American Institute of Architects - Academy of Architecture for Justice - Sustainable Justice Committee

Sustainable Justice Checklist

Introduction: Draft: 5/28/2013

The criminal justice system has a complex and multifaceted impact on our larger society of which it is a part. It provides public safety and responds to criminal behavior through a variety of means including deterrence, incapacitation, retribution, rehabilitation, and even restitution and restoration. The way these operations are conducted has many and varied impacts on societal order, community life, and individual human experience. In order to address the impacts that come from planning and designing a new justice facility (primarily a courthouse, a police station, a jail, or a prison, or some combination of those) the AAJ Sustainability Committee has categorized impacts of concern into the societal, community, facility, and human scales, which follow below.

Sustainability in general includes economic, environmental, and social equity dimensions. With regard to the planning and design of justice facilities, the most significant measures of sustainability lie with individuals and their relationships within a community and larger society (see the AAJ "Green Guide to Justice Facilities" for more description). Maintaining and enhancing the human dignity of every person who works for or comes in contact with the justice system is essential to developing the human potential of individuals, the health of our communities, and sustaining civil society. The buildings that house the justice system are a key component of the system, through providing the space for the system's activities, through conditioning the majority of natural resources used by the agenices that comprise the justice system, and through their representation of the values that underlie the administration of justice in our society today.

Use:

This checklist is intended for use in state or local (county or city) justice systems throughout the United States that are planning to build or renovate new facilities for their justice system. It may be most useful in the early planning stages, when the location, size, and specific uses of the proposed building are still being considered. Items from the Societal and Community scales are most relevant to these issues. As planning progresses to more detailed considerations of building layout, site design, and even in some cases construction materials, the Facility and Human scales are intended to provide guidance towards a design approach that incorporates current best practices in accordance with the principles mentioned above (and described in detail in the "Green Guide to Justice Facilities").

This checklist provides a list of Goals, Metrics to measure progress to the goal, and recommended Targets. Especially at the Societal and Community Scales, not all Goals, Metrics and Targets are within the scope of the design team - some reflect a general measurement of how successfully the local justice system is meeting broad social and community needs. Planning new physical facilities for the justice system is a crucially important time to reflect on the current operations, as facility location, size, and design set in place structural features that will last for decades (if not longer). It is a moment of great opportunity to strive for best practices if they are not already in place, and this checklist is intended to assist that effort.

At present, the AIA Academy of Architecture for Justice does not provide checklist reviews or certification. The checklist shoul dbe used in a self-certification effort based in project reviews conducted with appropriate stakeholders such as the design and planning team, client justice system agencies, partner agencies, and local community groups, especially those with an interest in the justice system. The checklist's relevance may be limited in international contexts. The checklist is intended as a partner to the LEED (TM) rating system of the U.S. Green Building Council, which provides guidance towards sustainability in natural resource impacts for most building types, including justice buildings.

Some checklist measures call for comparisons with a pool of similar jurisdictions, such as target percentile scores. For state-level projects such as courthouses in states with unified court systems, state police, and state prisons, comparisons should be made to other states. For local-level projects, comparisons should be made to the other counties within the same state. The checklist is not intended to address Juvenile Justice or Adult Probation facilities.

SOCIETAL SCALE

A sustainable relationship between society and the criminal justice system is one where maintaining present operations into the future consumes acceptable levels of resources and creates results that can be assimilated back into society at large. At the societal scale the challenges for present operations result more from unsustainable levels of incarceration population (with attendant resource consumption), negative results from interaction between the system and individuals (e.g. high recidivism rates), and a lack of social equity in the outcomes of justice for the various groups within society. Increasing public awareness of evidence-based approaches to criminal justice administration allows justice facilities to drive best practices in future operations.

