

FINNEY COUNTY SALE TAX QUESTION REQUEST



The Finney County Law Enforcement Center (LEC) houses Finney County Sheriff's Department, Garden City Police Department, Finney County Emergency Management and the Finney County Jail. The Jail, added in 1982 at a project cost of \$5,321,270, was modeled after the previous jail that was located on the top floor of the existing and still operating 1929 Finney County Court House. The new jail was constructed on the upper floor above the Sheriffs and Police Department offices. In 1997 a 120-bed jail expansion project was approved and started to

alleviate overcrowding in the initial 52 bed jail. Currently the average daily population is approximately 120 with an average daily stay of 16 days. The length of stay has grown since the COVID pandemic. Finney County jail also houses inmates from surrounding counties in Southwest Kansas to accommodate their needs. Issues that challenge this facility almost from the beginning have been water and sewage infiltration onto the lower floor work areas. Water effluent from clogged drains created by inmates' flood cells which then makes it way down to the office areas damaging the building and equipment as well as creating an unsafe and unhealthy work environment.

To address these long existing conditions the county created a LEC Committee made up of local stakeholders and representatives from the user groups. Through an RFQ interview process the committee selected a company with successful experience in guiding counties through the process of assessing the facility, identifying repairs, needs and options, determining best use of current facility and projecting space and bed needs and using best practice in design and management of jail facilities. As a result of this year long process it was determined the best use of the current facility was to repurpose it from a 24-hour jail facility to an administrative facility which created much less wear and tear and extended it's useful life following a remodel. Additionally, it was agreed that they would design a freestanding 200 bed jail facility that would not only accommodate the needs of Finney County but also those in Southwest Kansas that utilize the facility from time to time. The new facility would be designed to the newest safety standards for our Law Enforcement Officers and jailers as well as inmates. It will also provide for some level of care and treatment for those with mental health and chemical dependency treatment needs. The planned jail facility will be approximately 57,000 sqft. And sit on approximately 10 acres of land.



FINNEY COUNTY
KANSAS

