

Incarceration Prevention and Reduction Task Force
DRAFT Meeting Summary for June 6, 2016

1. Call to Order

Task Force Chair Jill Bernstein called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Present: Angela Anderson, Jill Bernstein, Stephen Gockley, Susan Gribbin, Daniel Hammill, Fred Heydrich, Jack Hovenier, Betsy Kruse, Kelli Linville, Byron Manering, Ken Mann, Dave McEachran, Irene Morgan, Darlene Peterson, Randy Polidan, Tyler Schroeder, Greg Winter

Also Present: Leslie Finch (Proxy for Chris Phillips), Matt Huffman (Proxy for Michael Knapp), Ralph Long (Proxy for Julie Finkbonner), Iris Maute-Gibson (Proxy for Moonwater), Perry Mowery (Proxy for Anne Deacon)

Absent: Jeff Brubaker, Anne Deacon, Bill Elfo, Julie Finkbonner, Michael Knapp, Moonwater, Chris Phillips

Review and approve May 2, 2016 Meeting Summary

Task Force members noted that Leslie Finch is the proxy for Chris Phillips and the City of Bellingham cost for electronic home monitoring is \$14.50 per day.

Bernstein stated both corrections will be made.

2. Committee Updates

Behavioral Health Committee

Mowery gave an update on the Behavioral Health Committee. They are focusing on services provided before and after the triage facility. The Committee talked with Sgt. Cristelli, Bellingham Policy Department, about the new program similar to law enforcement assisted diversion (LEAD) and the crisis prevention and intervention team (CPIT) program.

Bernstein stated she hopes that the Behavioral Health Committee works cooperatively with Mr. Heydrich and Mr. Hammill from the Legal & Justice Systems Committee, who are also interested in a LEAD-like program, so as not to duplicate efforts.

The Task Force discussed making sure that programs are extended countywide.

Triage Facility Committee

Schroeder gave an update on the Triage Facility Committee discussion on how to move forward with the Phase Two Report. The Committee will refine recommendations for a facility in terms of:

- Design
 - 2009 or 2010 architectural design
- Location
 - Division Street Work Center
 - Another possible location downtown or near the hospital
- Costs and funding

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- Capital costs funded from the State legislature
- Capital costs funded from a Department of Commerce Grant
- Ongoing operation costs in cooperation with the North Sound Behavioral Health Organization
- Funding sources
- Goals
 - Relocate and replace inpatient beds
 - Provide acute detoxification triage facility

He and Health Department staff spoke with staff at the North Sound Behavioral Health Organization (BHO) recently about the status of replacing the Pioneer Center North beds and how each county is moving forward.

The Task Force members discussed the status of the BHO needs assessment and funding:

- The possible benefits of and/or problems with applying for the Commerce grant, receiving State funding, or both
- The possibility of State funding reducing the amount of the available grant
- The full funding request of the North Sound BHO for the county versus the entire region

Legal & Justice Systems Committee

Heydrich gave an update on the Legal & Justice Systems Committee and referenced the May 16, 2016 Meeting Summary Addendum: Whiteboard Notes from the Committee meeting, on Task Force packet page 13. The Committee is beginning to focus on particular programs:

- LEAD
- pre-trial jail alternative programs
- post-conviction jail alternatives
- drug court
- probation

The Task Force discussed the possibility of other therapeutic courts, such as community court, portability court, veteran courts, and family courts.

Steering Committee

Mann gave an update on the facilitator and criminal justice expert requests for qualifications (RFQs) for the Task Force.

Forrest Longman, County Council Legislative Analyst, introduced himself to the Task Force.

3. Update by Jurisdictions on Jail Diversion Programs

Peterson reported on two City of Bellingham programs:

- Sending defendants to Yakima
 - Defendants are already sentenced

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- The program is in response to the Sheriff's request to reduce the population in the County jail
- To-date, 43 defendants have been sent to Yakima to serve a total sentence time of 1,734 days
- Those defendants have served 1,248 days as of today
- Defendants receive one-third time off their sentence if they go to Yakima
- The program has been positive
- Electronic home monitoring to defer people from jail. She submitted and read from a handout on the first quarter home monitoring summary report (*on file*).
 - Defendants are monitored by GPS 24 hours per day, seven days per week
 - Different screening procedures for in-custody and out-of-custody defendants
 - In-custody defendants receive screening pre-arraignment

Peterson described two cases of pre-trial home monitoring results, one using a SCRAM Systems continuous alcohol and location monitoring bracelet. In addition, they are working with Yakima to set up pre-trial supervision for incarcerated defendants, which would be more feasible if other jurisdictions shared in the program and shared transportation and if video conferencing were available for certain hearings.