	PRINCIPLE	GOAL	METRIC	TARGET	POTENTIAL STRATEGIES	EVALUATION NOTES
S1	Safety - proactive	Prevent viollence so that people can enjoy security at home and in public	Crime rate	20% improvement from previous year (1)	Youth programs, street outreach, partnerships with schools, gang intervention, violence prevention programs.	
S2	Safety - reactive	Address offenders to prevent future criminal behavior	Recidivism rate	20% improvement from previous year (1)	Re-entry programming from entry to post-release, transitional housing, parole and probation linked to social services.	
S3	Proportionality	Punishment fits the crime	Incarceration rate (2)	20% improvement from previous year (1)	Sentencing reform, alternative courts / diversion programs, day reporting, electronic monitoring, community policing.	
S4	Equality	Treat all minority populations with equal dignity and respect as majority population	Proportion of minority populations incarcerated vs. percent in jurisdiction (2)	Any group within 2% of its proportion of population	Regular review of racial profiling statistics and of racial disparities in sentencing outcomes for similar crimes, sensitivity training for law enforcement, sentencing reform (e.g. crack v. powder cocaine).	
S5	Responsiveness	Address broader impact of crime on victims and society	Percentage of victims served by programs	100% of victims have access to legal proceedings and restorative programs	Victim assistance programs, victim-offender dialogue, community dialogue programs, alternative setenticing or restitution options.	

S6	Coordination	All branches of justice system work together effectively	Coordinating body includes law enforcment, courts, prosecutors and defenders, sheriff/corrections, probation/parole, public health, social services, and community groups	Regular meetings with productive outcomes	Criminal justice coordinating council.	
S7	Efficiency	Jail populations are managed intelligently and right to a speedy trial is realized	Average length of stay in detention	?	Pretrial diversion programs, bail policy review, case level police-court-sheriff-prosecution-defense coordination	
S8	Accountability	Meet full need for court support services	% of need met by court support services	?	Society of Professional Journalists prison page - www.spj.org/prisonaccess.asp	

Notes:

(1) comparison to other jurisdictions should also be considered to place the data in context, e.g. aiming to have a rate lower than the 40th percentile of other states or counties

(2) when data quality allow it, arrest rate may be used in addition to incarceration rate.

COMMUNITY SCALE

A sustainable relationship between the community and the criminal justice system is one where maintaining present operations into the future consumes acceptable levels of resources and creates results that can be assimilated back into society at large. At the community scale sustainability requires **a thoughtful public planning process that develops a holistic, system approach to solutions and results in justice facilities that are purposeful to all stakeholders**: justice officials and workers, plaintiffs and defendants, victims, family members, the media, and the broader public. Sustainable principles intend to balance community resources with long-term needs; communities also provide alternatives to incarceration and a continuum of services after incarceration. Key strategies also include in-person appearances essential to many justice system procedures, but information technology can and should be used to reduce travel impacts and improve access to justice system procedures and records except where it might detract from just outcomes or conflict with individual rights.

	PRINCIPLE	GOAL	METRIC	TARGET	POTENTIAL STRATEGIES	EVALUATION NOTES
C1	Planning Process	Broad and inclusive stakeholder and community involvement in a comprehensive planning process for justice system needs	Series of community meetings/interaction; Stakeholders include all relevant justice system components and community groups	Community meetings are held to solicit input and changes are made based on feedback received. Participation from courts, sheriff, detention/ corrections, parole/ probation, legal advocates, public health, social services, community groups.	-	
C2	Facility Siting	Locate in a dense, walkable area of central importance	LEED credit SSc2: Development Density and Community Connectivity	Meet LEED SSc2: density is over 60,000 sf/acre or within 1/2 mile of 10 basic services, etc.	Satelite courthouses that serve rural communities may not be located in traditional "downtown" neighborhoods	
C3	Co-location	Co-locate with/near: jail, DA, public defender, victim services, probation, parole, public health, mental health, food service/restaurants, convenience shopping	% of listed services within walking distance	100%	-	
C4	Rightsizing	Project is based on a needs assessment done with significant community input	Needs assessment includes alternative court hearing processes such as drug court or other collaborative courts.	Alternatives to court hearings reduce initial need projections by at least 20% of sq.ft.	California Administrative Office of the Courts planning process	
C5	Transportation Access	Facilitate use of mass transit; minimize trips between jail and courthouse	LEED credit SSc4.1: Alternative Transportation - Public Transportation Access; Proximity between jail and courthouse	Meet LEED SSc4.1: site within 1/2 mile of rail or 1/4 mile of bus transit; locate jail with secure walking access to courthouse	-	

| C6 | Shared Spaces | Provide meeting rooms, fitness center, or other functions available for general public use | % of sq. ft. available for public uses | 2% | - | |
| C7 | Technology | Maximize online access to case files, online juror processing, best technology for video arraignment | % of records accessed online, waiting time for potential jurors, quality of video arraignment setup | 95% of records, jurors average not more than 4 hours waiting in building, lighting and audio specialists consulted in video arraignment setup | - | |

