

## State approves Shasta jail plans - Design cycle hits midpoint, officials say

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A proposed medium-security jail is at its halfway point in its design cycle, according to Shasta County Public Works officials.

The \$22 million adult rehabilitation center, to be built between Breslauer Way and Radio Lane in Redding, is expected to be completed by 2018.

Neil McAuliffe, supervising engineer with Shasta County Public Works, calls the state's approval of preliminary plans for the project the 50 percent mark in the design process of the adult rehabilitation center, or ARC.

Preliminary plans for the ARC were approved last month by the Board of State and Community Corrections, giving the county the go-ahead to finalize plans. Next the project will receive an inspection from the state fire marshal and the **Department of General Services will approve the ARC's footprint.**

The center will include a secured culinary and kitchen space, a laundry room to provide inmates with the opportunity to receive laundry tech and other vocation certificates. Preliminary blueprints for the ARC include an area separate from the dorms for rehabilitation services open to offenders on probation.

County officials plan to begin taking bids from construction crews in 2017, but several other steps are needed before ground is broken.

That includes finalizing blueprints for the 64-bed, approximately 30,000-square-foot center.

Blueprints for the center are being drafted by local architecture firm Nichols, Melburg & Rossetto, who also designed the Shasta County Administration Center, Redding City Hall and Caltrans District-2 Building.

The staff at the architecture firm will be moving into the construction documents phase and working drawings are expected to be completed by November 2016.

Pat Minturn, Shasta County Public Works director, said progress in the overall process is a matter of perspective.

"We are probably approaching the midpoint of the project from a project manager's perspective," Minturn said.

The ARC will be a county-owned facility after several years of lease bonds pay for the project and construction.

County officials call the funding aspect the biggest hurdle in the project, as it involves several agencies.

The funding model is laid out in Senate Bill 1022, which involves state lease-revenue bonds, which will pay for the bulk of the project. In short, \$20 million in funding has been awarded to the county from the Board of State and Community Corrections, but paid for with several layers of lease bonds.

The county has allocated \$2.5 million to match site preparation, permits, road improvements and other costs to the project site.

The county will lease the land to the state's Department of Corrections, who will then lease the project itself to the state's public works board, who will also issue the bonds to pay for the project.

The completed ARC will be leased back to the state, which will be operated by the county, and once the bonds are retired the county will take ownership of the facility.

The location has been chosen for the ARC, but the project's footprint has not been finalized. Shasta County owns 20 acres on the proposed site, but not all of that land will be used for the center.

A similar funding model was used to build the county's Juvenile Rehabilitation Facility just down the road from where the ARC will be.