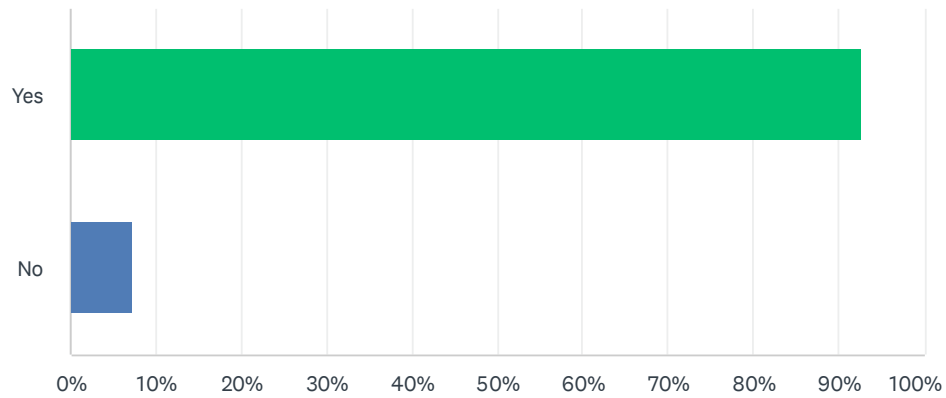


## Q1 Are you a Beltrami County resident?

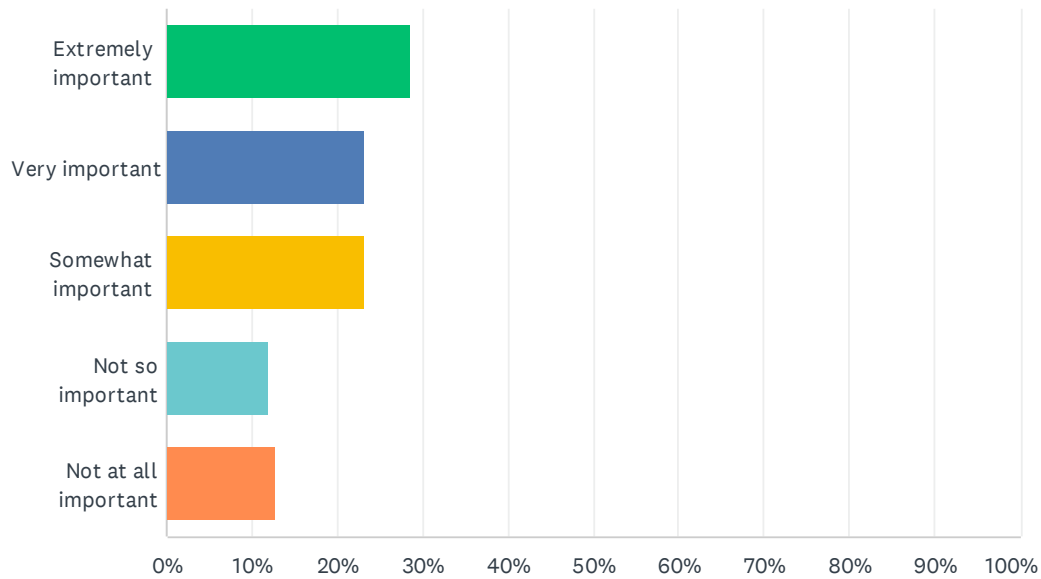
Answered: 423 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	92.67%	392
No	7.33%	31
TOTAL		423

## Q2 How important is it to you for the County to house inmates locally at the County Jail?

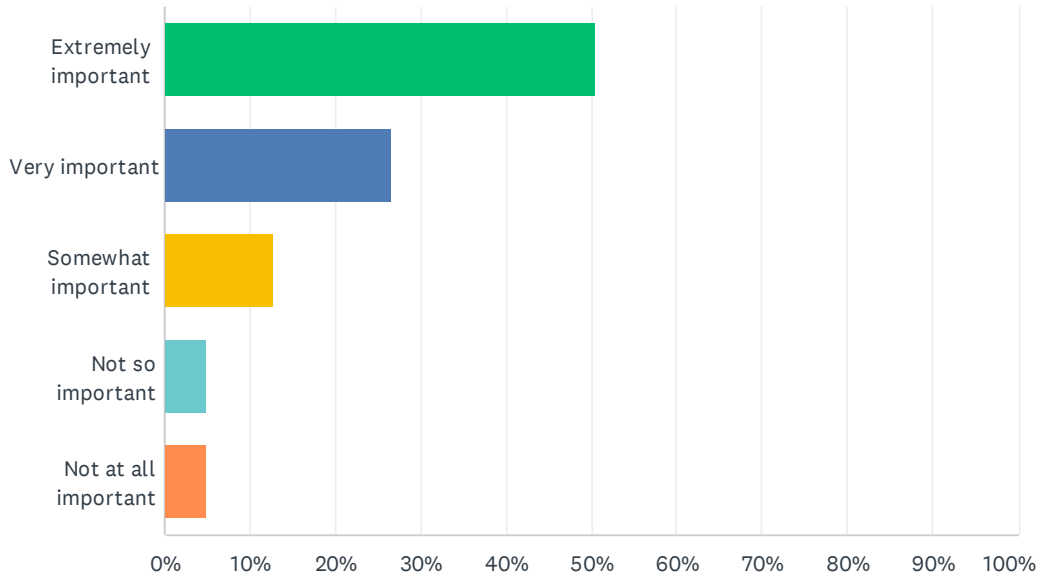
Answered: 420 Skipped: 3



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Extremely important	28.57%	120
Very important	23.33%	98
Somewhat important	23.33%	98
Not so important	11.90%	50
Not at all important	12.86%	54
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>420</b>

### Q3 How important is it to you that inmate re-entry services aimed at reducing repeat offenses are offered at the County Jail?

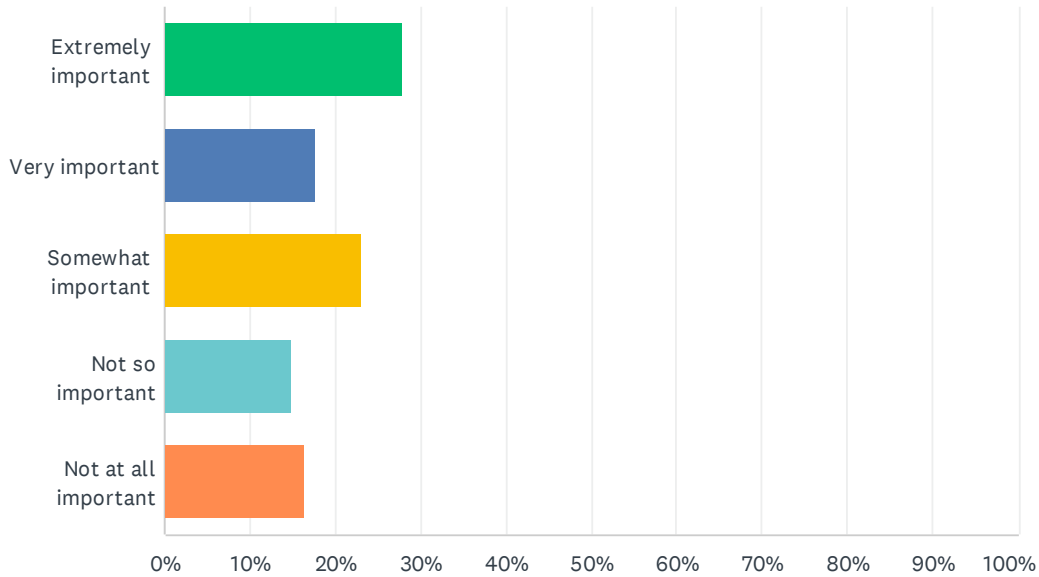
Answered: 420 Skipped: 3



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Extremely important	50.48%	212
Very important	26.67%	112
Somewhat important	12.86%	54
Not so important	5.00%	21
Not at all important	5.00%	21
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>420</b>

## Q4 How important is it to you that culturally based services are offered within the County Jail?

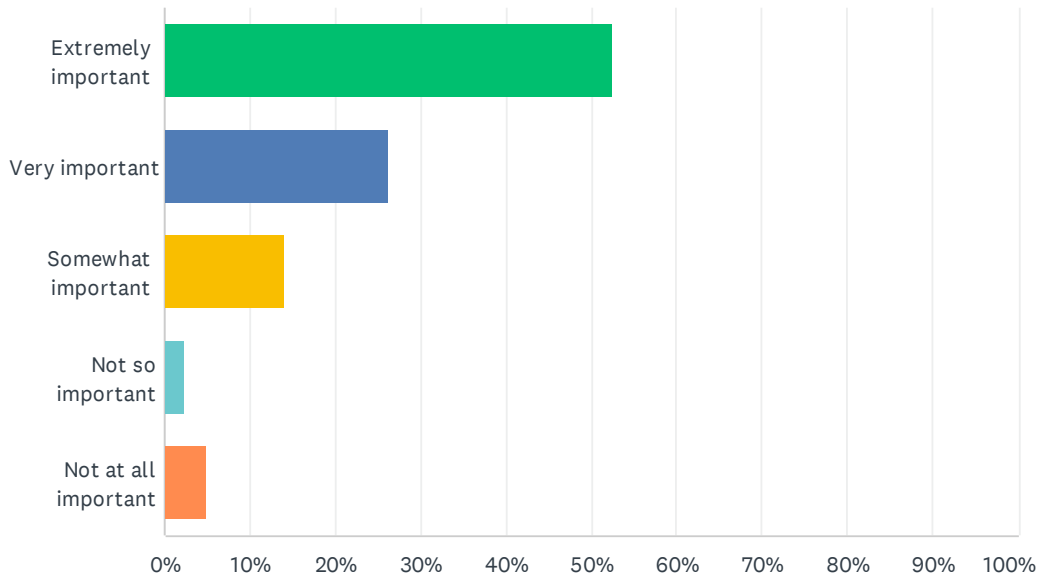
Answered: 420 Skipped: 3



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Extremely important	27.86%	117
Very important	17.62%	74
Somewhat important	23.10%	97
Not so important	15.00%	63
Not at all important	16.43%	69
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>420</b>

## Q5 How important is it to you that inmate behavioral/mental health services aimed at reducing repeat offenses are offered within the County Jail?