The Task Force discussed costs and the City's electronic home monitoring program versus the County's electronic home monitoring program:

- Some City EHM defendants who do not qualify for the County's EHM program due to the City allowing early screening and short-term EHM.
- The different monitoring types
- City subsidizing EHM for those who fall below the poverty level
- The City subsidized EHM at a cost of \$1,473.82, compared to the City's cost of over \$40,000 if those defendants had spent their time in jail
- Developing a cost-savings analysis of the Yakima program
- Determining the social impacts of sending defendants to Yakima
- Tasking the Justice and Legal System Committee with looking at the differences between the County and City EHM programs and how to bring two programs together. Include prosecutors, judges, the City of Bellingham, and the County in the conversation.
- Focusing on EHM, which is a true jail diversion program, not on Yakima
- A good-time credit in Yakima that has not been implemented at the County jail
- EHM allows for unquantifiable benefits, such as allowing defendants to stay in their homes and jobs, which out-of-custody jail alternatives don't allow
-

Long reported on the Lummi programs:

- General monitoring and GPS detention monitoring
 - Daily visits
 - Random drug and alcohol testing
 - Allows defendants to continue work and treatment
 - Problem with letting batteries run low

- The EHM bracelet cost is about \$7 per day, and the GPS bracelet cost is \$12.00 per day
- The Lummi Nation subsidizes the total cost for the defendants
- Unannounced drop-in visits are required, get the family involved, and are an incentive for compliance
- Yakima pre-trial
- Swift and Certain
- Family Court

4. Intersection of Criminal Justice and Mental Health Systems

McEachran described a mental health case study that the jail and Prosecutor's Office recently experienced. Law enforcement is trying to protect the person. If the mental health system won't protect the person, then it's left to law enforcement and the jail. The mental health providers are saying the person is okay, and then the person is released from mental health care. The City and County don't want to move forward with charges because there is an issue of competency. The question is how to help this person and the public.

Anderson stated they can't prosecute someone who can't appreciate the criminal proceedings because of their mental health. For serious felonies, people will be sent to Western State, where providers will work with the defendant so they can eventually stand trial. Misdemeanor cases don't go through that process for several reasons.

The Task Force members discussed:

- Making sure community providers and family members are involved in the process
- The lack of outpatient services and long-term inpatient facilities to help people with significant problems
- Whether good treatment while in jail can be provided as part of the legal process for those who are too aggressive and difficult for an outpatient facility or the hospital
- Whether a more robust crisis prevention and intervention team (CPIT) program would help to keep certain people out of jail
- Figuring out a system to connect people to necessary services when they are released from jail.
- Mental health treatment standards, which are extremely restrictive so people aren't institutionalized on a flimsy basis. The County designated mental health professionals (CDMHPs) have a limited number of options for helping people.
- How law enforcement and other professionals approach people who are in a state of crisis.
- The Housing First model.
- The importance to let legislators know what isn't working. There must be communication.

Anderson stated about half of her clients have a mental illness, but only about two percent are incompetent. She described the procedure for handling those who are incompetent:

- They spend 14 days in jail before incompetency orders can be filed
- It's a month before Western State Hospital makes their evaluations

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- It's 60 days before their first competency restoration period

Until these individuals receive treatment at Western State Hospital, they may sit in jail for months without medication. The jail can't forcefully administer medication.

Bernstein stated Bellingham Police Sgt. Cristelli has said the 40 hour per week CPIT program is working well. The Task Force can recommend that the CPIT program be expanded to include 24/7 on call CPIT staff.

Schroeder stated he would like to hear about a similar scenario from the perspective of the behavioral health providers, specifically the constraints they experience and the applicable laws.

