



Fulton County Jail & Justice System

Overview of Budgetary & Policy
Actions by Fulton County Board of
Commissioners

Presented to Georgia State Senate
Subcommittee on the
Fulton County Jail

Tuesday, May 7, 2024

ROLE OF BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS



Board of Commissioners Role:

- Set Annual Budgets
- Set Employee Policy
- Appoint County Manager responsible for implementing policy
- Has limited oversight over Elected Officials outside of the budget process.

MAJOR INITIATIVES IMPACTING FULTON COUNTY JAIL



POPULATION REDUCTION

Case Backlog Reduction | Ankle Monitors | Detainee Outsourcing



JAIL STAFFING

Signing Bonuses | Increased Base Salaries | Overtime Policy / Contract Staff



FACILITY MAINTENANCE / REPLACEMENT

Maintenance Blitz & Bridging Plan / Replacement Jail Plan

PROJECT ORCA

Backlog Reduction Initiative

*In 2021, the Board of Commissioners allocated \$75 million of Fulton County's allocation of the American Rescue Plan fund to reduce the court backlog created due to the closure of courts during the COVID-19 Pandemic. This amount increased to \$80 million in 2023. **This represents 39% of Fulton County's total ARPA Funding.***

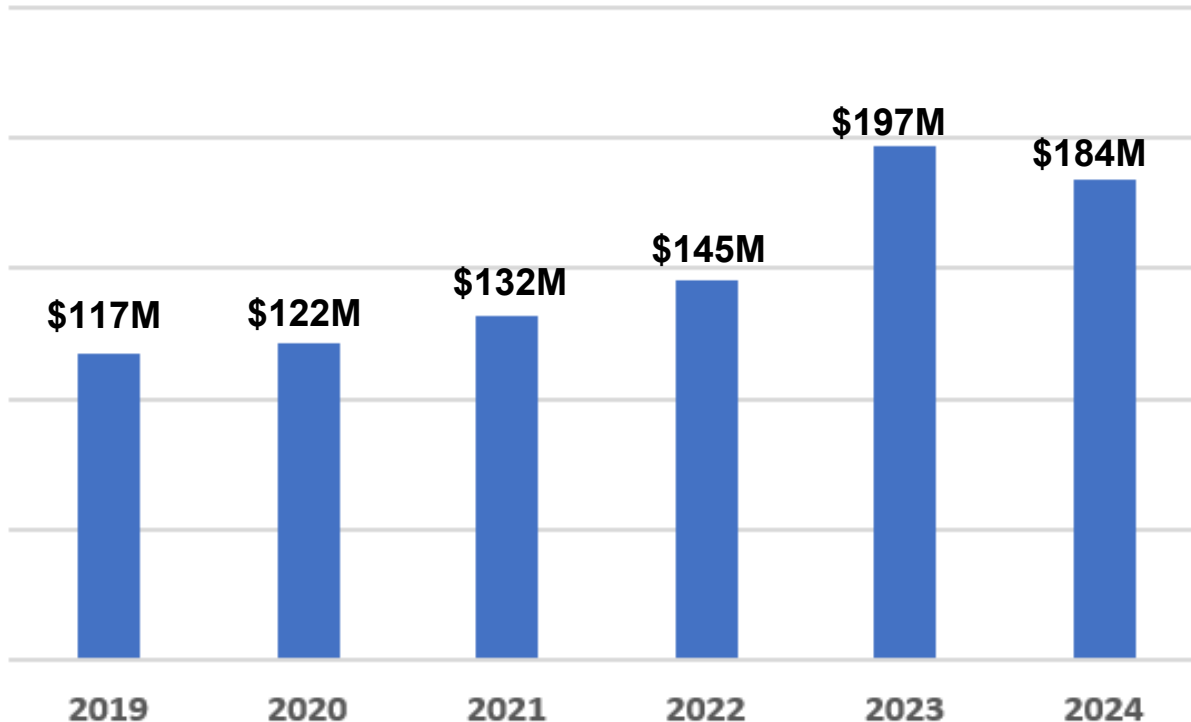
**\$80
Million
Investment**

**290
Positions
Created**

**134,388
CASES
DISPOSED
(through 12/31/23)**

Funding for Fulton County Sheriff's Office & Jail Has Increased By 66% Over Five Years

