.cccounty.us)>

Dear John Prince,

NAMI Contra Costa has served hundred of people with mental illness and their families throughout our county.

The NAMI CC board of directors and their stakeholders strongly support the actions taken by Sheriff Livingston and the majority of the County Board of Supervisors, for applying for and approving the application.

Please review the attached letter and thank you for your attention.

Charles Madison  
President National Alliance on Mental Illness Contra Costa County

Attachment H-2



# Contra Costa County

May 12, 2017

John Prince, Deputy Director, County Facilities Construction  
Board of State and Community Corrections  
2590 Ventura Oaks Way, Ste. 200  
Sacramento, CA 95833

Dear Mr. Prince,

**The National Alliance on Mental Illness-Contra Costa (NAMI-CC) strongly supports the West County Reentry and Mental Health Treatment Facility project.**

Each year for nearly three decades, we have served hundreds of people with mental illnesses and their families throughout the county with educational programs and classes, support groups and advocacy. Loved ones of our members have been inmates at the Martinez Detention Center, so we are well aware of the dire need for new facilities. Specifically, we know that the Martinez facility is aging and that overcrowding and a lack of classroom and activity space and services prevents mentally ill inmates from becoming stable and from preparing for re-entry so as to prevent recidivism.

We commend the Office of the Sheriff for applying for the grant and the majority of the Board of Supervisors for approving the application. We hope that Contra Costa will receive the award, for the benefit of all inmates held in Martinez, including our ill relatives and other people with mental illness, who are among our society's most marginalized people.

Sincerely,

Charles Madison, President  
National Alliance on Mental Illness-Contra Costa

cc: Contra Costa County Sheriff David Livingston, County Supervisors John Gioia, Candace Andersen, Diane Burgis, Federal Glover, Karen Mitchoff

550 Patterson Boulevard, Pleasant Hill, California 94523  
925-942-0767 [www.namicontracosta.org](http://www.namicontracosta.org)  
A nonprofit 501(c) (3) organization Tax I.D. #68-0209474

**Lwin, Adam@BSCC**

---

**Subject:** FW: Jails in contra costa

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Carol Schaffer <[carolschaffer@me.com](mailto:carolschaffer@me.com)>

Date: May 12, 2017 5:43 PM

Subject: Jails in contra costa

To: "Prince2, John@BSCC" <[John.Prince2@bscc.ca.gov](mailto:John.Prince2@bscc.ca.gov)>

Cc:

I'm writing against expanding jails in Contra Costa County when the money could be better spent on services for at risk communities and rehabilitation.

Thank you  
Carol Schaffer  
San Pablo 94806

Sent from my iPad

Attachment H-2



**Lwin, Adam@BSCC**

---

**Subject:** FW: NAMI CC Supports West County Jail Project  
**Attachments:** NAMI Letter 5-12-17 - 5-12-17.pdf

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Karen Cohen <[karen@mmcohen.com](mailto:karen@mmcohen.com)>  
Date: May 12, 2017 4:42 PM  
Subject: NAMI CC Supports West County Jail Project  
To: "Prince2, John@BSCC" <[John.Prince2@bscc.ca.gov](mailto:John.Prince2@bscc.ca.gov)>  
Cc:

Dear Mr. Prince,

The National Alliance on Mental Illness-Contra Costa strongly supports the West County Reentry and Mental Health Treatment project. Please see attachment below. Thank you.

Attachment H-2

**Lwin, Adam@BSCC**

---

**Subject:** FW: Funds

**From:** venise boykin [<mailto:v.boykin@gmail.com>]  
**Sent:** Friday, May 12, 2017 12:09 PM  
**To:** Prince2, John@BSCC <[John.Prince2@bscc.ca.gov](mailto:John.Prince2@bscc.ca.gov)>  
**Subject:** Funds

It's more important to use the funds available for education of our minors and our seniors rather than expansion of our jails or for more jails.

Attachment H-2

**Lwin, Adam@BSCC**

---

**Subject:** FW: Do not expand jails

-----Original Message-----

From: Elisabeth Copp [mailto:elisabethcopp@gmail.com]

Sent: Friday, May 12, 2017 9:54 AM

To: Prince2, John@BSCC <John.Prince2@bscc.ca.gov>

Subject: Do not expand jails

Please do not expand jails - put emphasis and \$\$\$\$ into schools!!

Elisabeth Copp

Sent from my iPhone

Attachment H-2

**Lwin, Adam@BSCC**

---

**Subject:** FW: Funding

-----Original Message-----

From: Debra Lewis [mailto:djwest36@me.com]  
Sent: Friday, May 12, 2017 11:53 AM  
To: Prince2, John@BSCC <John.Prince2@bscc.ca.gov>  
Subject: Funding

Dear Sir,

Please know that I would appreciate your using the funds available for education of our minors and our seniors rather than the expansion of our jails or for more jails. I do not support the expansion or increase of our jails, and will not support any candidate that supports this over taking care of our seniors and children.

Thank you,

Debra Lewis  
3677 West Court, Richmond, CA 94806

Attachment H-2

**Lwin, Adam@BSCC**

---

**Subject:** FW: Jails tax dollars

-----Original Message-----

From: Annie Lee [mailto:4annielee@comcast.net]  
Sent: Friday, May 12, 2017 10:44 AM  
To: Prince2, John@BSCC <John.Prince2@bscc.ca.gov>  
Subject: Jails tax dollars

I live in the north Richmond/San Pablo area and I would like to express my opinion.

I believe it's more important to use the funds available to them for education of our minors and our seniors rather than expansion of our jails or for more jails.

Thanks so much!

Annie

Annie Lee  
W.L.Gore  
415-412-4663

Sent from my iPhone

Attachment H-2

**Lwin, Adam@BSCC**

---

**Subject:** FW: Do not fund the jail expansion at West County Detention Facility

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Jennifer Huber <[jshuber9@gmail.com](mailto:jshuber9@gmail.com)>  
Date: May 11, 2017 10:31 PM  
Subject: Do not fund the jail expansion at West County Detention Facility  
To: "Prince2, John@BSCC" <[John.Prince2@bscc.ca.gov](mailto:John.Prince2@bscc.ca.gov)>  
Cc:

Dear Mr. Prince,

Please provide the BSCC Executive Steering Committee with the following letter prior to their meeting on May 17.

Thank you,

Jennifer Huber

-----

Dear BSCC Executive Steering Committee,

I am writing to you as a long-time constituent of Contra Costa County in opposition to the jail expansion at the West County Detention Facility. I do not think our state and county funds should be used to construct this new jail for the following reasons:

- 75% of Contra Costa County’s inmate population is pretrial and the state is currently writing legislature to reform the bail system to reduce this pretrial inmate population. It doesn’t make sense for our county to make a major investment in jail cells now.
- Contra Costa County cannot afford to spend 20 million dollars on matching construction costs and over 5 million dollars each year to staff and maintain the new facility.
- The jail expansion won approval on the basis of expanding mental health support services to those already incarcerated, but only 17% of the new facility will be used for re-entry and other services, whereas 83% will be solely for detention.
- Experience shows that prevention and reentry services outside the jail are the most cost effective and successful method of keeping people out of jail.
- Instead, our county funds are desperately needed for prevention, mental health, job training, affordable housing, and reentry services to prevent new and further incarceration.

My community opposes the West County jail expansion. Please award the construction funds to another community — one that needs a new jail and can afford it.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Huber

**Lwin, Adam@BSCC**

---

**From:** Nancy Burke <nburke@sbcglobal.net>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 10, 2017 10:24 AM  
**To:** Prince2, John@BSCC  
**Subject:** West County Detention Center

Dear Mr Prince,

I have been a resident of Richmond, California, here in West Contra Costa County for 25 years. The West County Detention Facility is here in Richmond. Sheriff David Livingston wants to expand the facility presumably for mental health services. It has been seen that mental health services are better for the recipients if done in the community and not in a jail setting. As it is, the women's side of the facility at this time is not run in a satisfactory manner. Adding more cells will simply compound the problems and not solve any mental health issues for our community.

Sheriff Livingston has been cooperating with ICE and I fear that his desire to expand the jail is for the purpose of housing detainees and not expanding mental health services. Therefore, I ask you to not give funds for the West County Detention Center expansion. An expansion is not a good move for our community.

Sincerely,  
Nancy Burke

Attachment H-2

5/9/17

# Communications

195 GLEN COVE MARINA ROAD, SUITE 101  
VALLEJO, CA 94591  
TELEPHONE (707) 645-8927  
FAX (707) 645-8934  
WWW.CWA9404.ORG



## Workers of America

LOCAL 9404  
(AFFILIATED WITH AFL-CIO)  
MICHAEL BARFIELD, PRESIDENT

May 9, 2017

Ms. Kathleen Howard  
Executive Director  
California Board of State and Community Corrections  
2590 Venture Oaks Way  
Sacramento, CA 95833

**RE: SB 844 Proposal for Expansion of the West Contra Costa Detention Facility -- OPPOSE**

Dear Ms. Howard:

Our CWA Local 9404 opposes the expansion of the West County Detention Facility (WCDF) in Contra Costa for many reasons.

A recent poll of 400 Contra Costa voters showed half opposed any expansion of the WCDF and more than half believe the CCC Sheriff should not collaborate with Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE). No bond or tax measure could pass in Contra Costa to pay for this project.

Furthermore, we object to using \$95 million in taxpayer funds - between \$13 - \$25 million from the County's reserve fund - while we have unmet and growing needs for health care, youth services, infrastructure, prevention & rehabilitation programs, and job training. Between 2010 and 2015, the Sheriff's Department has enjoyed a 26% increase of General Fund expenditures, while hospitals have closed and mental health services have been cut.

Other attempts to expand the WCDF were predicated on relieving overcrowding, providing mental health services or partnering with ICE. We reject these as unfounded and wrong.

Overcrowding can be effectively addressed by ending the current contract with ICE and freeing up 200 beds. Contra Costa is the only Bay Area County with not one, but **two**, ICE detention centers. The Sheriff's Department nets approximately \$3 million from this contract. We believe it is the Sheriff's intention is to expand this contract, using our California taxpayer's money against our wishes and values.

According to the BSCC's *Jail Profile Summary*, 76% of people in our jails are awaiting case resolution and can't afford bail. Contra Costans voted 66% for Proposition 47. Alternative courts and bail reform would also alleviate overcrowding.

Attachment H-2



**Lwin, Adam@BSCC**

**From:** Jennifer Weland <jweland@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, May 07, 2017 8:08 AM  
**To:** Prince2, John@BSCC  
**Subject:** Opposition to expansion of the West County Detention Center

May 8, 2017

John Prince  
 Construction Financing Committee of the Board of State and Community Corrections  
 2590 Venture Oaks Way Suite 200  
 Sacramento, CA 95833

[john.prince2@bscc.ca.gov](mailto:john.prince2@bscc.ca.gov)

Dear Mr. Prince and Members of the Construction Financing Committee of the Board of State and Community Corrections:

I am a resident of Pleasant Hill, Contra Costa County who opposes the expansion of the West County Detention Center. Contra Costa County needs greater investment in mental health treatment, job training, affordable housing and services to keep people from being incarcerated, not a larger West County Jail.

Here are just a few reasons for my opposition to this proposal:

- The money for the jail will require ongoing financial support. The approved plan calls for the Contra Costa County to spend at least \$5 million per year to maintain the jail going forward. \$2 million of that \$5million will be used to hire additional deputies. With budget threats already looming, is this really a wise decision?
- Prevention and reentry assistance are much more humane and much less costly than incarceration. The expansion won approval on the basis of expanding mental health and support service to those already incarcerated and a promise of no new net jail beds. However, if one looks closer at the proposal, a very small fraction of the expansion actually goes to these services - with 83% of the new facility devoted solely to detention.
- Jail expansion and the ICE Detention Center go hand in hand. The Sheriff in West County has maintained a multi-million dollar contract with Immigration and Customs Enforcement. Nearly 200 individuals are being held at the West County jail for possible deportation, occupying 20% of the jail capacity that could be used to meet the county's needs, not the federal government's.

The residents of west Contra Costa County have a vision for their community: No school to prison pipeline, education and jobs for their young people, a place where everyone feels secure and a part of society, an end to the criminalization of the poor and people of color. Spending resources to build a jail in their community is a denial of their hopes for a fair and inclusive community and the perpetuation of a system that exacerbates the problems.

Please do not approve the grant for the Contra Costa County West County Detention Center.

Thank you,

Jennifer Weland

**Lwin, Adam@BSCC**

---

**From:** Pineda, Abel <Abel.Pineda@asm.ca.gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 08, 2017 2:43 PM  
**To:** Prince2, John@BSCC  
**Subject:** BSCC GRANT: Assemblymember Thurmond, AD15  
**Attachments:** SKM\_284e17050517280.pdf

Dear Mr. Prince and Members of the Construction Financing Committee of the Board of State and Community Corrections:

Please accept Assemblymember Tony Thurmond's letter of opposition for an application for funding sent to your office by the Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors. This letter is relating to the proposed expansion of the West County Detention Facility in the City of Richmond. Please do not hesitate to contact our office if you have any questions or concerns.