Notes:

FACILITY SCALE

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	PRINCIPLE	GOAL	METRIC	TARGET	POTENTIAL STRATEGIES	EVALUATION NOTES
F1	Welcoming Site	Use building as secure perimeter	% of unbuilt site are that is unfenced / has pedestrian access; perimeter has no razor wire or similar features	100% access, 0% razor wire	-	
F2	Secure yet Welcoming (exterior)	Welcoming site and building features; blast/impact and site security barriers ere effective but not imposing; building entry areas are open and accessible; wayfinding to the building entries is clear with welcoming cues; public can view into building entry and public areas.	Blast/impact and security barrier features are set back from the building entry and not imposing; height is no taller than 48" and the full width of the entry doors and 25' swath in front of the entry doors of main public entry into facility is unobstructed, clear and usable for public plaza and gathering. The interior building entry (lobby, jury assembly, cafeteria, records reception areas) are clearly visible and accessible from the entry point.	Security features are set 50' from the building perimeter and obscured with aesthetic site treatments; 100% view of public areas from the point of building entry.	50' may be too much, boulders in this radius are acceptable, etc. Entry doors may need more protection than this allows	
F3	Secure yet Welcoming (interior)	Security screening is appropriately planned but does not define the entry experience. Members of the public are protected from intimidation by others.	Amount of space given to cueing and screening. Number of spaces for multiple groups (e.g. disputing parties and families) to gather separately.	Cueing and screening take up no more than 50% of the space. At least 4 separate gathering spaces in lobby.	-	
F4	CPTED	Landscape design, access, and building features provide for Crime Prevention Through Environment Design	Listed recommendations for each of the 3 CPTED design principles of Natural surveillance, Natural access control, and Natural territorial reinforcement	Incorporate 75% of each principle's listed recommendations	http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Crime_prevention_through_environmental_design#Strategies_for_the_built_environment	

F5	Healthy staff	Provide space for employee health and wellness	Space program includes staff wellness support and programs; fitness and locker/shower areas. Break rooms have refrigerators and food warming stations.	Fitness room has 10 sf/person, break area 5 sf/person, one break room per 35 people; facility accommodates dining for half the staff at any given time unless food services are co-located.	-	
F6	Green Building Certification	Improve efficiency while minimizing use of natural resources, enhance human health and natural habitats	LEED-NC (New Construction and Major Renovation) Rating	LEED Silver or better	-	
F7	Operational Purchasing & Waste Management	Prepare for operational waste minimization, recycling/composting/diversion, green purchasing, and green janitorial services	LEED EBO&M (Operations & Maintenance) - have policies per the prerequisites for green purchasing, waste management, and cleaning	Written policies exist that meet requirements of LEED EBO&M MRp1: Sustainable Purchasing Policy, MRp2: Sustainable Waste Management Policy, and EQp3: Green Cleaning Policy	-	

HUMAN SCALE

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	PRINCIPLE	GOAL	METRIC	TARGET	POTENTIAL STRATEGIES	EVALUATION NOTES
H1	Acoustical comfort	Sound levels do not create additional stress or obstruct communications	STC: GSA 2003 Facilities Standards (P100) for Public Buildings Service or local standards for wall construction and finishes, whichever is higher. Care given to isolate inmate holding and circulation zones as well as public zones from the courtrooom, and around the juror areas.	An acoustics specialist is included on the project team. Meet GSA P100 or local standards if higher.	-	
H2	Thermal comfort	Fresh air is circulated, temperature and humidity are conducive to comfort.	GSA 2003 Facilities Standards (P100) for Public Buildings Service; ASHRAE-55 (note: also included in LEED if LEED is pursued)	Standards exceed those cited; local control possible by staff.	-	
H3	Visual comfort	Light levels are conducive to efficient working environments within the courtroom (particulary over the bench and jury box) and within the staff areas.	GSA 2003 Facilities Standards (P100) for Public Buildings Service.	Standards exceed those cited; local control possible by staff.	-	
H4	Sense of Safety	All occupants are safe from harm by others. Special attention paid to design of spaces where public, jurors, judges, and detainees interface	Design courtrooms with clear activity zones with adequate separation for judicial, well, and spectator separation.	self-determined	See http://nicic.gov/DirectSupervisionJails. Note that staff must be culturefuly conditioned and trained to maintain control of inmate environments. Glazing must be carefuly considered between interior spaces without compromising inmate or staff privacy.	

