

Downtown County Building Information

How will the Jail/Sheriff’s office plan affect the Downtown County Building?

The Downtown County Building, located at 225 West Main Street was built in 1968 and remains an integral part of our community. Its Alpine theme, pristine lawn, ice tree, public seating areas, and Veterans’ Memorial features are attractive to our local population and tourists alike.

The Downtown County Building currently houses several County Departments: Circuit Courtroom, Clerk and Register of Deeds, Treasurer, IT, County Administration, Finance, Human Resources, Capital Projects, Veterans’ Services, and Housing. These departments **will remain** in the County Building and will not be moving to the proposed new Jail/Sheriff Office building.

Also housed in the current Downtown County Building are the Sheriff’s Department and Road Patrol, and the 34-bed Otsego County Jail whose entrance is on Court Street under the pavilion. The Sheriff’s Offices, including Road Patrol, and the jail would be moving to the new location.



Deed restrictions mandate that this property **“shall, at all times, be used for governmental purposes.”**
Source: recorded agreement for the Transfer of Title (Liber 387, pages 946-950)

What will happen to the vacated space in the Downtown County Building ?

The Jail/Sheriff’s Office plan has several ancillary benefits to it – this being one of them: the vacated space that results from moving the Sheriff and Road Patrol Offices and the Jail will be converted to a “one-stop-shop” concept.

One Stop Shop

The proposed plan creates a “one-stop-shop” concept:

-Land Use Services One-Stop-Shop at the Downtown County Building Currently, the Soil Erosion, Equalization, Building, and Zoning Departments are located at the Alpine Center complex in two separate buildings. When the jail and sheriff’s offices move out of the Downtown County Building into the new Jail/Sheriff’s Office building, that will create vacant space in the Downtown County Building. The plan includes moving the Soil Erosion, Equalization, Building Inspection, and Planning/Zoning Departments to fill the vacated areas in the Downtown County Building. These departments will join the other county departments that will remain in the Downtown County Building: Clerk and Register of Deeds, Treasurer, IT, County Administration, Finance, Human Resources, Capital Projects, Veterans’ Services, and Housing. The “one stop shop” concept enhances our ability to provide services to the public; no longer will an individual have to visit three separate buildings to receive any land use or property related services (building permits, property deeds, property tax information, soil erosion permits) - all of these departments will be located under a single roof.

How will this affect the proposed millage?

No additional millage request will be necessary to create the “one-stop-shop” at the Downtown County Building. The proposed 1.15 mill request for the Jail/Sheriff Office is the only millage funding requested. The “one-stop-shop” project will require minimal work and will be funded internally.