Best,

Abel

Abel Pineda  
Sr. Field Representative  
Office of Assemblymember Tony Thurmond  
Assembly District 15  
District Office: 510-286-1400  
Capitol Office: 916-319-2015

Attachment H-2

STATE CAPITOL  
P.O. BOX 942849  
SACRAMENTO, CA 94249-0015  
(916) 319-2015  
FAX (916) 319-2115

DISTRICT OFFICE  
1515 CLAY STREET, SUITE 2201  
OAKLAND, CA 94612  
(510) 286-1400  
FAX (510) 286-1406

# Assembly California Legislature



**TONY THURMOND**  
ASSEMBLYMEMBER, FIFTEENTH DISTRICT

5/5/17  
**COMMITTEES**  
BUDGET  
EDUCATION  
HEALTH  
HUMAN SERVICES  
LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT

**SUB COMMITTEES**  
CHAIR: BUDGET SUBCOMMITTEE NO. 1  
ON HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES  
BUDGET SUBCOMMITTEE NO. 6 ON  
BUDGET PROCESS OVERSIGHT AND  
PROGRAM EVALUATION

May 5, 2017

California Board of State and Community Corrections  
Attn: John Prince, Construction Finance Committee  
2590 Ventura Oaks Way, Suite 200  
Sacramento, CA 95833

Dear Mr. Prince,

As the Assemblymember representing West Contra Costa County, I am writing regarding an application for funding that was sent to your committee by the Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors to expand the West County Detention Facility in the City of Richmond. I have been opposed to the expansion of this facility since it was first proposed to the County Board of Supervisors in 2015 by Sheriff Livingston and my position has not changed. In the past two years the Richmond community's opposition has increased and now I have been alerted to the fact that this application fails to indicate the current facility is housing approximately 200 Immigration and Customs Enforcement (I.C.E.) detainees daily, 20% of the facility's capacity. I request that as you evaluate the county's proposal you take into account the following:

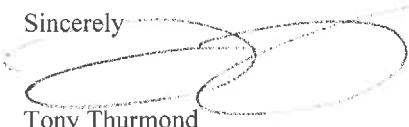
1. The expansion of this jail is not supported by the residents of Richmond and the surrounding communities. The people, including County Supervisor John Gioia who represents West County and Senator Nancy Skinner, have expressed great concern regarding the expansion; particularly that the County Board of Supervisors has prioritized a jail expansion costing millions of dollars but has neglected to offer equal support for critically needed services for mental health, substance abuse, youth programs and allowed the closure of the only public hospital in West Contra Costa County that served Richmond and the surrounding community two years ago.
2. The West County Detention Facility does not need to be expanded if the facility no longer houses I.C.E. detainees. At a fraction of the cost the County has committed, the facility can be remodeled to handle the mental health program needs the County Sheriff has used to justify the expansion.
3. Local governments, including the City of Richmond, have passed ordinances prohibiting local law enforcement agencies from coordinating with I.C.E.
4. As the State of California moves towards reducing the prison population, the Board's construction funds should be used to maintain and upgrade existing facilities, not to expand facilities for potentially housing more I.C.E. detainees.

I respectfully request that if the California Board of State and Community Corrections grant this application to Contra Costa County, that the Board expressly prohibit the Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors and Contra Costa Sheriff from housing I.C.E. detainees at the West County Detention Facility.

Please contact me if I can provide you with any additional information regarding this matter. I would like to invite you to the Richmond community to meet with community residents so that you may hear more about their concerns.

Thank you for your consideration,

Sincerely,

  
Tony Thurmond  
Assemblymember, 15<sup>th</sup> District

**Lwin, Adam@BSCC**

---

**From:** shirley kaiser <skaiser806@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, May 05, 2017 1:50 PM  
**To:** Prince2, John@BSCC  
**Subject:** Expansion of West County Detention Center

Dear Mr. Prince and Members of the Construction Financing Committee of the Board of State and Community Corrections:

I am a resident of Walnut Creek, Contra Costa County who opposes the expansion of the West County Detention Center. Contra Costa County needs greater investment in mental health treatment, job training, affordable housing and services to keep people from being incarcerated, not a larger West County Jail. Prevention and reentry assistance are much more humane and much less costly than incarceration.

Please do not approve the grant for the Contra Costa County West County Detention Center.

Thank you.

Shirley Kaiser

Attachment H-2

**Lwin, Adam@BSCC**

---

**From:** Duane Chapman <duane.chapman@att.net>  
**Sent:** Friday, May 05, 2017 10:40 AM  
**To:** Prince2, John@BSCC  
**Subject:** Fw: Why I support the expansion...

Greetings,

As the Chair for the Contra Costa County Mental Health Services, I would like to give you a little information as to **why I do support** the expansion of the Jail in West Contra County. And wondering why our commission was not invited to share our concerns?

Like many in Contra Costa County, I too have a family member that is in and out of the jail system and has not been able to understand that he too needs services because over the years have watched him and his issues that has caused him and others to be a part of the revolving door, and here are some of his issues that I and my family have watched him go thru:

- \*He hears voices
- \*He has many times been confused or illogically thinking so that nothing "make sense"
- \*He has delusional problems – for example, he may believe that he is being pursued (paranoia)  
or that he is the president of the U.S. (delusions of grandeur)
- \*He has been known to be inappropriately acting – for example, he may talk loudly to voices that  
only he can hear and sometimes has been known to dress bizarrely
- \*He has had over a period of 30 years has had repeated periods of severe depression or act as if he is "high" (manic) when he has not in fact taken street drugs; and I and my family has witness such mood swings that are usually accompanied by confusion or illogical thinking.

And my mother went to her grave wondering where she went wrong and afraid of her on son .

So, because he is part of the revolving door I support this expansion and hope that he will take advantage of the services that can be provided.

I do plan on attending the Mental Health Panel--Services Not Cells and hope that others that support the expansion will also attend.

Duane C. Chapman, Chair  
 Contra Costa County  
 Mental Health Commission

510-778-9569

[www.CALBHBC.weekly.com](http://www.CALBHBC.weekly.com)  
[facebook: CALBHBC](https://www.facebook.com/CALBHBC)

**The Contra Costa County Mental Health Commission has a dual mission:**

1. **To influence the County's Mental Health System to ensure the delivery of quality services which are effective, efficient, culturally relevant and responsive to the needs and desires of the clients it serves with dignity and respect; and**
2. **To be the advocate with the Board of Supervisors, the Mental Health Division, and the community on behalf of all Contra Costa County residents who are in need of mental health services.**

***“Think before you speak. Read before you think.”***

***...it can be hard being a Black Man in public space...***

**IMPORTANT NOTICE:** This message is intended only for the addressee and may contain confidential, privileged information. If you are not the intended recipient, you may not use, copy or disclose any information contained in the message. If you have received this message in error, please notify the sender by reply e-mail and delete the message.

Attachment #2

**Lwin, Adam@BSCC**

---

**From:** Carol Dvora <ceedee6163@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, May 05, 2017 7:43 PM  
**To:** Prince2, John@BSCC  
**Subject:** Fwd: New Jail in CoCo County

-----  
From: **Carol Dvora** <[ceedee6163@gmail.com](mailto:ceedee6163@gmail.com)>  
Date: Fri, May 5, 2017 at 7:33 PM  
Subject: New Jail in CoCo County  
To: [johm.prince2@bscc.ca.gov](mailto:johm.prince2@bscc.ca.gov)

Dear Mr. Prince and Members of the Construction Financing Committee of the Board of State and Community Corrections:

I am a resident of Walnut Creek, Contra Costa County who opposes the expansion of the West County Detention Center. Contra Costa County needs greater investment in mental health treatment, job training, affordable housing and services to keep people from being incarcerated, not a larger West County Jail. Prevention and reentry assistance are much more humane and much less costly than incarceration. ...

Contra Costa County has the highest rate of “non-criminal” deportations in Northern California. 70% of deportations in CCC are people who have no criminal record  
The residents of west Contra Costa County

**do not want**

school to prison pipeline, education and jobs for their young people, a place where everyone feels secure and a part of society, an end to the criminalization of the poor and people of color. Spending resources to build a jail in their community is a denial of their hopes for a fair and inclusive community and the perpetuation of a system that exacerbates the problems.

**Thank you, Carol Dvora Walnut Creek 94595**

*“What counts in life is not the mere fact that we have lived. It is what difference we have made to the lives of others that will determine the significance of the life we lead.”*

– Nelson Mandela

5/3/17

**Lwin, Adam@BSCC**

---

**From:** Julianna Swent <tayoltita@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 03, 2017 6:41 PM  
**To:** Prince2, John@BSCC  
**Subject:** No prison expansion

Dear Mr. Prince,

I am asking you to vote NO on the Contra Costa County prison expansion project.

The money being used to fund this prison should instead be spent to provide medical and mental health services to the general public. We should not be expanding the number of jail cells in the country with the highest rate of incarceration in the world. Our incarceration rate is a shame on this nation and it is the telling proof that we still live in an age of racial discrimination in the justice system.

In addition, no county funds should be used to hold persons detained by ICE. This is a matter of the federal government, not local governments, and a jail expansion would mean that CCC would potentially hold more ICE prisoners - not less, or none at all, which is what should be happening.

Regards,

Julianna Swent

Attachment H-2



**Lwin, Adam@BSCC****Subject:** need for new jail restorative justice

----- Original message -----

From: Lauren Rettagliata <[rettagliata@sbcglobal.net](mailto:rettagliata@sbcglobal.net)>

Date: 4/30/17 7:12 PM (GMT-08:00)

To: [kupers@ipc.org](mailto:kupers@ipc.org), [ankushganapathy@gamil.com](mailto:ankushganapathy@gamil.com), BSCC Webmaster <[Webmaster@bscc.ca.gov](mailto:Webmaster@bscc.ca.gov)>, "Lwin, Adam@BSCC" <[Adam.Lwin@bscc.ca.gov](mailto:Adam.Lwin@bscc.ca.gov)>, "Cone, Tracie@BSCC" <[Tracie.Cone@bscc.ca.gov](mailto:Tracie.Cone@bscc.ca.gov)>, [maria.rodriguesrieger@bscc.ca.gov](mailto:maria.rodriguesrieger@bscc.ca.gov)Cc: Will McGarvey <[willymac4@me.com](mailto:willymac4@me.com)>, Tom Bonacci <[peace@thomasponacci.net](mailto:peace@thomasponacci.net)>, [dianeburgis@gmail.com](mailto:dianeburgis@gmail.com), [Karen.Mitchoff@bos.cccounty.us](mailto:Karen.Mitchoff@bos.cccounty.us), "Gioia, John@Contra Costa" <[John.Gioia@bos.cccounty.us](mailto:John.Gioia@bos.cccounty.us)>, Federal Glover <[federal.glover@bos.cccounty.us](mailto:federal.glover@bos.cccounty.us)>, "Andersen, Candace@bos.cccounty.us" <[candace.andersen@bos.cccounty.us](mailto:candace.andersen@bos.cccounty.us)>, Thomas Chalk <[tchal@so.cccounty.us](mailto:tchal@so.cccounty.us)>, Matthew Schuler <[mschuler@so.cccounty.us](mailto:mschuler@so.cccounty.us)>, David Livingston <[dlivi@so.cccounty.us](mailto:dlivi@so.cccounty.us)>, Charles Madison <[c\\_madison@msn.com](mailto:c_madison@msn.com)>, Dave Kahler <[dk122932@aol.com](mailto:dk122932@aol.com)>, Karen Cohen <[karen@mmcohen.com](mailto:karen@mmcohen.com)>, Gigi Crowder <[gigicrowder0283@comcast.net](mailto:gigicrowder0283@comcast.net)>, Duane Chapman <[duane.chapman@att.net](mailto:duane.chapman@att.net)>, Barbara Serwin <[serwinfamily@hotmail.com](mailto:serwinfamily@hotmail.com)>, "Belon, Cynthia" <[cynthia.belon@hsd.cccounty.us](mailto:cynthia.belon@hsd.cccounty.us)>, "Roth, Dr. Anna@HSD County" <[Anna.Roth@hsd.cccounty.us](mailto:Anna.Roth@hsd.cccounty.us)>, "Dr. William Walker CCHS" <[william.walker@hsd.cccounty.us](mailto:william.walker@hsd.cccounty.us)>, Supervisor Diane Burgis <[dist3@bos.cccounty.us](mailto:dist3@bos.cccounty.us)>

Subject: need for new jail restorative justice

Dear Faith Community and Board of State and Community Corrections

There seems to be so much misinformation about the need to improve the detention facilities in Contra Costa County. The need to expand the West County Facility is greatly needed. For Restorative Justice to occur there must be a facility that treats the inmates humanely. The humane treatment of inmates is impossible at the Martinez Facility. It must be remembered that before someone can be sent to a diversion facility or a hospital specializing in treatment of those with a mental illness there must be a hearing. Most people who are severely mentally ill do not have the means to seek bail. For their own safety and those in the community there must be a place for them to be detained. This place is not the Martinez jail. The Martinez jail is at double capacity and the population must quickly be reduced. Even if the Sheriff were able to reduce the jail population by 700 inmates there would still be a need for a high security facility at the West County Detention Facility. The structure of the West County Facility today does not accommodate those who need high security or need treatment for behavioral health needs. Even if the Sheriff stopped taking ICE detainees the fifth structure at the West County facility would need to be constructed to accommodate the special needs of these populations.

The grant funding being offered is not for afterschool programs in our community, or the education of our children. The funds being offered are for the improvement of our criminal justice system. The Martinez facility is old at best and sorely inadequate. If we are a community that cares about the treatment of those with a serious mental illness, we would embrace this opportunity to build a state of the art facility where treatment for those with a mental illness could take place.

As a member of the Mental Health Commission I was asked to give an opinion on whether the addition to the West County Facility was needed. From the community meetings I had attended and the information I had read I was certain that the building of this facility was not warranted. However, before the Commission withheld or gave our support to the state grant funds being sought, the Mental Health Commission asked to have a tour of the West County Detention Facility and Martinez Detention Facility and to see M Module where those with a severe mental illness were housed. We also toured D Module and Q Module where inmates with a mental illness were also kept. M Module is a place that does not even meet the code set by the UN Charter for prisoners. Martinez is a jail that confines both those awaiting trial who cannot afford bail and those who have been convicted of crimes that do not warrant prison. In M Module inmates are held in their cells sometimes for over 23 hours because of safety. Both male and female inmates can be housed here. The inmates live without the benefit of sunlight and activity. The meals served do not meet the standard required to foster health. Both sunlight and adequate nutrition are essential for those who are on antipsychotic medication. There is not a place for needed therapy to happen. Treatment for severe mental illness is limited--very limited. In D Module and Q Module the safety of those with a severe mental illness was a deep concern. I have met both the mental health professionals and the law enforcement personnel who staff these areas. They are well trained and trying to provide for those in their care under the most dismal of circumstances. Those incarcerated, those who care for them medically, and those who are in law enforcement deserve to have an adequate facility to meet the needs of those who are incarcerated.

