

**ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS
BUREAU OF OPERATIONS
FACILITY CONSOLIDATION/CONVERSION OVERVIEW**

February, 2022



**State of Illinois
Department of Corrections**

J.B Pritzker, Governor

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Mission: To serve justice in Illinois and increase public safety by promoting positive change in offender behavior, operating successful reentry programs, and reducing victimization.

February 9, 2022



FACILITY CONSOLIDATION/CONVERSION PLAN OVERVIEW



INTRODUCTION

As an agency we must ensure we are safely and efficiently operating our facilities and managing our population. Our population is down from 38,000 a year ago to a little over 27,000 now.

COVID continues to severely impact our hiring schedule. We continue to struggle finding applicants that want to come to work for the Illinois Department of Corrections. The number of hours of overtime staff are working across the state is extremely high, especially at Pontiac. In addition, out of cell time continues to be challenging to provide to our Seriously Mentally Ill population at Pontiac CC due to the limited staff numbers.

Pontiac/Pontiac MSU Voluntary vs. Mandatory Overtime Hours in Calendar Year 2021

January 2021			February 2021			March 2021		
Vol OT	Man OT	Refused Man OT	Vol OT	Man OT	Refused Man OT	Vol OT	Man OT	Refused Man OT
2372	14	0	2012	18	0	2369	8	0

April 2021			May 2021			June 2021		
Vol OT	Man OT	Refused Man OT	Vol OT	Man OT	Refused Man OT	Vol OT	Man OT	Refused Man OT
2389	10	0	2543	31	4	2358	34	7

July 2021			August 2021			September 2021		
Vol OT	Man OT	Refused Man OT	Vol OT	Man OT	Refused Man OT	Vol OT	Man OT	Refused Man OT
2622	25	1	2772	15	0	2586	15	0

October 2021			November 2021			December 2021		
Vol OT	Man OT	Refused Man OT	Vol OT	Man OT	Refused Man OT	Vol OT	Man OT	Refused Man OT
2181	17	2	2381	8	0	2647	16	0

The cost of maintaining older structures continues to increase as well. For instance, the masonry walls of the East and West Cellhouse are showing significant signs of deterioration throughout the building. The roof is also in desperate need of repair. The projected cost for these repairs is \$3,871,931.



East/West Walls



East/West Walls



East/West Roof

In an effort to help alleviate some of the concerns/issues outlined above and to ensure our focus continues to be on operating safe and secure facilities, the following plan has been drafted.



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Pontiac Correctional Center – March 16, 2022 (MSU), Spring/Summer 2022 (East/West Cellhouse)

In accordance with the Department of Corrections Facility Operational Overview and Restructuring, Pontiac Correctional Center will be closing its MSU – Medium Security Unit, as well as the East and West Cellhouses. The estimated closure will be March 16th for the MSU and spring/summer for East/West Cellhouse.

- The MSU consists of five (5), one story T-House designed buildings with a max capacity of 431. The current overall MSU population is 329 (76% capacity). The MSU houses a population with the classification of medium security.
- The MSU also has three (3) Towers, T-13, T-14, and T-15, that can close and will no longer need to be staffed.

The East and West Cellhouses are multi-tiered buildings consisting of five (5) levels. The units currently house 339 persons who are incarcerated. There are 160 individuals in the West Cellhouse (62 % capacity). This unit houses a maximum-security population. There are 179 individuals in the East Cellhouse (46% capacity). This unit is used to house the approved/unapproved protective custody population and temporary writs. The total bed count for these units is 667 beds. The capacity for the East Cellhouse is 381 and the capacity for the West Cellhouse is 286. Tower #20 that monitors the movement to and from Health Care Unit is also located in this building. **This tower will not be closed.**

The current capacity of the facility with all cells and beds operational is 1740. With the closing of the MSU, as well as the East and West Cellhouses, the projected capacity of the facility will be 642 (36% capacity) and will leave the North Cellhouse, South Cellhouse and Mental Health Units operational.

The North Cellhouse will house the following populations: a medium security workforce will be housed on half of 2 & 4 galleries, restrictive housing on 1, 3, 5, & 7 galleries, unapproved protective custody on 2 gallery, protective custody on 4, 6, & 8 galleries and incoming transfers on 7 gallery. This will reduce the projected operational capacity by 1098 beds, down to 642 (58% capacity).

