PUBLIC REQUEST TO ADDRESS
THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

Correspondence Received

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

HILDA L. SOLIS
HOLLY J. MITCHELL
LINDSEY P. HORVATH
JANICE HAHN
KATHRYN BARGER

			The following individuals submitted comments on agenda item:	
Agenda #	**Relate To**	**Position**	**Name**	**Comments**
21.		**Favor**	Sean Patrick Patterson	Good morning, Supervisors. My name is Sean Patrick Patterson, Program Director of The Next 5,000. On Item 21, closing Men's Central Jail should not mean releasing people back into homelessness. LA County should connect jail closure directly to permanent housing, employment, identification, transportation, treatment, and continuous reentry support. Measure the result by REAL outcomes: release ? referral ? permanent housing ? 30-day retention ? 90-day retention ? reduced return to custody. The Next 5,000 is prepared to help build that pathway. Close the jail, but do not close the door on the people leaving it. Thank you.
		Item Total	**1**	
Grand Total			**1**	

As of: 10/7/2026 9:00:13 AM

MEN'S CENTRAL JAIL (MCJ)

LOS ANGELES COUNTY

One of the largest jails in the United States — and the focus of LA County's plan to close it.

Location
441 Bauchet Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Opened
1963

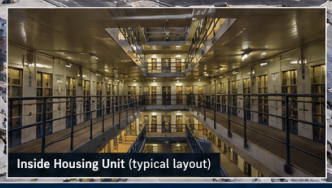
Designed Capacity
~4,320 beds

Population (recent years)
often 4,000 – 6,000+

Type
Pretrial and sentenced men (adults, 18+)

Operated by
Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department (LASD)

Street View from Bauchet Street


Inside Housing Unit (typical layout)

Recreation Yard

WHY IT'S BEING CLOSED

- Outdated and overcrowded
- Documented health, safety, and constitutional concerns
- History of lawsuits and federal oversight
- County plan to close MCJ and invest in smaller, more humane, community-based alternatives

JAIL CLOSURE TIMELINE (SELECT MILESTONES)

April 9, 2024
Board requested progress reports

→

Ongoing
Planning, design, and alternative capacity development

→

October 27, 2026
Next scheduled report to the Board (Item 21, 24-0695)

→

Goal
Close Men's Central Jail and transition to a smaller, safer, more equitable system

WHAT COMES NEXT

- Alternative custody facilities (smaller, regional)
- More diversion and pretrial services
- Mental health and substance use treatment capacity
- Reentry support (housing, employment, services)
- Goal: reduce reliance on large, downtown jail