

**CITY COUNCIL AGENDA ITEM**  
CITY OF SHORELINE, WASHINGTON

<b>AGENDA TITLE:</b>	King County Juvenile Justice Levy
<b>DEPARTMENT:</b>	City Manager's Office
<b>PRESENTED BY:</b>	Scott MacColl, Intergovernmental Relations Manager
<b>ACTION:</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Ordinance <input type="checkbox"/> Resolution <input type="checkbox"/> Motion <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Discussion <input type="checkbox"/> Public Hearing

**PROBLEM/ISSUE STATEMENT:**

King County placed a ballot measure on the August 2012 primary ballot for approval of a levy to fund replacement of the Juvenile Justice Center in central Seattle. The proposed levy would raise approximately \$208 million for construction of a new Children and Family Justice Center. This staff report is intended to provide information only, and does not take a position for or against the levy proposal. In addition, a staff member from King County will also provide a presentation to Council on the specifics of the proposal.

The existing King County Youth Services Center is more than 40 years old, and King County has determined that it no longer meets the needs of the juvenile court system. Replacing the facility has been the County's highest priority capital project since 2008. The County estimates at least \$40 million to replace the existing core building systems, and determined that a total replacement of the facilities is more cost effective than trying to repair the decaying structures.

The new facility will remain on the existing property and will include a new 10-room courthouse, a 154 dorm detention center, a parking garage, open space, and property for private housing and development.

The new facility will unify juvenile and family law matters for north King County in one site. Current family law matters are heard at the downtown Seattle courthouse and juvenile matters are heard at the Juvenile Justice Center in central Seattle.

**RESOURCE/FINANCIAL IMPACT:**

There is no direct cost to the City. If passed, the levy includes a nine-year property tax levy lid lift of seven cents per \$1,000 of assessed value, which would cost the median homeowner in King County be less than \$25 per year (median home value is \$350,000).

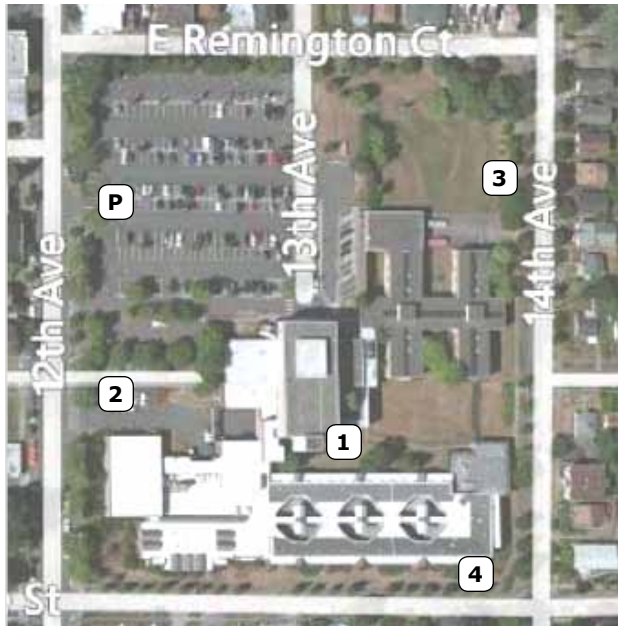
**RECOMMENDATION**

No action is required. This presentation is provided for discussion purposes only, and includes factual statements about the details of the proposed ballot measure.

Approved By:            City Manager **JU**    City Attorney **IS**

Attachment A:            King County Children and Family Justice Center Proposal

## Existing YSC Site Plan



### Key

- |                       |                      |
|-----------------------|----------------------|
| 1 Courthouse          | 4 Detention Facility |
| 2 Loading and Service | P Surface Parking    |
| 3 "Whale Fin" Artwork |                      |

## Facility and Site Design Objectives

- Provide a unified family court with space for co-location of programs and services for families and youth
- Provide a safe and efficient detention center that has built-in flexibility to respond to changes in population
- Improve visibility, security, and safety
- Build an economically, socially, and environmentally sustainable neighborhood
- Support neighborhood plans, policies, and aesthetics
- Enhance pedestrian mobility across the site and reconnect Squire Park with First Hill
- Create a street life that is diverse and thriving
- Provide usable, accessible community space

## Proposed Onsite Programs and Services for Families and Youth

- Mentoring and support services
- Education and employment training opportunities for youth on probation
- Family Treatment Court that provides parents with substance abuse issues access to treatment services, parenting skills classes, and ongoing case management
- Parent to Parent program that provides families involved in dependency cases with support and education from other parents who have successfully navigated the system
- Partnership for Youth Justice that provides an alternative to detention for youth involved in minor or first-time offenses
- Alternatives to Juvenile Justice assists law enforcement officers in identifying appropriate community resources for youth and families in crisis
- Juvenile Justice 101 to orient families to court basics and available community resources through one-on-one support

