

# Jail Services Agreements

City of Tacoma - City Manager's Office  
Mark Lauzier and Police Chief Don Ramsdell

City Council Meeting  
June 16, 2015  
Items #7 - 10

## Background

- A system providing a cost effective mix of pre-sentenced and sentenced jail services providers is the best approach given local jail capacity, service capabilities and cost considerations
- Staff is requesting four action items to ensure a smooth transition from the current provider, City of Fife, to three, direct agreements with existing providers.

## Background

- The four action items ensure a smooth transition to direct agreements with existing providers:
  1. Fife termination agreement
  2. Pierce County – pre-sentenced
  3. Nisqually Tribe – sentenced
  4. SCORE – 6-month transition

3

## Overview

PSHSE Committee recommended on 6/10/15 to forward the following to City Council for consideration and approval:

1. City of Fife – Voluntary termination; Tacoma requested date extension from original May date; rate increase from \$75 to \$80 per day; current jail coordinators for Tacoma
2. Pierce County 5-year Agreement – Staffing ramp-up payment needed to open new pod; contract will focus on pre-sentenced inmates; grow to 75 beds in 3 months

4

## Overview (cont.)

3. Nisqually Tribe 5-year agreement –  
Focuses on sentenced inmates and transportation services
4. SCORE 6-month Agreement –  
Maintains our current provider for both pre-trial and special needs populations, such as mental health

5

## Fife Agreement Reso. 39215

- Because of jail facility limitations, the City of Fife contracts with other facilities for the housing of Tacoma inmates.
- As of June 8<sup>th</sup> there were 168 Tacoma inmates in 6 separate facilities
- 2014 Average daily population was 180
- Jail services are provided by Fife at a mark-up to the City of Tacoma.

6

## **Fife Agreement Reso. 39215**

- **The City of Fife has terminated the jail services agreement with the City of Tacoma.**
- **This agreement is necessary for orderly transition to other providers**
- **A full-time position in the City Attorney's Office will fill the role of jail services coordinator.**
  - **Improved coordination and inmate accessibility is anticipated**

7

## **Pierce County Agreement Reso. 39216**

- **The current Pierce County contract expires December, 2015**
- **Staffing challenges forced the Pierce County Sheriff's Office to suspend booking and incarceration services in March, 2015.**
- **Housing and transport efficiencies can be achieved through a long-term contract with Pierce County for pre-sentenced jail incarceration services for Tacoma misdemeanants.**

8

## **Pierce County Agreement Reso. 39216**

- Pierce County would be able to provide services for pre-sentenced inmates with start-up funding from the City of Tacoma to hire new staff.
- Agreement provides cost reimbursement for required staff and operating expenses for an average of 75 Tacoma pre-sentenced inmates

9

## **Nisqually agreement Reso. 39217**

- Allows for cost effective incarceration of sentenced inmates in a local facility
- Keeps Tacoma police officers on the road by providing the needed inter-facility transportation element
- It is most convenient to citizens to have Tacoma inmates either in Tacoma or a nearby community

10

## Score Agreement Reso. 39218

- SCORE currently houses approximately 54 Tacoma inmates
- The City of Tacoma will enter a transitional period the second half of 2015 and needs to maintain services provided by SCORE as Pierce County ramps up capacity.
- Inmates types currently confined at SCORE will end up at the Pierce County jail as capacity is expanded

11

## Financial Summary

- Pierce County start-up payment of approx. \$600,000
- Additional jail contracts coordinator position will be required at an estimated total cost of \$120,000 annually
- Funding will come from existing resources due to lower daily rates:
  - Pierce County's \$75.80 per inmate bed represents a 21% decrease from the current daily rate of \$92 per inmate.
  - The Nisqually Tribe's \$67.50 per inmate per day (incl. transports) represents an 18.5% decrease from the amended rate of \$80 charged by the City of Fife.
- City staff will closely monitor financial progress and we expect a small surplus at the end of the biennium<sup>12</sup>

# Recommendations

- City Council approval:
  1. Resolution #39215 – Fife
  2. Resolution #39216 – Pierce County
  3. Resolution #39217 – Nisqually
  4. Resolution #39218 – Score

