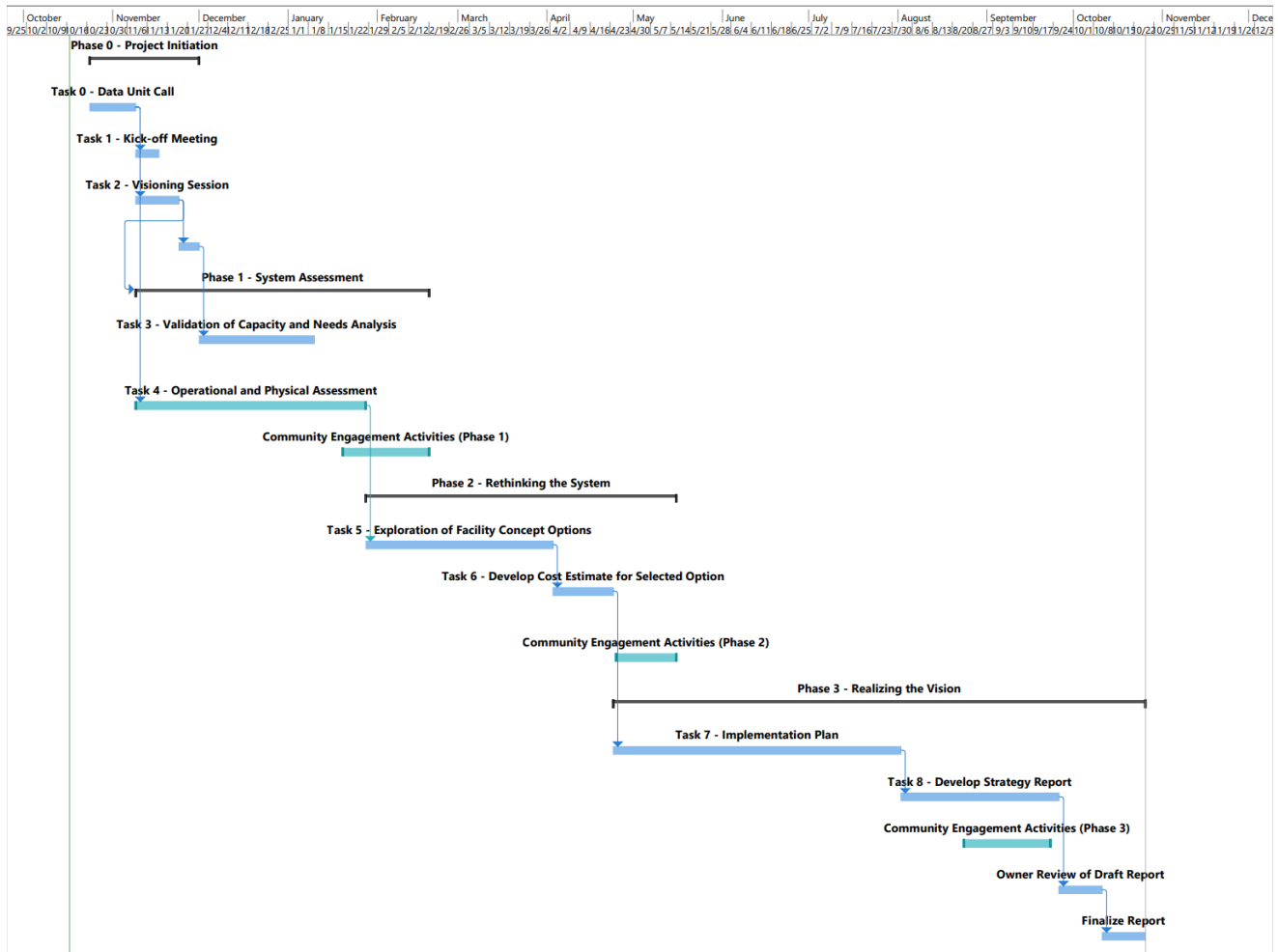


Rethinking the Allegheny County Jail

Facility 2022-2023 Project timeline



Public Engagement Plan

Purpose: To obtain stakeholder and public feedback on how the jail might be re-designed or re-purposed to reflect and better support the declining jail population. The goal is to gather information from a range of stakeholders to inform the physical and programmatic design of an improved facility.