## Attachment A Proposed Concept Site Plan



### Key

- |                       |                                   |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1 Private Development | Ground-Level Commercial Frontage  |
| 2 Loading and Service | Ground-Level Residential Frontage |
| 3 Community Space     | Important Connecting Routes       |
| P Parking Structure   | EVA / Pedestrian Only             |

## Children and Family Justice Center



**King County**

**Department of Executive Services  
Facilities Management Division**

500 4th Avenue, Room 800  
Seattle, WA 98104

### For More Information

For more information about this project, please visit  
[www.kingcounty.gov/JusticeCenter](http://www.kingcounty.gov/JusticeCenter)

## Proposed Concept Facts and Figures

Courthouse	137,700 sq. ft.	10 courtrooms
Detention Center	96,600 sq. ft.	154 dorms
Estimated Cost	\$208 million	
Proposed Levy	9 years	Approximately \$0.07 per \$1000 of assessed valuation
Cost to Median Homeowner	\$25 per year	Based on \$350,000 value
Available for Private Development	118,000 sq. ft.	(2.7 acres)
Number of Housing Units	435	
Community Space Provided	1.6 acres	(Currently 1.1 acres)
Parking	145,000 sq. ft.	440 parking stalls

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### **Why does King County need to invest in a new Children and Family Justice Center?**

The existing Youth Services Center courthouse is more than 40 years old and no longer meets the needs of the juvenile court system. Replacement of the facility has been the county's highest priority capital project since 2008. The existing Youth Service Center buildings will require at least a \$40 million investment just to replace the core building systems. The King County Executive and County Council agree that a total replacement of the Youth Services Center is more cost effective than trying to repair the decaying structures.

### **What matters will be handled in the new courthouse?**

Superior Court intends to unify juvenile and family law matters for north King County at the new Children and Family Justice Center. This means all of the existing functions currently handled at the Youth Services Center will continue to be heard in the new facility. This includes juvenile dependency, truancy, at-risk youth (ARY), child-in-need-of-services (CHINS) cases and countywide juvenile offender matters. Planning for the site will allow the future addition of north county family law matters involving children, including divorces, legal separations, paternity, child support, and domestic violence as envisioned in the facilities master plan adopted by the County Council.

### **What are the benefits of unifying juvenile and family law matters in a new Children and Family Justice Center?**

Currently, juvenile and family law matters are split in north King County between the King County Courthouse in downtown Seattle and the Youth Services Center. By unifying juvenile and family law matters, it enables Superior Court to provide onsite assistance and coordination for youth and families involved in the justice system at a single site. Such co-location will ultimately reduce public confusion regarding where to go for court services and will allow for more efficient and effective service provision by the court through a comprehensive, systemic approach to cases involving youth and families.

### **How large are the proposed buildings?**

Based on preliminary planning efforts, the juvenile courthouse will be approximately 138,000 square feet and have ten courtrooms. The detention center will be approximately 97,000 square feet and have 154 dorms.

### **Will the juvenile detention center remain on the site?**

Yes, King County juvenile offenders will continue to be handled on the site. An onsite detention facility is essential in order for the county to minimize the costs associated with the transport of in-custody youth.

### **How will the new building affect traffic and parking in the neighborhood?**

The county has evaluated traffic flow and parking in and around the campus. A new, centrally-located parking garage within the interior of the site will improve traffic flow and neighborhood aesthetics.

### **When will construction start and how long will it last?**

If the levy lid lift is approved by voters, the county will commission a campus design, including designs for the new courthouse, detention facility, and parking structure which will take approximately two to three years to complete. Once design and permits have been approved, construction will last about three years.

### **What will the new buildings look like?**

During the design phases, concepts for the new facilities will be explored. The project will seek to incorporate design guidelines from the Court, neighborhood, and regulatory agencies to determine how tall the structures will be and how wide, as well as the style of architecture. The county will seek input from the community, and share building design plans prior to construction.

### **Will there be open space?**

The site plan concept calls for areas to be reserved on the campus to serve as community spaces.

### **Will the current Youth Services Center be open during construction? If not, where can we go for services?**

It is anticipated at this time that the existing buildings will remain on the site during the construction of the new facilities. However, as planning efforts proceed this could change.

## **Frequently Asked Questions**