

CITY COUNCIL AGENDA ITEM
CITY OF SHORELINE, WASHINGTON

AGENDA TITLE: Jail Booking Alternative
DEPARTMENT: City Manager's Office
PRESENTED BY: Robert Olander, City Manager, Bernard Seeger, Management Analyst

PROBLEM/ISSUE STATEMENT. The City of Shoreline currently uses King County jail as its primary booking facility for misdemeanor and felony offenders. The City is responsible for paying for misdemeanor bookings and jail maintenance days, while King County pays for all felony sentencing and jail costs. King County fees in 2006 were relatively high at \$186.42 per booking and \$97.59 per jail day. For 2007, these rates were inflated by 5.8%, providing new booking and maintenance day costs of \$197.21 and \$103.25 respectively.

Given these numbers, the total cost of continuing to use King County as our primary booking facility is estimated to be \$609,544 for 2007. Opportunities for significant savings may be available by examining an alternative booking and jail holding facility.

FINANCIAL IMPACT. Implementing this change will result in a direct budgetary savings of \$176,320 to the City, however, after hiring an additional officer at the cost of \$136,590, it would reduce the overall savings to approximately \$39,000.

RECOMMENDATION. Change the City's primary booking facility from King County Correctional Facility to the Issaquah City Jail and hire 1 additional police officer. This position will help off set the added transport hours and allow the department to add an officer to the Street Crimes unit. Shifting 12 bookings per week from KC to Issaquah is estimated to save the City \$176,320 per year in sentencing costs, effectively funding the new officer while leaving the City almost \$50,000 in general fund revenue.

Approved By: City Manager  City Attorney _____

INTRODUCTION/BACKGROUND

The City currently uses three facilities to house its misdemeanor criminals: the King County Correctional Facility, the Yakima County Department of Corrections facility, and the City of Issaquah Jail. King County is the most expensive. While the City has been effective in meeting its contractual requirements for Yakima and shifting many of the longer sentenced prisoners to serve their time in this facility, it continues to book all its prisoners into King County at a significantly greater cost than it would cost for Issaquah.

DISCUSSION

In 2006, Shoreline booked 785 prisoners or 15.1 prisoners per week into the King County Jail. Using this weekly average as an estimate of future bookings, this translates into an estimated 2007 booking cost of \$154,804 ($15.1 \times \$197.21/\text{booking} \times 52$). The City's average daily jail population (ADP) in King County for the last quarter of 2006 as a result of these bookings was 12.1. Using this ADP as an estimate of future ADPs, this creates an estimated 2007 jail maintenance expense of \$454,740 ($12.1 \text{ ADP} \times \$103.25/\text{day} \times 365$). The total sentencing costs of using King County as our primary booking facility will be \$609,544 in 2007 based on these booking and maintenance costs.

ISSAQUAH ALTERNATIVE

Currently, Issaquah charges a daily jail maintenance rate of \$70.00 and they do not charge a booking fee. The Issaquah City Jail has adequate facilities to provide booking and short term jail stay facilities for up to 15 Shoreline misdemeanants per day.

Given the capacity of Issaquah and its significant discount in sentencing costs, the City see significant budgetary cost savings with the increased use of this facility. However, before the City can successfully shift prisoners from King County to Issaquah, some legal and administrative matters must be addressed.

Per state law, all newly booked prisoners must appear before a judge at a "first appearance" (bail) hearing within 24 hours (excepting Sunday) of being taken into custody. These first appearances are now all handled downtown at the King County jail, with James Schlozthauer PS providing mandatory public defense services through a City Contract for services.

If the City is to shift bookings from KC to Issaquah it would conduct its 1st Appearance hearings at the King County Issaquah District Court. Doing so would require the execution of a second public defender contract and engaging the Issaquah Jail for transportation services between the Jail and the Court. While we do not plan on revising the existing PD contract with Mr. Schozthauer, should this program be successful and cause the anticipated reduction in his workload, we expect to re-negotiate his contract and ultimately offset the additional costs incurred for the new PD at the Issaquah District Court. Finally, initial coordination has been made with the King County Issaquah District Court to process these 1st appearance cases. A pending bill in the legislature may also require the prosecutor to attend the first appearance. This could add an additional \$10,000 to the cost calculations.