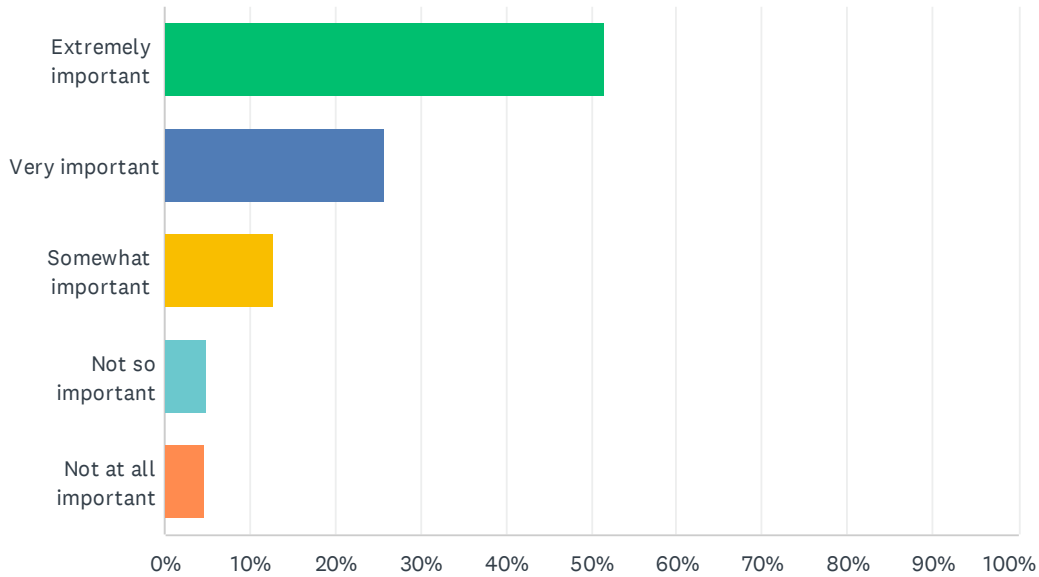
Answered: 420 Skipped: 3



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Extremely important	52.38%	220
Very important	26.19%	110
Somewhat important	14.05%	59
Not so important	2.38%	10
Not at all important	5.00%	21
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>420</b>

## Q6 How important is it to you that services focused on reducing chemical dependency are offered within the County Jail?

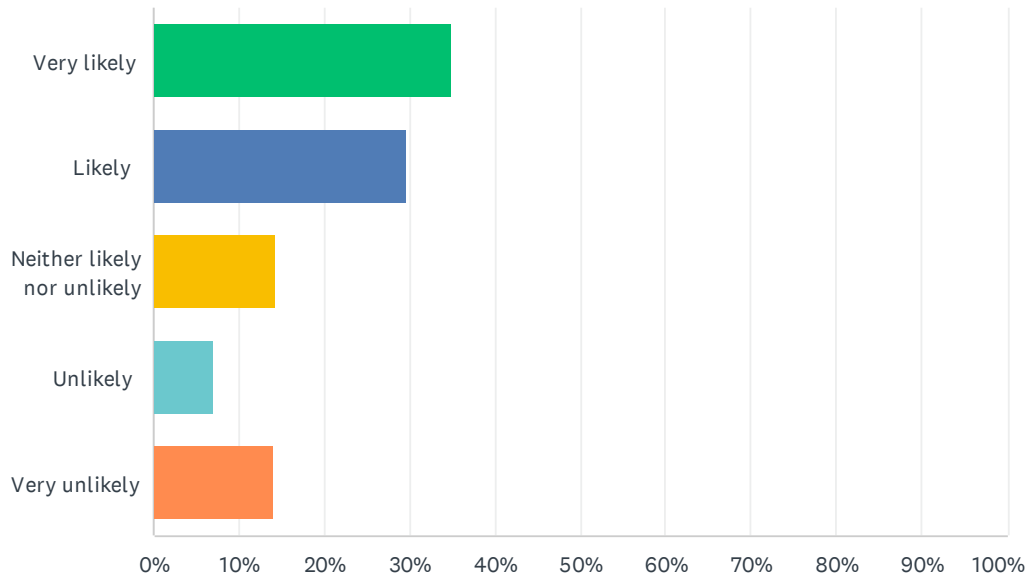
Answered: 420 Skipped: 3



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Extremely important	51.67%	217
Very important	25.71%	108
Somewhat important	12.86%	54
Not so important	5.00%	21
Not at all important	4.76%	20
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>420</b>

### Q7 How likely would you support a local option sales tax to fund a jail project which would reduce the criminal justice system property tax burden?

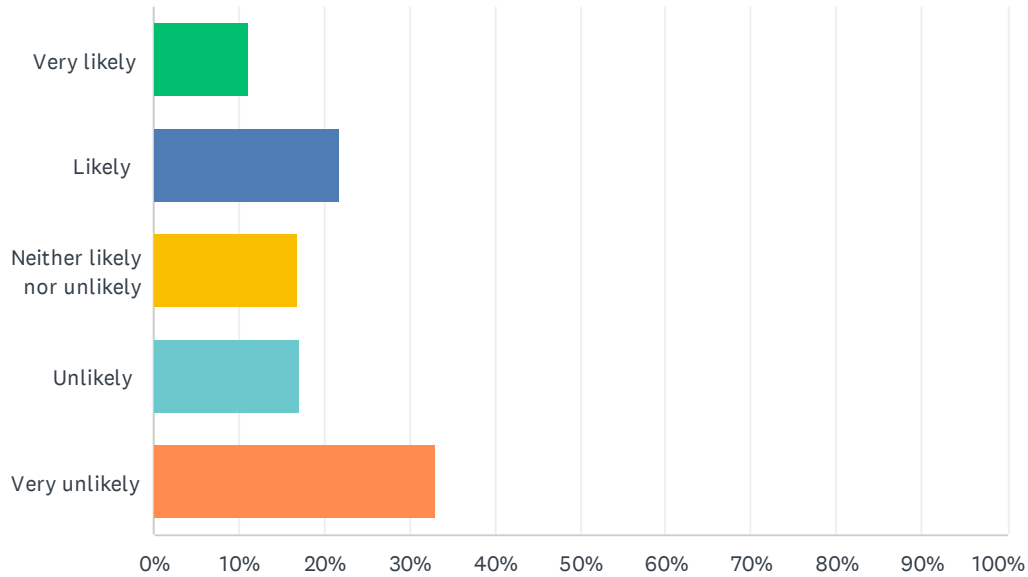
Answered: 408 Skipped: 15



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Very likely	35.05%	143
Likely	29.66%	121
Neither likely nor unlikely	14.22%	58
Unlikely	7.11%	29
Very unlikely	13.97%	57
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>408</b>

## Q8 How likely are you to support an increase in property taxes to fund a jail project?

Answered: 408 Skipped: 15



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Very likely	11.03%	45
Likely	21.81%	89
Neither likely nor unlikely	16.91%	69
Unlikely	17.16%	70
Very unlikely	33.09%	135
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>408</b>

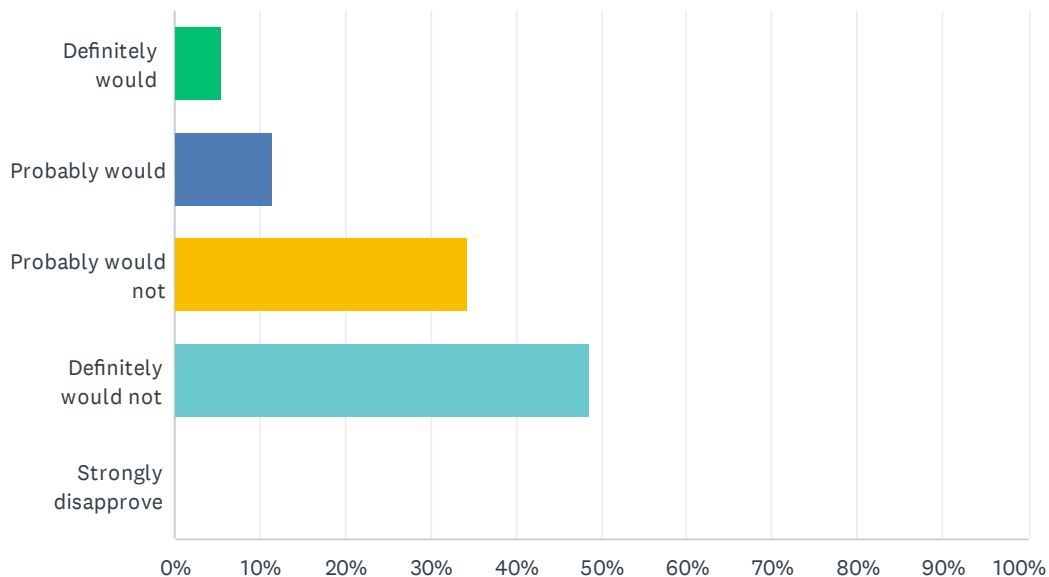


Q9 Option #1 is maintaining the status quo, also known as the "Do Nothing" option. Key considerations:

- Capital construction costs for expanding or replacing the jail would be avoided
- Safety concerns for staff and inmates will not be addressed, leading to increased liability
- The growing inmate population must be transported to other jurisdictions, needing additional transportation staff and vehicles
- The costs for housing out inmates will continue to increase
- Increased safety risk and liability to Sheriff & County during transports.
- A greater amount of local tax dollars will be spent out of county
- Infrastructure systems will become more expensive to maintain
- Needed training space for staff and services space for inmates would not be addressed
- No ability to control the amount and types of services offered to the inmate population when housed out of county
- More inmates would be housed away from their families and local community
- The Minnesota DOC may downgrade the jail certification if current deficiencies are not addressed
- Estimated total 30-year cost: \$501 million
- Only funding option is the property tax levy

Would you support Option #1 - Maintain the Status Quo?

