

Downtown County Building Information

How will the Justice Complex 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: 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 Justice Complex.

Also housed in the current Downtown County Building are the Circuit Courtroom, Sheriff’s Department and Road Patrol, and the 34-bed Otsego County Jail whose entrance is on Court Street under the pavilion. These departments, the courtroom, and the jail would be moving to the Justice Complex.



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 Justice Complex plan has several ancillary benefits to it – this being one of them: the vacated space that results from moving the Circuit Courtroom, Sheriff and Road Patrol Offices, and the Jail will be converted to a second “one-stop-shop” concept.

One Stop Shops

The proposed Justice Complex plan creates two “one-stop-shop” concepts:

-The Criminal Justice One-Stop-Shop at the Justice Complex The Justice Complex would result in all county law enforcement and court related functions to be located under one roof, creating a “one-stop-shop” for our Criminal Justice System. Refer to the Alpine Center document and the Justice Complex floor plan renderings for additional information.

-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 Justice Complex, 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. This creates a second “one stop shop”; 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 second “one-stop-shop” at the Downtown County Building. The proposed 1.95 mill request for the Justice Complex is the only millage funding needed to create both “one-stop-shops”.

