

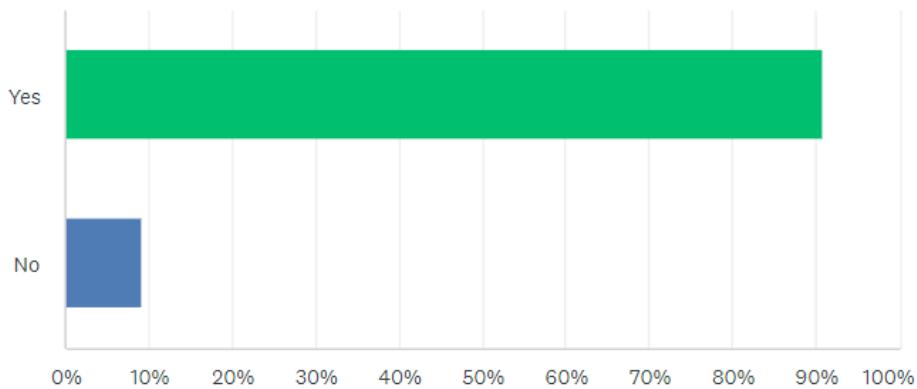
## Waller County Courthouse Survey Responses

Q2



Are you agreeable to the County building a new courthouse?

Answered: 185    Skipped: 1



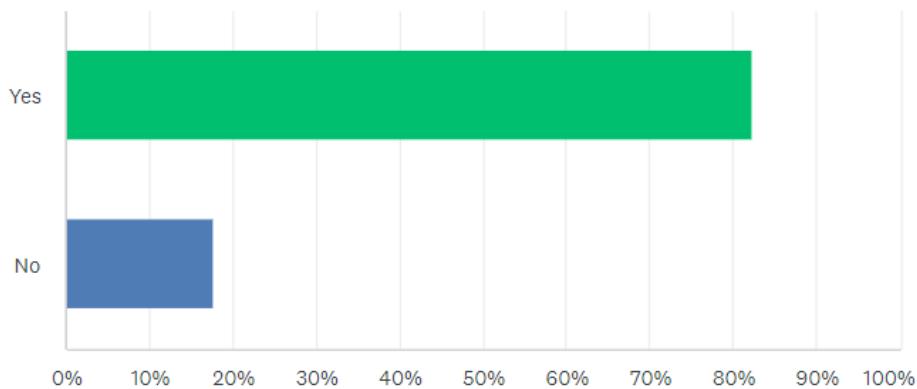
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	90.81%	168
No	9.19%	17
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>185</b>

Q3



Would you be agreeable to the County using certificates of obligation to finance the courthouse project?

Answered: 186 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Yes	82.26%
No	17.74%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>186</b>

### Comments from those agreeable to the County using COs:

1. The sooner the better and there is no guarantee a bond would pass!
2. This courthouse is the county seat for Waller County. First and foremost, a new courthouse is needed for safety and keeping our county employees healthy. The beautification portion is a bonus and help beautify our city.
3. Has a study or research been done to determine why the county let this become critical over many many years. What could they have done to do basic upkeep and check on things and not have this be a sudden Monumental project

4. Though I loved the enriched history of the current Courthouse, the problems currently with the foundation and other things are concerning. Yes a new Courthouse is needed.
5. I think the transparency of the project is good. I can't fathom why anyone would want to even try and preserve the existing courthouse, it's ugly and not even that old. As a tax paying citizen, I want the most functionality for the least cost. This would mean a new courthouse and locking in the interest rate ASAP.
6. Thank you.
7. Let's get it done as cost effective as possible!
8. I so think the new project is what Waller County needs and well deserved. I do hope there are plans to salvage some of the beautiful wood and materials in the old Court house. Hard to find that kind of quality as well as History those walls have.
9. Much needed and already put off to support other needed projects. Delaying this project longer is likely to cost the county more as core functions will need to be moved to temporary facilities whose lease contracts are never cheap. Hopefully y'all can make this happen before the situation worsens.
10. Waller County is growing & that growth is being addressed. The new courthouse is a MUST! Let's do this!!
11. My answer to number 2 is actually not a yes. There should have been an UNDECIDED choice. I cannot get past the \$32million dollars. Sorry, I know it's necessary but \$32million???
12. Get it done so the county can move forward and employees have a safe and decent place to work.
13. It's definitely time for a new courthouse. Keep building Hempstead up! It has come far.
14. Save money and get it done!
15. Go for it. Make it as timeless as today's design and material standards allow. cCc
16. There are some things you cannot delay! Who knows how high the feds will raise rates. We are in a recession and the feds want to slow inflation. Go for it now!
17. A new courthouse is needed