Funding for the Sheriff's Office

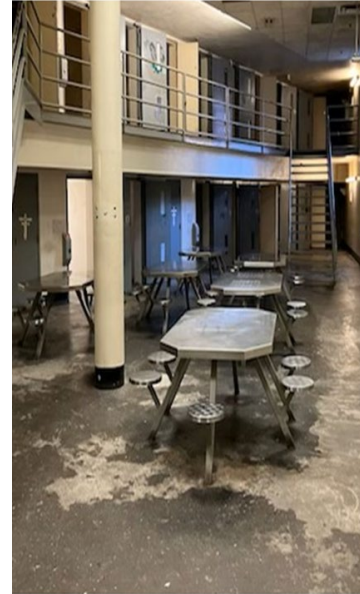


These figures include direct and indirect funds that support Sheriff's Office

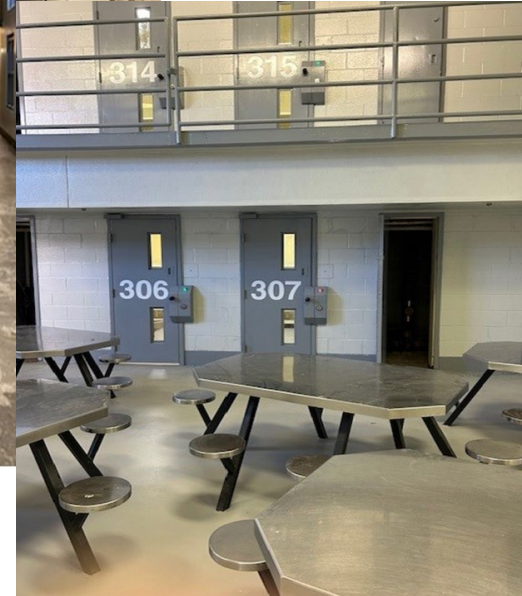
JAIL MAINTENANCE BLITZ PLAN

- One time investment of \$13.2M
- Complete restoration of 13 housing zones
- Includes repairs for cells and common areas
- Projected completion date of Jan/Feb 2025

Before



After



TRENDS IN JAIL POPULATION

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Main	2,047	2,304	2,599	2,713	2,511	1,797
South Annex	242	209	223	275	175	180
Marietta	23	33	47	35	57	56
Alpharetta	4	6	10	14	40	35
ACDC	n/a	n/a	n/a	295	399	369
Cobb County	n/a	n/a	167	207	138	106
Oconee County	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	19	23
Forsyth County	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	19	27
TOTAL	2,316	2,552	3,046	3,539	3,358	2,593

Please note that these figures do not include the detainees out on ankle monitors.

REPLACEMENT JAIL

- In 2021, Fulton County initiated a Jail feasibility study with a nationally-recognized team to evaluate options for repair or replacement. Study results were presented in 1Q23.
- **The Jail Feasibility Study recommended a 4,416-bed replacement facility on the site of the current Jail at an estimated cost of \$1.7 billion.** By comparison, renovation of the existing facility would cost an estimated \$2.4 billion.
- Fulton County Jail Program Management RFP will be issued this month.

KEY FEATURES OF NEW JAIL

Direct Supervision

Wrap Around Programs and Services

State-of-the-Art Medical & Mental Health Housing

CUMULATIVE CASE REDUCTION | JUSTICE SYSTEM SCORECARD



MEASURE	GOAL	MAY 2023 BASELINE	DECEMBER 2023	DELTA <i>(current month vs. baseline)</i>
Average Length of Stay	30 days	71 days	61 days	10 day decrease
Jail Population Unindicted without other charges	10%	34%	24%	10% decrease <i>(557 less unindicted)</i>
Clearance Rate for Felony Criminal Cases	100%	72%	52%	20% decrease
Felony Cases Disposed within 180 Days	90%	25%	35%	10% increase
Felony Cases Disposed within 365 Days	98%	63%	68%	5% increase

FULTON COUNTY REQUESTS FOR STATE SUPPORT

- Increase state funding for behavioral health beds (DBHDD Bed Study)
- Authorize a sales tax to fund Fulton County replacement Jail
- Fund the addition of three Superior Court judges and staff
- Pass statewide Case Management Standards
- Explore the transfer of available jail facilities to the County



**FULTON
COUNTY**