The facility currently has an individual in custody population of 1144 offenders. The facility will be working with the Transfer Coordinators Office to monitor the current population and transfer individuals if needed before the targeted closure date. The Clinical Services Department is in the process of completing reclassifications of all individuals. The facility will continue to work with the TCO to transfer the medium and maximum-security level individuals along with those individuals that have been scheduled for disciplinary transfer.

Closure Order

The facility will begin the closing process with the housing units located on the MSU in the following order:

- A Dorm
- B Dorm
- C Dorm
- F Dorm
- G Dorm

These individuals in custody will be transferred to other various Medium Security Facilities.



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The facility will begin the closing process with the East Cellhouse (Spring, 2022) by the following order:

- Gallery 10
- Gallery 9
- Gallery 8
- Gallery 7
- Gallery 6
- Gallery 5
- Gallery 4
- Gallery 3
- Gallery 2
- Gallery 1

These individuals in custody will be moved into the North Cellhouse and South Protective Custody units that will remain open. The remainder will be transferred to Lawrence CC.

After the East Cellhouse has been cleared, the facility will begin the process of closing the West Cellhouse (Late Spring/Early Summer, 2022). The unit will be closed in the following order:

- Gallery 10
- Gallery 9
- Gallery 8
- Gallery 7
- Gallery 6
- Gallery 5
- Gallery 4
- Gallery 3
- Gallery 2
- Gallery 1

These individuals in custody will be transferred to Lawrence CC and Menard CC.

Safety Inspections

Daily walk throughs will be performed on all three shifts of the closed units to ensure the buildings are in working order. Areas to be checked will include but are not limited to:

- Doors and locks functioning properly
- Windows and screens clear of debris and secured
- Cells, galleries and floors free from dust and debris
- Exit and unit lights functioning properly

Weekly safety and sanitation reports will continue to be conducted and will be turned in to the safety sanitation coordinator. Work orders shall be completed, and any issue reported will be addressed immediately.

Maintenance

Maintenance will ensure that plumbing is checked and that toilets are flushed weekly.



Post Name	7 Day Posts			5 Day Posts			Shift Totals			Cumulative Post Totals
	7 - 3	3 - 11	11 - 7	7 - 3	3 - 11	11 - 7	7 - 3	3 - 11	11 - 7	
Towers (3/3/3)	3	3	3				5.73	5.73	5.73	17.19
Dorms (5/5/5)	5	5	5				9.55	9.55	9.55	28.65
Rovers (5/5/3)	5	5	3				9.55	9.55	5.73	24.83
Outer Perimeter (Armed) (1/0/0)	1						1.91	0.00	0.00	1.91
Kitchen/IDR (1/1/1)	1	1	1				1.91	1.91	1.91	5.73
Line Escort (0/1/0)	0	1	0				0.00	1.91	0.00	1.91
Shakedown (1/0/0)	1						1.91	0.00	0.00	1.91
Visiting Room (1/0/0)	1						1.91	0.00	0.00	1.91
Sanitation (1/0/0)	1						1.91	0.00	0.00	1.91
Commissary (1/0/0)				1			1.36	0.00	0.00	1.36
Re-cycling / Inside Lawn (1/0/0)	1						1.91	0.00	0.00	1.91
Tool Room (0/0/0)							0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Voc. School (1/0/0)	1						1.91	0.00	0.00	1.91
Sallyport Escort (1/0/0)				1			1.36	0.00	0.00	1.36
MSU Sally Port Escort #2, #3 Prog. 5 Day	1			1			3.27	0.00	0.00	3.27
Total Officers	21	15	12	3	0	0	44.20	28.65	22.92	95.77
MSU Gatehouse Sgt. (1/1/1)	1	1	1				2.00	2.00	2.00	6.00
MSU Zone Sgt. (1/1/1)	1	1	1				2.00	2.00	2.00	6.00
MSU Sallyport Sgt. (1/0/0)	1						2.00	0.00	0.00	2.00
Total Sergeants	3	2	2	0	0	0	6.00	4.00	4.00	14.00
MSU Lieutenants (T/A as Shift Supv.)	1	1	1				2.00	2.00	2.00	6.00
Total Lieutenants	1	1	1	0	0	0	1.91	1.91	1.91	6.00
Total Shift Supervisors	1	1	1				2.00	2.00	2.00	6.00
								Total staff	121.77	



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Phase 2 - Proposed East/West Cell House closure would reduce needed correctional officers from 694 to **564**, sergeants would reduce from 62 to **51**, and lieutenants would reduce from 55 to **45**.

