
LANE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

NEWS RELEASE



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NATURE OF STORY: Lane County Sheriff's Office Opens Fifty Additional Local Jail Beds

DETAILS:

On February 3, 2018, the Lane County Sheriff's Office will be adding fifty jail beds for local defendants and offenders, increasing the number of local jail beds to 367 from 317. This is the fourth increase in capacity since the passage of the Public Safety levy to fund jail beds and youth detention and treatment services in Lane County.

Prior to the levy, the jail had 125 local jail beds, and contracted out several other beds to outside agencies. After the passage of the levy in 2013, the jail doubled local capacity to 256 beds, and then to 297 beds in September of 2015. In February 2016, enough additional staff had been hired and trained to increase the number of local jail beds again to 317, which is where the capacity remained until this most recent increase.

The number of capacity based releases (CBRs, or early releases) has reduced by 61.34% compared to CBRs prior to the levy, and the jail has not released any pre-trial inmates being held on Measure 11, violent felony charges, due to capacity (which was not the case prior to the levy).

In addition to the decrease in CBRs, the jail has strengthened its focus on treatment services for inmates suffering from severe and persistent mental illness, including Cognitive Behavioral Therapy treatment through a partnership with Sponsor's, Inc., a local reentry program. The jail also offers continuing education to help inmates get their GED, as well as socialization classes focusing on practicing appropriate behaviors, communication, and coping skills.

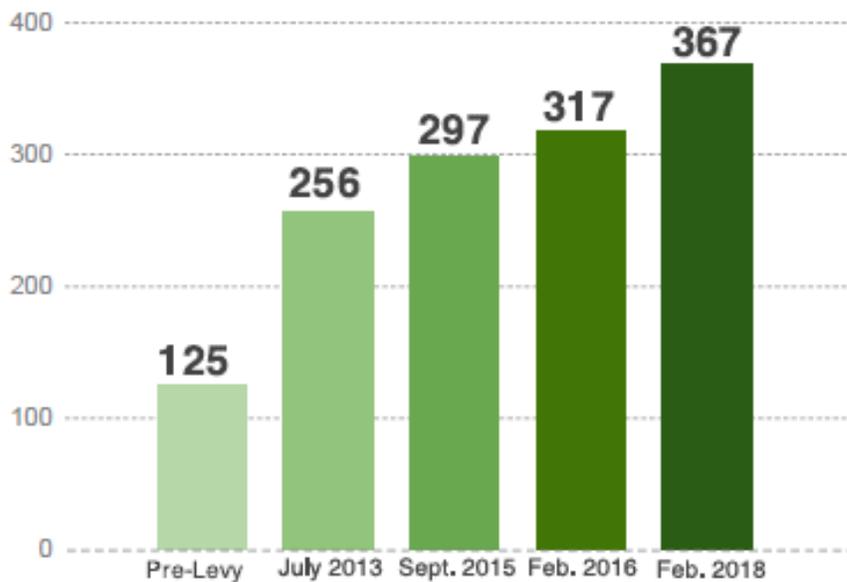
Three additional Mental Health Specialists have also joined the team at the Lane County Jail (through a collaboration with Lane County Behavioral Health) to work on discharge planning with inmates to help ensure a smooth, uninterrupted transition of services and treatment from the jail to the community. This new program is geared towards decreasing an inmate's risk of reoffending by addressing the factors that contributed to their initial offense. The Lane County Jail is thrilled to be able to offer these services to inmates both within the facility, and as part of multiple partnerships with reentry services out in the community.

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Lane County LOCAL JAIL BEDS

In 2013, Lane County voters passed a public safety levy that promised to keep a minimum of 255 local jail beds open throughout the five-year life of the levy. In 2017, voters overwhelmingly renewed the levy for an additional five years.



Pre-Levy Total Local Beds: 125

Prior to the levy, there were 125 local jail beds open.

July 1, 2013 Total Local Beds: 256

On the day the voter-approved levy took effect, the Sheriff's Office opened an additional 131 local jail beds for a total of 256.

September 7, 2015 Total Local Beds: 297

The Sheriff's Office opens an additional 41 local jail beds.

February 6, 2016 Total Local Beds: 317

The Sheriff's Office opens an additional 20 local jail beds.

February 3, 2018 Total Local Beds: 367

The Sheriff's Office opens an additional 50 local jail beds after ending a federal contract.



Levy funds are audited each fiscal year by an outside agency to ensure the Sheriff's Office is spending levy funds as voters intended. The first four annual audits released found that the Sheriff's Office is keeping its commitment to Lane County voters.