

The Indianapolis Congregational Action Network, IndyCAN (indycan.org), is a community grass-roots organization that has been attempting to get certain language written into the Mayor's proposed new \$1.75 Billion Criminal Justice Center (CJC) build. This new CJC build must be approved by the City Council and the thought is that they will vote on it on April 20 (the Mayor is really keying on getting this approved before he leaves office later this year).

IndyCAN does not have a problem with the idea of a new CJC being built. However, IndyCAN proposes that:

- 1) The city should incorporate certain language into the Mayor's CJC proposal which would provide that a portion of the profits from the new CJC, which will go to the for-profit entity building and operating the CHC, should be allocated toward mental health services, re-entry programs, and programs proven to reduce violence and recidivism;
- 2) A significant portion of the jobs that would be created by building be given to those returning (or who have recently returned) from incarceration and/or those living at or below the poverty level in our city;
- 3) No additional new jail beds be added to the CJC. There are many cities out there using alternative programs to reduce recidivism and thus have reduced the need for jail beds and incarceration. IndyCAN is concerned that the city government will decide, down the road, they need for those new jail beds to be filled to help pay the annual \$50 Million mortgage payment, a mortgage payment that will be owed annually for 35 years after the CJC is built. IndyCAN is concerned the city will arrest the poor/marginalized/undocumented to fill those new jail beds.

IndyCAN wants to see the project delayed because of concern the city will not place these 3 requests into the plan and IndyCAN is also very nervous about the costs of the build and the lack of transparency the Mayor and his people have shown about these costs.

Please see the attached flier for 2 important meetings IndyCAN is having. The first is this coming **Thursday, March 26, at 6:30 at North United Methodist Church (E 38th & N Meridian).**

The second meeting is on **Thursday, April 9th at 6:30 at Citadel of Faith Church Of God In Christ (7676 E. 38th St., 46226)**

People NEED folks to come to these meetings to, at the least, work on getting this CJC plan delayed.

Even if you don't know that much about the CJC, you should strongly consider coming to learn more about it. Most Marion County citizens don't even know the Mayor is proposing to build this CJC and therefore have no idea about the proposed 35 year

mortgage he plans to leave us with (with very little disclosure about the costs and ramifications for us down the road).

This is a chance for you to make a difference. Even if you want a Criminal Justice Center built (again IndyCAN is NOT against one being built – they just want to do it right as there are other alternative methods to finance it and at potentially much lower long-term cost), you should strongly consider showing up to become informed.

Thanks for your consideration!