| H5 | Stress Reduction | Sunlight, daylight & views that cue time of day, weather conditions, and psychological connection to nature are provided for informal waiting/ meeting areas, family law spaces, staff work areas, public waiting and circulation areas. | Pubic have access to nature views. Daily opportunity of view of nature for staff. Daylight at work areas. Protected outdoor areas for staff. | Areas where staff spend 75% of their day have minimimum 100SF view into nature. | - | |
| H6 | Suicide Prevention | Courtroom and central holding areas include suicide resistant fixtures and other architectural features. | NCCHC and ACA standards and/or other governing standards for inmate holding areas. | Courthouse holding environment that precludes areas where inmates and staff can't interact and inmates can't be observed. | - | |

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S2	Safety - reactive	Address offenders to prevent future criminal behavior	Recidivism rate	20% improvement from previous year (1)	Re-entry programming from entry to post-release, transitional housing, parole and probation linked to social services.	
S3	Proportionality	Punishment fits the crime	Incarceration rate (2)	20% improvement from previous year (1)	Sentencing reform, alternative courts / diversion programs, day reporting, electronic monitoring, community policing.	
S4	Equality	Treat all minority populations with equal dignity and respect as majority population	Proportion of minority populations incarcerated vs. percent in jurisdiction (2)	Any group within 2% of its proportion of population	Regular review of racial profiling statistics and of racial disparities in sentencing outcomes for similar crimes, sensitivity training for law enforcement, sentencing reform (e.g. crack v. powder cocaine).	
S5	Responsiveness	Address broader impact of crime on victims and society	Percentage of victims served by programs	100% of victims have access to legal proceedings and restorative programs	Victim assistance programs, victim-offender dialogue, community dialogue programs, alternative setenticing or restitution options.	

S6	Coordination	All branches of justice system work together effectively	Coordinating body includes law enforcment, courts, prosecutors and defenders, sheriff/corrections, probation/parole, public health, social services, and community groups	Regular meetings with productive outcomes	Criminal justice coordinating council.	
S7	Efficiency	Jail populations are managed intelligently and right to a speedy trial is realized	Average length of stay in detention	?	Pretrial diversion programs, bail policy review, case level police-court-sheriff-prosecution-defense coordination	
S8	Accountability	Meet full need for court support services	% of need met by court support services	?	Society of Professional Journalists prison page - www.spj.org/prisonaccess.asp	

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	PRINCIPLE	GOAL	METRIC	TARGET	POTENTIAL STRATEGIES	EVALUATION NOTES
C1	Planning Process	Broad and inclusive stakeholder and community involvement in a comprehensive planning process for justice system needs	Series of community meetings/interaction; Stakeholders includes all justice system components and community support systems; EIR and/or equivent process that establishes geologica/air quality/traffic impact based on proposed site use	Community meetings are held to solicit input and changes are made based on feedback received. Participation from police, social service providers, schools, recreation, elected officials, community groups.	-	
C2	Facility Siting	Connect to other justice functions, other civic functions, and provide community access	?	?	Satelite courthouses that serve rural communities may not be located in traditional "downtown" neighborhoods	
C3	Co-location	Co-locate with/near: other civic uses; co-locate with schools, community centers, libraries, etc. to increase community access	% of listed services within walking distance	100%	-	
C4	Rightsizing	Project is based on a needs assessment done with significant community input, considers sharing of regional resources	Typical ratio of sworn and non-sworn per 1000 population for communities of similar profile	Comparison to comparable communities and sharing of regional resources reduce initial need projections by at least 20% of sq.ft.	California Administrative Office of the Courts planning process	
C5	Transportation Access	Facilitate use of mass transit for accessibility and environmental footptint	LEED credit SSc4.1: Alternative Transportation - Public Transportation Access	Meet LEED SSc4.1: site within 1/2 mile of rail or 1/4 mile of bus transit	-	

| C6 | Shared Spaces | Provide meeting rooms, fitness center, or other functions available for general public use | % of sq. ft. available for public uses | 2% | - | |
| C7 | Technology | Maximize online access to police records | % of records accessed online | 95% | - | |