In conducting the budget and work load impacts, we have assumed we can shift 12 of the 15.1 prisoners from King County to Issaquah. We are not using 15.1 or 100% of King County bookings for two reasons. First, not all warranted arrests are made within Shoreline's city limits by Shoreline police officers and as a result, if an arrest is made by a police officer in another jurisdiction, it is typically left to that jurisdiction's police department to determine in which jail facility the prisoner will be booked. If for

instance a Shoreline-warranted misdemeanor is picked up by the Seattle Police Department, it's almost certain they will take this misdemeanor to the downtown King County jail facility to be booked, and the City has no authority to direct otherwise. Secondly, prisoners with mental health and unique medical problems will not be accepted into the Issaquah facility and be required to be booked into King County.

Below is the financial and workload impact analysis of shifting twelve (12) Shoreline misdemeanor prisoners into the Issaquah Jail facility and adding 1 officer to the police department to assist with the increased workload.

Assumptions:

1. The City will book twelve (12) prisoners into Issaquah per week.
2. An ADP of 10.3 will be used for Issaquah based on the current ratio of King County bookings (15.1) to ADP (12.1).
3. The City will be billed an estimated \$10,000/year for first appearance public defense services; based on conversations with local public defense firms potentially willing to provide this service at the Issaquah District Court. First appearance public defense services are not provided under the City's current In-custody public defense contract, as those services are only provided for at the King County jail.
4. These bookings will require 6 trips per week between the Issaquah Jail and the Issaquah District Court.
5. The full cost of an additional officer is \$136,590/year in 2007.

Cost Calculations:

Based on these assumptions, the total annual direct costs at the Issaquah jail facility would be \$263,302 (10.3 ADP x \$70.00/day x 365) plus \$16,380 (6 trips/week x \$35.00/hour x 1.5hr/trip x 52 weeks) for transportation plus \$10,000 for first appearance public defense services plus \$10,000 for first appearance prosecutor services. The remaining direct costs would be to King County for \$131,950 {Booking fees - \$101,752 (2.7 ADP x \$103.25/day x 365) + Jail maintenance fees - \$31,790 (3.1 bookings/week x \$197.21 /booking x 52 weeks)}. Sentencing costs between the two (2) facilities would total \$431,632. When compared to the \$609,544 for booking solely at King County, this is a significant cost savings. However, there are other indirect consequences associated with utilizing Issaquah that need to be considered in this discussion.

The additional time spent by Shoreline officers in driving to Issaquah for booking as opposed to the downtown King County facility is an indirect cost. The increased travel time is estimated at an additional 40 minutes per booking trip over the current 60 minute round trip estimate to King County. This difference results in 8 additional travel hours per week, which would not be available for patrol activity and would reduce back-up availability for emergency situations while the officer is out of town. To address this shortfall, Staff recommends the City hire an additional officer to supplement the Police Department's operations.

Financial Impact Summary:

2007 King County Booking Costs	\$154,804
2007 King County Jail Costs	\$454,740
2007 King County (No Change) Total	\$609,544

KC to Issaquah Shift Costs (12 bookings per week)

Issaquah booking costs	\$0
Issaquah jail costs	\$263,302
King County booking costs	\$31,790
King County jail costs	\$101,752
First appearance transportation costs	\$16,380
First appearance public defense costs	\$10,000
First appearance prosecutor costs	\$10,000
1 Additional Deputy costs	\$136,590
Total	\$569,814

Estimated Budgetary Benefit	\$39,730
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OPTIONS

1. Take no action. This would allow the police department to continue the more expedient process of booking into King County however it would result in an expected jail budget of approximately \$1.25 million (including the fees for Yakima) and of course would not free up funds to make changes in police staffing.
2. Change the City's primary booking facility from King County Correctional Facility to the Issaquah City Jail and hire 1 additional police officer to address the greater transportation demands on the police department.

RECOMMENDATION

Change the City's primary booking facility from King County Correctional Facility to the Issaquah City Jail and hire 1 additional police officer. This position will help off set the added transport hours and allow the department to add an officer to the Street Crimes unit. Shifting 12 bookings per week from KC to Issaquah is estimated to save the City \$176,320 per year in sentencing costs, effectively funding the new officer while leaving the City almost \$40,000 in general fund revenue.