Answered: 356 Skipped: 67



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Definitely would	5.62%	20
Probably would	11.52%	41
Probably would not	34.27%	122
Definitely would not	48.60%	173
Strongly disapprove	0.00%	0
TOTAL	356	

Q10 Option #2 is operating as a 36-hour holding facility. • Remodel and expand the Booking Center • Expand the vehicle sallyport

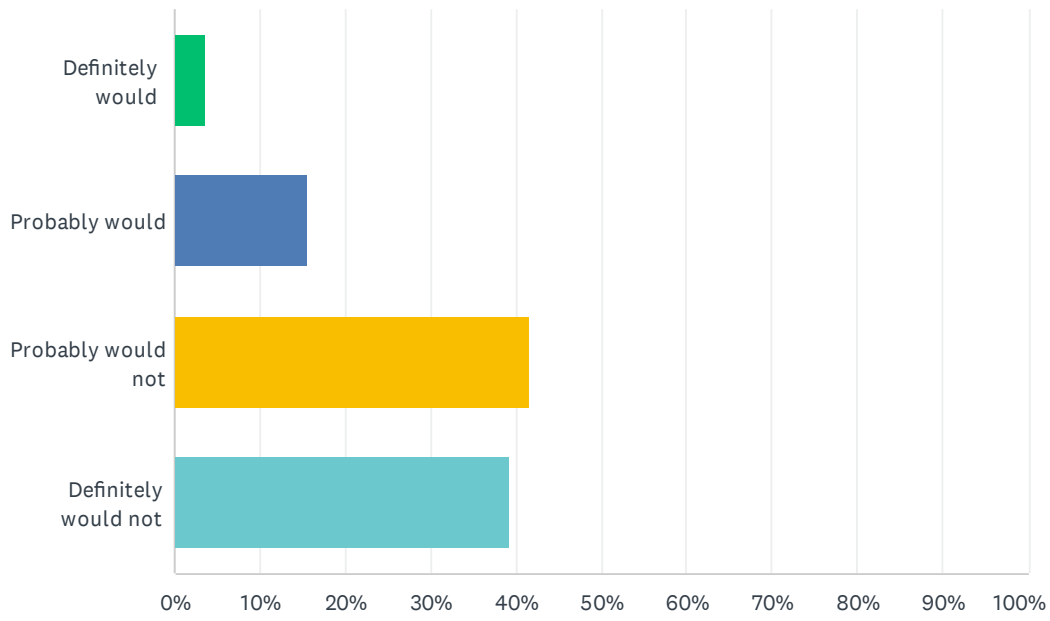
Key considerations:

- Capital construction costs for expanding or replacing the jail would be avoided
- Fewer inmates would be housed which would reduce the burden on the current infrastructure systems
- Housing fewer inmates would free existing space to expand and remodel the booking area
- Fewer detention officers would be needed for a holding facility rather than a full-service jail
- Most of the inmate population must be transported to other jurisdictions, leading to the need for additional transportation staff and vehicles
- Increased safety risk and liability to Sheriff & County during transports
- The costs for housing out inmates will continue to increase
- A greater amount of local tax dollars will be spent out of county
- Even with the reduced burden, the infrastructure systems will remain expensive to maintain
- Needed training space for staff and services space for inmates would not be addressed
- There would be no ability to control the amount and types of services offered to the inmate population when housed out of county
- More inmates would be housed away from their families and local community

Estimated total 30-year cost: \$504 million • Capital Construction: \$2.1 million (included in total 30-year cost) • Only funding option is the property tax levy

Would you support of Option #2 - Operate as a 36-Hour Holding Facility?

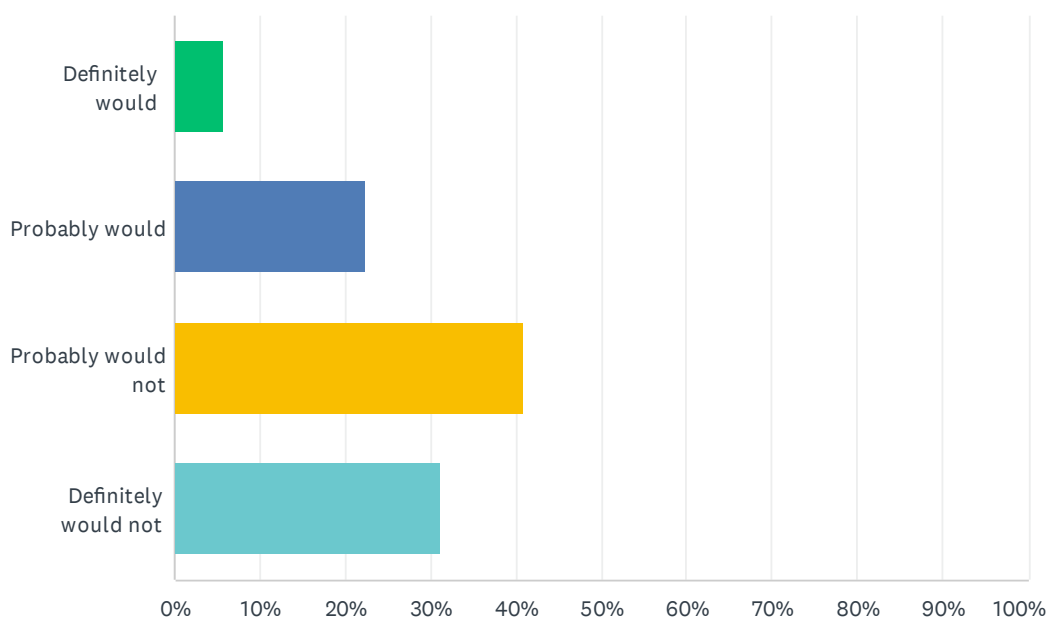
Answered: 352 Skipped: 71



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Definitely would	3.69%	13
Probably would	15.63%	55
Probably would not	41.48%	146
Definitely would not	39.20%	138
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>352</b>

Q11 Option #3 is to renovate the existing jail. • Many of the core systems and spaces would be renovated and upgraded. • No additional bedspaces would be constructed  
 Key considerations: • Safety concerns for staff and inmates would be addressed, reducing potential liability • Needed training space for staff and services space for inmates would be addressed • An increased number of inmates would be transported to other jurisdictions, leading to the need for additional transportation staff and vehicles • Increased safety risk and liability to Sheriff & County during transports. • Remodeling the areas of greatest need will likely reduce the inmate housing capacity • The costs for housing out inmates will continue to increase • A greater amount of local tax dollars will be spent out of county • Remodeling the jail, including the infrastructure systems, will be costly and will have limitations due to the existing footprint • There would be no ability to control the amount and types of services offered to the inmate population when housed out of county • More inmates would be housed away from their families and local community • Estimated total 30-year cost: \$536 million (This is projected to be the highest total cost and property tax levy cost option) • Capital Construction: \$2.3 million (included in total 30-year cost) • Only funding option is the property tax levy  
 Would you support Option #3 - Renovate the Existing Jail?

