

**From:** [Joy Gilfilen](#)  
**To:** Please consider your own SAC Meeting Testimony  
Monday, November 14, 2022 10:38:08 PM  
[Optimizing Tax Dollars - RCC Card.docx](#)

**Subject:**

**Date:**

**Attachments:**

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To many officials and concerned citizens,

The Whatcom County Stakeholders Advisory Committee is seeking comments related to their jail building planning process. The hearing is on Tuesday [Nov. 15 from 6 to 8 PM] at the Whatcom County Council Chambers, or you can email them at [SAC@co.whatcom.wa.us](mailto:SAC@co.whatcom.wa.us).

This is a rare opportunity to be heard, significant, for the public has been virtually silenced for over 3 years on this matter.

November 1, 2022 was the first time in almost three years that emergency restrictions were eased, allowing people to convene and conduct business more normally.

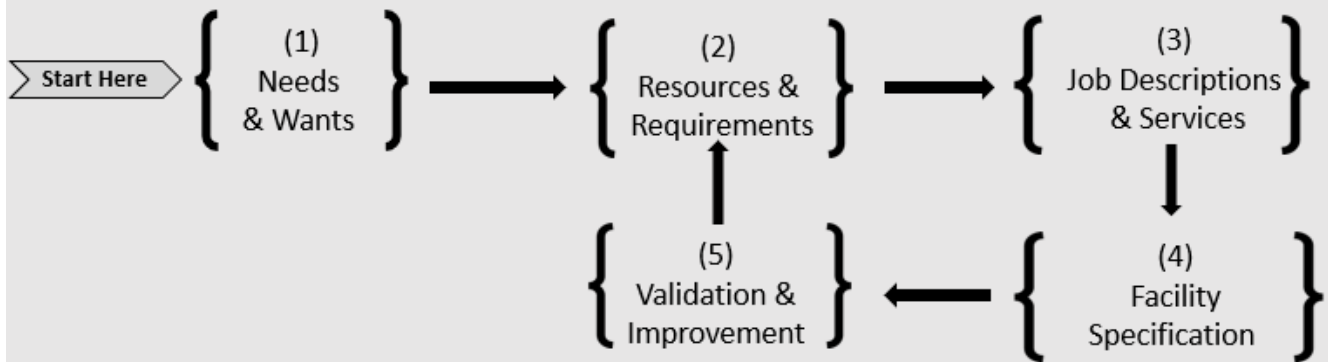
We have attached a 1/2 Sheet handout we will be speaking to at the public meeting with a few thoughts, and we invite anyone who is so inclined, to speak up. Perhaps there is a broader question that could be asked, and answered then: "What would you like the Stakeholders Advisory Team to know about your own Whatcom "countywide" experience with public health and safety?"

That question has invited all of us at the RCC to think differently about the process moving forward.

Sincerely,

Joy Gilfilen, President  
The Restorative Community Coalition [TheRestorativeCommunity.org](http://TheRestorativeCommunity.org)  
IChange Justice podcast  
The Community Regenerations Conversation videos  
Whatcom County98225 - Civic Blindspots  
360-739-7493 - Pacific Time  
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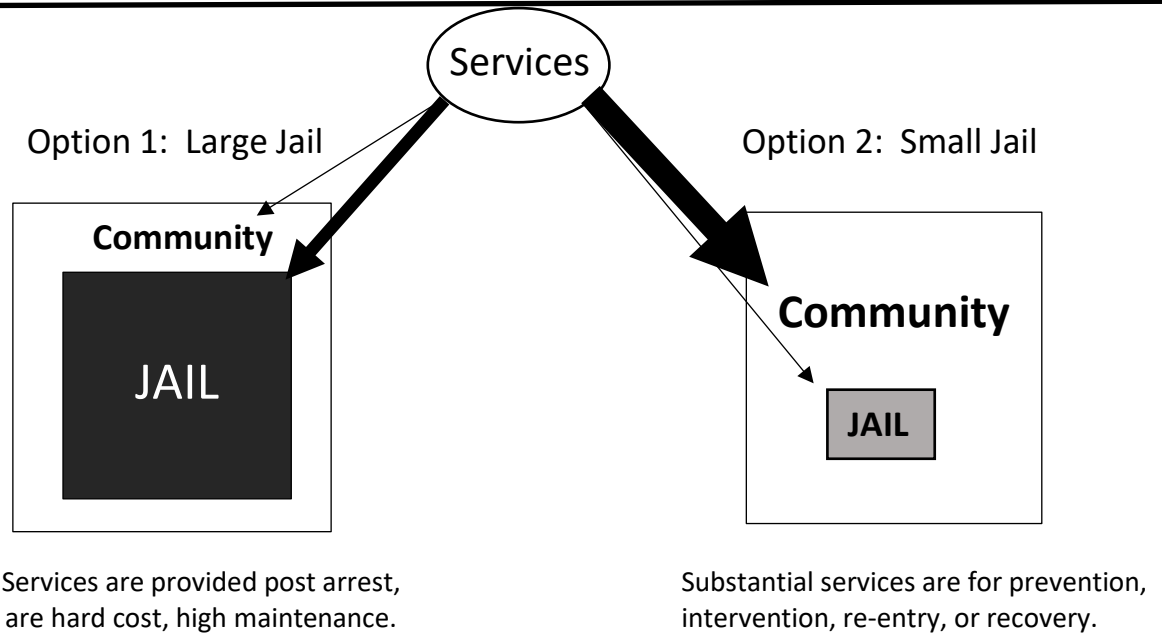
## How can we meet the communities needs?