18. I was hoping the facade would resemble the historic building and it appears that is being considered. I totally support the new courthouse and am excited to watch it's progress.
19. I saw renderings, but please try and make the building grand with a historical look. It would serve as a focal point for our town.
20. That is the most ugly suggestion of a courthouse that I have ever seen! Maybe "We, the public" could have 2 or 3 suggestions to vote on?
21. With all of these new businesses moving into south Waller county, it seems these businesses should be paying the brunt of the cost and our property taxes should be decreasing.
22. Get this done. Every day we wait the cost goes up.
23. My only complaint is that the only court this court house will accommodate is the commissioners court. Most people see a court house as housing courts of law. Maybe change the name to Waller County Administration Building and it will gain more traction with the public as they will better understand it's uses.
24. Just do it!
25. Just be transparent, don't over estimate the project. Past bond votes have failed because the requests were FAR to high.
26. Very large expenditure, needs serious management
27. I have a strong bent towards historic preservation, but in this case saving the existing building is really impossible. The costs are prohibitive. The building is rapidly decaying and failure to act now could creat an unsafe condition for our county staff and officials.
28. Thank you for bringing back a beautiful structure.
29. I like the idea of getting this started as quickly as possible. Please ensure the new building doesn't flood from a future storm. We need this building to last for at least the rest of this century! Thank you for taking resident input! Good luck!
30. Capture lower rates now. They are going up fast.
31. The court house is falling a part with mold on the windows and non functioning air conditioning
32. Waller is growing we need to keep up with the times. If not we will be behind the 8 ball.

33. Please consider a lot of residents are struggling to feed their live stock, tax increases for a "wish" list of items in the proposal of construction is harsh. I take pride in our court house, but for each commissioners office to have their own restroom??? Really... Way to flush tax dollars down the drain...
34. Looking at the current condition of our old Courthouse and the current economic environment, COs are the sound business decision.
35. The best option financially for the county is to go with COs. Interest rates will continue to rise, as the Federal Reserve plans more rate hikes. All economic indicators are down, despite the rhetoric from the Biden Administration. In addition, voter turnout for bonds is surprisingly low. So, go for COs, as the need to move, due to the current condition of the courthouse, is dire.
36. Better now than later when it will cost more. We must keep up with the pace of growth.
37. The courthouse has served us longer than anticipated. The world has changed and the needs of our county have certainly changed. It is hard to imagine we can go into the future with this headquarters building.
38. I agree to go ahead with this before the Fed.'s raise the interest rates.
39. Using certificates of obligation is faster and more efficient. It locks in interest rates and it saves several million dollars in costs to conduct a bond referendum. That's money that can go into the construction rather than in the election. Citizens can offer their opinions by attending meetings, contacting commissioners court, and using social media. Let's do this!
40. A new courthouse is badly needed. Will there be a committee with some citizens on the committee for additional input, design suggestions, etc. ? Our courthouse is a major challenge for the handicapped!
41. Go forward asap.
42. Definitely necessary.
43. it costs too much to try to repair the existing courthouse and nobody wants to guarantee any work they do because of the existing structure is falling apart. We would have to tear it down to repair it, it is not just the foundation, but every floor would have to be torn out and then rebuilt, plus the walls. The cost is just too much compared to building a new one that will look similar to the old one that everybody liked.
44. Make it right by building a new courthouse.

45. Supporting Our Judges & Our County any way possible
46. Save the proposed interest rate increases and invest them in new or improved roads and drainage projects.
47. Plan for the growth and try to consider even larger than what is recommended. The cost for building now will be so much less than the future and quality and size should be used to base decisions of this magnitude. Create a building that will work for the citizens in 75 years as well as all the current citizens of Waller County.
48. Looking forward to seeing the new building!!
49. Invest in quality materials that wil minimize future maintanence costs.
50. I think the current courthouse holds lots of history that can also be incorporated into a new facility. Waller County honestly deserves this upgrade. I remember being a child going into the current courthouse for shots...maybe that is something we could bring back to the new facility!
51. Due to current costs of financing and building supplies and is expected to only go up over the next 12 months, we suggest sooner than later. Save \$'s

### Comments from those not agreeable to the County using COs:

1. I'd like to see this be added to ballot for residents of the county to vote on it. There are other projects within the county that have gone neglected far too long.
2. First, I'd like to thank the court for it's transparency and for providing an avenue for the public to view the town hall, as well as the exhibits online . I have viewed the town hall and looked over the schematics of the proposed new courthouse.