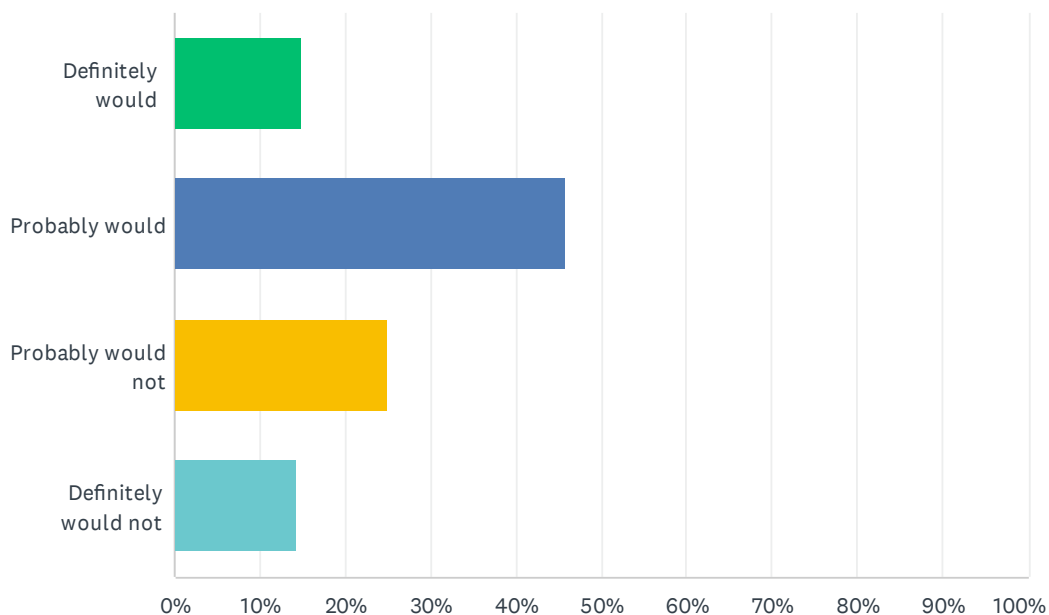
Answered: 350 Skipped: 73



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Definitely would	5.71%	20
Probably would	22.29%	78
Probably would not	40.86%	143
Definitely would not	31.14%	109
TOTAL	350	

**Q12 Option #4 is to expand the existing jail.**• Expand the capacity of the existing jail, potentially in phases, to the 2052 projected bedspace need  
**Key Considerations:**• Additional capacity will greatly reduce the number of inmates that would be housed out of county, which would reduce the required amount of transportation staff and equipment• Safety concerns for staff and inmates would be addressed, reducing potential liability• Needed training space for staff and services space for inmates would be addressed• More local tax dollars would stay in Beltrami County• Capital costs would be expensive• An expansion may be constructed across the street from the current jail, creating operational challenges due to multiple buildings and additional staff requirements• Expanding/remodeling the jail, including the infrastructure systems, will be costly and will have limitations due to tying into an existing system• Estimated total 30-year cost: \$439 million • Capital Construction: \$29.5 million (included in total 30-year cost)• An estimated \$62.5 million could be funded by a local option sales tax• Remaining projected property tax levy over 30 years is \$377 million  
**Would you support Option #4 - Expand the Jail?**

Answered: 349 Skipped: 74

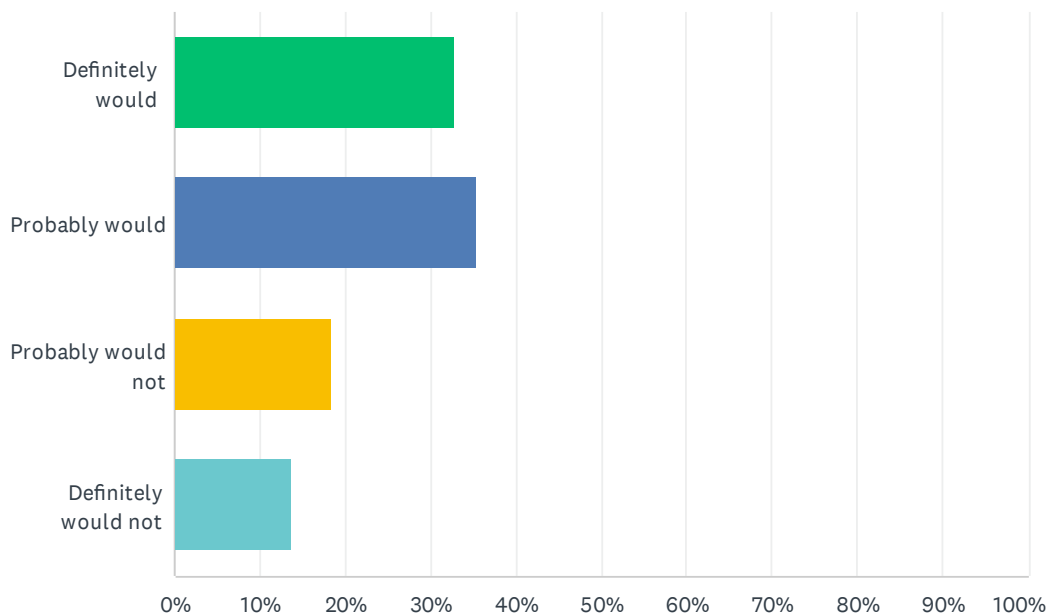


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Definitely would	14.90%	52
Probably would	45.85%	160
Probably would not	24.93%	87
Definitely would not	14.33%	50
TOTAL	349	



Q13 Option #5 is to build a new jail. • Vacate the current jail and build a new facility. A potential site for a new facility is unknown at this time. Key Considerations: • A new facility will greatly reduce the number of inmates that would be housed out of county, which would reduce the required amount of transportation staff and equipment • The design and operations would be tailored to the operational philosophy and address the specific health, safety, and cultural needs of the inmate population, including an assessment/booking center • Needed training space for staff and services space for inmates would be addressed • More local tax dollars would stay in Beltrami County • Capital costs would be expensive • A new jail would likely not be adjacent to the courthouse unless the current facility is demolished and a new one built on the same site • Estimated total 30-year cost: \$500 million • Capital Construction: \$74.8 million (included in total 30-year cost) • An estimated \$125 million could be funded by a local option sales tax • Remaining projected property tax levy over 30 years is \$375 million Would you support Option #5 - Build New Jail?

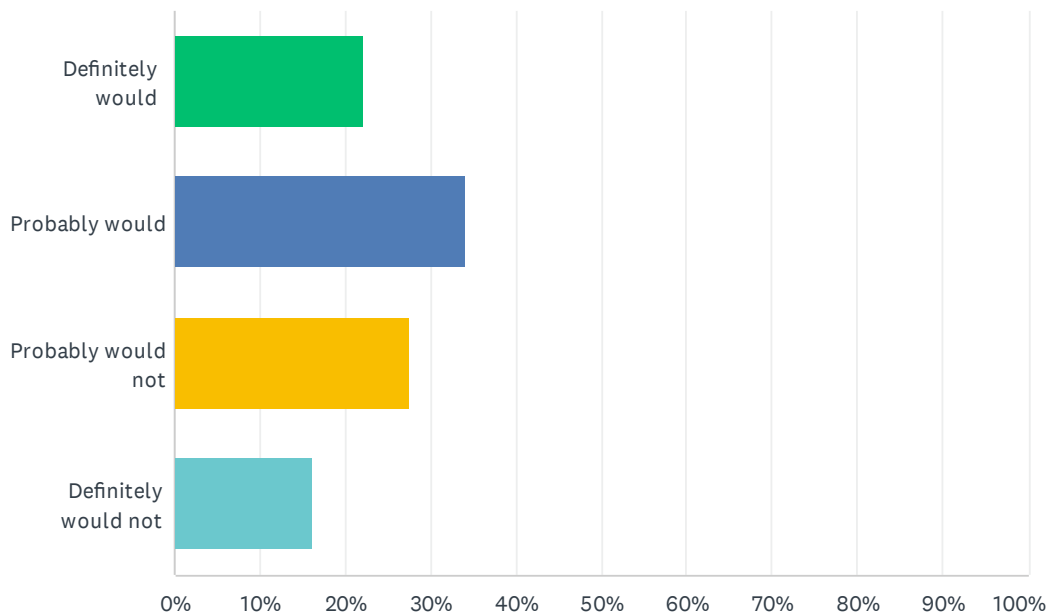
Answered: 345 Skipped: 78



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Definitely would	32.75%	113
Probably would	35.36%	122
Probably would not	18.26%	63
Definitely would not	13.62%	47
TOTAL	345	

Q14 Option #6 is to build a regional jail. • Vacate the current jail and build a new regional facility which would involve housing inmates of a least one other jurisdiction. Key Considerations: • Capital and operating costs would be shared or offset by other jurisdictions • Depending upon the organizational structuring, guaranteed revenue could be generated for a contracted period of time • Greater numbers of inmates and resources may increase opportunities for the provision of relevant inmate services • A new site would likely be required which may not be adjacent to the courthouse • There would be additional court transportation needs • No current arrangements are in place with other jurisdictions for participation • Studies would have to be conducted to determine the capacity needed for all participating jurisdictions • There is not enough information at this point for a valid rating of this alternative • Estimated total 30-year cost: \$532 million • Capital Construction: \$93.2 million (included in total 30-year cost) • An estimated \$150 million could be funded by a local option sales tax • Remaining projected property tax levy over 30 years is \$382 million Would you support Option #6 - Build a Regional Jail?