After touring the Detention Facilities I became convinced that the Sheriff was making the wisest of decisions in applying for the state grant to update and renovate the Detention Facilities.

I have spent the afternoon in M, D & Q Module and I ask anyone who opposes the construction of the new building at West County Detention Facility to do the same. Immediately it will become evident to you the desperate need to improve the situation for those who are incarcerated. No matter what level of diversion and community treatment we provide there will still be a need to care for those who are incarcerated. We cannot just pretend that people with a severe mental illness will never end up incarcerated

Please realize that we must care for those with a serious mental illness who are incarcerated and the \$70 million grant offered by the state will allow this process and commitment to begin. This is only the beginning. We encourage everyone in Contra Costa County to become involved in the Stepping Up Initiative and support the Mental Health Commission in their advocacy for transition and diversion housing for those who are in the criminal justice system.

As an advocate for those with a serious mental illness. I implore you to rethink your position and join with us to work for improving conditions, care and treatment for those with a mental illness.

Lauren Rettagliata  
Advocate for those with a severe Mental Illness

**Lwin, Adam@BSCC**

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**From:** Suzanne Yada <suzanneyada@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 26, 2017 4:06 PM  
**To:** Lwin, Adam@BSCC  
**Subject:** I oppose the West Contra Costa County jail expansion

Hi Adam,

My colleague Jane Middleton suggested to email you my opposition to the jail expansion, and that you would forward this on to the Board. Your gesture is much appreciated.

I am deeply concerned about the expansion of the West Contra Costa County jail. It is not what our community needs. We need more services to keep people out of jail, like jobs, education, food and other programs and policies. The proposal says it's to provide services, but the promises ring painfully hollow. The vast majority of the funding is going to adding 416 more high-security beds.

The community is rightfully upset that the only time there is talk of more resources or buildings in West Contra Costa County, it is for a bigger jail, not for the resources they actually need and are asking for.

I refuse to be a part of the New Jim Crow. Please do not grant the funds for this expansion.

Thank you for hearing my voice.

Signed,  
-Suzanne Yada  
Concord, CA, 94519  
510-393-1669

Attachment #2

**Lwin, Adam@BSCC**

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**From:** Jane Middleton <jane.m928@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 26, 2017 2:54 PM  
**To:** Lwin, Adam@BSCC  
**Subject:** Grant Proposal to Expand West Contra Costa County Detention Center

To the Board of State and Community Corrections:

I am writing as a resident of Contra Costa County who is concerned about the proposed expansion of the West Contra Costa County Detention Facility in Richmond. I urge you NOT to grant funds for the jail expansion.

The grant proposal purports to be for services, but the vast majority of the additional square footage will be for 416 new high-security beds.

The myth of mass incarceration as a means to securing our communities has now been debunked. To increase security and reduce crime *we need to reduce the incentive for people to resort to crime by investing in the policies and programs that will keep people out of jail.*

Sheriff Livingstone is on the wrong side of history. Don't join him there.

Sincerely,

Jane Middleton

Jane Middleton

510-232-2075 (office)  
510-323-5676 (mobile)

Attachment H-2

**Lwin, Adam@BSCC**

---

**From:** MARLENEKELLER9577 <marlenekeller9577@comcast.net>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 10, 2017 12:51 PM  
**To:** Penner, Linda@BSCC; Prince2, John@BSCC; Oates, Robert@BSCC  
**Cc:** john\_gioia@bos.cccounty.us  
**Subject:** Our opposition to Contra Costa County proposed expansion of West County jail  
**Attachments:** BSCC Chair Linda Penner April 10 2017 no on jail.doc

Dear BSCC chair Penner, CFC Deputy Director Prince and CFC Project Director Oates,

We attach our letter opposing the proposed West County jail expansion.  
And we copy our Contra Costa County Supervisor John Gioia who opposes the jail expansion, along with our entire El Cerrito City Council.

Sincerely,  
Marlene Keller and Professor Christian G. Fritz, Esq  
8355 Kent Ct, El Cerrito, CA 94530-2547

Attachment H-2

Linda Penner  
BSCC Chair

4/10/17

April 10, 2017

Re: Opposition to Contra Costa County Proposal to Expand the West County Detention Facility in Richmond

Dear Chair Penner,

I am a retired budget manager who worked for Sandia National Laboratories. My husband is a retired Professor of Law. We grew up in Richmond and Tiburon, respectively, graduated from UC Berkeley, are homeowners in El Cerrito, active members of the El Cerrito Democratic Club and local volunteers in numerous organizations.

We were shocked to hear about a planned expansion of the West County jail. We believe this is a terrible waste of taxpayer money. With funds in short supply at the state and local level, we think it makes no sense for the state to spend over \$70M on jail construction and even less sense for Contra Costa County to spend at least \$5M additional dollars per year for jail operations. Many Californians will see a disappearing social services safety net under planned national policies and budget cuts outlined in the OMB Budget Blueprint. Thus, this is the worst time to put scarce public funds into a jail expansion instead of community services.

We believe that the county Sheriff intends to use the added jail beds to house ICE detainees under his existing contract. We deplore this plan because it will harm families, not achieve anything meaningful for the incarcerated or mentally ill and make law enforcement harder to achieve because immigrant families will not report crimes for fear of deportation.

We are asking the Board of State and Community Corrections to reject the Contra Costa County proposal to expand the detention facility. In the meantime, we have communicated our opposition to the jail expansion to every member of the county Board of Supervisors and the Sheriff.

Sincerely,

Marlene Keller and Professor Christian G. Fritz, Esq.  
8355 Kent Ct, El Cerrito, CA 94530-2547

cc:

CFC Deputy Director John Prince  
CFC Project Director Robert Oates

4/5/17



Mayor Janet Abelson

April 5, 2017

Ms. Kathleen Howard  
Executive Director  
California Board of State and Community Corrections  
2590 Venture Oaks Way  
Sacramento, CA 95833

**Via email and U.S. mail: [kathleen.howard@bscc.ca.gov](mailto:kathleen.howard@bscc.ca.gov)**

Subject: El Cerrito City Council opposition to the proposed expansion of the West Contra Costa County Detention Facility located in Richmond, California

Dear Ms. Howard:

At its meeting of April 4, 2017, the El Cerrito City Council discussed, and expressed significant concern over, the proposed expansion of the West Contra Costa County Detention Facility (WCCCDF), for which Contra Costa County has submitted a \$70 million grant proposal to the Criminal Justice Facilities Construction Fund of the California Board of State and Community Corrections. Following this discussion, the Council voted to oppose the project and its associated grant funding.

On February 7, 2017, the Contra Costa Board of Supervisors voted 4-1 to move forward with a proposal to expand the West County Detention Facility in Richmond. Supervisor John Gioia was the opposing vote.

At a 2015 meeting of the El Cerrito City Council, the City Council received a presentation from the Office of the Sheriff regarding a proposed expansion. The City Council did not take a position on the proposed expansion.

The Sheriff's Office states there is a need for the expansion due to the overcrowding at the Martinez jail, which is currently housing significantly more inmates than recommended. The plan proposes to add a new wing to the Richmond facility that is close to 120,000 square feet, including space for 400 beds and child-visitation, re-entry and rehabilitation centers. The proposal also includes a mental health treatment facility; however, there is speculation that there is a minimal amount of beds dedicated to inmates with mental illness. Sherriff's officials plan to submit a proposal for a \$70 million grant from the Criminal Justice Facilities Construction Fund. The County will have to contribute millions of dollars to the project, if approved in order to complete and ultimately maintain its operations, potentially taking away funding from other critical

4/5/17

Ms. Kathleen Howard, Executive Director .  
California Board of State and Community Corrections  
April 5, 2017  
Page 2 of 2

health and human services services. The host city of Richmond opposes the proposed expansion.

Additionally, the facility may have been used to inappropriately house ICE (Immigration and Customs Enforcement) detainees. According to Supervisor Gioia, "Nearly 200 individuals are being held for possible deportation at the West County jail under a sheriff's contract with the U.S. Department of Justice to house ICE detainees." If the State is considering the grant, the State should require Contra Costa County Sheriff Livingston to cancel his contract with ICE so that Contra Costa is not unfairly benefitting from an ICE contract while using revenues from throughout the state. Additionally, cancelling the contract may well resolve some of the overcrowding issues.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Janet Abelson  
Mayor

cc: Contra Costa Board of Supervisors  
El Cerrito City Council  
Sheriff Livingston

Attachment H-2



**Lwin, Adam@BSCC**

---

**From:** maria Alegria <westcountydemocratics@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 03, 2017 4:21 PM  
**Subject:** April 4 @ 7pm: Come support El Cerrito City Council's OPPOSITION to WCDF Jail Expansion  
**Attachments:** El Cerrito Agendaa 4.4.17.pdf; El Cerrito City Council Opposes Jail Expansion 4.4.17 .pdf

Dear West County Democratic Club members and friends of WCDC:

At our March 9th meeting we voted to send a letter OPPOSING the WCDF Jail Expansion. Please come and support the El Cerrito City Council's decision to also OPPOSE the Jail Expansion.

April 4, 2017 Agenda and letter is attached.

Sincerely,  
Genoveva Calloway  
Interim President  
West County Democratic Club  
[westcountydemocratics@gmail.com](mailto:westcountydemocratics@gmail.com)



Date: To: From: Subject:

March 21, 2017

El Cerrito City Council

Rochelle Pardue-Okimoto

Opposition to the proposed expansion of the West Contra Costa County Detention facility

**AGENDA BILL** Agenda Item No. 4(l)

**ACTION REQUESTED**

At the request of Councilmember Pardue–Okimoto, approve a recommendation authorizing the Mayor to send a letter (Attachment 1) to the California Board of State and Community Corrections opposing the \$70 million grant proposal from the Contra Costa Sheriff’s Office for the expansion of the West County Detention Facility in Richmond.

**BACKGROUND**

Attachment H-2

On February 7, 2017, the Contra Costa Board of Supervisors voted 4-1 to move forward with a proposal to expand the West County Detention Facility in Richmond. Supervisor John Gioia was the opposing vote.

At a 2015 meeting of the El Cerrito City Council, the City Council received a presentation from the Office of the Sheriff regarding a proposed expansion. The City Council did not take a position on the proposed expansion.

The Sheriff's Office states there is a need for the expansion due to the overcrowding at the Martinez jail, which is currently housing significantly more inmates than recommended. The plan proposes to add a new wing to the Richmond facility that is close to 120,000 square feet, including space for 400 beds and child-visitation, re-entry and rehabilitation centers. The proposal also includes a mental health treatment facility; however, there is speculation that there is a minimal amount of beds dedicated to inmates with mental illness. Sherriff's officials plan to submit a proposal for a \$70 million grant from the Criminal Justice Facilities Construction Fund. The County will have to contribute millions of dollars to the project, if approved in order to complete and ultimately maintain its operations. The host city of Richmond opposes the proposed expansion.

Additionally, the facility has been used to inappropriately house ICE (Immigration and Customs Enforcement) detainees. According to Supervisor Gioia, "Nearly 200 individuals are being held for possible deportation at the West County jail under a sheriff's contract with the U.S. Department of Justice to house ICE detainees."

It is my recommendation that the El Cerrito City Council direct the Mayor to send a letter to the California Board of State and Community Corrections to express the City's opposition to the expansion. The opposition letter should reiterate the city's view that state and county resources should be invested in needed services that reduce jail populations and support successful reentry and reintegration. Public resources should

Attachment #2

**Agenda Item No. 4(1)**

not be committed to jail construction. It is further recommended that the Board of Supervisors focus on funds for other needed services; specifically, a full service hospital.

**FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS**

None at this time for El Cerrito. Project cost projections as reported to the Board of Supervisors:

**Physical Plant:**

\$95.2 million - Total Project Cost

\$70.0 million - SB 844 Jail Funding Program

\$22.0 million - Cash Match

\$15.0 million General Fund Reserve (Unassigned)

\$4.5 million Sheriff's Plant Acquisition account (existing General Fund appropriation)

\$2.5 million 2011 Local Revenue Fund (AB 109)

\$3.2 million - In-Kind Match (Land Value, project oversight, transition planning, etc.)

**Future Operating Costs (in 2017 dollars) (\$5,058,738):**


Detention Staffing (\$2,152,104)

Rehabilitation and Reentry Services (Services to be provided by Community Based Organization via Request for Proposals) (\$1,907,034)

Adult Education and Vocational Services (CCC Office of Education) (\$241,600)

Psychiatric Services – CCC Detention Health (\$750,000)

Reviewed by:



**Scott Hanin**  
City Manager

**Attachments:**

1. Letter
2. Board of Supervisors Report and Presentation
3. Supervisor Gioia Op Ed
4. February 7, 2017 East Bay Time Article  
<http://www.eastbaytimes.com/2017/02/07/richmond-contra-costa-supes-move-forward-with-controversial-new-jail-project/>

**Agenda Item No. 4(1)**

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None at this time for El Cerrito. Project cost projections as reported to the Board of Supervisors:

**Physical Plant:**

4/4/17

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7£.

