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The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
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February 7, 2024

Jason Rives, Superintendent
Worcester County Jail and House of Correction
5 Paul X. Tivnan Drive
West Boylston, MA 01583 (electronic copy)

Re: Plan of Correction - Worcester County Jail and House of Correction, West Boylston

Dear Superintendent Rives:

The Massachusetts Department of Public Health, Community Sanitation Program (CSP) has received your Plan of Correction dated January 24, 2024. After review, the CSP finds the plan appropriately addresses all of the violations noted in the report with the following exceptions:

1. Your Plan of Correction (POC) does not provide a date of completion for work which requires DCAMM funding. While the CSP understands you do not have control over DCAMM's allotment of funds, we cannot approve any item that does not identify a reasonable time frame for repair. The CSP remains concerned with the uncorrected violations and asks you to provide a plan describing the interim measures you have implemented to ensure the health and safety of inmates and staff. In addition, we ask to be kept apprised of the DCAMM funding progress.
2. The CSP appreciates the updated information concerning showers throughout the facility, however we cannot approve any items that do not identify a reasonable timeframe for repair. In addition, the CSP asks you provide a plan describing the interim measures you have implemented to ensure the health and safety of inmates and staff in said areas.
3. Your Plan of Correction indicates you have an approved overcrowding waiver from the Department of Corrections (DOC) regarding floor space in cells. Please be advised that the DOC does not have the authority to issue waivers for any provisions of 105 CMR 451.000, therefore we cannot accept a waiver from the DOC as a means of remedy. The CSP appreciates the limitations of correctional facilities and the need to accommodate the ever-increasing population; however, we remain concerned with the overcrowded conditions.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter, should you have any questions please contact me at the address listed above.

Sincerely,



Amy Medeiros
Environmental Health Inspector, CSP, BCEH

cc: Robert Goldstein, MD, PhD, Commissioner, DPH
Nalina Narain, Director, BCEH
Steven Hughes, Director, CSP, BCEH
Kathleen E. Walsh, Secretary, Executive Office of Health and Human Services (electronic copy)
Carol A. Mici, Commissioner, DOC (electronic copy)
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