Mowery stated the Crisis Oversight Community Group includes individuals involved in housing and crisis response discuss these issues from that perspective.

5. Update on Medicaid Rules

This item was not discussed and is held to the July meeting.

6. Review and Approve Draft June 2016 Task Force Report to County Council

Bernstein stated she would like Task Force members to review the draft report and suggest changes no later than in the next 48 hours.

7. Next Steps: Ideas & Further Information

Next meeting topics: Meeting Schedule

Hovenier moved to accept the proposed new schedule, including the December meeting date of December 12. The motion was seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

8. Public Comments

Ray Baribeau stated compare and contrast electronic home monitoring for pre-trial defendants versus bail conditions in terms of what control authorities have during release.

9. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 11:02 a.m.

**Incarceration Prevention and Reduction Task Force
Steering Committee**

DRAFT Meeting Summary for June 30, 2016

1. Call To Order

Committee Chair Ken Mann called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m. in the Health Department Lower Level Conference Room, 509 Girard Street, Bellingham.

Members Present: Jill Bernstein, Anne Deacon, Alfred Heydrich, Ken Mann, Tyler Schroeder

Members Absent: Jack Hovenier and Chris Phillips

2. Update on Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for Task Force Facilitator and Criminal Justice Expert

Schroeder stated the County has received the submittals to the two RFQs. The next step is to score and rank the submittals. He will notify the Steering Committee members who are chosen to do the scoring.

The committee discussed whether it's too late in the process to begin using a new facilitator, whether the scoring process is subject to the Open Public Meetings Act and Open Public Records Act, the timeline for contract review and approval, the remaining budget available to fund the contracts, and whether the agencies who have responded have a particular political agenda.

3. July 11 Task Force Agenda

Regarding the Task Force agenda:

- Updates by jurisdictions on jail diversion programs as a recurring agenda item
- The committee discussed and agreed on the July 11 Task Force meeting agenda items
- Medicaid rules changing for jail inmates
- Appointing a Task Force member to the new Jail Stakeholder Workgroup
- How to continue the discussion regarding the Criminal Justice/Behavioral Health Intersection case study

Schroeder moved that the Steering Committee to recommend that Jack Hovenier be appointed as the Task Force representative on the new Jail Stakeholder Workgroup. The motion was seconded.

The motion carried unanimously.

4. Steering Committee Role in Setting Task Force Agenda

Mann stated his original intent for the steering committee was to monitor the broader progress of the Task Force to make sure it is moving forward efficiently and to oversee the staff and contractors, not to set agendas.

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Steering Committee***

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The committee discussed:

- Whether the Steering Committee should have a monthly role in setting the Task Force agenda
- Updates from the committee chairs on the progress of their committees
- Whether the new contractors will have enough time to get caught up on the work of the Task Force and subcommittees
- Task Force work continuing beyond the March 2017 Phase 3 Report deadline
- The value of funding a Task Force criminal justice expert contractor instead of behavioral health services
- The County Council expectations for the Phase 2 Report due in November
- Keeping the Task Force and its recommendations neutral in terms of the discussion regarding a potential new jail
- Keeping the work of the Task Force separate from the new Jail Stakeholder Workgroup

Mann stated the Task Force is an ongoing effort to reduce incarceration and prevention to improve outcomes for the community as a whole, not just to reduce jail population. The size of the jail is a separate conversation for a separate group.

Schroeder stated the contracts will help set the framework for future ongoing Task Force work.

5. Next Steps: Ideas & Further Information

Bernstein stated she would like the Steering Committee to have a future discussion about the committee membership rules in terms of the members and their proxies.

6. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

7. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 11:50 a.m.

Incarceration Prevention and Reduction Task Force
Triage Facility Subcommittee
DRAFT Meeting Summary for June 16, 2016

1. Call To Order

Committee Chair Chris Phillips called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. in the Health Department Lower Level Conference Room, 509 Girard Street, Bellingham.

Members Present: Jeff Brubaker, Jack Hovenier, Chris Phillips, Tyler Schroeder, Kathy Walker, Dean Wight

Members Absent: Ken Mann, Jeff Parks, Sandy Whitcutt

Also Present: Jill Bernstein, Anne Deacon, Irene Morgan

Review May 26, 2016 Meeting Summary

Deacon moved to approve the May 26, 2016 meeting summary as presented. The motion was seconded.

