

# Incarceration Prevention and Reduction Task Force: Law & Justice Council

Meeting Summary for January 23, 2023

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## 1. Call to Order

Committee Chair Stephen Gockley called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m. The meeting was held via Zoom Webinar and in person at the Whatcom County Council Conference Room, 311 Grand Ave., Suite 105, Bellingham, Washington

Members Present: Arlene Feld, Barry Buchanan, Bill Elfo, Bruce VanGlubt, Dave Reynolds, Deborah Hawley, Donnell Tanksley, Heather Flaherty, Maia Vanyo, Mike Hilley, Perry Mowery, Raylene King, Rebecca Mertzig, Scott Korthuis, Seth Fleetwood, Stephen Gockley, Tyler Schroeder

Members Absent: Dan Hammill, Darlene Peterson, David Freeman, Eric Petersen, Eric Richey, Greg Winter, Jack Hovenier, Jason McGill, Jenn Lockwood

## 2. Pyramid Communications [\(00:01:26\)](#)

Emily Goetz and Sakara Remmu of Pyramid Communications gave an update on their purpose, message testing and communicating/delivery of information out to the community.

Pyramid welcomes feedback on what is most helpful to have in communications training.

## 3. Justice Project Needs Assessment final report [\(00:26:00\)](#)

Mardi Solomon spoke on the final assessment of the Justice Project Needs, poll results, needs & recommendations poll results and an overview of the vision values and goal statements.

There were 6 amendments offered by Stakeholder Advisory Committee (SAC) members and 2 additional amendments developed, all 8 amendments were approved by the SAC.

IPRTF feedback is welcome. There was discussion on those amendments among the IPRTF members. There will be a vote on these amendments in the SAC meeting held on January 26<sup>th</sup>. This assessment will be presented to County Council on February 7<sup>th</sup> and voted on my council on February 21<sup>st</sup>.

A Motion was made on the amendments:

The Task Force endorses the Justice Project Needs Assessment report as ultimately approved by the Stakeholder Advisory Committee.

Motion carried 13 - 0

## 4. Pretrial Services Unit and risk assessment [\(00:23:49\)](#)

David Reynolds, Superior Court Administrator, spoke on pre-trial services losing a manager in their office. They are working on finding out what are the most appropriate services to offer.

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### **5. Committee Updates [\(01:24:27\)](#)**

Barry Buchanan reported on the Steering Committee. They had discussion on:

- the Justice Needs Assessment
- Report from Pyramid Communications
- Composition and role in steering

Stephen Gockley reported on Behavioral Health. Discussion was on:

- Legislative Priorities “wish list”
- Email correspondence with state agencies on the TrueBlood settlement

### **6. Other Business**

There was no other business.

### **7. Public Comment [\(01:36:00\)](#)**

Kristin Hanna

### **8. Adjourn**

The meeting adjourned at 10:44 a.m.