**Scott Hanin City Manager**

**Attachments:**

1. Letter
2. Board of Supervisors Report and Presentation
3. Supervisor Gioia Op Ed
4. February 7, 2017 East Bay Time Article

<http://www.eastbaytimes.com/2017/02/07/richmond-contra-costa-supes-move-forwardwith-controversial-new-jail-project/>

Page 2



**Mayor Janet Abelson**

April 4, 2017

Ms. Kathleen Howard  
Executive Director  
California Board of State and Community Corrections 2590 Venture Oaks Way  
Sacramento, CA 95833

**Via email and U.S. mail: [kathleen.howard@bscc.ca.gov](mailto:kathleen.howard@bscc.ca.gov)**

Subject: El Cerrito City Council opposition to the proposed expansion of the West Contra Costa County Detention Facility located in Richmond, California

4/4/17

Dear Ms. Howard:

At its meeting of April 4, 2017, the El Cerrito City Council discussed, and expressed significant concern over, the proposed expansion of the West Contra Costa County Detention Facility (WCCCDF), for which Contra Costa County has submitted a \$70 million grant proposal to the Criminal Justice Facilities Construction Fund of the California Board of State and Community Corrections. Following this discussion, the Council voted to oppose the project and its associated grant funding.

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The Sheriff's Office states there is a need for the expansion due to the overcrowding at the Martinez jail, which is currently housing significantly more inmates than recommended. The plan proposes to add a new wing to the Richmond facility that is close to 120,000 square feet, including space for 400 beds and child-visitation, re-entry and rehabilitation centers. The proposal also includes a mental health treatment facility; however, there is speculation that there is a minimal amount of beds dedicated to inmates with mental illness. Sherriff's officials plan to submit a proposal for a \$70 million grant from the Criminal Justice Facilities Construction Fund. The County will have to contribute millions of dollars to the project, if approved in order to complete and ultimately maintain its operations, potentially taking away funding from other critical

CITY HALL 10890 San Pablo Avenue, El Cerrito, CA 94530 Telephone [\(510\) 215-4305](tel:(510)215-4305) Fax [\(510\) 215-4379](tel:(510)215-4379) <http://www.el-cerrito.org>

Ms. Kathleen Howard, Executive Director . California Board of State and Community Corrections April 4, 2017  
Page 2 of 2

health and human services services. The host city of Richmond opposes the proposed expansion.

Additionally, the facility may have been used to inappropriately house ICE (Immigration and Customs Enforcement) detainees. According to Supervisor Gioia, "Nearly 200 individuals are being held for possible deportation at the West County jail under a sheriff's contract with the U.S. Department of Justice to house ICE detainees."

Thank you for your consideration. Sincerely,

Janet Abelson Mayor

cc: City Council

CITY HALL 10890 San Pablo Avenue, El Cerrito, CA 94530 Telephone [\(510\) 215-4305](tel:(510)215-4305) Fax [\(510\) 215-4379](tel:(510)215-4379) <http://www.el-cerrito.org>



# AGENDA

**REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING**  
**Tuesday, April 4, 2017 – 7:00 p.m.**  
**City Council Chambers**

**Meeting Location**  
 El Cerrito City Hall  
 10890 San Pablo Avenue, El Cerrito

Janet Abelson – Mayor

Mayor Pro Tem Gabriel Quinto  
 Councilmember Greg Lyman

Councilmember Paul Fadelli  
 Councilmember Rochelle Pardue-Okimoto

## ROLL CALL

7:00 p.m. **CONVENE REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

**1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG OR OBSERVATION OF MOMENT OF SILENCE** – *Councilmember Gabriel Quinto.*

**2. COUNCIL / STAFF COMMUNICATIONS** (*Reports of Closed Session, commission appointments and informational reports on matters of general interest which are announced by the City Council & City Staff.*)

**3. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC**

*All persons wishing to speak should sign up with the City Clerk. Remarks are typically limited to 3 minutes per person. The Mayor may reduce the time limit per speaker depending upon the number of speakers. Kindly state your name and city of residence for the record. Comments regarding non-agenda, presentation and consent calendar items will be heard first. Comments related to items appearing on the Public Hearing or Policy Matter portions of the Agenda are taken up at the time the City Council deliberates each action item. Individuals wishing to comment on any closed session scheduled after the regular meeting may do so during this public comment period or after formal announcement of the closed session.*

**4. ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT CALENDAR – Item No. 4(A) through 4(J)**

**A. Approval of Minutes**

Approve the March 21, 2017 Special City Council and March 21, 2017 Regular City Council meeting minutes.

**B. Earth Day Proclamation**

Approve a proclamation designating April 22, 2017 as “Earth Day” in the City of El Cerrito and encouraging all residents and businesses to help make El Cerrito a greener, healthier, more sustainable place for all.

**C. Public, Educational and Government (PEG) Fee Reauthorization Ordinance**

Adopt Ordinance No. 2017–03, an ordinance of the City of El Cerrito reauthorizing the public, educational and government (PEG) fee on state cable franchisees operating with the City and amending Section 14.12.170 of the El Cerrito Municipal Code. *First reading on March 21, 2017. Approved by unanimous vote.*

**D. Annual Parcel Assessment for the National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Program and Drainage Maintenance Activities for Fiscal Year 2017-18**

Adopt a resolution establishing the annual parcel assessment for the National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) program and Drainage Maintenance activities at the current rate of \$38.00 per Equivalent Run off Unit (ERU), and authorizing the Contra Costa County Flood Control & Water Conservation District to adopt Stormwater Utility Area levies based on said amount for Fiscal Year 2017-18.

**E. Calendar Years 2014 and 2015 Growth Management Program Compliance Checklist**

Adopt a resolution approving the Calendar Years 2014 and 2015 Growth Management Program (GMP) Compliance Checklist for allocation of Fiscal years 2015-16 and 2016-17 Measure J, Local Street Maintenance and Improvement Funds by the Contra Costa Transportation Authority.

**F. Cost Allocation Plan and Community Development User Fee Study Award**

Adopt a resolution authorizing the City Manager to execute a Professional Services Agreement between the City of El Cerrito and Willdan Financial Services in an amount not to exceed \$29,275 to prepare a Cost Allocation Plan and Community Development User Fee Study and to approve potential change orders not to exceed \$3,000.

**G. Authorize Annual Report for Landscape and Lighting Assessment District for Fiscal Year 2017-18**

Adopt a resolution directing NBS Local Government Solutions (NBS) to prepare and file the annual Landscape and Lighting Assessment District No. 1988-1 report for Fiscal Year 2017-18

**H. Support for SCA 3(Dodd) Local Government Finance – Libraries**

At the request of Mayor Abelson, authorize the Mayor to send a letter on behalf of the City Council, which expresses the Council’s support for SCA 3 (Dodd) Local Government Finance: Libraries – Voter Approval. Committee date March 29, 2017.

**I. Opposition to the Proposed Expansion of the West Contra Costa Detention Facility**

At the request of Councilmember Pardue-Okimoto, approve a recommendation authorizing the Mayor to send a letter to the California Board of State and Community Corrections opposing the \$70 million grant proposal from the Contra Costa Sheriff’s Office for the expansion of the West County Detention Facility in Richmond.

## J. Environmental Quality Committee Appointment

Approve an Environmental Quality Committee recommendation to appoint Rebecca Miller to the Environmental Quality Committee, effective April 4, 2017.

### 5. PRESENTATIONS

El Cerrito Strategic Plan Goals and Strategies Report – *Presentation by Karen Pinkos, Assistant City Manager.*

### 6. PUBLIC HEARINGS – None

### 7. POLICY MATTERS

#### A. Fiscal Year 2016-17 Mid-Year Budget Update

Receive an update on city revenues and expenditures for the first six months of the fiscal year through December 31, 2016 and adopt a resolution authorizing amendments to the Fiscal Year 2016-17 budget and approving new spending limits.

#### B. El Cerrito Wall of Fame Council Subcommittee

Confirm the Mayor's appointment of two members of the City Council to an El Cerrito Wall of Fame Subcommittee for the purposes of reviewing nominations received this year and return to the City Council with a recommendation by May 15, 2017. Additionally, conduct a review of Resolution No. 2008-77 selection and appointment guidelines and return to the City Council in Fall 2017 with recommendations, if any.

### 8. CITY COUNCIL LOCAL AND REGIONAL LIAISON ASSIGNMENTS

Mayor and City Council communications regarding local and regional liaison assignments and committee reports.

### 9. ADJOURN REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING

The next regularly scheduled City Council meeting is Tuesday, April 18, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers, 10890 San Pablo Avenue, El Cerrito.

*The City of El Cerrito serves, leads and supports our diverse community by providing exemplary and innovative services, public places and infrastructure, ensuring public safety and creating an economically and environmentally sustainable future.*

- Council Meetings can be heard live on FM Radio, KECG – 88.1 and 97.7 FM and viewed live on Cable TV - KCRT- Channel 28 and AT&T Uverse Channel 99. The meetings are rebroadcast on Channel 28 the following Thursday and Monday at 12 noon, except on holidays. Live and On-Demand Webcast of the Council Meetings can be accessed from the City's website <http://www.el-cerrito.org/ind-ex.aspx?NID=114>. Copies of the agenda bills and other written documentation relating to items of business referred to on the agenda are on file and available for public inspection in the Office of the City Clerk, at the El Cerrito Library and posted on the City's website at [www.el-cerrito.org](http://www.el-cerrito.org) prior to the meeting.
- In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact the City Clerk, (510) 215-4305. Notification 48 hours prior to the meeting will enable the City to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility to this meeting. (28 CFR 35.102-35.104 ADA Title I).
- **The Deadline for agenda items and communications** is eight days prior to the next meeting by 12 noon, City Clerk's Office, 10890 San Pablo Avenue, El Cerrito, CA. Tel: 215-4305 Fax: 215-4379, email [cmorse@ci.el-cerrito.ca.us](mailto:cmorse@ci.el-cerrito.ca.us)
- IF YOU CHALLENGE A DECISION OF THE CITY COUNCIL IN COURT, YOU MAY BE LIMITED TO RAISING ONLY THOSE ISSUES YOU OR SOMEONE ELSE RAISED AT THE COUNCIL MEETING. ACTIONS CHALLENGING CITY COUNCIL DECISIONS SHALL BE SUBJECT TO THE TIME LIMITATIONS CONTAINED IN CODE OF CIVIL PROCEDURE SECTION 1094.6.



- The City Council believes that late night meetings deter public participation, can affect the Council's decision-making ability, and can be a burden to staff. City Council Meetings shall be adjourned by 10:30 p.m., unless extended to a specific time determined by a majority of the Council.

Attachment H-2



## AGENDA BILL

### Agenda Item No. 4(I)

**Date:** March 21, 2017  
**To:** El Cerrito City Council  
**From:** Rochelle Pardue-Okimoto  
**Subject:** Opposition to the proposed expansion of the West Contra Costa County Detention facility

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#### **ACTION REQUESTED**

At the request of Councilmember Pardue–Okimoto, approve a recommendation authorizing the Mayor to send a letter (Attachment 1) to the California Board of State and Community Corrections opposing the \$70 million grant proposal from the Contra Costa Sheriff's Office for the expansion of the West County Detention Facility in Richmond.

#### **BACKGROUND**

On February 7, 2017, the Contra Costa Board of Supervisors voted 4-1 to move forward with a proposal to expand the West County Detention Facility in Richmond. Supervisor John Gioia was the opposing vote.

At a 2015 meeting of the El Cerrito City Council, the City Council received a presentation from the Office of the Sheriff regarding a proposed expansion. The City Council did not take a position on the proposed expansion.

The Sheriff's Office states there is a need for the expansion due to the overcrowding at the Martinez jail, which is currently housing significantly more inmates than recommended. The plan proposes to add a new wing to the Richmond facility that is close to 120,000 square feet, including space for 400 beds and child-visitation, re-entry and rehabilitation centers. The proposal also includes a mental health treatment facility; however, there is speculation that there is a minimal amount of beds dedicated to inmates with mental illness. Sherriff's officials plan to submit a proposal for a \$70 million grant from the Criminal Justice Facilities Construction Fund. The County will have to contribute millions of dollars to the project, if approved in order to complete and ultimately maintain its operations. The host city of Richmond opposes the proposed expansion.

Additionally, the facility has been used to inappropriately house ICE (Immigration and Customs Enforcement) detainees. According to Supervisor Gioia, "Nearly 200 individuals are being held for possible deportation at the West County jail under a sheriff's contract with the U.S. Department of Justice to house ICE detainees."

It is my recommendation that the El Cerrito City Council direct the Mayor to send a letter to the California Board of State and Community Corrections to express the City's opposition to the expansion. The opposition letter should reiterate the city's view that state and county resources should be invested in needed services that reduce jail populations and support successful reentry and reintegration. Public resources should

**Agenda Item No. 4(I)**

not be committed to jail construction. It is further recommended that the Board of Supervisors focus on funds for other needed services; specifically, a full service hospital.

**FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS**

None at this time for El Cerrito. Project cost projections as reported to the Board of Supervisors:

**Physical Plant:**

\$95.2 million - Total Project Cost

\$70.0 million - SB 844 Jail Funding Program

\$22.0 million - Cash Match

\$15.0 million General Fund Reserve (Unassigned)

\$4.5 million Sheriff's Plant Acquisition account (existing General Fund appropriation)

\$2.5 million 2011 Local Revenue Fund (AB 109)

\$3.2 million - In-Kind Match (Land Value, project oversight, transition planning, etc.)

**Future Operating Costs (in 2017 dollars) (\$5,058,738):**

Detention Staffing (\$2,152,104)

Rehabilitation and Reentry Services (Services to be provided by Community Based Organization via Request for Proposals) (\$1,907,034)

Adult Education and Vocational Services (CCC Office of Education) (\$241,600)

Psychiatric Services – CCC Detention Health (\$750,000)

Reviewed by:



**Scott Hanin  
City Manager**

**Attachments:**

1. Letter
2. Board of Supervisors Report and Presentation
3. Supervisor Gioia Op Ed
4. February 7, 2017 East Bay Time Article  
<http://www.eastbaytimes.com/2017/02/07/richmond-contra-costa-supes-move-forwardwith-controversial-new-jail-project/>

4/4/17



Mayor Janet Abelson

April 4, 2017

Ms. Kathleen Howard  
Executive Director  
California Board of State and Community Corrections  
2590 Venture Oaks Way  
Sacramento, CA 95833

**Via email and U.S. mail: [kathleen.howard@bscc.ca.gov](mailto:kathleen.howard@bscc.ca.gov)**

Subject: El Cerrito City Council opposition to the proposed expansion of the West Contra Costa County Detention Facility located in Richmond, California

Dear Ms. Howard:

At its meeting of April 4, 2017, the El Cerrito City Council discussed, and expressed significant concern over, the proposed expansion of the West Contra Costa County Detention Facility (WCCCDF), for which Contra Costa County has submitted a \$70 million grant proposal to the Criminal Justice Facilities Construction Fund of the California Board of State and Community Corrections. Following this discussion, the Council voted to oppose the project and its associated grant funding.