Ask: How can the community best utilize our collective resources?



TheRestorativeCommUnity.org ~ 360-354-3653 [mail@therestorativecommunity.org](mailto:mail@therestorativecommunity.org)



For more information on programs and services that deliver maximum benefits to the community go here:  
[iChange Justice \(Spotify\)](#) ~ [Restorative CommUnity Coalition \(YouTube\)](#) ~ [www.theRestorativeCommunity.org](http://www.theRestorativeCommunity.org)  
Videos and Trainings from the *Community Regeneration Conversation* are on YouTube.



## In the aftermath of the past 3 years... What's the real Human Need Right Now?

**Compounding and Accelerating Civic Collisions in Whatcom County – It's a Perfect Storm to launch a season of deep change and visioneering. The opportunity comes only once in a lifetime.**

Civic Trauma, Shock and Fracturing. Our community safety nets have lost cohesion and people need help in our communities coping with the repetitive distress. What's the real need that needs to be assessed? How do we help our organizations, our granges, our small cities meet their needs?

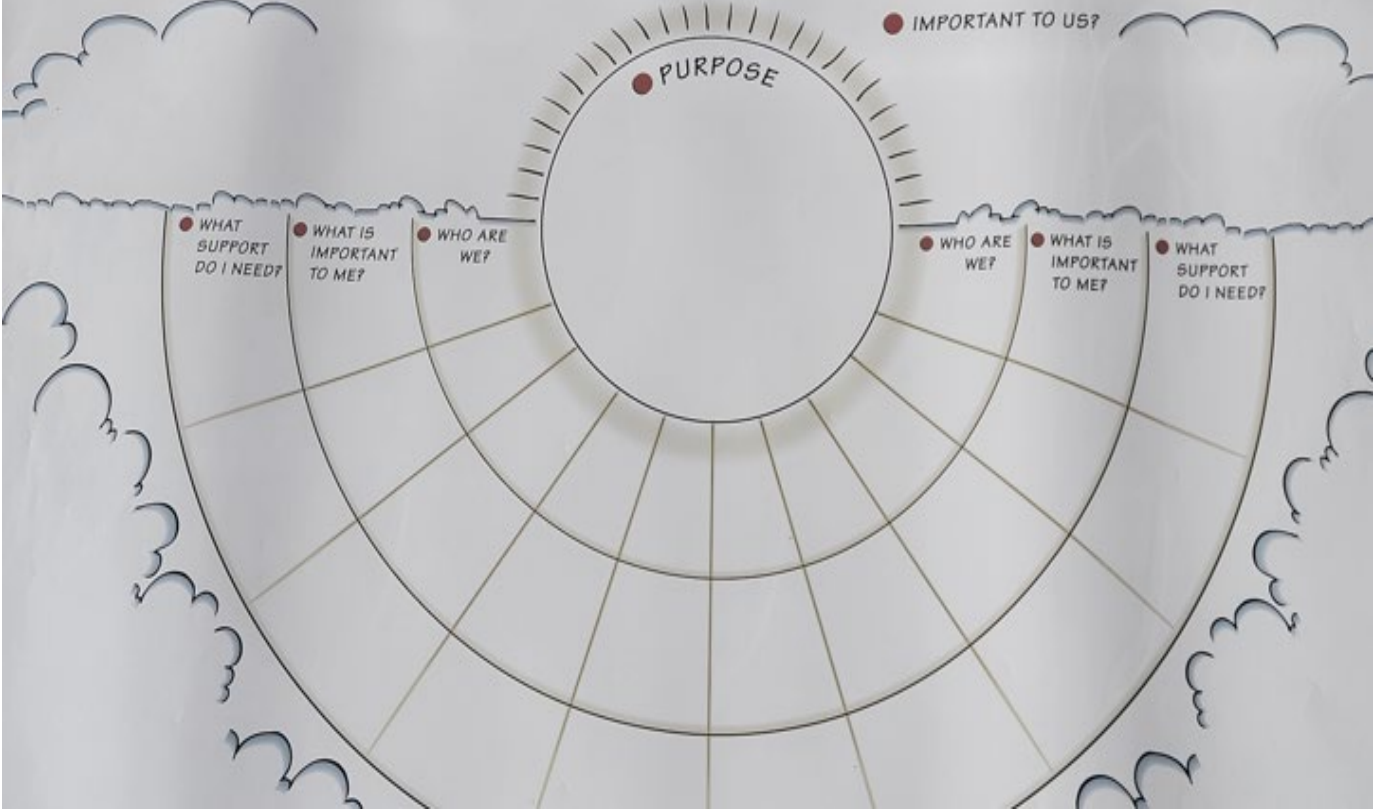
1. Poverty, Displacement, and Cost of Living crisis
2. Mental Health Crisis
3. Economic Crisis
4. Constitutional Crisis
5. Covid Crisis / Death and Loss Grief
6. Police / Riots Crisis / Cultural Wars
7. Jan 6, 2021 Capitol Crisis
8. Jan 28, 2021- Camp 210 Sweep
9. Homeless/Winter Survival Crisis
10. Citizens in Lockdown / Essentially House Arrest
11. Vaccinations created more bullying/ emotional Assault
12. Executive Level Civic War Initiated
13. Families in Conflict/Political Extremism