The motion carried unanimously.

2. Update on County Health Department and North Sound Behavioral Health Organization (NSBHO) Whatcom County Behavioral Health Facility Planning Report

Deacon described the Health Department's proposal to the regional Behavioral Health Organization. They recommended the development of a recovery campus, possibly on Division Street, as shown on page 19 of the report that includes:

- Two residential treatment facilities for substance use disorder
 - One facility near the recovery campus that will serve people with serious mental illness and substance use issues. This facility is being renovated and is operated by another agency.
 - One facility, location to be determined, for people with addiction as the primary concern and who may or may not have mental health concerns
- A recovery stabilization facility
 - One 16-bed unit for addiction stabilization
 - One 16-bed unit for mental health stabilization
- A recovery house
 - Proposed 30 beds
- Increased outpatient treatment services

Committee members discussed concerns about how this proposal is much different than the Task Force proposal for the Triage Facility, the increased impacts to the neighbors, lack of transportation to and from the area, whether a recovery campus could be built in a residential area, and whether all these facilities would be located in the same location on Division Street.

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Deacon stated the proposal will continue to evolve as it goes through the process with the BHO. The recovery campus has been much discussed in other committees. She described the components of a recovery house:

- People can live at the recovery house for up to six months
- They can come and go to work, school, and appointments
- Onsite programs
- A structured program that is staffed 24/7
- The location is not yet decided

This committee's scope is limited to the triage center, but it can provide input on co-locating the other facilities with the triage facility.

Bernstein stated the County Council and County Sheriff committed to the neighbors that the site would remain as it is. The proposal for a larger campus changes that dynamic. It's a significant change.

The committee discussed the most appropriate locations, commitments to neighbors, centralizing the services, this committee's role in the larger behavioral health discussions, developing the components of the campus as funding opportunities arise, how to present the committee's recommendations to the Council in light of the entire campus project, and needs assessment reflecting the full need of the community without consideration of political realities.

3. Phase II Report

Forrest Longman, Council Legislative Analyst, stated the most effective process to draft the phase II report is for the subcommittee chairs to write the first draft of their section of the full report. The information can be pulled from the meeting summaries. He will compile the draft reports from the chairs into a larger draft Phase II Report that the Task Force can consider. Chairs would provide him their first draft by August 31.

Phillips stated he will not have the time to write a draft report. Schroeder stated another subcommittee member can take that responsibility from the Chair.

Bernstein stated the draft Phase II Report will go to the Task Force members for review by the end of September. The Task Force can take a final vote at its meeting in October.

Phillips stated that he, Jack Hovenier, and Tyler Schroeder can collaborate on the first draft of the Phase II Report from the Triage Committee.

4. State Budget Capital Facility funding and State Department of Commerce grant

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Schroeder reported on the County's work with Skagit County, Snohomish County, and others to make a regional request next year in the State budget for capital facility funding. They are also beginning to look at two different grants from the Department of Commerce.

- The State Mental Hospital Diversion Projects,
 - A grant is best suited for the crisis triage facility
 - Up to \$2 million
- Acute and Residential Grant Application, which for evaluation and treatment centers, including involuntary treatment through RCW 71.05. Whatcom County is not planning for an involuntary treatment facility, so this grant is not appropriate.

Deacon stated the North Sound Behavioral Health Organization can use some of their Medicaid funds for "soft costs."

Schroeder stated he and staff are working on the grant application, due July 14, 2016. They need community partners, including the Task Force and the Region, to submit letters of support for the grant application.

5. Review of the Task Force discussion regarding the intersection of the criminal justice and behavioral health systems

Bernstein stated this discussion is a follow-up to a presentation to the full Task Force from Prosecutor Dave McEachran regarding a case study of a mentally ill person who kept entering the criminal justice system.

Walker stated she had hoped the discussion and case study could identify specific gaps in the systems. Recognize that some overlap of the two systems will continue to exist. It's likely the jail will continue to be a default in certain instances, regardless of what they can do to close the gaps. She described the case study.

