



# Board of Commissioners

## PRESS RELEASE

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**County Contact:** Summer Torok  
440.350.2220  
[summer.torok@lakecountyohio.gov](mailto:summer.torok@lakecountyohio.gov)

### Lake County Administrator Provides Update on New Safety Center Project

PAINESVILLE, Ohio, July 24, 2024– At last week's Commissioners' meeting, Lake County Administrator Jason Boyd provided a comprehensive update on the progress and status of the new Lake County Safety Center project.

The current facility, which has been in operation since 1990, is often at capacity in the current 353-bed facility and requires millions of dollars in renovations. To address this issue, the new facility will include 504 beds, providing a significant increase in capacity to meet the growing needs of the community.



*Front entry of New Public Safety Center. See more renderings in full PowerPoint presentation.*

"I want to extend my sincerest gratitude to Sheriff Frank Leonbruno and our County Administrator for their invaluable contributions to this project. As President of the Commission, I'm proud to say that we've been blessed to have national and international experts in jail and major construction on our team. Their expertise has undoubtedly pushed our project forward. I believe that Lake County residents will be pleased to know that their tax dollars are being used wisely," said Commission President John T. Plecnik.

Boyd shared detailed design plans for the new facility, including schematic drawings and floor plans. While there are still some budgetary items that need to be finalized, the Administrator provided an overview of what is currently known about the project. An in-depth discussion and analysis of the financing plan is underway and is expected to be completed in late summer or early fall of 2024.

Construction is scheduled to begin in mid-November 2024, with a potential completion date of July 2027. The new facility will provide a safe and modern space for law enforcement and corrections personnel to serve the community.

"As a representative of the community, I've heard firsthand from residents about the need for a more modern and efficient justice system. The new Lake County Safety Center project is a game-changer for our community, providing a safe and secure environment for law enforcement and corrections

personnel to serve our residents. I'm grateful to be part of this effort and look forward to seeing the finished product," said Commissioner John R. Hamercheck.

"We've been fortunate to tour several other facilities around the country. We've evaluated the strengths and weaknesses of those facilities along with those of our current jail. I want to emphasize that Lake County is rare. We've seen firsthand that our current facility is poorly built, inadequate for today's needs, and a huge financial drain. I believe we're in the right spot now. I want to thank Mr. Boyd for his exceptional work in bringing this project together - his professionalism has made a huge impact on our county," said Lake County Sheriff Frank Leonbruno.

"I'm thrilled to see the progress we're making on the new Lake County Safety Center project. As a Commissioner, I've had the privilege of working closely with our Administrator and Sheriff, and I can attest to their dedication to delivering a state-of-the-art facility that meets the needs of our growing community. I'm confident that this new center will be a model for other counties to follow," said Commissioner Richard J. Regovich.

The public can stay up-to-date on the latest developments and information about the Lake County Safety Center project by visiting <https://www.lakecountyohio.gov/> and clicking "Public Safety Center Updates" for video updates and other project information.

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