Does the SAC's current Needs Assessment really address the human needs of our farmers, our homeless, our displaced and public's current needs for economic, social and civic survival and recovery during this winter?

When faced with this list...what should our Dreamliner shopping list really look like?

Wouldn't this be the optimal time to start building new systems that can adapt to the needs of the fast-moving dynamically changing community Needs? Is it time for Restorative Justice, Regenerative Economics, Civic Café's and new leadership models to be implement for the benefit of the whole community? Is it time to discuss climate change, sustainable food and farm supply chains and a new infrastructure that puts people to work rather than into bondage? Why not consider promoting sustainability rather than co-dependency?

# TEAM FOUNDATION

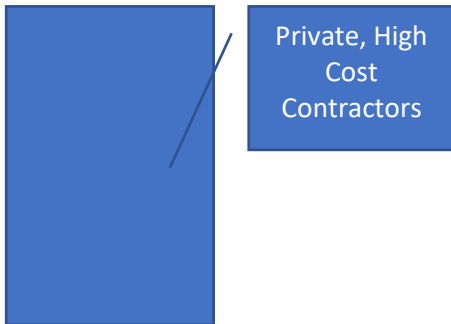


Let's Invest our Resources in the Community

Rather than Consume them Inside the Jail)

Option 1: Build a Large Jail/High Cost to fit services into AFTER People are arrested, committed to mental Health Hospitals and detention systems – This Leave the people to conflict remaining ni civic System?

Facility Dense, High Cost Employees



Or, do we repair and restore a SMALL concentrated Facility for Violent people, Put all moderate people into the 2<sup>nd</sup> Work Release Facility, and Turn all others over to smaller re-employment, retraining and restorative justice centers in every city for direct services to be provided by those with lived experience who have been proven to get a better ROI on the dollar, thereby rebuilding oursmall community safety networks at the same time?