

Attachment
Letter to Board



September 27, 2016

Mark Noennig, Chair
City of Billings, Board of Adjustment
2825 3rd Ave. N., 4th Floor
Billings, MT 59101

Re: City of Billings Land Use Contrary to Zoning Application
Yellowstone County Detention Facility Addition/Remodel #1629
Parcel ID #: D01739

Dear Mark,

The Yellowstone County Detention Facility built in 1987 with an addition built in 1997, has a 286 bed capacity. The facility has been operating with 400-500 inmates over the last several years. This year, the Yellowstone County voters approved a vote to allow Yellowstone County to borrow funds to expand the facility.

The proposed 27,324 s.f. female housing unit on the east side of the existing facility would provide 148 beds for female inmates with the ability to separate and classify the female inmates. The ability to classify is currently not available in the current female housing unit. The current female housing unit would be used to help alleviate the current overcrowding in the male population.

The proposed 4,474 SF addition on the west side of the building will mainly be used for much needed storage space. Existing storage space is being absorbed into a remodeled larger kitchen and laundry facility to handle additional inmates now and into the future.

The current zoning for the county owned property is Public (P). Our understanding is a jail facility is not an approved use for the zoned property and therefore, we are filing an application for "City Land Use Contrary to Zoning" for a public hearing and comment.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

By 

Allen Rapacz, President