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	PRINCIPLE	GOAL	METRIC	TARGET	POTENTIAL STRATEGIES	EVALUATION NOTES
F1	Welcoming Site	Use building as secure perimeter	% of unbuilt site are that is unfenced / has pedestrian access; % of perimeter that has razor wire or similar features	100% access, 0% razor wire	-	
F2	Secure yet Welcoming (exterior)	Welcoming site and building features; blast/impact and site security barriers ere effective but not imposing; building entry areas are open and accessible; wayfinding to the building entries is clear with welcoming cues; public can view into building entry and public areas.	Blast/impact and security barrier features are set back from the building entry and not imposing; height is no taller than 48" and the full width of the entry doors and 25' swath in front of the entry doors of main public entry into facility is unobstructed, clear and usable for public plaza and gathering. The interior building entry (lobby and reception areas are clearly visible and accessible from the entry point. Adequate cueing and screening areas take advantage of views and the entry experience and take up no more than 50% of the space.	Security features are set 50' from the building perimeter and obscured with aesthetic site treatments; 100% view of public areas from the point of building entry.	50' may be too much, boulders in this radius are acceptable, etc. Entry doors may need more protection than this allows	

F3	Secure yet Welcoming (interior)	Members of public feel secure in lobby area	Lobby area is clearly observed by police staff, space for filing reports allows for confidential conversations.	n/a	-	
F4	CPTED	Landscape design, access, and building features provide for Crime Prevention Through Environment Design	Listed recommendations for each of the 3 CPTED design principles of Natural surveillance, Natural access control, and Natural territorial reinforcement	Incorporate 75% of each principle's listed recommendations	http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Crime_prevention_through_environmental_design#Strategies_for_the_built_environment	
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H2	Thermal comfort	Fresh air is circulated, temperature and humidity are conducive to comfort.	ASHRAE-55 (note: also included in LEED if LEED is pursued)	Standards exceed those cited; local control possible by staff.	-	
H3	Visual comfort	Light levels are conducive to efficient working environments	Comparable levels to established design guidelines for efficient working environments such as GSA 2003 Facilities Standards (P100) for Pubic Buildings Service.	Standards exceed those cited; local control possible by staff.	-	
H4	Sense of Safety	All occupants are safe from harm by others	Duress alarm system.	Duress alarm sysm provided at reception desk, interview rooms, etc.	See http://nicic.gov/DirectSupervisionJails. Note that staff must be culturally conditioned and trained to maintain control of inmate environments. Glazing must be carefully considered between interior spaces without compromising inmate or staff privacy.	

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C2	Facility Siting	Locate facilities near homes of workers and of population in custody	Travel distance to homes of people who work and are housed in facility	Site is within 1 hour travel of majority (50%) of staff and inmates' families' homes	Satelite courthouses that serve rural communities may not be located in traditional "downtown" neighborhoods	
C3	Co-location	Co-locate with/near: court (jail only), health care, mental health care, public health, reentry facilities, education, employment	% of listed services within walking distance	100%	-	
C4	Rightsizing	Project is based on a needs assessment done with significant community input	Needs assessment includes alternatives to incarceration, programs that reduce length of stay, and programs to reduce recidivism	Programs reduce initial need projections by at least 20% of sq.ft. and bed count	California Administrative Office of the Courts planning process	
C5	Transportation Access	Facilitate use of mass transit; minimize trips between jail and courthouse	LEED credit SSc4.1: Alternative Transportation - Public Transportation Access; Proximity between jail and courthouse	Meet LEED SSc4.1: site within 1/2 mile of rail or 1/4 mile of bus transit; locate jail with secure walking access to courthouse	-	
C6	Shared Spaces	Provide meeting rooms, gymnasium, or other functions available for general public use	% of sq. ft. available for public uses	2%	-	

| C7 | Technology | Provide robust option for video visitation without supplanting in-person visiting | % of prisoners w/ access to video visitation | 100% access to video visitation | - | |

Notes:

FACILITY SCALE

A sustainable relationship between a justice facility and the criminal justice system is one where maintaining present operations into the future consumes acceptable levels of resources and creates results that can be assimilated back into society at large. At the facility scale sustainability requires **a focused planning of the facility's aesthetic and functions as a responsible neighbor, employer, housing and care provider (toward those detained in the system), which is purposeful to the facility's role in the larger justice system.** The planning and design of facilities has a lasting effect on the communities where they reside; the facility is the tangible link or interface where the public meet those within the system. The facility is also a supportive vessel of a resorative justice systems approach, which informs operations that drive desired interaction with the individual. Time spent in the facility impacts an individual's experience within the system and outcomes beyond the system, certainly for those who work or reside within a facility for any extended period of time and those who transition back into society.