On February 7, 2017, the Contra Costa Board of Supervisors voted 4-1 to move forward with a proposal to expand the West County Detention Facility in Richmond. Supervisor John Gioia was the opposing vote.

At a 2015 meeting of the El Cerrito City Council, the City Council received a presentation from the Office of the Sheriff regarding a proposed expansion. The City Council did not take a position on the proposed expansion.

The Sheriff's Office states there is a need for the expansion due to the overcrowding at the Martinez jail, which is currently housing significantly more inmates than recommended. The plan proposes to add a new wing to the Richmond facility that is close to 120,000 square feet, including space for 400 beds and child-visitation, re-entry and rehabilitation centers. The proposal also includes a mental health treatment facility; however, there is speculation that there is a minimal amount of beds dedicated to inmates with mental illness. Sherriff's officials plan to submit a proposal for a \$70 million grant from the Criminal Justice Facilities Construction Fund. The County will have to contribute millions of dollars to the project, if approved in order to complete and ultimately maintain its operations, potentially taking away funding from other critical

CITY HALL 10890 San Pablo Avenue, El Cerrito, CA 94530  
Telephone (510) 215-4305 Fax (510) 215-4379 <http://www.el-cerrito.org>

4/4/17

Ms. Kathleen Howard, Executive Director .  
California Board of State and Community Corrections  
April 4, 2017  
Page 2 of 2

health and human services services. The host city of Richmond opposes the proposed expansion.

Additionally, the facility may have been used to inappropriately house ICE (Immigration and Customs Enforcement) detainees. According to Supervisor Gioia, "Nearly 200 individuals are being held for possible deportation at the West County jail under a sheriff's contract with the U.S. Department of Justice to house ICE detainees."

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Janet Abelson  
Mayor

cc: City Council

Attachment H-2

4/2/17

**Lwin, Adam@BSCC**

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**From:** Oates, Robert@BSCC  
**Sent:** Monday, April 03, 2017 8:29 AM  
**To:** Prince2, John@BSCC  
**Subject:** FW: West County Jail Expansion

**From:** Evanne Jordan [mailto:evannejordan@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Sunday, April 02, 2017 7:18 PM  
**To:** BSCC Construction Program; Oates, Robert@BSCC; Scott, Michael@BSCC; Villegas, Oscar@BSCC  
**Subject:** West County Jail Expansion

Dear Mr. Prince and Board Members,

I am writing to you as a constituent of a Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors member who voted in favor of the West County Detention Center grant. I want you to know that my Supervisor, Candace Andersen, voted to spend money for this project without any advance opportunity for public awareness and input from voters in our district. The people most affected by this jail expansion in Supervisor Gioia's district had only a few days notice but were able to gather people to speak in protest for more than 2 hours at the Board of Supervisor's meeting just prior to the vote. Each person was given only 1 minute to speak instead of the usual 2 minutes, and their pleas were ignored.

The residents of West Contra Costa County have a vision for their community: No school to prison pipeline, education and jobs for their young people, a place where everyone feels secure and is a part of society, and an end to the criminalization of the poor and people of color. While money is desperately needed for prevention, mental health, job training, affordable housing, and reentry services to prevent new and further incarceration, four of five Supervisors voted with almost no opportunity for public input to provide a \$20.2 million cash match and over \$5 million each year going forward to maintain the facility. \$2 million of that will be to hire additional deputies, not for mental health services. Committing that \$5 million per year will likely eliminate even the possibility of future funding for services outside of the jail. Once complete, the jail would have more mental health beds than are available to the community outside.

The expansion won approval on the basis of expanding mental health and support services to those already incarcerated. However, only 17% of the new facility will be used for re-entry and other services. The remaining 83% will be solely for detention. Additionally, experience shows that prevention and reentry services outside the jail are the most cost effective and successful method of keeping people out of jail.

Recently, people in all parts of the county have become increasingly incensed about racial and social injustices in our midst. We are joining forces to make everyone aware of how our tax money is being spent and asking our Supervisors, Sheriff, and other local officials to account for how they treat residents throughout Contra Costa County. Had we known sooner about Sheriff Livingston's proposal, you might not have received this letter because we would have lobbied our Supervisors in advance of the vote. I'm certain that this is not the only letter you will receive asking you not to approve the grant for the West County Detention Center, and there are many other reasons to deny it in addition to the ones stated here. Having met with and listened to the good people of West Contra Costa, I can tell you that allocating state and county resources for a jail expansion is a denial of their hopes for a fair and inclusive community and the perpetuation of a system that supports the mass incarceration of people of color.

Thank you,

Evanne Jordan

**Lwin, Adam@BSCC**

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**From:** Cindy Maxim <cindy@facenteconsulting.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, March 13, 2017 4:48 PM  
**To:** Prince2, John@BSCC  
**Cc:** john\_gioia@bos.cccounty.us  
**Subject:** Opposition to the West County Detention Center Expansion

Dear Mr. Prince and Members of the Construction Financing Committee of the Board of State and Community Corrections:

I am a resident of Richmond, Contra Costa County, who opposes the expansion of the West County Detention Center. Contra Costa County needs greater investment in mental health treatment, job training, affordable housing and services to keep people from being incarcerated, not a larger West County Jail.

Prevention and reentry assistance are much more humane and much less costly than incarceration.

Please do not approve the grant for the Contra Costa County West County Detention Center.

Thank you,

Cynthia Maxim

Attachment H-2

3/27/17

**Terry A. Kupers, M.D., M.S.P.**  
**Professor, The Wright Institute**  
**484 Lake Park Avenue #338**  
**Oakland, California 94610**  
**510-654-8333**  
[kupers@iqc.org](mailto:kupers@iqc.org)

March 27, 2017

The Honorable Board of Supervisors  
County of Contra Costa

Email to:

John Gioia [john.gioia@bos.cccounty.us](mailto:john.gioia@bos.cccounty.us)  
Diane Burgis [dianeburgis@gmail.com](mailto:dianeburgis@gmail.com),  
Candace Andersen [supervisorandersen@bos.cccounty.us](mailto:supervisorandersen@bos.cccounty.us)  
Karen Mitchoff [supervisormitchoff@bos.cccounty.us](mailto:supervisormitchoff@bos.cccounty.us)  
Federal Glover [district5@bos.cccounty.us](mailto:district5@bos.cccounty.us)  
Board of State and Community Corrections [Webmaster@bscc.ca.gov](mailto:Webmaster@bscc.ca.gov)  
Tracie Cone at [tracie.cone@bscc.ca.gov](mailto:tracie.cone@bscc.ca.gov) or [916-322-1054](tel:916-322-1054)  
Lwin, Adam [adam.lwin@bscc.ca.gov](mailto:adam.lwin@bscc.ca.gov)  
Rodriguez-Rieger, Maria  
[maria.rodriquezrieger@bscc.ca.gov](mailto:maria.rodriquezrieger@bscc.ca.gov)

Honorable Members of the Board of Supervisors:

I am writing to strongly recommend that instead of funding expansion of the West Contra Costa County Jail facility, funds be invested in the upgrading of housing, mental health treatment and recovery services in the community.

I have been a community psychiatrist since the beginning of my career in the 1970s and I have also served on multiple occasions as an expert witness in litigation regarding crowding, unsatisfactory conditions and inadequate mental health care at Los Angeles County Jail and many other county jails. I am Professor at The Wright Institute, a Distinguished Life Fellow of the American Psychiatric Association, a recipient of the Exemplary Psychiatrist Award from the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI, 2005), and the author of *Public Therapy: The Practice of Psychotherapy in the Public Mental Health Clinic*, *Prison Madness: The Mental Health Crisis Behind Bars and What we Must do About It* and *Solitary: The Inside Story of Supermax Isolation and How We Can Abolish It*.

In 2008 I wrote an extensive psychiatric expert report about the mistreatment of and inadequate mental health care for inmates with mental illness in the Los Angeles County jails pursuant to the Rutherford class action lawsuit.



As you know, there are a large number of prisoners with serious mental illness in our jails, and jails tend to be very overcrowded. Crowding in correctional facilities is known to be strongly correlated with increased violence, mental breakdown and suicide. This is an important moment, you are faced with a choice. One approach is to build a large treatment jail in West Contra Costa County, with most of the beds to be used by inmates with mental illness. The other approach is to “divert” a significant number of individuals with serious mental illness away from jail and into programs in the community, with only the most serious or violent pretrial or sentenced individuals with mental illness to be housed in jail.

Mental health diversion, where a court adjudicates an alternative placement of a defendant with mental illness into a community program designed for his or her particular problem (a mental health clinic, a substance abuse treatment program, a halfway house, an anger management program, etc.), is a well-proven effective strategy, the result in very many cases being that a defendant with mental illness, possibly a substance abuse problem, and likely homeless, will successfully navigate the court-ordered treatment and rehabilitation program and will end up, at the conclusion of the program, adherent to prescribed mental health treatment (the biggest problem we have in community mental health is non-adherence combined with substance abuse, so this would constitute a major leap forward), clean and sober, and, one hopes, off the streets and living in some kind of supported housing and participating in meaningful work, school or rehab program. Diversion does not mean “a slap on the wrist.” Not at all. Rather, very rigorous and well-targeted treatment and rehabilitation programs require conscientious effort on the part of participants while addressing the problems that put individuals at risk of being arrested. And diversion is safe. There are locked residential units and mechanical devices such as monitoring ankle bracelets for the minority of individuals who need close supervision in the community. There is quite a lot of expertise in the mental health and criminal justice communities on designing diversion strategies that provide the needed treatment while maintaining safety in the community.

Because of the focus on punishment in jail, and because of the institutional dynamics themselves, and with likely future budget shortfalls and staffing shortages, “mental health jails” tend to become holding facilities for inmates with mental illness who remain in their cells or dormitories and take high doses of medications, which on average, tends to stifle their initiative and make them all the more likely to continue their treatment non-adherence and possibly criminal activity after they are released.

As a general matter, investments in new jails are unlikely to significantly improve the treatment of inmates with mental illness or reduce the prevalence of substance abuse and resistance to treatment. I strongly recommend that you choose the diversion option, which will enable the County to save money in both the short and long term. Short run savings will result from not making an enormous capital investment, or at least cutting it significantly. Diversion saves a great deal of money in the long run because a defendant with mental illness diverted into effective community treatment is much more likely to successfully address his mental health and/or substance abuse issues,

3/27/17

whereas the individual who has been simply medicated in jail is more likely to recidivate, and have a worse long-term prognosis. In addition, state and federal dollars can cover the costs of treatment through Medicaid, which is not the case for mental health care in the jails because Medicaid usually does not cover the costs of mental health or medical care in jail or prison.

As I noted above, certain defendants with mental illness may be charged with such violent offenses that diversion is not possible. But, an effective diversion program can prevent many other people with mental illness who enter the criminal justice system from becoming so violent that they would eventually be unsuitable for diversion, this by reducing the number of times an individual with a mental illness cycles in out of the jail system (where they so often decompensate as a result).

A plan to address the current unacceptable housing and treatment of inmates with mental illness that relies primarily on building a new "mental health jail" is doomed to failure, no matter how well-intentioned it may be. I urge the Board instead to take the time to properly re-examine and assess the current state of affairs. There are experts in jail population management and correctional mental health, and they could be asked to address what is going wrong in the jails, and to look seriously at the options available for safely slashing the size of the mentally ill inmate population and diverting individuals with mental illness into treatment and rehabilitation programs in the community. Thank you very much for considering my comments.

Sincerely yours,

*Terry A. Kupers/s*  
Terry A. Kupers, M.D., M.S.P.

Attachment 10

**Lwin, Adam@BSCC**

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**Subject:** FW: Proposed Expansion of Richmond Detention Facility

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**From:** elaine fielding [<mailto:elaine.fielding@yahoo.com>]  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 23, 2017 12:34 AM  
**To:** Oates, Robert@BSCC <[Robert.Oates@bscc.ca.gov](mailto:Robert.Oates@bscc.ca.gov)>  
**Subject:** Proposed Expansion of Richmond Detention Facility

Dear Mr Oates,

I wish to register my profound opposition to the proposed expansion of the Richmond Detention Facility. We need more investments in healthcare facilities, a hospital and mental health and substance abuse treatment here in West Contra Costa County. I would prefer my tax dollars be spent on education and employment opportunities in the area.

Furthermore, I strongly object to the contract the Sheriff's Department has with ICE to hold 200 beds in the Martinez Jail. Sheriff Livingston maintains there is overcrowding in his jail. The County should get rid of this contract with ICE and this would free up those beds and space for the other inmates.

The City of Richmond has voted against this expansion to a facility in their city. I urge you and the Board of State and Community Corrections to reject Sheriff Livingston's application for a grant to build this extension.

Sincerely,  
Elaine Fielding  
1441 Richmond St.,  
El Cerrito, CA 94530

**Lwin, Adam@BSCC**

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**From:** maria Alegria <westcountydemocrats@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 22, 2017 11:35 AM  
**Subject:** Call your Senator: Democratic Party of CCC Supports SB 54



Democratic Party of Contra Costa County

[www.contracostadems.org](http://www.contracostadems.org)

### **Legislative Action Alert**

The Contra Costa Democratic Party strongly supports the CA Values Act (SB 54) which would ban local and state law enforcement officials from performing duties of federal immigration officers. This Senate bill authored by Senate President Pro Tempore Kevin de León has passed two committees and is headed to the Senate floor for a key vote. If it becomes law, California will lead the way and open the door for other states and counties to adopt similar progressive pro-immigrant policies that take the state and local law enforcement out of deportations.

