



Town of Goffstown

TOWN OFFICES

16 MAIN STREET • GOFFSTOWN, NH 03045

July 27, 2026

SENT VIA EMAIL / TO FOLLOW BY FIRST CLASS USPS

The Honorable Hillsborough County Board of Commissioners
Suite 120
329 Mast Road
Goffstown, NH 03045

RE: Hillsborough County Jail Study Presentation

Dear Commissioners,

The Goffstown Select Board reviewed the information presented to the County Commissioners in the Hillsborough County Department of Corrections – Jail Study Presentation (01/07/26) at recent meetings.

On behalf of the Goffstown residents and taxpayers, the Board has concerns regarding the Hillsborough County Jail Study; specifically the potential consideration of siting a new county correctional facility within Goffstown (Jail Study - Option #3). While we recognize the County's responsibility to address deficiencies at the existing jail, any proposal to locate a new facility in Goffstown presents significant implications that require thorough evaluation, proactive engagement, and complete transparency.

The potential impacts on public safety services are of immediate concern. A correctional facility of this scale would inevitably increase demand on the Goffstown Fire Department and EMS, affecting emergency medical transports, fire response capacity, and general public safety readiness. These impacts carry operational and fiscal consequences to Goffstown taxpayers that cannot be overlooked. Before any location decisions are advanced, the Town must be afforded the opportunity to fully assess the projected burden on staffing, training, pre-incident planning for large-scale or multi-casualty events, equipment, and long-term departmental sustainability.

In addition, the broader effects on the community must be considered as part of any deliberations. Goffstown's neighborhoods, commercial areas, Saint Anselm's college campus, and public spaces contribute to a strong and distinct community identity. The introduction of a new county jail has the potential to influence land use, traffic patterns, infrastructure needs, and residents' perception of safety and well-being. These factors warrant careful, deliberate study prior to moving forward with any siting proposal.



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For these reasons, it is essential that Hillsborough County maintain a consistent, structured, and transparent dialogue with Town officials throughout this process. Decisions of this magnitude require early communication, access to relevant data, and regular opportunities for collaboration. The Town asserts that ongoing engagement between County leadership and Goffstown officials is not optional—it is necessary to ensure that any proposed action appropriately accounts for local impacts and community interests.

We respectfully request that the County provide timely updates and opportunities for direct discussion as the County considers all available options for the jail and as potential site locations are evaluated. Goffstown remains committed to constructive collaboration, but the Town must be fully informed and actively involved in any decision that may affect our public safety systems and the character of our community.

Thank you for your attention to these concerns. We look forward to continued communication as the County considers its options for addressing the challenges associated with the Hillsborough County Jail.

Please do not hesitate to contact Town Administrator Derek Horne at (603) 497-8990 ext. 101 or Derek.Horne@GoffstownNH.gov if you have any questions concerning this matter.

Sincerely,

Jim Craig, Chairman, Goffstown Select Board

Cc: Goffstown Planning Board

Dr. Michael Lewis, President, Saint Anselm College

Ec: Goffstown NH State Representatives

Joe Alexander (29)

Ross Berry (44)

Henry Giasson (29)

Lisa R Mazur (44)

Sherri Reinfurt (29)