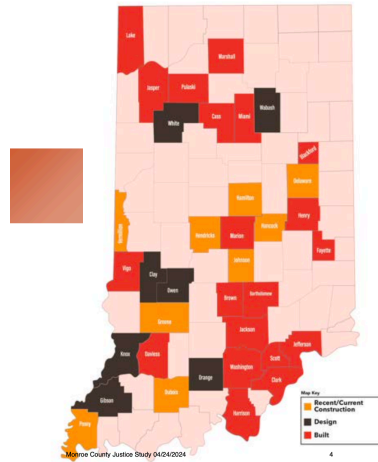


# MONROE COUNTY JUSTICE STUDY

RQAW Corporation

RQAW  
BCCM



## EXPERIENCE

RQAW is the region's most experienced team of correctional and justice facility planning professionals. We've completed more than 150 criminal justice projects from county jails and juvenile detention centers to state and federal correctional facilities. Our extensive experience with designing new construction, additions, and renovations of jails and justice facilities has given us the insight into a variety of issues that need to be considered and addressed.

RQAW  
ARCHITECTURE

## INTRODUCTION

RQAW Corporation (RQAW) conducted a Jail Study to determine the immediate and future space needs of the Monroe County Jail and meet the requirements of IC 36-1-8-19. To conduct this study, the existing facilities were documented. An evaluation of the existing conditions and spaces (refer to Section 3 - Existing Space Evaluation) was performed to understand the space needs and operational goals of the facility. During this time, data was also collected and organized (refer to Section 2 - Data and Projections) to not only develop an understanding of the current conditions at the facility but also to determine the future space needs, particularly as they relate to detention housing and other inmate spaces. All this information was then utilized to develop a space program (refer to Section 4 - Architectural Space Program). The architectural space program was then utilized to develop floor plans and diagrams (refer to Section 6 - Conceptual Design) of a proposed facility that will improve the functionality of the components involved, accommodate immediate and future space needs while enabling Monroe County to accommodate the evolving operational demands associated with this type of facility.

## INTRODUCTION

### DATA AND STATISTICS SUMMARY

The calculations provide a significant range of 250 -500 beds (properly classified). There are several factors that suggest the county should consider the higher end of this range including but not limited to:

**Data we dont like will be ignored!**

- Over the last several years (excluding 2020 because it is an outlier due to Covid), the inmate population is increasing at a higher rate
- The severity of crimes is increasing, which results in a longer average length of stay; if this trend continues it can have an impact on average daily population and classification, requiring more beds.
- The female population is a significant portion (30%) of the population. This results in the need for more classification opportunities. More classifications can mean a need for more beds.
- Two separate bed count calculations utilizing different metrics suggest the need for the higher end of the range.

- **Based on this information, it is recommended that the county provide 450 - 500 beds.**

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

“The facility was originally designed for 128 beds. In 1990s, the facility was double bunked and remodeled to increase to the number they are at today.” ( no mention of the Jail Holding Facility aka Stride completed in 2022 )

“..the current operational capacity of the 258-bed facility is 206 inmates “

### “Existing Facility Expansion:

The site is landlocked and cannot be expanded on adjacent site Even if it were possible, any expansion on the existing site would make the facility more staff intensive The facility cannot be expanded vertically for code and structural reasons “

“Two specific populations that stand to benefit greatly from such rehabilitative endeavors are those grappling with substance abuse issues and individuals contending with mental health challenges. Consequently, there arises a pressing need for specialized spaces within jail facilities that were not deemed essential merely two decades ago. Much like many other facilities constructed in the 1980s, the current facility lacks dedicated spaces for programming and mental health services.”

“Considering these challenges, it's imperative that county officials explore alternative solutions that prioritize the safety, well-being, and fiscal responsibility of all stakeholders involved. Whether through renovation, relocation, or redevelopment, addressing the deficiencies of the Monroe County Jail is crucial for ensuring a safer and more efficient correctional system...”

To accommodate the **space, housing and operational needs** that were identified through the space evaluation and data projections, the following summarizes the spaces that would be needed for a **new facility**.

150,000sqft

Sheriff's Administration = 5,398 SF

Courts = 1,796 SF

Law Enforcement = 10,674 SF

Investigations = 8,579 SF

Operations = 1,694 SF

Intake and Booking = 12,991 SF

Medical = 4,216 SF

Confinement Housing = 48,267 SF

Program = 5,250 SF

Kitchen/Food Prep. = 9,095 SF

Laundry = 1,620 SF

Mech./Electrical/Plumb. = 5,364 SF

Subtotal Sheriff & Jail = 114,944 SF

+ Grossing Factor (30%) = 34,483SF

**Subtotal Sheriff & Jail = 149,427 SF**

*Existing Sheriff's & Jail SF = 68,400+/-*

*(2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor = 54,380 \*not included\*)*

**450 - 500 Beds expandable to 560**

**6 Padded Cells / 20 Medical Cells / 4 Group Hold**

ARCHITECTURAL  
PROGRAM

**Recommendation** - new facility with space to expand...

“One of the housing pods will be completely constructed for 260 beds. The second housing pod will be partially built out (190-240+ beds), leaving area for expansion around an existing control point.”

“The design should prioritize cells over dormitories; however, dormitories will be useful for recovery blocks and other programs”

## **PROPOSED PROJECT OPERATIONAL COSTS**

- The existing facility operates with 63 staff, and this includes six part-time staff
- The proposed facility would require 69 full time staff
- Salary, overtime and benefit costs increase approximately \$890,000
- Anticipated inmate related costs increase approximately \$1,200,000 to account for an increase in inmate population (assumes a 1.6 multiplier to account for 500 inmates vs current 258)
- Total operational costs are likely to increase \$2.4 million
- The facility is 100% larger than the existing building (first, fourth, and fifth floor) and the proposed staffing accounts for housing the 20-year projected need.