Answered: 338 Skipped: 85

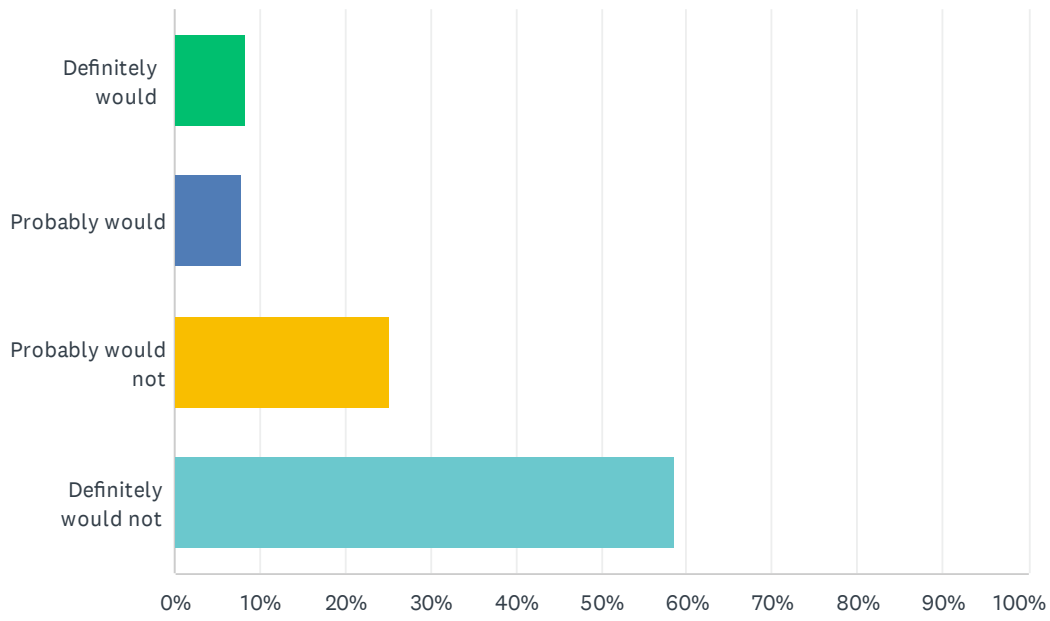


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Definitely would	22.19%	75
Probably would	34.02%	115
Probably would not	27.51%	93
Definitely would not	16.27%	55
TOTAL	338	

Q15 Option #7 is to close the jail. • Close the Beltrami County Detention Jail altogether. • The County may choose to operate a booking center in Bemidji to process new arrestees and if they are unable to post bond within a short period of time (4 hours typically) they would be transported to jails in other jurisdictions to be housed. Key Considerations: • Capital construction costs for expanding or replacing the jail would be avoided. • A small number of inmates would be held for a few hours instead of housed which would reduce the burden on the current infrastructure systems. • Fewer detention officers would be needed for a booking center rather than a full-service jail. • Most of the inmate population must be transported to other jurisdictions, leading to the need for additional transportation staff and vehicles. • Increased safety risk and liability to Sheriff & County during transports. • Would still pay to operate a booking center. • The costs for housing out inmates will continue to increase. • A greater amount of local tax dollars will be spent out of county. • Even with the reduced burden, the infrastructure systems will remain expensive to maintain. • There would be no ability to control the amount and types of services offered to the inmate population. • Inmates would be housed away from their families and local community. • Estimated total 30-year cost: \$475 million • Capital Construction: \$1.5 million (included in total 30-year cost) • Only funding option is the property tax levy

Would you support Option #7 - Close the Jail?

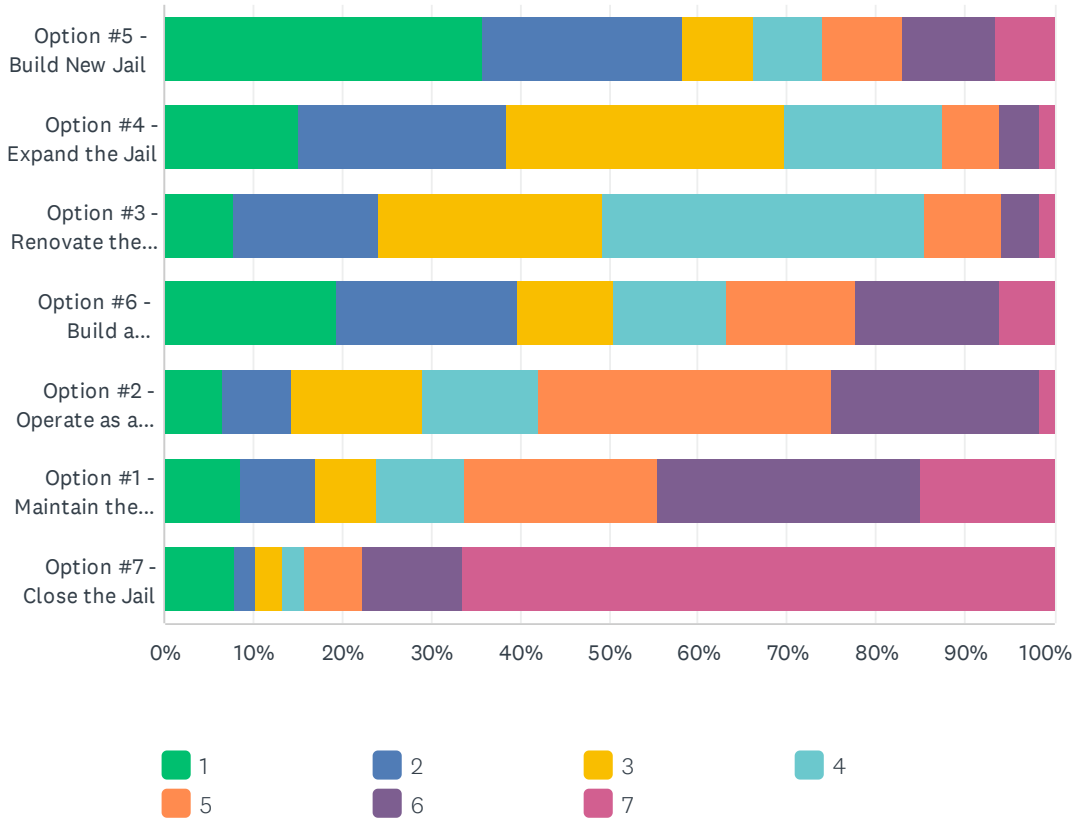
Answered: 338 Skipped: 85



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Definitely would	8.28%	28
Probably would	7.99%	27
Probably would not	25.15%	85
Definitely would not	58.58%	198
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>338</b>

### Q16 Rank in order from most preferred to least preferred options:

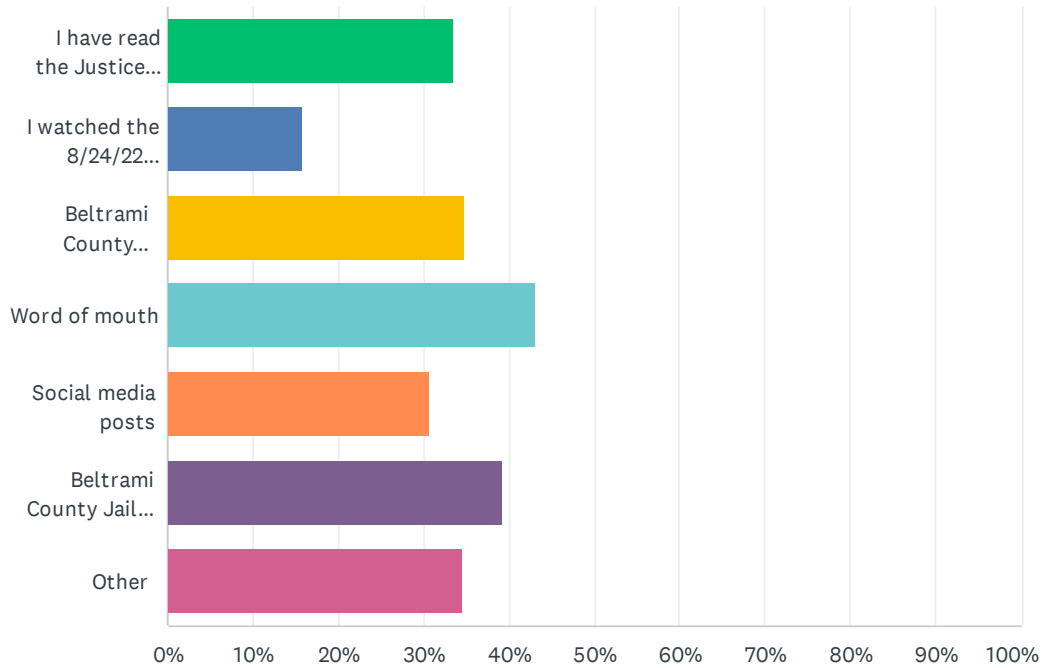
Answered: 327 Skipped: 96



	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	TOTAL	SCORE
Option #5 - Build New Jail	35.80% 116	22.53% 73	8.02% 26	7.72% 25	8.95% 29	10.49% 34	6.48% 21	324	5.11
Option #4 - Expand the Jail	15.17% 49	23.22% 75	31.27% 101	17.96% 58	6.19% 20	4.64% 15	1.55% 5	323	5.03
Option #3 - Renovate the Existing Jail	7.76% 25	16.46% 53	25.16% 81	36.02% 116	8.70% 28	4.35% 14	1.55% 5	322	4.59
Option #6 - Build a Regional Jail	19.50% 63	20.12% 65	10.84% 35	12.69% 41	14.55% 47	16.10% 52	6.19% 20	323	4.44
Option #2 - Operate as a 36-Hour Holding Facility	6.56% 21	7.81% 25	14.69% 47	13.13% 42	32.81% 105	23.44% 75	1.56% 5	320	3.66
Option #1 - Maintain the Status Quo	8.52% 27	8.52% 27	6.94% 22	9.78% 31	21.77% 69	29.65% 94	14.83% 47	317	3.24
Option #7 - Close the Jail	8.05% 26	2.17% 7	3.10% 10	2.48% 8	6.50% 21	11.15% 36	66.56% 215	323	2.03