Current Approved Posts for East/West Cellhouse with Relief Factor

Post Name	7 Day Posts			5 Day Posts			Shift Totals			Cumulative Post Totals
	7 - 3	3 - 11	11 - 7	7 - 3	3 - 11	11 - 7	7 - 3	3 - 11	11 - 7	
West Seg (12/11/6)	12	11	6				22.08	20.24	11.04	53.36
West Catwalks (2/1/1)	2	1	1				3.68	1.84	1.84	7.36
West Tower (1/1/1)	1	1	1				1.84	1.84	1.84	5.52
East Seg (12/9/7)	12	9	7				22.08	16.56	12.88	51.52
East Catwalks (2/1/1)	2	1	1				3.68	1.84	1.84	7.36
East Tower (1/1/1)	1	1	1				1.84	1.84	1.84	5.52
Total Officers	30	24	17	0	0	0	55.20	44.16	31.28	130.64
East House Sgt. (1/1/1)	1	1	1				1.84	1.84	1.84	5.52
West House Sgt (1/1/1)	1	1	1				1.84	1.84	1.84	5.52
Total Sergeants	4	4	4	0	0	0	7.36	7.36	7.36	11.04
Cell House Lieutenants	2	2	2				4.00	4.00	2.00	10.00
Total Lieutenants	2	2	1	0	0	0	4.00	4.00	2.00	10.00
Total Shift Supervisors	1	1	1				2.00	2.00	2.00	6.00
							Total staff		157.68	



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Vandalia Correctional Center – June 30, 2022

In accordance with the Department of Corrections Facility Operational Overview and restructuring, Vandalia Correctional Center will be closing A Dorm, B Dorm, D Dorm, E Dorm, F Dorm, G Dorm, H Dorm, I Dorm, Restrictive Housing and R Dorm. The estimated closure date will be June 30, 2022.

- A Dorm would be converted to a central location for storage of master files statewide or equipment. This will reduce the bed count by 88 beds.
- B Dorm would be converted to a central location for storage of master files statewide or equipment. This will reduce the bed count by 96 beds.
- D Dorm would be converted to central location for storage of master files statewide or equipment. This will reduce the bed count by 60 beds.
- E Dorm would be converted to central location for storage of master files statewide or equipment. This will reduce the bed count by 52 beds.
- F Dorm would be converted to central location for storage of master files statewide or equipment. This will reduce the bed count by 60 beds.
- G Dorm would be converted to central location for storage of master files statewide or equipment. This will reduce the bed count by 60 beds.
- H Dorm would be converted to central location for storage of master files statewide or equipment. This will reduce the bed count by 60 beds.
- I Dorm would be converted to central location for storage of master files statewide or equipment. This will reduce the bed count by 60 beds.
- Restrictive Housing would be closed as the need for this type of housing in a minimum-security facility is minimal. This will reduce the bed count by 30 beds.
- R Dorm would also be closed, R Dorm is a step down from restrictive housing. This will reduce the bed count by 25 beds.

The planned closing of these ten (10) buildings would reduce the bed space by 591 beds. It would also eliminate the need of twelve (12) security posts and relief factors in the current layout. We often have the buildings empty due to the low numbers of individuals that can be housed at Vandalia. So, several dorms at the old facility remain empty most of the time.

The physical plant of the proposed closures is such that it would take substantial funds to bring them up to modern standards.



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Avoidance of Capital Expenses

- By shuttering buildings that are not required to meet the Department's operational standards, there is a capital cost avoidance component that needs to be recognized.
- This cost avoidance will help the state to reallocate limited capital resources in the most appropriate and cost-effective manner.

