

Sales Tax Referendum for New Warren County Jail on April 4th Ballot

A referendum will be on the April 4th ballot in Warren County that proposes a 3/4% sales tax increase in Warren County. The money raised from this tax would be applied to a new Warren County Law Enforcement Center. Warren County is in need of a new jail and for the last several years, a Citizen Advisory Committee to the Warren County Board for the New Law Enforcement Center has been working on this issue and what a solution could look like.

How will the county pay for this new jail/law enforcement center?

The County proposes that the sales tax in Warren County be increased by 3/4% (for a period not to exceed 25 years). As an example: A \$100 restaurant bill would have an additional tax of 75 cents. This tax would not affect purchases on farm equipment, motor vehicles, basic groceries, prescription and non-prescription drugs, and other medical supplies for diabetics. The tax has a sunset clause and would end when bonds are paid. 100% of the tax collected would be applied to the new law enforcement center. If imposed, the additional tax would cease being collected at the end of 25 years if not terminated earlier by payment in full of the debt to construct the public facility or by vote of the County Board.

Where would the jail/law enforcement center be located?

Industrial Park Drive in Monmouth is the planned location for the new law enforcement center. The current infrastructure for the approximate 6-acre tract (immediately west of McDonald's) meets current Illinois law enforcement standards. The proximity to Monmouth Fire Department, OSF Family Medical Center, GHAS Ambulance Service, and the highway system is ideal.

What is the projected cost and timeline for building the center?

The County has determined a new sheriff's office and jail meeting the County's needs will cost between \$16.2 and \$18.6 million dollars. A majority vote for "Yes" on April 4, 2023, means the tax revenue collection will begin on January 1, 2024. An anticipated \$3.75 million is expected to be collected within four years. The tax money will be added to \$2 million in COVID relief dollars to generate a down payment. Warren County will then issue bonds and launch construction once a \$5.75 million down payment is made.

RESOURCES

To gain a better understanding of this project, there are videos, graphics, details, and a 4-page FAQ available at safetyfirstwarrencounty.com. This 4-page document goes into detail on different questions regarding this project: *Why do we need a new Sheriff's office and jail? Why not remodel the existing Sheriff's office and jail? How much would a new Sheriff's office and jail cost? How will the county pay for a new Sheriff's office and jail? Will the sales tax apply to anything I buy in Warren County? Do voters have a say about increasing the sales tax? Will this tax ever end? Can the County Board continue the tax after the debt is paid off? Can the County Board divert any of the revenue from the new sales tax to other things? Where will the new Sheriff's office and jail be located? Why was a new Sheriff's office and jail not built and connected to Monmouth Police Department? Doesn't the Monmouth Police have a Jail? What is the County's timeline for the Sheriff's office and jail project? What will happen if the tax does not pass?*

Website: safetyfirstwarrencounty.com

Contact: Chip Algren, Chair of the Citizen Advisory Committee to the Warren County Board for the New Law Enforcement Center, agalgren@yahoo.com

Forum: A forum to go over the referendum and the plan of the new Law Enforcement Center is going to be held on **Tuesday, March 14th, from 12:00-1:30pm** at the Warren-Henderson Farm Bureau auditorium in Monmouth (1000 N Main St.). This event is going to be livestreamed on WRAM 1330AM and 94.1FM and at radiomonmouth.com. With questions and to register for the forum, contact the Monmouth Radio Station at 309-734-2111 or email radiomonmouth@gmail.com.

Vote: Be sure to get out and vote on Tuesday, April 4th. Early voting begins February 23rd.

This project and referendum is endorsed by the Warren County Democratic Central Committee, Warren County Republican Central Committee, Warren County Crime Stoppers, Warren County Bar Association, Monmouth Police Department Fraternal Order of Police, Warren County Sheriff's Department, and Warren-Henderson Farm Bureau.

SAFETY+FIRST

VOTE **YES** FOR A NEW WARREN COUNTY
LAW ENFORCEMENT CENTER

The current jail conditions are unsafe and don't meet Illinois regulations and standards. The building is over 100 years old and the security system is archaic. It is a hazard to law enforcement officers, inmates, and citizens. The state WILL close it down.

A majority "Yes" vote means a temporary sales tax increase of .0075 so the county can build a new, safe facility that will create more jobs and bring new revenue to Warren County.

Visit safetyfirstwarrencounty.com or join us at [Facebook.com/citizensforanewwarrenlawenforcementcenter](https://www.facebook.com/citizensforanewwarrenlawenforcementcenter)

VOTE **YES** APR 4

Paid for by Citizens for a New Warren County Law Enforcement Center