	PRINCIPLE	GOAL	METRIC	TARGET	POTENTIAL STRATEGIES	EVALUATION NOTES
F1	Welcoming Site	Use building as secure perimeter	% of unbuilt site are that is unfenced / has pedestrian access; % of perimeter that has razor wire or similar features	100% access, 0% razor wire	-	
F2	Secure yet Welcoming (exterior)	Welcoming site and building features; blast/impact site barriers and secure perimeters are effective but not imposing and lobby entry areas are open and accessible; wayfinding to the building entries is clear with welcoming cues; public can view into building entry and public areas.	Blast/impact and security barrier features are set back from the building entry and not imposing; height is no taller than 48" and the full width of the entry doors and 25' swath in front of the entry doors of main public entry into facility is unobstructed, clear and usable for public plaza and gathering. The interior building entry (lobby and reception areas are clearly visible and accessible from the entry point; the public can view into public areas (public entry, lobby, security screening queue, lockers, visitation.	Security features are set 50' from the building perimeter and obscured with aesthetic site treatments; 100% view of public areas from the point of building entry.	50' may be too much, boulders in this radius are acceptable, etc. Entry doors may need more protection than this allows	
F3	Secure yet Welcoming (interior)	Security screening is appropriately planned but does not define the visitor entry experience.	Adequate cueing and screening areas take advantage of views and the entry experience and take up no more than 50% of the	Cueing and screening take up no more than 50% of the space.	-	

F4	CPTED	Landscape design, access, and building features provide for Crime Prevention Through Environment Design	Listed recommendations for each of the 3 CPTED design principles of Natural surveillance, Natural access control, and Natural territorial reinforcement	Incorporate 75% of each principle's listed recommendations	http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Crime_prevention_through_environmental_design#Strategies_for_the_built_environment	
F5	Healthy staff	Provide space for employee health and wellness	Space program includes staff wellness support and programs outside of the secure perimeter and satellite staff zones within the secure perimeter that are inacessible by inmates; fitness and locker/shower areas. Break rooms have refrigerators and food warming stations.	Fitness room has 10 sf/person, break area 5 sf/person, one break room per 35 people; facility accommodates dining for half the staff at any given time unless food services are co-located.	-	
F6	Green Building Certification	Improve efficiency while minimizing use of natural resources, enhance human health and natural habitats	LEED-NC (New Construction and Major Renovation) Rating	LEED Silver or better	-	
F7	Operational Purchasing & Waste Management	Prepare for operational waste minimization, recycling/composting/diversion, green purchasing, and green janitorial services	LEED EBO&M (Operations & Maintenance) - have policies per the prerequisites for green purchasing and waste management	Written policies exist that meet requirements of LEED EBO&M MRp1: Sustainable Purchasing Policy, MRp2: Sustainable Waste Management Policy, and EQp3: Green Cleaning Policy	-	
F8	Secure Housing	Implement bahavior management incentives and reserve high-security, expensive construction for high-risk, high-need	Minimize % of project (or whole campus, for additions) that is maximum security.	Allocate no more than 15% of beds for maximum security.	-	
F9	Health Care	Quality and availability of services meets best standards	National Commission on Correctional Health Care accreditation for health care and mental health	Accreditation achieved for both fields	-	

| F10 | Inmate Rehabilitation Opportunities | Physical facility supports opportunities for people in custody to engage in productive activities inside building, on site, and/or in the community | Ratio of program space to housing space and outdoor space to housing space. | Minimum area equivalent to 30% of total inmate housing area is allocated for inmate program and wellness support. | Indoor spaces include kitchens, classrooms, etc.; outdoor spaces include gardening, composting, etc.; community use supported through location and design of site access points. | |

HUMAN SCALE

A sustainable relationship between individuals and the criminal justice system is one where maintaining present operations into the future consumes acceptable levels of resources and creates results that can be assimilated back into society at large. Probably the most significant Sustainable Justice Principle is preserving the non-renewable resource of the human potential. At the facility scale sustainability requires **a commitment to preserving the human dignity of all who enter, live or work within the system and communities within which systems components reside and are supported; sustainable principles include a continuum of services in support an individual's successful transition back into society as a productive and contributing citizen.** The systems approach promotes a physical and functional environment that is conducive to rehabilitation and optimal health.

