

## **PRESS RELEASE**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 23, 2023

### **County Commissioners Invite Ellettsville, Bloomington, and Monroe County Leaders to Discuss Potential Jail Location Sites**

*August 29<sup>th</sup> meeting will feature presentation, discussion, and opportunity for public comment.*

**Monroe County, IN**—Monroe County Commissioners will gather feedback from area stakeholders about potential jail site locations during a Tuesday, August 29<sup>th</sup> meeting scheduled to begin at 5:30 p.m. Open to the public, the meeting will take place in the Nat U. Hill room of the Monroe County Courthouse located at 100 W. Kirkwood Ave.

“We want to get input from the community leaders who will be directly impacted by the siting of this justice campus,” explains Julie Thomas, vice president of the Monroe County Board of Commissioners. “We’ll listen to what these individual stakeholders have to say and carefully weigh their concerns,” added Penny Githens, president of the Board of Commissioners.

Meeting invitees from the law enforcement and judicial community include Monroe County Sheriff Ruben Martí; Monroe Circuit Court Presiding Judge Mary Ellen Diekhoff; Monroe County Prosecutor Erika Oliphant; Bloomington Police Department Chief Michael Diekhoff; Indiana University Police Department Chief Jill Lees; Ellettsville Town Marshal Jimmie Durnil; and Indiana State Police Bloomington District 33 Commander Lieutenant Paul N. Bucher. Government officials Bloomington Mayor John Hamilton, Bloomington City Council President Sue Sgambelluri, and members of the Monroe County Council have also been invited.

“Ultimately, the location of the jail will affect each of those entities in ways that may not be readily obvious,” Commissioner Lee Jones says. “That’s why we have a responsibility to really listen and consider all of the pros and cons.”

Representatives from DLZ, the firm Monroe County consulted about each of four potential jail location sites, will also be on hand to present.

In addition to the in-person meeting, the August 29<sup>th</sup> proceedings will also be available online via Zoom. To join:

<https://monroecounty-in.zoom.us/j/85435207695?pwd=MWIFZmlLSTBLbjdNbXBEBjJaZWNKdz09>

Meeting ID: 165817

Passcode: 854 3520 7695