We urge you to call your Senator!

Unfortunately, during this critical time, the bill faces stiff opposition, especially from the Sheriffs around the state who seem willing to support Trump's deportation agenda. **Contra Costa County Sheriff Livingston is actively opposing this legislation.**

**We need your help to send a strong message to our elected officials that Trump's anti-immigrant politics won't be tolerated in California.**

#### **Here are a few steps to take action now!**

##### **1. Call your State Senator to urge them to vote in support of SB 54**

"Hello, my name is \_\_\_\_\_ and I would like ask \_\_\_\_\_ to vote YES on the California Values Act, SB 54. This important immigrant rights bill is headed to the Senate floor. The bill will ensure that state and local resources are not used to further mass deportations. The California Values Act will uphold our core principles of equal treatment, community, and compassion. Say NO to Trump's mass deportation programs, please vote YES on SB 54. Thank you."

Senator Bill Dodd (Napa): [916-651-4003](tel:916-651-4003)

Senator Steve Glazer (Contra Costa): [916-651-4007](tel:916-651-4007)

Senator Nancy Skinner (Contra Costa) [916-651-4009](tel:916-651-4009)

## 2. Tweet your State Senator

**Vote YES on #SB 54.** CA must lead the way against Trump's racist, anti-immigrant agenda. **#SB54** will protect immigrants from deportation! #CALeg

[@Steve\\_Glazer](#)

[@billdodda](#)

If we work together, we can pass SB 54 in California and create a model for the rest of the nation, saying loud and clear **"Our local police should protect all members of our communities, and not help enforce Trump's agenda of hate.**

Attachment H-2

3/20/17

Mr. John Prince  
Deputy Director  
BSCC  
2590 Venture Oaks Way Suite 200  
Sacramento, CA 95833

RE CONTRA COSTA COUNTY DETENTION CENTER GRANT REQUEST

Dear Mr. Prince and Members of the Construction Financing Committee of the BSCC:

As a resident of Contra Costa County I am writing to request that the Construction Financing Committee reject the grant application seeking funds to expand the West County Detention Center.

I have read a number of articles on this issue and talked to staff at a County Supervisor's office. There are features to the County Detention overhaul which are laudable; providing mental health and other services to support local residents who need help, for example.

The project, which the grant would support, however, is not what is needed for the following reasons:

1. The best investment of limited County funds should prioritize provision of prevention services - including mental health treatment, job training and youth services - to keep people out of the criminal justice system. If you build a new facility, you are setting in motion incentives to fill the facility to cover costs. We are wiser to look at community alternatives for economic and crime prevention reasons. Many studies confirm the cost-effectiveness of prevention. I spent years working in youth development and saw first-hand the benefits of pro-social prevention services that were a good investment in for families and our community.
2. There are defects in our current criminal justice process that if fixed, would reduce the "demand" for beds in County detention facilities. For one, the way bail is awarded is unjust, placing way too many people in jail who are not a public risk, just because they cannot meet bail requirements. One report showed if incarceration pre-adjudication were based on risk of re-offending or fleeing, incarceration rates could drop 70%. (East Bay times report 2-14-17)
3. Of greatest concern to me is the fact that in my County nearly 200 individuals are being held for possible deportation in our County jail in West County because the Sheriff has a contract with the U.S. Department of Justice to house ICE (Immigration and Customs Enforcement) detainees.

This is about 20 percent of the jail's capacity that could be used to meet the county's needs (according to the same East Bay Times article mentioned above). There will continued and increasing opposition to this contract in the future as more of us in the community learn about it. When this contract ends and we have this new build out that costs \$5M to maintain annually, Contra Costa will be way, way over-invested in prisons at the expense of the prevention services needed in our communities.

Please say no to this grant which many Contra Costans do not want. Your decision will help support funding decisions in Contra Costa County that will help all us of have more opportunity and more security, which will lead to less crime and an economically and socially more attractive county.

With gratitude for the work you do,

Marti Roach, MSW  
56 Amberwood Court  
Moraga, Contra Costa County, CA 94556

CC: Contra Costa Board of Supervisors: John Gioia, Candace Anderson, Diane Burgis, Karen Mitchoff, Federal Glover

3/20/17

**Lwin, Adam@BSCC**

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**From:** David McPhail <irenendavid@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, March 20, 2017 5:46 PM  
**To:** Prince2, John@BSCC  
**Subject:** Expansion of West Coast Detention Center

Dear Mr. Prince and Members of the Construction Financing Committee of the Board of State and Community Corrections.

I am a resident of Kensington in Contra Costa County who strongly opposes the expansion of the West County Detention Center. Contra Costa County needs greater investment in mental health treatment, job training, affordable housing, and services to keep people from being incarcerated, not a larger West County Detention Center.

Since the Center's incarcerated also includes a large number of immigrants seeking asylum, I fear that the expansion just means we can hold more of these people. I personally have seen many sad and desperate women come to the Detention Center with their small children, hoping to spend a short while with their loved ones behind bars.

Please do not follow the President's lead in spending more money to break up more families. As mentioned above, we we need to invest in our children, our homeless and mentally ill, and not more beds in the Detention Center.

Enough is enough.

Sincerely,

Irene McPhail,  
242 Trinity Av.,  
Kensington, CA. 94708

Attachment #2

**Lwin, Adam@BSCC**

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**From:** Amelia Gurley <ameliagurley@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 17, 2017 8:06 AM  
**To:** Prince2, John@BSCC  
**Subject:** Oppose West County Expansion

Dear Mr. Prince, and whom it may concern,

I am a resident of the city of Lafayette, Contra Costa County, and I oppose the expansion of the West County Detention Center. Contra Costa County needs greater investment in mental health treatment, job training, affordable housing and services to keep people from being incarcerated, not a larger West County Jail. Prevention and reentry assistance are much more humane and much less costly than incarceration. The expansion won approval on the basis of expanding mental health and support service to those already incarcerated and a promise of no new net jail beds. However, if one looks closer at the proposal, a very small fraction of the expansion actually goes to these services - with 83% of the new facility devoted solely to detention.

Furthermore, the money for the jail will require ongoing financial support. The approved plan calls for the Contra Costa County to spend at least \$5 million per year to maintain the jail going forward. \$2 million of that \$5 million will be used to hire additional deputies. The budget is one of the prime concerns of voters in our county. With budget threats already looming, is this really a wise decision?

Please do not approve the grant for the Contra Costa County West County Detention Center.  
Thank you.  
Amelia L. Gurley

Attachment #2



3/20/17

**Lwin, Adam@BSCC**

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**From:** Maria Alegria <chairalegria@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, March 20, 2017 12:13 PM  
**To:** Penner, Linda@BSCC; Prince2, John@BSCC; Howard, Kathleen@BSCC  
**Subject:** Democratic Party of CCC OPPOSES Contra Costa County's BSCC SB 844 Proposal  
**Attachments:** DPCCC BSCC ltr 3.16.17 mla.pdf

Dear Board of State Community Corrections - Financing Construction Committee:

At our March 16th membership meeting, the Democratic Party of Contra Costa County, representing 311,000 registered Democrats, voted to OPPOSE Contra Costa County's proposal for \$70 million, SB 844, Adult Local Criminal Justice Facilities Construction Program which would expand the West County Detention Facility in Contra Costa County.

Please find attached our letter and share with the BSCC Board.

Sincerely,  
María Alegría  
Chair  
Democratic Party of Contra Costa County

Attachment H-2

3/20/17



Democratic Party of Contra Costa County  
[www.contracostadems.org](http://www.contracostadems.org)

March 16, 2017

Dear Board of State Community Corrections – Financing Construction Committee:

Via email: [john.prince2@bscc.ca.gov](mailto:john.prince2@bscc.ca.gov); [kathleen.howard@bscc.ca.gov](mailto:kathleen.howard@bscc.ca.gov); [linda.penner@bscc.ca.gov](mailto:linda.penner@bscc.ca.gov)

**Subject: Reject Contra Costa County’s Proposal for \$70 million, SB 844, Adult Local Criminal Justice Facilities Construction Financing Program**

As the official organization representing over 311,000 registered Democrats in Contra Costa County, we urge you to reject the flawed application of CCC Sheriff Livingston’s to expand the West County Detention Facility (WCDF) in Contra Costa County.

Sheriff Livingston neglects to indicate in his proposal, that he has a contract with the U.S. Department of Justice to house approximately 200 Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) prisoners/detainees daily at the WCDF for possible deportation.

That’s 20 percent of the jail’s capacity that could be used to meet the county’s needs, not the federal government’s. He is disingenuous in stating that he has no capacity at the WCDF to alleviate the overcrowding at the Martinez Jail. This cooperation with ICE should end. It erodes our hard-working immigrant community’s trust in local law enforcement and county government.

Moreover, Contra Costa is the only Bay Area County with such a contract, which nets a profit of approximately \$3 million to the Sheriff’s \$226 million budget. This is unconscionable. Jails built at California taxpayer expense should not be used for profit or as federal immigration detention centers.

Another important point for your consideration is accountability to the taxpayer. In 1991, the West County Detention Facility (WCDF) was built at a cost of \$48 million of bond money (Proposition 2, 16 and 52). It was touted as the “Jail of the 21st Century”; it was going to alleviate the overcrowding at the Martinez County Jail to provide quality substance abuse programming, education and literacy to low-risk inmates.

Voters approved \$1.1B to purchase bonds with one CLEAR objective: alleviate the overcrowding in county jails. State bonds were approved for new county jails not for ICE detention centers. To deviate from the initial intent of these Propositions is disingenuous and a blatant violation of the public trust.

Contra Costa County needs greater investment in mental health treatment, job training, affordable housing, and youth services to help keep people from becoming incarcerated, not a larger West County jail.

3/20/17

Health and social service community agencies report that many immigrants have cancelled appointments out of anxiety, fear of deportation, or mistrust — not getting critical care.

Approving expensive new jail construction runs counter to the more fiscally responsible and humane strategy of investing greater resources in prevention and rehabilitation services. These cost-effective measures help keep people out of jail, reduce reoffending and improve public safety.

The Prison Law Office, a well-respected nonprofit public interest law firm specializing in jail system reform, wrote to the Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors “The County would better serve its population by expanding efforts to reduce the jail population instead of expanding the capacity of its jails.”

Finally, The WCDF jail expansion plan calls for spending \$2 million more per year to hire additional sheriff deputies to staff an expanded jail. Those dollars should instead be invested in expanding programs proven to reduce incarceration, such as substance abuse treatment and Behavioral Health Court, which provides vital mental health treatment to people with chronic mental illness.

Please reject this application and request that Sheriff Livingston terminate his contract with ICE and use the WCDF to alleviate the overcrowding at the Martinez Jail and provide re-entry services to those incarcerated in Martinez.

Sincerely,



María Alejía  
Chair, Democratic Party of Contra Costa County  
[chairalegria@gmail.com](mailto:chairalegria@gmail.com)

cc: Congressmembers DeSaulnier, McNearney, Swalwell, Thompson  
State Senators Dodd, Glazer and Skinner  
Assemblymembers Frazier, Grayson and Thurmond  
CCC Board of Supervisors Burgis, Gioia, Glover and Mitchoff  
California Democratic Party, Chair Burton  
Senate President Pro Tempore Kevin de Leon  
Assembly Speaker Anthony Rendon

3/15/17

**Lwin, Adam@BSCC**

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**From:** Ellen Furnari <furnarie@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 15, 2017 11:52 AM  
**To:** Prince2, John@BSCC  
**Subject:** Please do not provide funding to expand West County Detention Center

Dear Mr. Prince and Members of the Construction Financing Committee of the Board of State and Community Corrections:

I am a resident of Pleasant Hill, Contra Costa County who opposes the expansion of the West County Detention Center. I regularly volunteer at Solano State Prison, so know where the tendency to lock people up, rather than provide treatment, needed service and other prevention interventions, leads to. We in CA pay a huge cost to incarcerate people, most of whom would benefit from support and be able to return to society and be productive citizens, if this was available.

Specifically, Contra Costa County needs greater investment in mental health treatment, job training, affordable housing and services to keep people from being incarcerated, not a larger West County Jail. Prevention and reentry assistance are much more humane and much less costly than incarceration.

Additionally, given the current emphasis on deporting productive, law abiding people from our communities, who lack needed authorization to be here, it would be tragic to provide funding to expand the capacity to hold people before deportation. Our local economy depends in so many ways on everyone who lives here, not just those of us who were born here, or entered with visas and green cards. We should do nothing to assist in tearing apart families and undermining our communities by deporting people who have done no other wrong.

Please do not approve the grant for the Contra Costa County West County Detention Center.  
Thank you.

Ellen Furnari

--  
Ellen Furnari, MSW PhD

Attachment #2

**From:** Oates, Robert@BSCC  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 14, 2017 10:33 AM  
**To:** Prince2, John@BSCC  
**Subject:** FW: against the West County Detention Facility expansion

**From:** Sara Oremland [mailto:sworemland@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, March 13, 2017 7:44 PM  
**To:** BSCC Construction Program <ConstructionProgram@bscc.ca.gov>; Oates, Robert@BSCC <Robert.Oates@bscc.ca.gov>; Fitzpatrick, Kenneth@BSCC <Kenneth.Fitzpatrick@bscc.ca.gov>; Scott, Michael@BSCC <Michael.Scott@bscc.ca.gov>; Villegas, Oscar@BSCC <Oscar.Villegas@bscc.ca.gov>  
**Subject:** against the West County Detention Facility expansion

Dear BSCC Construction Program,

I am writing as a resident of Richmond, and an educator in the East Bay.

