

Public Safety Authority -

Public Safety Authority (PSA)

A PSA is provided for and detailed in **Iowa Code 346.27**, for the purpose of joint projects between a County Seat City and County.

The City of Clinton and Clinton County already have joint operations in place with the 911 Emergency Communications Center providing services to the City and use of the County Jail for holding all City inmates until they appear in Court.

This existing relationship works well, easing the need for the Clinton Police Department to have separate City holding facilities for arrested individuals until they appear in court.

Three other Iowa counties that have implemented PSAs include: Decatur, Muscatine and Scott.

Benefit of PSA -

- A PSA allows for a 50% + 1 for a bond referendum passage, as opposed to 60%.
- Collaboration between and within the City of Clinton and Clinton County.
- The PSA will afford the City management in the project. The City will recommend one person for the three-person Authority and a second member whom Clinton County and the City of Clinton agree upon.

Costs:

- For replacement Jail/Sheriff's Office/911 Emergency Communications Center: The cost for the replacement program Jail/CCSO/911 Communications Center is estimated at \$21,800,000. Replacement facility costs for residents = Average \$34.92 per \$100,000 residential property value OR \$28.01 per \$100,000 of assessed ag land for the life of the 20-yr. bonds.
- Construction Inflation Costs are 4 - 4.5%. **Delaying this project would result in an increase of \$850,000 every year the project is delayed.**
- Cost implications of doing nothing: If the county jail would be closed, the costs would increase for transporting inmates out-of-county and the related staffing necessary.
- City of Clinton: No costs for the PSA or bonding/legal, construction or operation fees will be incurred by the City of Clinton.

Blue Ribbon Panel:

The creation of a "Blue Ribbon Panel" (BRP) consisted of convening representatives (one) from each of the cities in the county, with the city of Clinton and Clinton County Board of Supervisors each recommending two individuals.

The BRP met on August 24, 2015 and September 28, 2105 in DeWitt, because of its central location for the county.

This group studied the benefits of a PSA and how the county and cities provide joint services such as Communications and the County Jail. The BRP recommended pursuing the implementation of a PSA for Clinton County. Formation of a BRP was an important step in this facility replacement process. Citizen engagement, with active participation and input from each of the cities and Clinton County was essential for BRP effectiveness.