# Q17 What sources of information have you utilized to learn about the Beltrami County Jail project?

Answered: 316 Skipped: 107

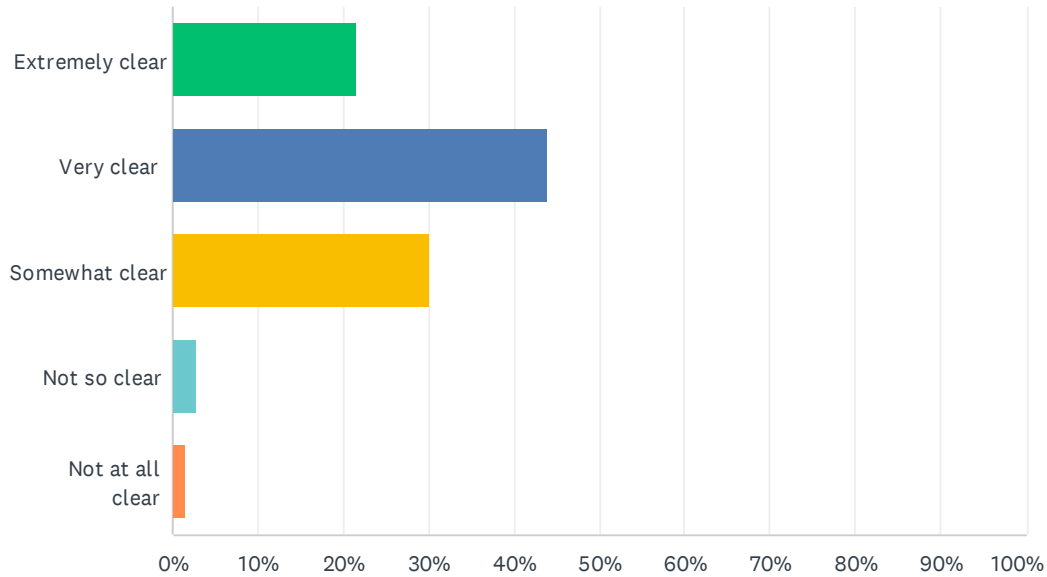


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
I have read the Justice Planners needs assessment and feasibility study	33.54%	106
I watched the 8/24/22 Beltrami County Board Special Meeting in person or on YouTube	15.82%	50
Beltrami County Quarterly Newsletter	34.81%	110
Word of mouth	43.04%	136
Social media posts	30.70%	97
Beltrami County Jail Project Website	39.24%	124
Other	34.49%	109
Total Respondents: 316		



# Q18 Do you feel like the information provided regarding the Jail options is clear?

Answered: 325 Skipped: 98



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Extremely clear	21.54%	70
Very clear	44.00%	143
Somewhat clear	30.15%	98
Not so clear	2.77%	9
Not at all clear	1.54%	5
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>325</b>

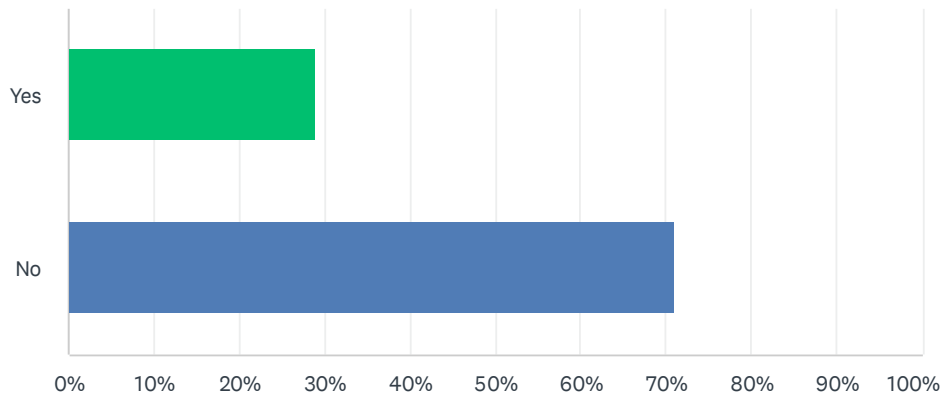
## Q19 Please provide your contact information. (optional)

Answered: 97 Skipped: 326

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Name	92.78%	90
Company	0.00%	0
Address	89.69%	87
Address 2	6.19%	6
City/Town	94.85%	92
State/Province	94.85%	92
ZIP/Postal Code	94.85%	92
Country	84.54%	82
Email Address	79.38%	77
Phone Number	69.07%	67

## Q20 Would you like to receive future emails about the Jail project?

Answered: 214 Skipped: 209



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	28.97%	62
No	71.03%	152
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>214</b>

## Q21 Any additional comments?

Answered: 66 Skipped: 357

See Separate File Titled:  
Beltrami County Jail Project  
Survey Comments

## Q21 Any additional comments?

Answered: 66 Skipped: 357

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	The head of the jail also needs to go. We need better leadership.	10/31/2022 11:43 AM
2	The jail is NECESSITY in Beltrami County not only for law enforcement but for all members of the justice system - public defense, prosecutors, courts, social workers, etc. The County is landlocked downtown and should purchase the Federal building to provide space for expansion of any and all county services, including the jail.	10/31/2022 11:02 AM
3	I feel that the need for housing of inmates and processing them will only increase over the next 10 to 20 years and we need to think about the future needs of Beltrami county	10/29/2022 7:31 AM
4	Thank you for putting out that printed county newsletter. It was very clear & informative.	10/26/2022 10:50 PM
5	We need to get away from the idea of making the inmates comfortable. This is not a vacation for them they broke the dam law. I don't care if there are 12 to a room and they sleep on crappy bunk beds. I see no need for a safe place for drug addicts. People that brake laws need to pay the consequences.	10/26/2022 12:18 PM
6	If a new jail is built, I would like to see it pushed further away from town.	10/26/2022 12:00 PM
7	Thanks for all you do ! I appreciate you all	10/25/2022 9:11 PM
8	I have served as a volunteer in the Beltrami County Jail in the past several years. I observed the staff on many occasions and commend them for the respect they display for the welfare of the inmates.	10/23/2022 5:30 PM
9	Priorities should NOT include helping inmates be closer to their families and adding cultural services. It's a jail, not a vacation. It's supposed to be unsettling.	10/23/2022 8:19 AM
10	Criminals are not in jail to receive mental health, drug counseling, etc. They are receiving more help than non-criminals are! Stop all the pampering and perks. Treat them like the criminals they are and for the acts of crime they committed to be put in there.	10/22/2022 7:49 PM
11	The entire jail project, whatever it is, should be funded by sales tax. Property tax payers are already overburdened to the point that residents have left and move to neighboring counties to avoid our ridiculously high property taxes.	10/22/2022 7:47 AM
12	Stop babying the criminals.	10/22/2022 7:15 AM
13	I feel that most inmate are native Americans get the money from the government and the tribe. Not being prejudiced but why raise our taxes to support 75% or more jobless none productive no change for their future. We keep on giving and providing all these services to people who do not want to change	10/22/2022 5:43 AM
14	I don't think some of these people can keep returning to jail more than 2xs for the same offense. DUI classes, treatment, etc... It's not working! Why are most of the jails full of Native Americans? Cass county has a jail, Red Lake needs its jail. They have a police department. Most of our jail is Native. We would not need a new jail if they had their own.	10/21/2022 10:37 PM
15	Bemidji is a regional hub. Many people from 50-100 miles around are here, and we should be providing the necessary needs....	10/21/2022 9:04 PM
16	End the drug war. People should not be thrown into violent rape cages for victimless crimes.	10/21/2022 8:10 PM
17	It is my opinion that maintaining the status quo is absolutely not acceptable. It would be a complete systems failure for our community.	10/21/2022 7:57 PM
18	Money directed towards rehab/exit support to inmates (especially repeat visitors) to help keep citizens out of jail and from returning is critical. Earning potential/ profitability is much lower priority.	10/21/2022 6:01 PM