I am concerned about the proposed expansion of the West (Contra Costa) County Detention Facility in Richmond, CA. Please DO NOT grant funds for the expansion of our county detention facility.

We need investments in affordable housing, job training, and youth services to prevent people from being incarcerated. We also need to reform our bail system, expand substance abuse treatment and the Behavioral Health Court. We DO NOT need or want funds for 416 new high security beds.

Thank you very much for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Sara Oremland  
Richmond, CA  
94805

Attachment H-2

3/14/17

**Lwin, Adam@BSCC**

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**From:** Liz Keate <liz.keate.politics@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 14, 2017 6:18 PM  
**To:** Prince2, John@BSCC  
**Cc:** supervisorandersen@bos.cccounty.us  
**Subject:** NOT in support of the grant to expand the West County Detention Center in Contra Costa County

John Prince

Construction Financing Committee of the Board of State and Community Corrections  
(916) 445-2014  
[john.prince2@bscc.ca.gov](mailto:john.prince2@bscc.ca.gov)  
2590 Venture Oaks Way Suite 200  
Sacramento, CA 95833

Dear Mr. Prince and Members of the Construction Financing Committee of the Board of State and Community Corrections:

I am a resident of San Ramon, Contra Costa County who opposes the expansion of the West County Detention Center. Contra Costa County needs greater investment in education, mental health treatment, job training, affordable housing, and services to keep people from being incarcerated, not a larger West County Jail.

Prevention and reentry assistance are much more humane and much less costly than incarceration. Jails are not effective in preventing future criminal acts; however, education, mental health care services, job training, rehabilitation programs, and other programs that help individuals become more positive, connected members of our community have shown to be effective in deterring criminal activity.

While I appreciate the expansion would include rehabilitation programs, including mental health services, the funds allocated are in reality, small when compared to the total funds put forth for the expansion. I support Councilman Gioia in his pursuit for measures taken to prevent incarceration rather than expand the jail. I am not in support of extra tax dollars each year to be spent on maintaining this expansion, at least \$5 million. I would rather this money be put towards prevention and rehabilitation programs mentioned above.

Jail expansion and the ICE Detention Center go hand in hand. The Sheriff in West County has maintained a multi-million dollar contract with Immigration and Customs Enforcement. Nearly 200 individuals are being held at the West County jail for possible deportation, occupying 20% of the jail capacity that could be used to meet the county's needs, not the federal government's. I want these resources to be used locally, not to be used towards federal deportation agendas. Contra Costa County also has the highest rate of "non-criminal" deportations in Northern California. 70% of deportations in CCC are people who have no criminal record. This causes the local immigrant community to lose trust in law enforcement.

The residents of west Contra Costa County have a vision for their community: No school to prison pipeline, education and jobs for their young people, a place where everyone feels secure and a part of society, an end to the criminalization of the poor and people of color. Spending resources to build a jail in their community is a denial of their hopes for a fair and inclusive community and the perpetuation of a system that exacerbates the problems.

Please do not approve the grant for the Contra Costa County West County Detention Center.

Warmly,  
Liz Keate

3/14/17

**Lwin, Adam@BSCC**

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**From:** Camille <camilleparker@comcast.net>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 14, 2017 3:19 PM  
**To:** Prince2, John@BSCC  
**Cc:** john\_gioia@bos.cccounty.us  
**Subject:** West County Detention Center

Dear Mr. Prince and Members of the Construction Financing Committee of the Board of State and Community Corrections:

I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_, Contra Costa County, who opposes the expansion of the West County Detention Center. Contra Costa County needs greater investment in mental health treatment, job training, affordable housing and services to keep people from being incarcerated, not a larger West County Jail.

Prevention and reentry assistance are much more humane and much less costly than incarceration.

Please do not approve the grant for the Contra Costa County West County Detention Center.

Thank you,

Camille Parker

Attachment H2

Lwin, Adam@BSCC

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**From:** Oates, Robert@BSCC  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 14, 2017 10:28 AM  
**To:** Prince2, John@BSCC  
**Subject:** FW: Oppose West Contra Costa jail expand, ICE contract

**From:** Paul Hughes [mailto:paulhughes3375@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, March 13, 2017 11:04 PM  
**To:** Oates, Robert@BSCC <Robert.Oates@bscc.ca.gov>  
**Subject:** Oppose West Contra Costa jail expand, ICE contract

Robert Oates

Project Director III

Board of State and Community Corrections

Dear Mr. Oates,

I am writing as a resident of El Cerrito, Calif., concerned about the proposed expansion of the West Contra Costa County Detention Facility in Richmond, Calif. Please DO NOT grant funds for the expansion of our county detention facility.

We instead need investments in affordable housing, job training, and youth services to prevent people from being incarcerated in the first place. We also need to reform our bail system, expand substance abuse treatment and the Behavioral Health Court. We DO NOT need or want funds for 416 new high security beds.

The Prison Law Office, a well-respected nonprofit public interest law firm specializing in jail system reform, wrote to the Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors, "The county would better serve its population by expanding efforts to reduce the jail population instead of expanding the capacity of its jails."

Also, the sheriff can create capacity in the West County jail as it now exists instead of building new cells. Nearly 200 individuals are being held for possible deportation at the West County jail under a sheriff's contract with the U.S.

Attachment H-2



Department of Justice to house ICE (Immigration and Customs Enforcement) detainees. That's **20 percent of the jail's capacity** that could be used to meet the county's needs, not the federal government's.

*Contra Costa is the only Bay Area county with such a contract. This cooperation with ICE should end.* It erodes our hard-working immigrant community's trust in local law enforcement and county government.

Thank you very much for your consideration.

Paul Hughes, 3375 Carlson Blvd. #3, El Cerrito, CA 94530

Attachment H-2

3/14/17

**Lwin, Adam@BSCC**

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**From:** Oates, Robert@BSCC  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 14, 2017 10:34 AM  
**To:** Prince2, John@BSCC  
**Subject:** FW: No money for more prisons

**From:** Josh Klavir [mailto:jklavir@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, March 13, 2017 2:52 PM  
**To:** Villegas, Oscar@BSCC <Oscar.Villegas@bscc.ca.gov>; Scott, Michael@BSCC <Michael.Scott@bscc.ca.gov>; Fitzpatrick, Kenneth@BSCC <Kenneth.Fitzpatrick@bscc.ca.gov>; Oates, Robert@BSCC <Robert.Oates@bscc.ca.gov>; BSCC Construction Program <ConstructionProgram@bscc.ca.gov>  
**Subject:** No money for more prisons

Dear BSCC Construction Program,

I am writing as a resident of Richmond, CA, concerned about the proposed expansion of the West (Contra Costa) County Detention Facility in Richmond, CA. Please DO NOT grant funds for the expansion of our county detention facility.

We need investments in affordable housing, job training, and youth services to prevent people from being incarcerated. We also need to reform our bail system, expand substance abuse treatment and the Behavioral Health Court. We DO NOT need or want funds for 416 new high security beds.

From the commentary by John Gioia, Jane Fischberg and Claudia Jimenez in the East Bay Times 2/14/17:

The Prison Law Office, a well-respected nonprofit public interest law firm specializing in jail system reform, wrote to the Board of Supervisors that “The county would better serve its population by expanding efforts to reduce the jail population instead of expanding the capacity of its jails.”

“Also, the sheriff can create capacity in the West County jail instead of building new cells. Nearly 200 individuals are being held for possible deportation at the West County jail under a sheriff’s contract with the U.S. Department of Justice to house ICE (Immigration and Customs Enforcement) detainees. That’s 20 percent of the jail’s capacity that could be used to meet the county’s needs, not the federal government’s.

Attachment H-2

Contra Costa is the only Bay Area county with such a contract. This cooperation with ICE should end. It erodes our hard-working immigrant community's trust in local law enforcement and county government."

Thank you very much for your consideration.

Sincerely

Josh Klavir

Attachment H-2

3/14/17

**Lwin, Adam@BSCC**

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**From:** Oates, Robert@BSCC  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 14, 2017 10:33 AM  
**To:** Prince2, John@BSCC  
**Subject:** FW: NO Contra Costa jail expansion

**From:** Ginny Geoghegan [mailto:ginnytremblay.arts@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, March 13, 2017 8:24 PM  
**To:** BSCC Construction Program <ConstructionProgram@bscc.ca.gov>  
**Subject:** NO Contra Costa jail expansion

Dear BSCC Construction Program,

I am writing as a resident of Richmond, CA and as an educator of young people (high school). I am concerned about the proposed expansion of the West (Contra Costa) County Detention Facility in Richmond, CA. Please DO NOT grant funds for the expansion of our county detention facility.

We need investments in affordable housing, job training, and youth services to prevent people from being incarcerated. We also need to reform our bail system, expand substance abuse treatment and the Behavioral Health Court. We DO NOT need or want funds for 416 new high security beds.

*From the commentary by John Gioia, Jane Fischberg and Claudia Jimenez in the East Bay Times 2/14/17:*

The Prison Law Office, a well-respected nonprofit public interest law firm specializing in jail system reform, wrote to the Board of Supervisors that “The county would better serve its population by expanding efforts to reduce the jail population instead of expanding the capacity of its jails.”

“Also, the sheriff can create capacity in the West County jail instead of building new cells. Nearly 200 individuals are being held for possible deportation at the West County jail under a sheriff’s contract with the U.S. Department of Justice to house ICE (Immigration and Customs Enforcement) detainees. That’s 20 percent of the jail’s capacity that could be used to meet the county’s needs, not the federal government’s.”

Contra Costa is the **only** Bay Area county with such a contract. This cooperation with ICE should end. It erodes our hard-working immigrant community’s trust in local law enforcement and county government.”

Thank you very much for your consideration.

Sincerely,

- Ginny Tremblay Geoghegan

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Ginny (Tremblay) Geoghegan  
Arts Educator: Albany High School

[My Site](#) and blog

[Case-Study Page](#)

Education is not preparation for life; education is life itself.

- John Dewey

Attachment H-2

3/13/17

**Lwin, Adam@BSCC**

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**From:** Connie Chiba <conniechiba@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, March 13, 2017 2:58 PM  
**To:** Prince2, John@BSCC  
**Cc:** supervisorandersen@bos.cccounty.us  
**Subject:** Please do not approve jail expansion at the West County Detention Centerr

Dear Mr. Prince and Members of the Construction Financing Committee of the Board of State and Community Corrections:

I am a resident of Moraga, Contra Costa County, who opposes the expansion of the West County Detention Center. Contra Costa County needs greater investment in mental health treatment, job training, affordable housing and services to keep people from being incarcerated, not a larger West County Jail. Prevention and reentry assistance are much more humane and much less costly than incarceration.

The expansion won approval on the basis of expanding mental health and support service to those already incarcerated and a promise of no new net jail beds. However, if one looks closer at the proposal, a very small fraction of the expansion actually goes to these services - with 83% of the new facility devoted solely to detention.

Jail expansion and the ICE Detention Center go hand in hand. The Sheriff in West County has maintained a multi-million dollar contract with Immigration and Customs Enforcement. Nearly 200 individuals are being held at the West County jail for possible deportation, occupying 20% of the jail capacity that could be used to meet the county's needs, not the federal government's.  
<http://www.eastbaytimes.com/2017/02/14/commentary-contracosta-needs-more-prevention-not-more-jail-cells/>  
<https://ww2.kqed.org/news/2017/03/10/what-happens-to-immigrants-detained-by-ice-a-cartoon-explainer/>

Contra Costa County has the highest rate of "non-criminal" deportations in Northern California. 70% of deportations in CCC are people who have no criminal record <https://www.scribd.com/document/116649450/INVEST-IN-PEOPLE-NOT->

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Connie Chiba

Attachment #2

**Lwin, Adam@BSCC**

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**From:** maria Alegria <westcountydemocratics@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, March 20, 2017 11:15 AM  
**To:** Prince2, John@BSCC; Howard, Kathleen@BSCC; Penner, Linda@BSCC  
**Subject:** West County Democratic Club OPPOSES jail expansion of WCDF, SB 844  
**Attachments:** WCDC 3.9.17 BSCC Reject WCDF Jail Expansion.pdf

Dear Board of State Community Corrections - Financing Construction Committee:

At our March 9th membership meeting, the West County Democratic Club representing registered Democrats in the cities of El Cerrito, Hercules, Pinole, Richmond, San Pablo and the unincorporated areas of El Sobrante, Kensington, North Richmond, Montalvin Manor, Tara Hills, Rodeo, Crockett and Port Costa voted to OPPOSE Contra Costa County's proposal for \$70 million, SB 844, Adult Local Criminal Justice Facilities Construction Program which would expand the West County Detention Facility in Contra Costa County, located in Richmond.

Please find attached our letter and share with the BSCC Board.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,  
Genoveva Calloway  
Interim President  
West County Democratic Club  
[westcountydemocratics@gmail.com](mailto:westcountydemocratics@gmail.com)

Attachment H-2

3/9/17



## West County Democratic Club

[WESTCOUNTYDEMOCRATICS@GMAIL.COM](mailto:WESTCOUNTYDEMOCRATICS@GMAIL.COM)

March 9, 2017

Dear Board of State Community Corrections – Financing Construction Committee:

Via email: [john.prince2@bscc.ca.gov](mailto:john.prince2@bscc.ca.gov); [kathleen.howard@bscc.ca.gov](mailto:kathleen.howard@bscc.ca.gov); [linda.penner@bscc.ca.gov](mailto:linda.penner@bscc.ca.gov)

**Subject: Reject Contra Costa County's Proposal for \$70 million, SB 844, Adult Local Criminal Justice Facilities Construction Financing Program**

The West County Democratic Club represents registered Democrats in the cities of El Cerrito, Hercules, Pinole, Richmond, San Pablo and the unincorporated areas of El Sobrante, Kensington, North Richmond, Montalvin Manor, Tara Hills, Rodeo, Crockett and Port Costa.

