



TERRY E. BRANSTAD, GOVERNOR
KIM REYNOLDS, LT. GOVERNOR

DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS
JOHN BALDWIN, DIRECTOR

To: Thomas G. Courtney, Senate Chair Justice Committee
Gary Worthan, House Chair Justice Committee
Robert M. Hogg, Senate Vice Chair Justice Committee
Julian Garrett, House Chair Justice Committee
Jake Chapman, Ranking Member Justice Committee
Todd E. Taylor, Ranking Member Justice Committee

Date: January 15, 2013

Subject: Integration Plans for Existing ISP, Clinical Care Unit and John Bennett Unit, Per HF 2335, Page 3, Line 36

Existing Iowa State Penitentiary (ISP) -

On 9 Jan 13 at 10:00 am the Department of Corrections and the City of Ft. Madison held a conference call to discuss possible uses for the old prison once the DOC vacates the property in early 2014. The City of Ft. Madison was represented by Byron Smith and John Luna. Corrections was represented by Warden Ludwick and Rebecca Bowker of ISP and Brad Hier and myself.

The City of Ft. Madison is very interested in acquiring the old ISP once the offenders have been moved to the new prison. We discussed many options for using the old prison; among those options were – a tourism opportunity, a film location, a B and B location, a Boutique shopping area and a few other ideas.

There will be a committee formed to explore the mechanics of transferring the “title” of the old ISP to the City. Additionally, the committee will look at all of the opportunities to use the existing prison beyond those noted above.

The Department of Corrections is very interested in having the City of Ft. Madison take over the vacated prison. The City has been a very good partner with the DOC for almost 175 years and this is an exceptional opportunity for both governmental agencies.

Clinical Care Unit (CCU) & John Bennett Unit (JBU) -

The opening of the new ISP is a major operational change for staff, offenders and the entire prison system. In order to open the new prison and give staff and offenders time to adjust to a new environment, new supervision philosophy and new technology in the Governor’s budget for FY14 -15 focuses on opening the new ISP with existing staff. In order to do that here is what is

The mission of the Iowa Department of Corrections is:
To advance successful offender reentry to protect the public, staff and offenders from victimization.

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tentatively planned – John Bennett will be depopulated by approximately 100 offenders. The 100 offenders will be either moved to other minimum security beds or released to parole or work release beds.

The existing JBU facility is planned for closure and renovations to the Farm 1 bunkhouse area will be completed to house the remaining minimum live out offenders. This population will serve as a workforce for the new facility and community, as we operate today.

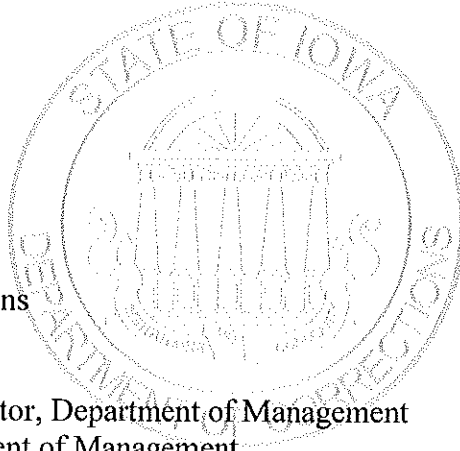
Over the course of calendar 2013 the CCU will be depopulated with most of the offenders moving to other institutions. A group of CCU offenders will move to the new ISP. The CCU is planned for closure once all population movement is completed and operational measures are in place to shut the facility down.

It is anticipated the new ISP opening with approximately 580 maximum security offenders and approximately 80 minimum live-out offenders living outside of the fence. The ISP staffing level today is 428 staff for 900+ offenders. When the new ISP opens there will be 428 staff for approximately 680 offenders.

Sincerely,



John Baldwin, Director
Iowa Department of Corrections



cc: David Roederer, Director, Department of Management
Dennis Hart, Department of Management
Beth Lenstra, Legislative Services Agency
Brad Hier, Department of Corrections