19	Acquire properties that are for sale across from current jail on 7th St for new jail	10/20/2022 11:30 PM
20	I don't want property tax going up anymore than they have to. Raise the tax money from the inmate and sales tax!!!	10/20/2022 10:35 AM
21	Consider the recent school budget situation. That did not receive a positive vote during our election. Likely due to the fact that our taxes are high enough already but our current economic situation likely doesn't help. I'd gladly write a check for my share but I will stand firm against forcefully levying more taxes against our city/community.	10/19/2022 6:14 PM
22	I think we need to decriminalize a lot of things in society to keep the need of housing people in this way lower.	10/19/2022 6:09 PM
23	We must move forward with a safe and secure facility with adequate room to grow.	10/17/2022 1:40 PM
24	Another option would be to keep the current facility open as a prisoner staging area for access to the courthouse and still construct a new regional jail facility at the location of the central school elementary school property. Close and efficient.	10/14/2022 9:56 PM
25	When you look at Minnesota county's with similar populations why is Beltrami's incarceration rate so high? Twice the average of the other counties. Why must the tax payers of Beltrami county be responsible for the cost. Why isn't the federal government subsidizing the jail costs?	10/4/2022 3:45 PM
26	When building a new jail, why would they have to transport to court? Covid showed that with technology court could happen without being physically present, why not continue using zoom courts and lower the risk of having to transport and lower the chance of safety issues all around.	10/2/2022 9:08 PM
27	Build the regional facility out of city limits and house people from other jurisdictions	9/29/2022 10:53 AM
28	Open the jail visitation to allow judicial, legal, and other professionals to meet with clients and conduct business. Replace the jail phones so inmates can clearly speak to legal resources without issues.	9/28/2022 4:22 PM
29	Be nice to know what the estimated increase in personal property tax would be for house hold	9/26/2022 10:42 AM
30	This survey is not particularly objective. Expresses bias towards a bigger jail, new jail, more taxes, and ultimately more recidivism. Jail is supposed punishment, It is supposed to be even a basic hotel. Evidence I've seen shows fancy jails have little to no effect on recidivism. Stop coddling lawbreakers!	9/24/2022 9:00 AM
31	Being an employee of the court system, I am aware of the inmates being housed in other locations and some of the security issues. I support a new jail or expanded jail, 100%.	9/23/2022 2:03 PM
32	I believe that a work farm/chain gang would be good. There are the same people in jail. They have it too easy in jail. Make them pay for their crime.	9/22/2022 6:55 PM
33	I would like to see the new facility built in an area away from the downtown Bemidji area. We have so much unused land in Beltrami county. For inmates to be able to have access to green space and fresh air would be a plus, although I understand the logistics and costs of transporting back and forth to court, etc. It could be done though. Also please build for the future so we aren't in this position in another 30 years.	9/19/2022 7:33 PM
34	Building a regional facility would be expensive on an already high tax rate in the county, but it would also allow the department to bring in money from other counties along with provide better training and facilities to both inmates and officers.	9/19/2022 9:43 AM
35	I'd like to know how much property tax would go up and how much sales tax would go up with each option.	9/17/2022 5:19 PM
36	Time to get out of the jail business. You will be asking to build another in 10 years if you do any new construction. Judges need to do video court if prisoners are out of county--no need to transport! Probation needs to get off their butts and work and support home monitoring.	9/16/2022 9:03 PM
37	I feel the most important need at this time is where to take folks who are experiencing mental breakdowns. The hospital and the county need to take responsibility for these folks	9/16/2022 5:16 PM
38	It is appreciated that you are looking for a community opinion.	9/16/2022 12:04 PM
39	I think the options presented are limited, there are other options that could be explored and I hope they are.	9/16/2022 8:01 AM

40	With inmate canteen/visits online, being close to family is not as necessary. As a medical technician I have responded to numerous call at this current facility and it has deficiencies that can make it incredibly dangerous, and the COs are poorly trained and short staffed. With the addiction and social problems affecting our county we are in desperate need for funding/programs aimed at rehabilitation. I think my preference is to combine with other counties to form something like tri-county has. That said I believe the biggest thing would be keeping people from going through that revolving door.	9/16/2022 7:22 AM
41	Have you considered costs down the road regarding lawsuits, more staff... the DOC changes that happen every couple years. They change regulations all the time. Just because something is good now doesn't mean it will be next year. You will always lose staff, pay road deputies extra to man the jail. Law suits will continue. The jail is a money pit most people don't want to deal with. There is no way to keep up with the crimes that happen here.	9/16/2022 6:56 AM
42	With the never ended law suits and wrongful death cases why is this county even considering building a regional jail? Also the jail is constantly hiring, does the county think a new facility it what the younger generation of workers is holding out for before they apply? People do not want a \$22.94 a hour job and be faced with law suits, assaults, and 15 minute special watches. Take this opportunity to house out of county and reduce the headaches for the county taxpayers. The 30 year estimate do not cover any of the law suits. How many have been filed against the BCJ in the last 10 years. Cass has the right idea, house in crow wing. Follow their lead. I guarantee the jail admin will push to house federal inmates and brag about the money coming in. As a former CO at beltrami county jail I can tell you that will push current CO'S out the door, than when staffing levels get low you'll be forced by DOC to house out of county and a new jail will not make a difference in their ruling. Close it down and save your taxpayers millions!	9/15/2022 11:05 PM
43	The doc needs to come down on this jail and close it. It's constantly overwhelmed and inmates are housed out of county anyway.	9/15/2022 5:46 PM
44	Being one of the larger cities in the region and steadily growing, Bemidji definitely needs a larger jail with more services.	9/15/2022 4:55 PM
45	Property tax payers cannot support this project with out state bonding or a LOST. Waiting on a decision can have costly consequences that could effect bonding or LOST options	9/15/2022 3:53 PM
46	You must get the state legislature off its dead ass. If Grossell or Bliss can't do it--they are failures. Plain and simple.	9/13/2022 12:54 PM
47	Description of options appeared to contain bias toward particular choices. Also, what is across the street from the jail? The parking lot, the houses-which street?	9/13/2022 10:59 AM
48	Great work so far. I haven't seen how much the LOST would be yet. I'm sure it is in the expansive docs.	9/13/2022 6:57 AM
49	There is a lot of vagueness in the public release such as the quarterly news letter. The Sheriff's office came very prepared and confident with tangible dollars and cents. However, they failed to highlight any of the causes for their jails issues. From the quarter NL "The Beltrami County Jail is also one of the most dangerous jails in Minnesota" how dangerous? Why couldn't you include the rank if it's readily available? You have ALL the data, not just monetary figures. Please be transparent or Mr. Beitel, revisit the definition of transparent. Make it work, you've drained enough tax payer money in lawsuits and litigation	9/12/2022 3:35 PM
50	I assume expanding the existing jail upward is not an option? Expansion of the current jail across the street, would that be the old Federal bldg? Torn down and replaced, connected by tunnels and skyways?	9/12/2022 10:23 AM
51	lock them up and keep them there -- they don't deserve improved conditions and the cost shouldn't be on the tax payers. Let them put up with what they have - if you behave yourself in this life you won't need to go there in the first place	9/12/2022 6:38 AM
52	Why not consider building a joint facility that would combine the county Jail, city hall, courthouse, Bemidji PD and sheriff. Then the cost is split locally. Also why not book and release the minor crimes aka shop lifting. DWI sober up at hospital at their cost and charges	9/11/2022 7:36 PM
53	Whatever decision is made the cost is going to be the responsibility of all Beltrami Co residents. Using sales tax for revenue makes the most sense to me. Those with higher income	9/11/2022 12:08 PM

spend more and would contribute their fair share. Those with lower income spend less but would still contribute their fair share. That way no one gets to squeak out of their fair share.

54	What is the status of the Federal Building? Can it be renovated? How about the Sanford Center money pit? There is a huge building we are being forced to pay for every year which will never pay for itself. Turn that into a regional jail complex and I will still pay for it, and set foot in it just as often, which is never.	9/10/2022 11:44 AM
55	As long as the people committing crimes and using illegal drugs keeps growing, and they aren't punished, but given all the services and education you are including, our situation will not improve. These inmates need To hear the Gospel of Jesus Christ-God is the only cure for sin! Bibline studies and sound doctrine through teaching the consequences of sin and Forgiveness through Jesus Christ, is the only answer! Our jails are full because of people needing salvation! God is the only hope and He offers the cure! Allow Evangelism in jails and prisons and see what will happen..	9/10/2022 9:55 AM
56	Build it right and with the right supports in place.	9/9/2022 8:40 PM
57	I have been involved in jail ministry at several jails over 20 years. Having adequate space for outside programs is an important consideration in jail design. Programs reduce recidivism.	9/9/2022 2:37 PM
58	I think building a Regional jail makes the most sense. Then building a new jail at a different location. Third choice is to expand the existing jail. Renovation seems to be a waste of money.	9/9/2022 10:14 AM
59	Continue Meetings including involvement of City of Bemidji officials, Tribal Officials, public disclosure, and Optimize the County Website to update on-going particulars to relevant County Departments, the licensor (MNDOC) on an on-going basis as they develop. Afford media outlets the opportunity to attend Beltrami County Board Meetings, Jail Project Task Force Meetings, and other convenances as may develop or emerge.	9/7/2022 5:41 PM
60	Weigh in on prospective of housing inmates who represent a clear and present "life-and-limb danger" to the general public	9/7/2022 12:04 PM
61	Current situation is caused by poor leadership at Social Services office. The staff there do not support mentally ill or chemically dependent Beltrami residents so they end up in jail. Replace all staff there with two people THEN ask me!	9/6/2022 4:12 PM
62	Get out of the jail business	9/6/2022 3:59 PM
63	Jails are becoming a comfort zone for felons.	8/31/2022 7:45 PM
64	I don't live in Beltrami County but I have a cabin there. We buy all our supplies in the county and would rather see a sales tax that we add to rather than a property tax that would impact us less. Please build a new jail with modern design and security features as that would be a better long term plan. With good design it could be expanded or renovated to meet future needs. Expanding the current jail would not have that flexibility and the other options are just plain bad.	8/31/2022 6:22 PM
65	I feel the tribal nations whose members are housed in Beltrami County jail should be consulted and that Beltrami County should partner with them on solutions; subsidy/per diem, house inmates in a jail on the reservation so they can receive appropriate, cultural, addiction, mental health, etc. care.	8/29/2022 8:24 AM
66	Non-Resident, Lake property owner in Beltrami County.	8/26/2022 8:47 AM



