

***Incarceration Prevention and Reduction Task Force
Meeting Summary July 16, 2018***

1. Call to Order

Task Force Co-Chair Jill Bernstein called the meeting to order at 9:04 a.m.

Present: Angela Anderson, Jill Bernstein, Anne Deacon, Todd Donovan, Bill Elfo, Daniel Hammill, Deborah Hawley, Jack Hovenier, Raylene King, Betsy Kruse, Kelli Linville, Dave McEachran, Lisa McShane, Darlene Peterson, Tyler Schroeder

Also Present: Fred Heydrich (proxy for Deborra Garrett), Starleen Maharaj-Lewis (Proxy for Kate Hansen)

Absent: Jerry DeBruin, Deborra Garrett, Stephen Gockley, Kate Hansen, Nick Lewis, Byron Manering, Moonwater, Chris Phillips, Greg Winter

Review June 11, 2018 Meeting Summary

There were no changes.

Recent Task Force Successes: Electronic Home Monitoring in the Small Cities

King reported on the status of contracts between the small cities and Friendship Diversion Services for electronic home monitoring in the small city municipal courts.

Report on Annual Report Presentation to County Council

Bernstein and Donovan reported on the Co-Chairs' presentation to the County Council.

Schroeder reported on the budget supplemental request for funding for pretrial risk assessment and monitoring.

2. Probation Presentation

Bruce Van Glubt, District Court Administrator, announced with much fanfare the 50th anniversary of District Court Probation in Whatcom County.

Jack Louws, County Executive, read a proclamation announcing July 15 through 21, 2018 as Pretrial and Probation Week in Whatcom County.

3. Committee Updates

Hovenier reported for the Triage Facility Committee and announced the upcoming meeting discussion of involuntary versus voluntary certification and the facility construction groundbreaking timeline.

Deacon reported for the Behavioral Health Committee on the work plan areas of focus on front door and back door services, housing, funding opportunities, collecting data on inmates with substance use disorder and medication assistance treatment in the jail.

The Task Force members discussed coordinating funding with the housing levy, the ground level response and coordinated engagement (GRACE) project, and Data Across Sectors for Health (DASH) grant.

Bernstein reported on the Legal and Justice Systems Committee and introduced Karen Burke, Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Services (DVSAS)

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Burke reported on the domestic violence treatment program.

Hammill moved recommend that the County and City of Bellingham fully fund the Whatcom County domestic violence offender treatment program for the years 2019-2021, at a cost of approximately \$221,750 per year. The motion was seconded.

Task Force members discussed treatment for intimate versus non-intimate domestic violence, treatment certified for level I-III offenders, treatment options for level IV offenders, budget request for three years, validating the program's results, the lack of existing domestic violence treatment in the community, and Dialectical Behavior Therapy (DBT).

The motion carried unanimously.

Bernstein continued to report for the Legal and Justice Systems Committee on an upcoming report from the National Association of Drug Court Professionals on local drug court best practices at the September meeting.

5. INDEX Committee

Schroeder reported on the proposed INDEX Committee focus and structure.

Task Force members discussed who would participate on the committee and keeping in mind the time requirements of staff who will participate.

Hammill moved to approve the formation of the INDEX Committee as shown in the meeting packet. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

6. Report on Policy Academy Conference

Hammill, Deacon, County Councilmember Barry Buchanan, and District Court Administrator Bruce Van Glubt reported on the conference and four action items:

1. Identify the multiple efforts and initiatives currently in operation in the community that is focused on reducing incarceration of young adults
2. Coalesce these efforts along a continuum of prevention, intervention, treatment, and support while aligning with the sequential intercept model as appropriate
3. Explore prevention and early intervention services that focus on developing healthy and resilient young adults
4. Create a system for improved data collection, analysis, reporting, and responsive action across all criminal justice sectors

The Task Force members discussed early invention and prevention for children.

4. Update by Jurisdictions on Jail Diversion Programs

Elfo reported that the crisis intervention deputy position will be operational by September 1.

Peterson reported on continuing progress with electronic home monitoring, tracking data, Yakima and pretrial data statistics, the benefits to a defendant of electronic home monitoring versus incarceration, the prevalence of mentally ill pretrial defendants going to Yakima,

The Task Force members discussed the lack of increased public safety issues from the City's electronic home monitoring program; determining who should stay in the local jail versus being sent to Yakima, regardless of jurisdiction; and upcoming jail repairs further restricting jail capacity and causing more booking restrictions.

7. Update of 2018 Committee Assignments

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Deacon moved to approve the updated committee assignments as shown in the meeting packet.

Betsy Kruse asked to be included as a member of the Behavioral Health Committee.

Deacon accepted the request.

The motion as amended was seconded and carried unanimously.

8. Next Steps: Ideas and Further Information

This item was not discussed.

9. Other Business

Announced the warrant quash amnesty from 9:00 to 10:30 a.m. on Wednesday, August 1 for District and Superior Court.

10. Public Comment

John Campbell spoke about a recent tour of the jail, which is an obsolete facility and system.

Irene Morgan spoke about the need for long-term housing and the new guidelines from Philadelphia District Attorney Larry Krasner.

11. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 11:00 a.m.