The committee discussed the intersection of the criminal justice and mental health systems:

- Some people with mental health issues also have criminogenic risk factors, and they will revolve in and out of the jail, regardless of how good the systems are.
- Because of the civil rights laws in America, someone can't be treated against their will unless there is a substantial risk of harm to self, others, or property. Laws are set up to protect individuals.
- Sometimes mental health intervention isn't effective because of criminogenic risk factors.
- Some people with mental health issues need to be in long-term treatment facilities, but that doesn't happen voluntarily.
- Be clear in the report that they won't necessarily be able to resolve problems for all individuals, and some folks will continue to revolve through the system.
- The Task Force needs to be careful about how optimistic they are about how much behavioral health programs can help the overall population.
- The jail will always need some sort of behavioral health program.

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- Identify the limits to what the Task Force can accomplish.
- Prioritizing their work on the people who they can help.
- Educate the Task Force about the abilities of law enforcement and mental health systems.
- Also use case studies to demonstrate success stories.

Schroeder stated have a presentation on the case study from the behavioral health or crisis oversight perspective by identifying how the behavioral health community can and can't help this individual.

6. Next Steps: Ideas & Further Information

Bernstein stated she will work with behavioral health folks to create a presentation at a Task Force meeting regarding the case study from the mental health perspective.

Phillips stated County staff are working to submit the grant applications. Forrest Longman and Tyler Schroeder will work on the Phase II Report.

The committee discussed the draft June 2016 Report update and asked for more review time. The committee also discussed the need for a meeting in July and decided to cancel its July meeting.

7. Public Comment

Irene Morgan stated she appreciates the work of the community, approves of the grant application and the number of units proposed, although it's not enough. There are also not enough connecting services. The percentage of people with mental health and criminogenic factors is discouraging, however she is hopeful for the future.

8. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 10:50 a.m.

Incarceration Prevention and Reduction Task Force
Legal & Justice Systems Subcommittee
DRAFT Meeting Summary for June 13, 2016

1. Call To Order

Committee Member Jill Bernstein called the meeting to order at 9:15 a.m. in the Bellingham Municipal Court Fireplace Room, 2014 C Street, Bellingham.

Members Present: Angela Anderson, Jill Bernstein, Bill Elfo, Deborra Garrett, Stephen Gockley, Daniel Hammill, Fred Heydrich, Dave McEachran, Moonwater, Irene Morgan, Darlene Peterson, Peter Ruffatto

Also Present: Matt Huffman (for Michael Knapp)

Members Absent: Michael Knapp

Review May 16, 2016 Meeting Summary

There were no comments on the May 16, 2016 Meeting Summary

Discussion of Statement of Work

Bernstein submitted a handout of a chart regarding potential programs for the Committee to consider (*on file*).

Moonwater stated she envisioned a document that shows how their goals, objectives, and tasks align to create a work plan.

- Identify gaps between the goals and objectives
- Create a table of potential programs to inform the statement of work
- The chart should define the reason why a potential program is needed

ACTION ITEM: Moonwater to continue to refine the goals and objectives.

5. Discussion of Potential Probation Services Recommendations

Bruce Van Glubt, District Court Administrator, submitted and read through a handout (*on file*) of questions and answers on probation services.

- Most probation clients have conditions they must comply with, such as treatment, restitution, and other conditions, that the probation officer must monitor.
- Some probation clients have a difficult time understanding the process required to get involved in treatment and other programs.
- The probation department doesn't have funding to contract with private service providers to provide treatment for indigent defendants.
- The creation of new, specialized caseloads should reduce jail bed days according to the formula.
- There were 5,000 bed days for District Court in 2015 out of a total of 215,000 bed days.
 - The total may not be full bed days
 - May include City probation violations that are credited to District Court

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- The goal of court is to hold offenders accountable.

Moonwater described a pilot project that allows a client to do community service and take classes that help people raise personal awareness and decision skills and understand their triggers to help them reduce recidivism. The cost to run the program was a barrier and prohibitive to clients. Find funding for such a program.

