

VII  
B-1

**AGENDA ITEM  
REQUEST/JUSTIFICATION FORM**  
*(To be completed by requesting Department)*  
Forward all requests to Sharon Bourke, LC2 Civic Center  
**DEADLINE SUBMITTAL IS 3:00 P.M. WEDNESDAY**

Agenda item: Administrative Services

Date to be on agenda: August 28, 2018

Exact wording to be used for the agenda: Approval of resolution directing all necessary steps be taken to place a juvenile justice bond issue question on the November 2018 general election ballot.

Action requested: Approval

Amount requested: \_\_\_\_\_ Object Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Is item in current year's budget? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Does this item commit funds in future years? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

If yes, explain: \_\_\_\_\_

If an agreement or contract, has the County Attorney reviewed and approved? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

Previous action taken on this item, if any: July 10<sup>th</sup> County Bd resolutions

Recommendations and rationale or action:

Will anyone speak on behalf of this item, if so who? Commissioner James Cavanaugh

If this is a rush agenda item, please explain why: Sept 4<sup>th</sup> ballot question deadline

Submitted by (Name & Dept.): Commissioner James Cavanaugh Ext. 7025

Date submitted: August 21, 2018

List Attachments: Resolution

(Attach resolution and all pertinent documentation; i.e. contract, agreement, memorandums, etc.)

Certified Copies of the resolution should be sent to (please include name and addresses of all individuals or departments that need a certified copy):

Completed by receiving office  
Received in Administrative Office: Date 8/21/18 Time \_\_\_\_\_

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**  
**DOUGLAS COUNTY, NEBRASKA**

**WHEREAS**, the Douglas County juvenile justice system needs prompt attention across multiple fronts; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Douglas County Board of Commissioners should:

- only use its power of eminent domain when truly necessary to serve a critical public purpose; because taking private property for a public purpose both necessarily harms that individual private property owner as well as reduces the tax rolls and thus increases the property tax burden on all other private property owners;
- actively take steps to ensure that citizens are directly involved in bonding commitments that raise their property taxes;
- actively take steps to preserve and enforce the public's access via open meetings as well as via public records regarding expenditures of tax dollars;
- place a high priority on using tax dollars wisely and efficiently in the best interest of the taxpayers;
- place a high priority on serving the best interests of our children, especially those judicially under our direct care;
- place a priority on preserving our history, including its architectural attributes; and,

**WHEREAS**, on July 10, 2018, the Douglas County Board of Commissioners voted and approved five interrelated resolutions (i.e., #503 eminent domain; #508 reimbursement agreement , #509 owners' representative, #510 MOU, and #511 ancillary services) regarding Douglas County's new efforts to address needs of the juvenile justice system and coordinating actions between Douglas County, the Omaha-Douglas Public Building Commission, and a private not-for-profit 501(c)(3) corporation called the Unified Justice Center Development Corporation; and,

**WHEREAS**, the legal structure created by those five interrelated resolutions denies citizens the power to vote on bonds that increase their property taxes, increases the cost of issuing anticipated bonds, and denies public access via open meetings and via public records; and does so while not serving the best interests of the children, nor by examining better, less costly alternatives, all while significantly increasing the total costs of addressing the needs of the juvenile justice system relative to those alternatives.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THIS BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, DOUGLAS COUNTY, NEBRASKA, THAT**

1. The Douglas County Board of Commissioners, by this resolution, hereby supersedes its resolution #503 authorizing eminent domain of parcel number 1515520000.
2. The Douglas County Board of Commissioners, by this resolution, hereby supersedes its resolution #509 appointing the private not-for-profit corporation Unified Justice Center Development Corporation as its owner representative.
3. The Douglas County Board of Commissioners approves submitting a general obligation bond issue question for voter consideration at the November 2018, General Election.

4. The Douglas County Board of Commissioners directs its staff to take all necessary actions by September 4, 2018 to satisfy all requirements specified by the Nebraska Secretary of State for that bond issue to appear as a ballot question on the November 2018 General Election ballot.
5. The dollar amount for that ballot question is hereby set by the Douglas County Board of Commissioners at fifty million dollars (\$50,000,000).

This amount is expected to include all expenses associated with the non-superseded portions of those five interrelated resolutions (i.e., #503, #508, #509, #510, and #511), including, but not limited to, [5A] the cost of constructing a new Separate Juvenile Court House (the new structure to be built on parcels 0313720000 and 0313730000, property Douglas County already owns), [5B] relocating all of the attorneys and staff of the Douglas County Attorney into a single locale, as well as relocating all of the attorneys and staff of the Douglas County Public Defender into a single locale, and [5C] the refurbishment of the existing Douglas County Youth Center at parcel 0225900006.

DATED this 28<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2018.