Here are my comments with regards to the proposal:

- 1) I agree a new courthouse is warranted considering the condition of the current one.
- 2) I think that the courthouse should be one the community can be proud of. However, in my opinion, each department included EVERYTHING on their Christmas list in the design and for 30 current employees and a projected 60 in 2050, the whole thing can be scaled down to cut costs to taxpayers.
- 3) Additionally, I count 16 staff and private bathrooms in addition to the public ones. There are also, in my opinion, an over abundance of breakrooms & conference rooms.

I have worked in posh offices and have never seen this many bathrooms, conference rooms or break rooms/kitchens. I realize as a public building there exists a need for staff bathrooms where a private company would not. However, one set of staff bathrooms per floor should be ample. The additional plumbing running throughout the building is not only an unnecessary building cost, but will also add to the maintenance cost over the years.

That the court thought this would be acceptable to the public is astonishing, especially in the current economic climate. Now, because of the insensitivity of the board, additional funds will need to be expended to draw up new plans. Unless these excesses are removed, I will not vote for the bond and campaign that no one else do either.

3. This building needs to be scaled back. One set of restrooms and one conference room and one break room per floor!
4. I believe that would rush any decisions and that's not ok.
5. Agreeable to a new courthouse, but it should be up to the taxpayers to decide. Put it to a bond referendum.
6. You are paid officials by the tax payers! Please start acting like ones that respect tax payer dollars. Individual bathrooms is a luxury, not a necessity. You know this should be going to bond for the people
7. Voters need to decided wharfs going on in our county.
8. Let the people vote on the bonds
9. Does it need to be this big? Does it need to be at this time? Property taxes are too high already!
10. I understand a new courthouse is needed. However, I am on Social Security. I cannot handle any more taxes! I believe the CO'S would raise property taxes. I do not want to lose my home. I would appreciate serious consideration of people in my position. Thank you.
11. I understand the dilemma here. If the bond fails, the CO cannot be issued for 3 years. But the citizens are under too much stress with property taxes and inflation right now and this will only add to it and will infuriate the public when they come to realize it was done. Right now only a small percent of the public is even aware of the consideration of a new courthouse. No one has a crystal ball, but right now is not the time to force this issue. I suggest to wait until after the midterms and put it on the ballot in May. I know the court contends this will cost us in interest, but it may save us interest as well. These are very unstable and uncertain times.

12. I understand the logic of locking in a lower interest with a CO for a needed new courthouse. As our elected county government you can do that. I am in RISD and the last 2 bond elections for needed school buildings have failed. Waller county property owners are in STICKER SHOCK from recent appraisal district evaluations. State Republican platform even has the elimination of appraisal districts and property taxes. I would like to see a well presented bond election. Fix the bathroom objection. I appreciate your service and support the construction of a new courthouse.
13. This should be passed to Referendum and voting The plans should be voted on as well as total targeted budget allocation
14. It seems to me that you only have a possible preliminary building design, and thus a preliminary estimate of \$32 MM - which at this point would be a "best guess" situation. Until there is a finalized design and a more accurate cost, my opinion is it's too early for Commissioners Court to decide on using certificates of obligation instead of putting the issue before the voters.

### Comments from those not agreeable to building a new courthouse:

1. We need to try and preserve the one we have
2. Bad timing, financially. Employees are still working remotely or can and you could use the annex for any necessary in person appointments.
3. The people should be able to cote on this much of a debt burden.
4. Seems like a large waste of money. Let the residents vote on it in November
5. Our community is struggling financially and cannot bear more capital outlay at this time.
6. Funds needs to be used elsewhere in the county. Roads are terrible in the county.
7. That building looks horrendous. No personality.
8. I am concerned about some of the more superfluous features of the courthouse. Private bathrooms in every major office except the auditor? Can they not use a standard bathroom like every other person? That would cut costs and while I understand that the balconies and open areas are pretty and inviting, they seem to be for aesthetics only and that space could be reworked to be more beneficial and useful. While the county employees do deserve a nice and adequate working space, when it is coming out of tax

payers pockets it could be scaled down to not be so fancy to reduce costs. I do agree though that with the current location something needs to be done to make it safer and more useful.

9. Until property taxes are reasonable, no new buildings!
10. Put it on the ballot so the people can vote
11. We need much more diverse input from community ESPECIALLY from many of our older residents on fixed income