The Committee discussed the possibility of creating a navigator program to lead people through the process of finding resources when they have difficulty following through on step-by-step processes and successfully following through. Investigate similar programs:

- The Juvenile Court Community Links Program
- A Spokane program that houses many community resources in one place
- Creating a list of recommendations that may include:
 - Finding ways for domestic violence offenders to follow through with treatment, such as subsidized funding for indigent offenders
 - Funding treatment for female domestic violence perpetrators
 - Better data gathering programs
 - Creating a probation department budget line item to fund community treatment programs
 - Engage Western Washington University in creating community programs

The Committee discussed the possibility of creating a Swift and Certain program and the history, lack of, and possibility for probation services for Superior Court misdemeanants and pre-trial release conditions for Superior Court defendants.

- District Court Probation supervised some Superior Court cases years ago, including welfare diversion cases
- Past legal counsel determined that there is no legal authority for District Court to provide supervision for Superior Court
- If necessary, the Prosecutor will dismiss a case in Superior Court to bring it to District Court to access probation services
- Through the Sentencing Reform Act, State supervision was eliminated

ACTION ITEM: Bernstein and Morgan to create a draft list of recommendations regarding probation, to be presented to the Committee members before the next meeting.

ACTION ITEM: Ruffatto to create a jail use data sheet for the Committee's reference.

2. Drug Court Update

Implementation of Recommendations from Review of Whatcom County (Bellingham), Washington Drug Treatment Court 2012 Report

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Garrett referenced her memo to the Committee members dated June 9, 2016 (*on file*) and updated the Committee on the Drug Court report recommendation for a needs assessment.

- The needs assessment is important
- The current capacity is almost full with 33 cases
- If there are more than 40 cases at one time, additional staff and court time would be required
- There must be a community needs assessment of people who are eligible for Drug Court, but who aren't going into Drug Court for whatever reason

The committee discussed doing an informal survey of Drug Court applicants and reasons people may not follow through with Drug Court:

- Since May 1, there have been 17 Drug Court approvals, but only three have entered
- The Prosecutor pre-approves whether people qualify for Drug Court before first appearances
- A possible recommendation from the Committee could be to shorten the gap between approval into the program and beginning the program
- Whether a portability court within Whatcom County could speed the process
- Whether Drug Court eligibility could be expanded, depending on prosecutorial discretion
- Drug Court is a pre-conviction forgiveness program
- Whether Drug Court would allow District Court defendants

ACTION ITEM: Anderson to determine why 14 of the 17 drug court approvals since May 1 have not been admitted to Drug Court.

3. Fast Track Update and Recommendation

Anderson referenced her email to the Committee dated May 20, 2016 (*on file*) making a recommendation regarding Fast Track.

McEachran submitted an amended version of Ms. Anderson's proposed recommendation regarding Fast Track (*on file*).

This item will be held to the next Committee meeting.

4. Post-Conviction Jail Alternatives

Anderson referenced her email to the Committee dated May 20, 2016 (*on file*) making a recommendation regarding jail alternatives. It does not incorporate the version from Sheriff Elfo.

Peterson submitted a handout on jail alternatives qualification comparison (*on file*). It is a draft comparison. She described her sources used when creating the comparison. The committee discussed electronic monitoring programs:

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- The City uses a three-part risk assessment tool for electronic monitoring
- The City and County risk assessment tools for electronic monitoring are different
- The City supervises misdemeanants, and the County supervises both misdemeanants and felons
- The County is considering eligibility and using a private service provider for monitoring services
- The County requires participants to have a home phone on a landline, which is older technology that some people might not have, but is more reliable in the rural areas
- A possible recommendation from the Committee could be that the County invest in up-to-date hardware that allows more electronic monitoring
- A possible recommendation to the County Council would be to change its policy that jail alternative programs not have to be self-supporting
- A possible recommendation from the Committee would be to provide adequate funding for jail alternatives

ACTION ITEM: Elfo to:

- Evaluate the capability of hardware improvements with service providers.
- Determine how many people would be eligible for electronic monitoring, but can't afford it.

6. Public Comment

Kathy Walker, Whatcom County Prosecutor's Office suggested the Committee have a presentation from Jason Armstrong at the Department of Corrections about their jail alternative programs. She will see if he is available for a presentation.