## Q1 Please provide your comments here.

Answered: 25 Skipped: 0

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	The County MUST have a jail. The amount of crime supports this and all parties in the justice system benefit from this. If inmates are housed elsewhere, the cost increases to the County as well as the State. There is little available space near the present jail. The County needs to be forward thinking and purchase the Federal Building to have land near the current complex.	10/31/2022 11:06 AM
2	With the crime rate in Beltrami County (especially violent crime rate) the new jail needs to be able to house 3 times as many inmates as it can now. Out of county housing is expensive and doesn't help with county budgeting. This project needs to start soon.	10/26/2022 7:39 PM
3	Any new jail should be built to house inmates, not be a drug treatment or mental health facility	10/23/2022 10:42 AM
4	The entire jail project, whatever it is, should be funded by sales tax. Property tax payers are already overburdened to the point that residents have left and move to neighboring counties to avoid our ridiculously high property taxes.	10/22/2022 7:48 AM
5	As a former Jail employee, there are lingering issues from several previous administrations (Sheriff). Employee retention has long been a problem. Pulling staff from other positions (Deputies, Program staff covering shifts), jail staff helping Court staff with transfers causes shortages within the jail. Inmate deaths. Walk through the entire housing sections and special watch holding every less than 30 minutes. Nearly impossible when short staffed, busy booking, etc. Staff safety is secondary concern with a dozen inmates in some of the housing units. No staff to watch cameras for coworker security. Administration more concerned with public opinion than staff and inmate safety. Ineffective jail inspections. Is it any wonder DOC got rid of the leadership and others in the inspection unit? Overall burnout. The Department will fail with retention when background investigations take months, especially now with less potential candidates. If a job offer can't be made timely, candidates will go elsewhere. After the last couple job studies and increasing educational and experience requirements, why then create a correctional position that only requires a HS diploma. Backwards. Jail admin unwilling to legitimately listen to senior staff/sergeants suggestions. Pushing priorities that don't work. Building a new facility will not solve issues that exist currently, and without proper staffing will be unable to open all housing areas.	10/18/2022 9:23 PM
6	The county should purchase the central Elementry school property for the new jail location . This would provide close easy access to the courthouse and keep courthouse transport costs low and efficient	10/14/2022 9:35 PM
7	The county is NOT being transparent with Beltrami Co citizens about the project. Certain commissioners have implied that building a new jail would be paid by a sales tax increase only when in reality property taxes will increase to pay for ALL 7 plans according to the Justice Planners. Stop lying!!! Historically county social services and the Bemidji Schools have refused to pay for out of home placements of children which if they had occurred may have resulted in a lower prison population. The public should be made aware of that fact. I predict that because the larger issues are being ignored and because everything is built with crappy materials today the county will declare a new jail obsolete in 10 or 15 years and will be again asking the county taxpayers to pay for a new jail at that time with building costs that have tripled!	10/14/2022 7:19 PM
8	Build a new jail. Either tear down the current one and replace, near down the Federal building and building there (connecting with an underground tunnel), or build somewhere in town or outside of town on vacant land with plenty of acreage (transportation costs are okay).	10/12/2022 10:26 AM
9	The current jail cannot even be fully staffed. I'm strongly against building a new jail until the Sheriff and his administration can fully staff the current jail for a minimum of one year to justify to the citizens the inevitable raise in taxes that would follow.	9/28/2022 3:18 PM
10	Thank you for putting out the County Jail special edition of the Beltrami County 3rd qtr newsletter. Lots of good information in here and it was well written. I disagree with the latest	9/25/2022 11:18 AM

article in the Pioneer that we should build a new jail. I think you should give serious consideration to shutting it down and housing the prisoners elsewhere. It is the second cheapest option and it relieves the County of having to build and maintain another large building. The article also states that the Beltrami County jail is one of the most dangerous jails in Minnesota. I doubt that would change with a new jail. Also, I know you have a hard time staffing the jail and finding qualified employees to work here will continue to be a problem. Also, by closing the jail, you greatly reduce the threat of future lawsuits by inmates or employees. Please seriously consider this. Thanks for listening.

11	Make inmates work, such as a work farm or chain gang. Go back to the old days. They have it too easy in jail, too many repetitive offenders.	9/22/2022 6:59 PM
12	Don't bother building a new jail. You don't want to do building repairs and there are not enough community providers to provide services. Make it a short term holding facility and transport prisoners to other jails!	9/22/2022 9:28 AM
13	Increasing the taxes on County residents is a hard sell, especially after the new school that was built. However, making a regional facility that can house out of county inmates and increase the budget for the county jail would be beneficial. Having a facility that takes care of the mental and chemical health needs of residents is crucial to reducing recidivism. With a better facility and better budget the training and hiring of correctional officers will be increased, along with the treatment of inmates. If we truly want to make better lives for our residence treating inmates rather than just holding them in a cell will be better for the whole community.	9/19/2022 9:47 AM
14	The Beltrami County jail has always been an inhumane and degrading means of treating our citizens that have stepped outside the law. The only thing that has changed is the technology that is used and the amount of disrepair that has occurred over these many years. The jail treats people as though they are awaiting execution for a wide variety of non-violent offences. We need to repair the current jail up to the basic humane standards and then create a separate low security facility that holds non-violent offenders before trial. The former federal building offers both proximal benefit as well as a repurposing one. Converting it into an alternative to the current jail can only be an improvement.	9/16/2022 3:57 PM
15	This jail needs to be closed down. It will always be over full, not staffed, and a money pit.	9/16/2022 6:50 AM
16	Close the jail. Has estimates for law suits over the next 30 years been calculated in? How about when staffing levels get so low the DOC informs BCJ they must house out of county until staffing levels rise, are those cost calculated in the 30 year estimates? How about in 2021, paying road deputies o.t. to cover shifts because jail staffing is so low? All numbers that have conveniently been left out. The jail is always hiring, why build a bigger facility that will house more and require more staff. Maybe at the current DOC regulations the Staff to inmate ratio shows it will require no more staff but as a former CO I know the DOC changes rules and regulations often. Housing out of county and paying neighboring counties to take on the legal responsibilities of our inmates is the best move this county could make to protect it's taxpayers. Has the county board contacted Cass or mahnomen county and inquired why they have been housing out of county for many years, it's clearly working for those counties. The level of assaults on jail staff will not decrease with a new facility, inmates are becoming increasingly violent and a new building will not change that. House out of county and avoid all of the problems this new jail would bring onto staff and taxpayers.	9/15/2022 11:26 PM
17	The jail needs to be closed.	9/15/2022 5:39 PM
18	some of the jail staff aggravate to provoke inmates, what is being done with that?	9/12/2022 3:58 PM
19	Obviously history says Beltrami does not want to provide care for prisoners. Nobody wants to work at the jail. I say go to a 36 hour holding facility.	9/6/2022 3:55 PM
20	It is important to us that the people housed at our jail have some form of mental health and/or addiction therapy as needed. Whether that needs to be done in Beltrami County or not is up for debate. At the current time we are not in favor of taking the 700 block of Beltrami-Minnesota Avenues to increase the size of the current jail as we are residents of that block and do not wish to move. It is also our concern that taking this block off the tax rolls of the City of Bemidji will harm the city in lost tax revenues. Our suggestion, if the expansion is needed, is to build to the west of the current jail into the already existing county owned parking area.	9/6/2022 3:17 PM
21	The jail should be torn down and rebuild it somewhere else, and leave that land as a memorial of the people who died in this jail due to its negligence. The jail needs better documentation on all inmates who come through the door as how to house them or release them because of	9/5/2022 12:58 PM

major health issues as in physical & mental. There should be a away for family members to get information on inmates when they are sick , a lot of inmates don't know they have to sign a release they should be aware when then are booked in . The Hardell sherrell act should be follow especially in this jail . It should be recognized as THE HARDELL SHERRELL ACT. There needs to be better checks on inmates. To wait and see if their breathing instead of making sure they are still there . My brother Tony May Jr lost his life in this jail 6 years ago . And many after him and before him. We still hurt and grieve his death . He was a major loss to our family & his kids . We just don't want another family to have to go through what we are . It can be prevented and should be prevented following the rules & new laws from the DOC . ( The Hardell sherrell act)

22	I would like to see the remodel and addition option. Keeping the jail close to the courthouse for ease of in person hearings and picking up family when released after court. Keeping it in town is good for the inmates that do not have rides picking them up, it is centrally located. If you move out of town, you will have to also add in costs of improving the courthouse for longer stays of inmates throughout the day and a sally port. Like the study says, you also then have to buy more vehicles and personnel for transporting. Taking out the Annex or using the block of houses next to the jail would be ideal.	8/30/2022 9:39 AM
23	I think the solution is to put 12 more stories on top of the current detention center. Then the county commishs can proudly adore the first skyscraper in downtown Bemidji! Even better it can be named the Hodapp Memorial Detention Center after the sheriff who put the current Beltrami jail into it's current abysmal condition!!!	8/27/2022 8:49 PM
24	It appears that Beltrami was lax with building maintenance--the jail only lasted for 25 years? No new jail should be built until the taxpayers are clear on the maintenance plan for a new facility. Milking the county taxpayers for another jail in another 25 years is NOT an adequate plan! Shame on all of the sheriffs and county commissioners for not addressing this issue in the past! Also it is unlikely that the majority of the jail birds want help for their chemical and mental health issues. Why waste time and money since you don't appear truly committed to solving those problems. Why hasn't social services handled that? Time for new directors at social services! Find someone who can get the job done!	8/27/2022 6:43 PM
25	No new jail is needed until Beltrami County decides to pay for and REALLY support mental health and chemical dependency services for its residents. If that was done there would be no need for a jail. Human services has not made an effort and continues to support the "siloiing" of mental health services in the community by its inaction. And therefore people can't access services.	8/27/2022 3:03 PM