



Maintenance Director:

Mitch Bart



Mr. Bart started at Antrim County in November 2021 after a downstate career in facilities management and custodial services. A graduate of Godwin Heights High School, Mr. Bart has a BS degree in Business Administration and a Masters of Management from Aquinas College.

His work experience includes Facilities Manager for the Catholic Diocese of Grand Rapids and Director of Facilities for Kent Intermediate School District. He also once served as a marine deputy for Ottawa County. In addition, Mr. Bart and his family spent a missionary year in Guatemala working in an orphanage and women’s shelter.

When asked what he likes most about his position, Mr. Bart said he appreciates having a great team in the maintenance department!

Grass River Natural Area: Boardwalk Update

Funding for replacing the boardwalk has taken a huge leap forward. Thanks to two large state grants and many generous donations, Phase 2, the cabin to meadow section, will be completed by June 2024. Phase 3 will begin later in 2024.

Phase 3 is the sedge-meadow section, and the final phase of the boardwalk replacement. Completion of this significant project will allow visitors to safely visit GRNA for many years.

County Building Renovations: November 2023 Update

Brickwork and metal panel installation began in November. Contractors are “tenting” the building exterior in sections as they work. Window frames are being temporarily filled with rigid foam insulation until the windows are delivered.

Public Safety Center:

Survey Results Coming in December

GVSU is analyzing the survey data provided by hundreds of Antrim County voters. Students of an upper-level statistics class are presenting survey results as part of their final exam, which will be in mid-December. The County will publicize survey results as quickly as possible.

Meanwhile, we continue adding to our FAQs about the proposed Public Safety Center. A [link to information about the Proposed Public Safety Center](#) is on the [County website](#) under “How Do I” at the top menu bar. The FAQ page also has a link to an [Up North Live](#) video tour of the existing jail.

What would a new Public Safety Center cost?

If construction begins in 2025, the current total project cost is estimated at \$30 million. That cost will go up \$1 million—or more—every year that construction is delayed.

Would the County be paying for part of the project out of existing funds?

Yes. The County anticipates paying 10-20% of the cost up front. The Board of Commissioners will decide on the final amount when the ballot language is approved. The County’s goal is to pay part of the annual debt from revenues.

What millage is being proposed? And when?

Up to 1.0 mills for up to 15 years. The final amount will depend on anticipated interest rates and construction dates when the millage’s ballot language is finalized. Though a May 2024 millage vote is possible, the Board of Commissioners has not made a final decision.



Renovated County Building Rendering: View from Cayuga St.