Peterson asked if the Committee should have a presentation in the future from Friendship Diversion Services.

Hammill gave an update on a variety of law enforcement/social service team programs that the City is investigating. He will provide a report to the Committee in August.

Heydrich stated he will provide a report to the Committee in August on the Yakima pre-trial programs.

Amy Mann asked for information on the money the City has saved by using an electronic home monitoring program instead of jail days. Bernstein stated that information is in a Task Force written report and is available on the Task Force website.

ACTION ITEM: Elfo to contact Friendship Diversion Services and other providers to determine if the program is appropriate for the Sheriff's Office or the Courts. He can possibly present the information to the Committee at its next meeting.

7. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 11:15 a.m.

DRAFT

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL
Dana Brown-Davis, C.M.C.

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COUNCILMEMBERS
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Carl Weimer

WHATCOM COUNTY COUNCIL

June 16, 2016

Incarceration Prevention and Reduction Task Force
c/o Jill Nixon
311 Grand Ave., Suite 105
Bellingham, WA 98225

RE: Jail Stakeholder Workgroup

Dear Taskforce Members:

On June 14, 2016, the Whatcom County Council approved a resolution to create a Jail Stakeholder Workgroup. The Workgroup will be an essential component in developing the financial agreements necessary to build a new Whatcom County jail. The Workgroup will focus on costs, funding mechanisms, and the allocation of expenses among the jurisdictions. Additionally, the Workgroup will advise the County Council and County Executive on a new jail ballot measure by November 2017.

The undisputed need for a new jail to provide public safety to county residents and visitors is urgent. A collaboration of the necessary stakeholders is critical to the success of developing a new jail that meets the needs of all community interests. To resolve the safety problems with the existing, deteriorating jail and to avoid continuing cost increases due to further delay, the Council hopes to put a new ballot measure before the voters no later than the 2017 November election.

The enclosed Whatcom County Resolution 2016-021 provides more detail about the Workgroup. The County Council invites the Incarceration Prevention and Reduction (IPR) Task Force to designate one representative to work with local elected officials, law enforcement and jail staff, citizens, and other members of the Workgroup to create an appropriate funding plan for a new jail. Please contact me at (360) 778-5026 or BBuchana@co.whatcom.wa.us for more information and to let us know who will be the designated representative.

Respectfully,

Barry Buchanan, Chair
Whatcom County Council

C: Dana Brown-Davis, Clerk of the Council
Correspondence file
AB2016-179
Jail Stakeholder Workgroup file

Encl: Whatcom County Resolution 2016-021

BB/jkn

RESOLUTION NO. 2016-021

ESTABLISHING A JAIL STAKEHOLDER WORKGROUP

WHEREAS, the Whatcom County Jail is in poor condition and a safer, more secure, and healthier environment for those who work, visit, and are incarcerated within the jail is needed; and

WHEREAS, in November of 2015, Whatcom County voters rejected a ballot measure which would have funded the construction and operations of a new jail; and

WHEREAS, in March and April of 2016, the Whatcom County Council and the Bellingham City Council passed resolutions adopting a Statement of Incarceration Prevention, Criminal Justice, and Jail Planning Principals for Whatcom County's criminal justice and behavioral health systems; and

WHEREAS, the resolutions confirmed the desire of the Whatcom County Council and Bellingham City Council to work towards having a funding proposal for a new jail on the ballot no later than November, 2017; and

WHEREAS, to address this goal of having a measure on the ballot no later than November 2017, it is necessary for Whatcom County, Bellingham, and other stakeholders to work together to address the concerns of the voters and develop a mutually agreeable plan for funding, constructing, and operating a new jail facility.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Whatcom County Council that a Jail Workgroup will be established to provide a recommendation to the Council for the financial agreements required for development of a new jail, including the cost of the facility; the funding mechanism; and the allocation and funding of operating expenses between jurisdictions.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the members of workgroup will include the following designated officials or their representatives:

- A. Two members of the Whatcom County Council;
- B. Two members of the Bellingham City Council;
- C. One member of the Lummi Indian Business Council;
- D. One member of the Nooksack Tribal Council;
- E. The Whatcom County Executive;
- F. The Mayor of Bellingham;
- G. One official representing the small cities;
- H. The Whatcom County Sheriff; and
- I. The City of Bellingham Police Chief.