We urge you to reject the flawed application of CCC Sheriff Livingston's to expand the West County Detention Facility (WCDF) in Contra Costa County. The West County Detention Facility (WCDF) is located in Richmond, the largest city in West Contra Costa County, and in our backyard.

On February 21, 2017, the Richmond City Council, in a unanimous view sent a letter opposing this proposal stating that " despite the Sheriff's assertions that the new facilities would serve the mental health community, there are minimal amount of beds dedicated to inmates with mental illness, and there is no specific plan to bring mental health services to these inmates. The California Board of State and Community Corrections should not fund this wasteful, unnecessary, and misdirected project to expand the West Contra Costa County detention facility."

Sheriff Livingston neglects to indicate in his proposal, that he has a contract with the U.S. Department of Justice to house approximately 200 Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) prisoners/detainees daily at the WCDF for possible deportation.

That's 20 percent of the jail's capacity that could be used to meet the county's needs, not the federal government's. He is disingenuous in stating that he has no capacity at the WCDF to alleviate the overcrowding at the Martinez Jail. This cooperation with ICE should end. It erodes our hard-working immigrant community's trust in local law enforcement and county government.

Moreover, Contra Costa is the only Bay Area County with such a contract, which nets a profit of approximately \$3 million to the Sheriff's \$226 million budget. This is unconscionable. Jails built at California taxpayer expense should not be used for profit or as federal immigration detention centers.



3/9/17

Another important point for your consideration is accountability to the taxpayer. In 1991, the West County Detention Facility (WCDF) was built at a cost of \$48 million of bond money (Proposition 2, 16 and 52). It was touted as the "Jail of the 21st Century"; it was going to alleviate the overcrowding at the Martinez County Jail to provide quality substance abuse programming, education and literacy to low-risk inmates.

Voters approved \$1.1B to purchase bonds with one CLEAR objective: alleviate the overcrowding in county jails. State bonds were approved for new county jails not for ICE detention centers. To deviate from the initial intent of these Propositions is disingenuous and a blatant violation of the public trust.

Contra Costa County needs greater investment in mental health treatment, job training, affordable housing, and youth services to help keep people from becoming incarcerated, not a larger West County jail.

Health and social service community agencies are reporting that many immigrants have cancelled appointments out of anxiety and fear of deportation, or mistrust — leading to not getting critical care.

Approving expensive new jail construction runs counter to the more fiscally responsible and humane strategy of investing greater resources in prevention and rehabilitation services. These cost-effective measures help keep people out of jail, reduce reoffending and improve public safety.

The Prison Law Office, a well-respected nonprofit public interest law firm specializing in jail system reform, wrote to the Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors "The County would better serve its population by expanding efforts to reduce the jail population instead of expanding the capacity of its jails."

Finally, The WCDF jail expansion plan calls for spending \$2 million more per year to hire additional sheriff deputies to staff an expanded jail. Those dollars should instead be invested in expanding programs proven to reduce incarceration, such as substance abuse treatment and Behavioral Health Court, which provides vital mental health treatment to people with chronic mental illness.

Please reject this application and request that Sheriff Livingston terminate his contract with ICE and use the WCDF to alleviate the overcrowding at the Martinez Jail and provide re-entry services to those incarcerated in Martinez.

Sincerely,



The Honorable Genoveva Calloway  
Interim President, West County Democratic Club

cc: Congressmembers DeSaulnier, McNearney, Thompson  
State Senators Dodd and Skinner  
Assemblymembers Frazier, Grayson and Thurmond  
CCC Board of Supervisors Burgis, Gioia, Glover and Mitchoff  
California Democratic Party, Chair Burton  
Senate President Pro Tempore Kevin DeLeon  
Assembly Speaker Anthony Rendon  
Democratic Party of Contra Costa County, Chair  
El Cerrito Democratic Club, Chair

3/9/17

CAPITOL OFFICE  
STATE CAPITOL  
ROOM 2059  
SACRAMENTO, CA 95814  
TEL (916) 651-4009  
FAX (916) 651-4909

DISTRICT OFFICE  
1515 CLAY STREET  
SUITE 2202  
OAKLAND, CA 94612  
TEL (510) 286-1333  
FAX (510) 286-3885

SENATOR.SKINNER@SENATE.CA.GOV

# California State Senate

SENATOR  
NANCY SKINNER

MAJORITY WHIP  
NINTH SENATORIAL DISTRICT

CHAIR  
PUBLIC SAFETY  
BUDGET & FISCAL REVIEW  
SUBCOMMITTEE 5:  
PUBLIC SAFETY & LABOR

COMMITTEES  
ENERGY, UTILITIES &  
COMMUNICATIONS  
ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY  
TRANSPORTATION & HOUSING



April 14, 2017

Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors  
Board Chambers Room 107  
Administration Building  
651 Pine Street  
Martinez, California 94553-1229

Dear Contra Costa County Supervisors,

I write to respectfully ask the Board to not move forward with expanding the West County Detention Facility. If the state awards the grant for this project, the County can reverse course by not appropriating General Fund dollars, and not accepting the grant award. I urge the Board to take this course of action.

I stand in support of Supervisor John Giota, the Contra Costa Racial Justice Coalition and the many residents, advocates and community organizations who oppose Contra Costa County's plan to build 416 new high-security beds at the County jail facility in Richmond.

The County is proposing to spend \$25 million in county resources, and has asked the state for \$70 million to pay for construction of the proposed jail expansion.

We are at a point in California's history of rethinking past criminal justice policies that too quickly resorted to incarceration with little to no focus on crime prevention, community impact, or rehabilitation. We have also had to confront the fact that our "incarceration only" mindset has disproportionately and unfairly impacted our impoverished and minority residents.

As a result, California's voters and the Legislature have made reforms to sentencing practices, decreased commitments to state prison and increased the number of people housed and rehabilitated in county jails and local criminal justice systems. Given the State's emphasis on housing and rehabilitating more people in local facilities, an argument to invest resources in county jail beds may appear to make sense. However, there are numerous evidence based policies and practices available to both the State and Contra Costa County that can reduce the need for more beds in either state prison or county jails.

Advocates in opposition to the Richmond jail expansion have correctly highlighted the fact that the majority of those currently being held in Contra Costa County jail, approximately 70%, haven't been convicted of a crime. To the contrary, many are simply awaiting trial for non-serious offenses. In fact, their inability to afford bail is the key factor for many of them being held.

3/9/17

Bail reforms like The California Money Bail Reform Act of 2017 (SB 10) will drastically reduce the number of pretrial inmates in all of California's county jails. SB 10 was recently approved by the Senate's Committee on Public Safety (which I chair) with my support. Specifically, SB 10 is a measure that seeks to move California away from its over-dependence on incarceration to the use of evidence based risk assessments when determining whether an individual should be held in jail prior to trial.

An additional concerning factor is that nearly 20% of the existing bed capacity at the West County facility is under a contract with the U.S. Department of Justice Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE). These beds and the associated space could be repurposed to meet the needs described in the county's request to the Board of Community Corrections for state funding, rather than spending significantly more money to build new facilities.

My final concern is with the fiscal prudence of this proposal. Specifically, the county is committing to expend \$25 million over the next four years to construct the new facility and an additional \$5.1 million per year into perpetuity to support jail operations at a time when many economists are predicting an economic downturn within the next few years. If these predictions prove true, Contra Costa County could be in the middle of constructing a new jail facility at a time when fiscal constraint would be essential.

I am in the process of developing legislation that would limit state funding for the expansion of county jail capacity in those circumstances where existing capacity is in use for purposes other than housing inmates under the jurisdiction of the local government. I ask that you reject the proposal to expand the West County Detention Center and invite you to join with me as a partner in identifying appropriate and thoughtful alternative solutions.

Thank You,



Nancy Skinner  
State Senator, District 9

cc: Sheriff David O. Livingston  
Chairperson, Linda Penner, Board of State and Community Corrections  
Supervisor John Gioia, District 1  
Supervisor Candace Andersen, District 2  
Supervisor Diane Burgis, District 3  
Supervisor Karen Mitchoff, District 4  
Supervisor Federal Glover, District 5

**Lwin, Adam@BSCC**

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**From:** maria Alegria <westcountym democratics@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 11, 2017 9:32 AM  
**Subject:** TIME SENSITIVE: WCDC Agenda 4.13.17  
**Attachments:** WCDC 3.9.17 draft minutes.pdf

Dear WCDC members and friends of WCDC,

Please find agenda for April 13 meeting and draft minutes (attached) of March 9th meeting.

Sincerely,  
Genoveva Calloway  
Interim President  
West County Democratic Club  
[westcountym democratics@gmail.com](mailto:westcountym democratics@gmail.com)



## West County Democratic Club

[WESTCOUNTYDEMOCRATICS@GMAIL.COM](mailto:WESTCOUNTYDEMOCRATICS@GMAIL.COM)

*General Membership Meeting @ Chevy's Hilltop*

*RSVP @ [westcountym democratics@gmail.com](mailto:westcountym democratics@gmail.com)*

Thursday, April 13, 2017 from 6:00pm-7:30pm

### 1. Welcome & Self-Introductions

### 2. President's Report

- Review and accept agenda
- 2017 Membership dues

- Treasurer Update

3/9/17

- Ad-Hoc Nominations Committee Report: Chair Michael Nye

### 3. Democratic Party of CCC

- District 1 Executive Com Rep: Michael Nye:
  - CDP Convention Update: May 19-21
- WCDC Representative: Joan Carpenter

### 4. Old Business

- West County Dems and El Cerrito Dems to co-sponsor CA Democratic Party Chair candidate forum: April 25 (Peter needs to confirm)
- Update on Opposing WCDF Jail Expansion
- WCDC Logo

### 5. New Business

- Support SB 54
- Presentation by CCC Public Defender Ali Saidi (invited)

### 6. Other

- Future Agenda Items
  - Hatch Act

### 7. Announcements

- April 18<sup>th</sup>: Commission on Aging: “Your House in Order”/Naomi Williams

**8. Adjourn**

**Future meetings:** Thursdays @ 6pm: May 11<sup>th</sup>, June 8<sup>th</sup>, July 13<sup>th</sup>, August 10<sup>th</sup>, September 14<sup>th</sup>, October 12<sup>th</sup>, November 9<sup>th</sup> and December 14<sup>th</sup>

Attachment H-2

3/9/17

Minutes of the West County Democratic Club

Thursday March 9, 2017 at 6:30 pm

At Chevy's in Richmond

Meeting was started with self-introductions and a welcome from our interim President Genoveva Calloway

Agenda reviewed and accepted.

Plea was made regarding dues—If you have not paid for this year, please do so. Regular fee \$20. Seniors \$5

Treasurers report—none—treasurer not in attendance

Report from Ad Hoc nominating committee by chair Michael Nye

Nominations: President David Grey

Cesar Zepeda

Treasurer John Ziezenhoney

Secretary Bea Roberson

M Alegria moved election to be held in May, seconded N Williams no objections

M Nye (Dist 1 Rep) announced that the monthly meeting of the central committee speaker will be Senate Protem De Leon regarding SB 54

J Carpenter is our rep to the Central Committee, she asked for the regular club meetings calendar be sent to coincide with CC calendars

Old business: Peter Chao, President of El Cerrito Democratic Club, reported WCD & ECD to cosponsor candidate forum between Erik Bauman and Kim Ellis (running for Dem Party Chair)—contacts have not been made. Proposed date is 4/25 (regular date for ECD regular meeting. Motion to accept N Williams B Roberson seconded No objection

WCD logo held over

New Business: member to member communication Members present agreed to keep the communication in same manner in a private list.

Cheryl Mayer asked about other members not being present and for an updated sign in list of members paid.

Consensus is we need a web site

M Alegria suggested that our club participate in OUR elections

J Carpenter Discussed inaction of our previous club—hard to go to central committee when there is no report about what we are doing. Or the lack thereof

M Alegria suggested ccc Public Defender come talk to our club, Ali Saidi

Club agreed to send a rep to Jr Dems and to issue \$100 stipend

Motion to send a letter regarding the jail expansion. B Roberson suggested modification to include language from city of Richmond letter and mention that City of Richmond City Council also voted not to support 2 years ago.

C Mayer motion, N Williams second Unanimous Vote

Future agenda items Regulations about government employees and partisan politics

Announcements:

Richmond Commission on Ageing is having a Workshop on “is your house in order” on 4/18

Respectfully submitted

Bea Roberson

Interim Secretary

Attachment H-2



**Maria E. Rivera**

5715 Alpine Road  
 San Pablo, CA 94806  
 (510) 237-5666  
 Email: abogadamarieraivera@gmail.co

March 7, 2017

Board of State and Community Corrections (BSCC)  
 2590 Venture Oaks Way Ste 200  
 Sacramento, CA 95833

Dear BSCC Construction Program,

I am writing as a San Pablo resident concerned about the proposed expansion of the West Contra Costa County Detention Facility in Richmond, CA. Please DO NOT grant funds for the expansion of our county detention facility.

We need investments in affordable housing, job training, and youth services to prevent people from being incarcerated. We also need to reform our bail system, expand substance abuse treatment and the behavioral Health Court. We DO NOT need or want funds for 416 new high security beds.

The Prison Law Office, a well-respected nonprofit public interest law firm specializing in jail system reform, wrote to the Board of Supervisors that "The county would better serve its population by expanding efforts to reduce the jail population instead of expanding the capacity of its jail."

The Sheriff can create capacity in the West County jail instead of building new cells. Nearly 200 individuals are being held for possible deportation at the West County jail under a sheriff's contract with the federal government to house ICE (Immigration and Customs Enforcement) detainees. That's 20 percent of the jail's capacity that could be used to meet the county's needs, not the federal government's. Contra Costa is the only bay Area county with such a contract. This cooperation with ICE SHOULD END.

It erodes our hard-working immigrant community's trust in local law enforcement and county government.

Thank you very much for your consideration.

Sincerely,  
 Maria E. Rivera