Facility	Total Deferred Maintenance	Projected Cost Avoidance
Vandalia	\$75,000,000	\$12,675,000

Vandalia

\$10,000,000
\$2,675,000

Construct new building to house HCU, Admin, Visiting Room & Armory
Deferred Maintenance projects (attached)

The old facility dormitories are routinely extremely warm in the summer months; and that is even with the installation of numerous oscillating and exhaust fan upgrades; as well as Ice machines. All this equipment could be salvaged and sent to other aging facilities that need some ventilation systems quickly. The Work Camp is air conditioned; and staff and individuals in custody would no longer be subject to the intensive summer heat of the older buildings. In fact, the AC systems were just replaced at the Work Camp last year.

The Administration Building would remain open. The Academic program could be moved to the Work Camp; and convert the existing building into the Health Care Unit and Mental Health facilities and offices. The transportation officers could use the front gate drive to deliver patients and clinic individuals as there would be no individuals in the main facility inner perimeter to escort or to account for.

The large dining room (Big Top) could have any necessary equipment taken out to the Work Camp that needs replaced; and that includes the dining room tables. These could be moved to the North Zone dining room and eliminate the pending purchase of new tables.

The facility could use this area for Record Office Archival Storage. The large open dormitory interior would allow complete organization in chronological order and allow the Record Office Staff to quickly retrieve files from the archives when requested. Facility Maintenance staff could construct or assemble the needed shelving to make archival storage as efficient as possible. The only issue would be negotiating the stairs, but that can be remedied with the use of loading ramps. The facilities' logistical location along the I-70 Corridor and US 51 enhances the storage and marshalling location idea for IEMA; Operations; equipment, etc.



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E Dorm currently houses the “Building Block” Program. However, the facility will relocate this program to one of the other dormitories to continue this program at the Work Camp/North Zone.

The current capacity of the facility with all rooms and beds operational is 1001 with the closing of A, B, D, E, F, G, H, I, R and Restrictive Housing, the projected capacity of the facility will be 410. Closing these Dorms would not require any transfers, those individuals in custody can be absorbed into the remaining dorms.

In addition, the current allocation of cameras would be sufficient for coverage at the work camp; with cameras and wiring that is installed to be removed and re-installed there. The facility would have enough monitors and DVR’s at present to surveil a good portion of the Work Camp area. A smaller number of cameras would be mounted in the vocational areas to observe movement in that location.

Closure Order

The facility will begin the closing process of A Dorm first. The Dorms will be closed in the following order:

- A Dorm – periodically closed as it is receiving for transfers.
- B Dorm
- D Dorm
- E Dorm
- F Dorm
- G Dorm
- H Dorm
- I Dorm

Individuals in custody from the above dorms will be divided amongst the remaining four (4) dormitories that remain open at the Vandalia Work Camp. This facility was built in 1996.

- R Dorm and Restrictive Housing would be used as over-flow if needed, or additional storage.

Safety inspections

Daily walk throughs will be performed on all three shifts of the closed units to ensure the buildings are in working order. Areas to be checked will include but are not limited to:

- Door and locks functioning properly
- Windows and screens clear of debris
- Walls, ceilings and floors free from dust and debris
- Exit and hallway lights functioning properly
- Fire Watch patrols on 3-11 and 11-7 shifts.

Weekly safety and sanitation reports will continue to be conducted and will be turned in the safety sanitation coordinator. Work orders shall be completed, and any issue reported will be addressed immediately.

Maintenance

- Maintenance will ensure that plumbing is checked and that toilets are flushed weekly.
- Exhaust Fans will be checked to ensure they are functioning properly.
- Ice Machines will be emptied and turned off.



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Staffing

The staffing allocation will be adjusted to account for these closures. This plan will not require any staff layoffs. The staffing will be reduced to the new allocation through normal attrition or staff, if they chose, could be re-located to neighboring facilities that are currently struggling with staffing issues. This will need to be negotiated with the staff's Labor Union.

Allocated vs Actual Staffing at Vandalia

ALLOCATED C/O	ACTUAL C/O
225	159
ALLOCATED SGT	ACTUAL SGT
47	37
ALLOCATED LT	ACTUAL LT
23	19

Proposed closure of Main/South Facility and transfer staffing and individual in custody population to the North Zone. Proposed reallocation would reduce Officers from 225 to **122**, Sergeants from 47 to **21**, and Lieutenants from 23 to **14**.