

The facts and our recommendations on the Millage for Public Safety & Justice

Circuit Court Chief Judge Archie Brown
Washtenaw County Sheriff Dan Minzey
Washtenaw Community Health Organization Director Kathy Reynolds
Chief of Police, City of Saline, Paul Bunten
Chair, Washtenaw County Board of Commissioners, Wesley Prater
Washtenaw County Prosecutor Brian Mackie
Washtenaw County Public Defender Lloyd Powell
Bar Association, Defense Attorney John Shea
Washtenaw County Administrator Bob Guenzel
Superior Township Supervisor Bill McFarlane
Community Member, Attorney Glenn Cotton
Washtenaw County Commissioner Barbara Levin Bergman
Washtenaw County Commissioner Leah Gunn
Community Member Barbara Ryan Fuller
Washtenaw County Trial Court Administrator Dan Dwyer
District Court Judge J. Cedric Simpson
Washtenaw County Clerk Larry Kestenbaum
Former Washtenaw County Clerk Peggy Haines
Michigan Department of Corrections Supervisor Patrick Hughes

This informational mailing is brought to you as a public service by the
Washtenaw County Criminal Justice Collaborative Council
For further details, please visit cjcc.ewashtenaw.org

The Millage for Public Safety & Justice is on the Washtenaw County February 22nd Ballot

To vote on the Millage, you
must be a registered voter by
January 24, 2005

Absentee ballot applications can be obtained from the
Washtenaw County Clerk/Register's web site
(clerkregister.ewashtenaw.org)
or your city or township Clerk.

All Absentee applications must be
completed, signed and
received by February 19, 2005.

Washtenaw County Criminal Justice
Collaborative Council
220 N. Main St.
Ann Arbor, MI 48107



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It's about more than just a jail...

but it begins there. Throughout the past year, when judges, mental health experts, elected officials, the sheriff, the prosecutor and public defender, the people from the National Institute of Corrections and the Ford School of Public Policy looked at public safety and justice in Washtenaw County,

they found an entire system at risk...

- **More than 600 inmates – half of them felons – have been released early** from the Washtenaw County Jail since January of 2003
- **More than 25% of inmates today suffer from mental illnesses**
- **The jail population is more violent – inmates held on assaultive charges have increased from 43% to 67%** in five years
- **60 security incidents occurred** at the retrofitted and outmoded 14A District Court in 2004
- Frequent **early releases due to jail overcrowding have inmates opting for jail time over rehabilitation** programs
- Local **police forsake outstanding warrant sweeps and drunk driving arrests** due to lack of space for offenders

Please see further details at the CJCC web site at cjcc.ewashtenaw.org



It's about public safety & justice

**Recommendations of the Criminal Justice Collaborative Council
Adopted by the Board of Commissioners, November 17, 2004**

Secure dedicated mental health services, including officer training, crisis beds for people at risk to themselves or others, and ongoing long-term, in-home supervision and treatment.

Develop a supervised Probation Residential Center, an economically sound, lower security alternative for non-violent offenders, including monitored rehabilitative programming.

Bring the existing jail up to code, and wipe out jail overcrowding by increasing capacity by 200 beds over ten years.

Integrate the District Court into the Jail, ending security risks for victims, defendants, Court staff and the public at large.

The Investment

To address capital and additional operating costs over twenty years requires a millage increase of .75 mils.

The cost to an average homeowner would be \$93 per year (home value of \$250,000 with taxable value of \$125,000).