

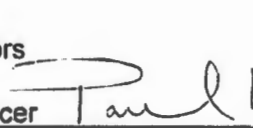


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Inter Office Memo

DATE: March 9, 2021

TO: Fresno County Board of Supervisors

FROM: Paul Nerland, Chief Operating Officer 

SUBJECT: Update regarding status of the West Annex Jail Project

This memo will provide a brief update on the status and potential for change in completion of the West Annex Jail (WAJ) Project. Public Works & Planning has reported that the WAJ project is currently at 91.4% completion. The anticipated occupancy date for the WAJ is August 1, 2021 subject to the following. Agenda item 5 on today's agenda includes approval of a resolution, form of sublease by the County, and the State's leasing agreements necessary for bond financing to be issued by the State. The State's public bond offering documents, which the State asked the County to review and confirm info, include references to the County's estimated date for occupancy.

As part of the WAJ project, the Office of the State Fire Marshal (OSFM) reviews and approves plans to ensure compliance with regulations for fire & safety. Additionally, OSFM conducts construction inspections to ensure construction is completed in adherence with the approved plans. At the conclusion of the project, final approval must be obtained by the Office of the State Fire Marshal (OSFM) and a certificate of occupancy issued. Per Public Works & Planning, the WAJ plans were originally submitted to OSFM in 2016 and were stamped as approved in April 2017. Since that time and as construction progressed, the WAJ Project Team have been actively working with OSFM to resolve issues or concerns raised by OSFM inspections. Over the last several months, the WAJ Team has been engaged in review and discussion with OSFM to receive final comparison/verification approval on the Smoke Control System. After an on-site discussion on Friday, March 5th, it appears that OSFM may produce "review comments" or state concerns regarding the WAJ plans and/or construction that could impact the occupancy date. Our Public Works & Planning team had a productive discussion with OSFM yesterday expressing the importance of receiving the pending comments to accurately forecast any impact to the estimated occupancy date. The OSFM representative indicated that the WAJ plans are actively being reviewed and that any comments should be available by the end of this week. If the comments require extensive changes, it will impact the projected occupancy dates. However, absent the specific comments, the County cannot forecast the occupancy date.

cc: Jean M. Rousseau, County Administrative Officer
Steven White, Director of Public Works & Planning
Will Kettler, Development Services & Capital Projects Division Manager