PLANNING PHASE 0. PROJECT INITIATION

- (1) [Safety and Justice Challenge Community Advisory Committee](#) (CAC): The Project Team will conduct a preliminary visioning session with the CAC in December 2022 and meet with this group periodically throughout the planning phase.
- (2) [Criminal Justice Reform Progress Panel](#): The Project Team will conduct one-on-one discussions with members of the Criminal Justice Reform Progress Panel, formed in 2017 by University of Pittsburgh's Institute of Politics in collaboration with the County Executive.

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These conversations will provide background for the overall process and help frame the questions for the next of engagement (e.g., focus groups, public survey). The goal is to understand the context, surface major issues, and engage with stakeholders working in this space.

- (3) Other activities in this phase include:
 - a. Refining engagement plan
 - b. Kick-off meeting and jail walkthrough

PLANNING PHASE 1. SYSTEM ASSESSMENT

- (1) "User" Consultations:
 - a. Incarcerated individuals and ACJ staff: Project Team will have small group conversations with those who are currently incarcerated in the ACJ, those who work there, and those providing services.
 - b. Legal System Partners: Project Team will conduct one-on-one and small group discussions with legal system stakeholders including judges, public defenders, district attorneys, and other court personnel.

These consultations will help the Project Team to understand operations, the physical state of facility, and opportunities for improvement.

- (2) External Stakeholder Focus Groups: The project team will convene three focus groups to understand the experiences of those who have spent time in the Allegheny County Jail or have been affected by incarceration. The goal will be to understand both the physical/facility issues and other challenges and opportunities they might have seen that could inform the design process. Focus group participants are anticipated to include:
 - a. formerly incarcerated individuals
 - b. families & friends of those incarcerated, and those impacted by violence
 - c. advocacy and service provider groups working with incarcerated people

The project team will work with the county and with community partners to convene focus groups of 10-12 people each. Each will be staffed by two team members.

- (3) Public Interface via Survey: Project Team will create a survey to gather broad based input on specific issues being considered in the re-design of the jail. The project team will work with the county identify the appropriate questions for the survey. The survey may be used to gather input from the general public and for participants who cannot attend a focus group.

The purpose of the survey is to inform the public about what this project is about and to hear what changes and improvements they want to see. DHS will support publication and outreach for the survey.

PLANNING PHASE 2. RETHINKING THE SYSTEM (getting feedback on options)

- (1) Reconvene focus groups: The project team will reconvene the three focus groups from Phase I to share the proposed design options and gather input to inform the preferred plan:
 - a. formerly incarcerated individuals
 - b. families & friends of those incarcerated, and those impacted by violence
 - c. advocacy and service provider groups working with incarcerated people

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(2) Reconvene legal system partners and advisory groups: The project team will reconvene the legal system partners, the SCJ Community Advisory Committee, and the Criminal Justice Reform Progress Panel to share proposed design options and gather their input to inform the preferred plan.

PLANNING PHASE 3. REALIZING THE VISION

Final Presentation: The Project Team will share the final preferred plan with a broad audience and hear feedback on the findings and process. See below a summary of the stakeholders we will engage through this process:

Group 1: ACJ "Users"	Group 2: Criminal justice reform advisory groups	Group 3: Legal System Partners	Group 4: Others impacted by incarceration	Group 5: General Public
-Currently incarcerated -ACJ staff -Current ACJ service providers	SJC Community Advisory Committee (CAC) and IOP's Criminal Justice Reform Progress Panel	- Public Defender - District Attorney - Judges - Court administration -Other	-Formerly incarcerated -Families, friends, and those impacted by violence -Advocacy organizations	- Via survey/website - Final Presentation