The County Council will also appoint:

- A. One resident of the City of Bellingham;
- B. One Whatcom County resident who resides outside the City of Bellingham;
- C. One member of the Incarceration Prevention and Reduction (IPR) Task Force nominated by the IPR Task Force and not already designated above; and
- D. One Whatcom County Corrections Officer nominated by the Whatcom County Sheriff.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the workgroup will advise the County Council and the County Executive on the development of a new jail ballot measure to be put before the voters no later than November 2017.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the meetings of the workgroup will be open and accessible to the public and will be subject to the Open Public Meetings Act.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that the workgroup will be dissolved upon adoption of a jail ballot measure by the Whatcom County Council.

APPROVED this 14th day of June, 2016.

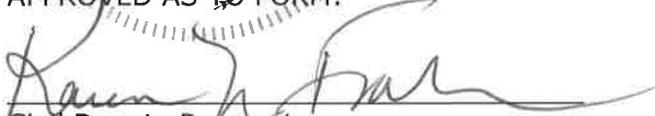
ATTEST:


Dana Brown-Davis, Clerk of the Council

WHATCOM COUNTY COUNCIL
WHATCOM COUNTY, WASHINGTON


Barry Buchanan, Council Chair

APPROVED AS TO FORM:


Civil Deputy Prosecutor

Documents / Public Comment Received

Updated 7/7/16

Rec'd From	Rec'd Date	Title	Author
Irene Morgan	7/7/16	Email with link to Huffington Post article on The Way Forward in Reentry	Loretta Lynch
Irene Morgan	7/1/16	Email with link to TalkingPointsMemo.com article: The True Cost	David Dayen
Susan Gribbin	6/29/16	Email with link to article regarding Helping Families in Mental Health Crisis Act	NAMI.org
Jill Bernstein	6/27/16	Jail Alternatives Cost Comparison	Darlene Peterson
Jill Bernstein	6/27/16	Jail Alternatives Qualification Comparison	Darlene Peterson
Irene Morgan	6/22/16	Email with link to OfGreatInterest.com article	Irene Morgan
Alfred Heydrich	6/21/16	Email with link to Pretrial.org	Commissioner Alfred Heydrich
Irene Morgan	6/14/16	Email with link to HSNewsBeat.UW.edu article: Neural Pathway Discovered that Drives Risky Behavior	Rebecca Lynn Sladek
Anne Deacon	6/14/16	Whatcom County Behavioral Health Facility Planning Report	Whatcom County Health Dept.
Bruce Van Glubt	6/13/16	Handout to LJS Committee on Probation Services	Bruce Van Glubt
Irene Morgan	6/11/16	Email regarding restorative justice: Restoring Broken Lives by Jason Francis	Irene Morgan
Angela Anderson	6/10/16	Whatcom County Jail Alternative Programs	Angela Anderson
Deborra Garrett	6/13/16	Memo regarding Drug Court notes	Judge Deborra Garrett
Dave McEachran	6/8/16	Task Force: Mental Health Case Study: June 8, 2016	Dave McEachran
Irene Morgan	6/5/16	Email with link to SeattleTimes.com article: Pleading Guilty for Lack of Money	Lorinda Youngcourt
Darlene Peterson	6/6/16	City of Bellingham First Quarter Home Monitoring Report	Darlene Peterson
Joy Gilfilen	5/30/16	Email with links to Restorative Community Coalition Reports	Irene Morgan & Joy Gilfilen
Irene Morgan	5/29/16	Email with link to OPB.org article: How Childhood Trauma Affects Adult Health	Allison Frost
Irene Morgan	5/29/16	Email with link to Raw.org.nz article: RAW Creates a Tiered System of Support to Stop Recidivism	Raw.org.nz
Irene Morgan	5/28/16	Email with link to StreetRoots.org article: The prosecutor: the most powerful person in the room	Emily Green
Jill Bernstein	5/28/16	Email with links to Pro Publica article on Machine Bias	Julia Angwin, Jeff Larson, Surya Mattu and Lauren Kirchner, ProPublica