

VII
C-1

**AGENDA ITEM
REQUEST/JUSTIFICATION FORM**
(To be completed by requesting Department)
Forward all requests to Sharon Bourke, LC2 Civic Center
**DEADLINE SUBMITTAL IS 3:00 P.M. WEDNESDAY
BEFORE THE TUESDAY MEETING**

Agenda item: Child and Youth
(i.e. Consent/Recognition-Proclamation/Presentation/Public Hearing/Committee, etc.)
Date to be on agenda: June 27, 2023

Exact wording to be used for the agenda: Resolution directing that the current Douglas County Youth Center shall continue to operate, and the New Youth and Family Support Center shall not be opened, until the current Youth Center's detainee population matches the operational capacity of the new Youth and Family Support Center (54 youth) for a minimum of six consecutive months.

Action requested: Approval

Amount requested: Object Code:

Is item in current year's budget? Yes No

Does this item commit funds in future years? Yes No

If yes, explain:

If an agreement or contract*, has the County Attorney reviewed and approved?

Yes No

**Provide County Clerk with contact info for outside organization*

Previous action taken on this item, if any:

Recommendations and rationale or action:

Will anyone speak on behalf of this item, if so who?

If this is a rush agenda item, please explain why:

Submitted by (Name & Dept.): Commissioners Garcia, Boyle, Friend and Morgan Ext. 7025

Date submitted: June 21, 2023

List Attachments: Resolution

(Attach resolution and all pertinent documentation; e.g. contract, agreement, memorandums, etc.)

Certified resolutions can be obtained at the County Clerk's website:

<http://www.douglascountyclerk.org/county-board-records/search-for-resolutions>

Completed by receiving office

Received in Administrative Office: Date 6/21/23 Time

Revised 4/4/2019

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
DOUGLAS COUNTY, NEBRASKA

WHEREAS, Douglas County operates a youth detention center (hereinafter “Youth Center”), located at 1301 S. 41st Street, where it provides for the safekeeping and care of juveniles who have entered the juvenile justice system; and,

WHEREAS, Douglas County has constructed a new youth detention center (hereinafter the “Youth and Family Support Center”), located at 425 S. 18th Street; which is currently scheduled to fully open on January 1, 2024; and,

WHEREAS, in order to ensure a smooth transition to the Youth and Family Support Center while meeting the needs of the community and youth, this Board, at its May 23, 2023, meeting, voted to adopt measures that would gradually reduce the number of youth detained at the Youth Center between August 1, 2023 and January 1, 2024; and,

WHEREAS, due to concerns regarding the actual and operational capacity of the Youth and Family Support Center in relation to the current detainee population at the Youth Center, this Board hereby determines that it is no longer feasible to close the Youth Center on January 1, 2024, nor to commence the transition into the Youth and Family Support Center, until the amount of detained youth matches the operational capacity (i.e. 54 youth) of the Youth and Family Support Center and said figure is maintained for a minimum of six consecutive months; and,

WHEREAS, such a pathway is desired in order to not incur the unanticipated cost of running two separate youth centers, and in order to prevent having to initiate a substantial effort to hire the numerous staff that would be needed to operate a second youth center.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THIS BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, DOUGLAS COUNTY, NEBRASKA, that the Douglas County Youth Center shall continue to operate until such time that this Board determines that the youth detainee capacity issue is low enough and stable enough that it can be closed, following the parameters listed above regarding operational capacity and sustainment of that capacity figure.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the County Board shall conduct quarterly public reviews and analysis, during a County Board meeting, regarding the latest figures related to youth detainment, to include a full report by the director of the Youth Center, and assess with such frequency whether or not the transition can commence to the Youth and Family Support Center. In any event, the transition to the Youth and Family Support Center shall begin no later than July 1, 2025.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that, while the County shall continue to prioritize and work with system partners on ways and options for proper placement for youth, and will continue to work toward efficient processing of cases and placement of youth, this Board hereby rescinds its May 23, 2023 resolution that adopted measures to gradually reduce the number of youth detained at the Youth Center.

DATED this 27th day of June, 2023.