	PRINCIPLE	GOAL	METRIC	TARGET	POTENTIAL STRATEGIES	EVALUATION NOTES
H1	Acoustical comfort	Sound levels do not create additional stress or obstruct communications	Noise and reverberation levels under ACA maximum. Incorporate soft and sound dampening interior treatments on floor, wall, and ceiling surfaces. Electrically operated doors implement pneumatic control where possible. Care also given to adjacencies: HVAC shaft and equipment room; elevator hoistway/machine room/loading dock; kitchen; and location of conference/training/classrooms/ and interview rooms/isolation rooms.	An acoustics specialist is included on the project team. EXTERIORS… Office Spaces 45 dBA, L10, and 60 dBA, Lmax; Treatment 50dBA, L10, and 55dBA, Lmax; Other 35 dBA, L10, and 50dBA, Lmax. INTERIORS...Sound level and reverberation time - seconds at 500Hz, respectively: Classrooms and Program Area 40 & .75; Medical 45 & .90; Visiting 40 & .90; Dayrooms 50 & 1.5. Impact noise control between floors IIC 55 minimum. Sound isolation: STC 55 min between floors; Noise control: IIC 55 min.	-	
H2	Thermal comfort	Fresh air is circulated, temperature and humidity are conducive to comfort.	ASHRAE-55 (note: also included in LEED if LEED is pursued); Inmate sleeping rooms must be on separate zone controls. Levels for inmate program areas follow staff work area guidelines; provisions for special needs; provide building automation system for remote programming and control.	Standards exceed those cited; local control possible by both staff and inmates.	-	

H3	Visual comfort	Light levels are appropriate for 24-hr residential living and sleeping functions and supportive of circadian rythms. Levels are conducive to efficient working and learning environments. Exterior lighting supports safety and supervision but doesn't interfere with sleeping areas.	Inmate sleeping areas must have local control for sleeping lights.	Standards exceed those cited; local control possible by both staff and inmates.	-	
H4	Sense of Safety	All occupants are safe from harm by others. Special attention paid to house inmates according to classification and inamte environments are conducive to optimal supervision by staff.	Use of direct supervision housing with supportive surveillance equipment. Use of duress systems. Adoption of PREA standards (Prison Rape Elimination Act).	All housing and inmate areas operate via direct supervision w/ camera surveilance as backup for documentation.	See http://nicic.gov/DirectSupervisionJails. Note that staff must be culturally conditioned and trained to maintain control of inmate environments. Glazing must be carefuly considered between interior spaces without compromising inmate or staff privacy.	
H5	Stress Reduction	Sunlight, daylight & views that cue time of day, weather conditions, and psychological connection to nature are provided for staff areas, public visiting areas, and inmate living and program areas.	Jail Design Guide National Institute of Corrections: Sunlight at dayroom floor. Daylight at sleeping room/cell. Daily opportunity of view of nature for staff and inmates.	Areas where staff and inmates spend 75% of their day have minimimum 100SF view into nature. Night shift staff have simulated views of nature within areas where they spend 75% of their shift.	-	
H6	Suicide Prevention	Areas where inmates are left unattended include suicide resistant fixtures and furniture.	NCCHC and ACA standards and/or other governing standards	Cultural environment that supports direct daily operational involvement with inmates and familiarity with inmates as people, individuals.	-	
H7	Normative Visual Environment	Provide a non-institutional environment through selection of durable and safe, but commercial-language finishes and colors and patterns used on surfaces, fixtures, furniture and equipment within staff and inmates areas.	In dayrooms, at least three distinct wall treatment/ colors, wall and ceiling treatments are varied, carpet where possible, furniture is similar to university or hospital typical furniture where appropriate.	self-determined	-	