

County of Kane

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Following the vision put forth in the Strategic Plan for Kane County approved in November, 2006, the County Board on March 9, 2010 voted to adopt an amendment to Resolution No. 08-29 that expands the scope of professional services work being completed by Wight and Company on development of a Master Plan for the county Judicial Center, on Ill. Rt. 38 west of Geneva. The amendment, which was recommended for approval by the 2010 Building and Capital Investment Task Force on March 2, 2010, calls for delivery of a detailed study of Judiciary feasibility requirements to meet the current and future space needs of the Judiciary, including estimated construction costs for several options.

Kane County began the process of Master Planning for the consolidation of County Government services and future development of the Judicial Center in February, 2008. The process of determining a final master plan configuration involves many individuals and many hours of discussion with the county's professional consultant planning team and elected officials along with the directors and staffs from every county department, municipal group and citizens. "It is only through this public dialog that the many complex issues of planning such a campus can be vetted," said Kane County Board Chairman Karen McConnaughay. An undertaking of this scale is truly a countywide effort and represents the involvement of many minds working together for a common purpose," she said. The Judicial Center campus contains the Criminal and Family divisions of the 16th Judicial District along with the Juvenile Justice Center, new Adult Justice Center and Sheriff's Department. The remaining Civil Division portion of the court system and the County Government offices are located in Downtown Geneva. It is the intent of the county's Master Planning exercise to complete the land plan vision for the County Complex site by suggesting the best layout configuration for all facilities that are ultimately to be located on Judicial Center campus. By using the County's demographic projections and a departmental interview process, projections have been made for facility sizes to guide the planning process.

The over-arching goal is to propose a logical master plan for a future consolidated County Complex that is both incrementally achievable and provides maximum accommodation for the needs of Kane County's citizens while maintaining a responsible stewardship of the natural environment. The additional professional services authorized on March 9, 2010 (Resolution No. 10-64) call for Wight and Company to provide a feasibility study that explores different options which could address the short-term and long-term needs of the county Judiciary. Three additional Circuit Court judges have been authorized by state statute for the 16th Judicial Circuit Court and will be seated in December, 2010. There are short-term needs to provide courtroom and associated support space for the new judges. On December 21, 2009 the Chief Judge of the 16th Judicial Circuit requested "that the County Board revisit the Kane County Judicial Center Master plan and create a comprehensive path to address the long and short term needs as it relates to our court facilities and the need for technological enhancements."

Based on discussions at the January 5, 2010 Kane County Board Committee of the Whole meeting, the added judges also create an impact on the supportive court agency offices, including State's Attorney, Sheriff, Circuit Court Clerk and possibly the Public Defender. In addition, the current master plan details a growing mid and long-term judiciary need including all supportive agency offices. The Wight study is to include the definition of the specific staffing required as well as the associated space needs and

development of options to address these needs. The study will also include a project construction cost analysis, and an operations cost analysis for staffing and building operations for each of six options.

1. Construction of three (3) new courtrooms and associated support space at the 540 S. Randall Road facility.
2. Transfer of agency offices from the Judicial Center to new space at the 540 S. Randall Road facility and the construction of three (3) new courtrooms in the vacated space at the Judicial Center.
3. Construction of a new court agency office wing addition to the Judicial Center and the construction of three (3) new courtrooms in the vacated space at the Judicial Center.
4. Renovation of the Third Street Courthouse to accommodate the new judges, which may involve modifying or building out space for the displaced function(s) from Third Street.
5. Accommodate additional judges and anticipated staff through alternative scheduling /expanded hours of operation without renovation / construction of new facilities.
6. Construction of the second planned courtroom at the Juvenile Justice Center (JJC) and review of impact on court agency offices to be displaced.

Option #1 will have sub-options that could address short-term needs (three (3) courtrooms and limited support / agency office space) and address mid-term needs for more courtrooms and/or additional agency office space should a long-term solution to the projected needs be deemed infeasible at this time. Option #3 will also explore sub-options for the extent of overall building construction and the amount of space that will be finished for occupancy versus that which might be left as shell space for future build-out growth. Option #3 will also include the assessment of parking impacts and options for addressing parking needs including additional surface parking and structured parking.