



TO: T.C. Broadnax, City Manager
FROM: Mark Lauzier, Assistant City Manager, City Manager's Office
COPY: City Council and City Clerk
SUBJECT: **Resolution Authorizing the First Amendment to an Interlocal Agreement with the City of Fife for Jail Services.** – June 16, 2015
DATE: June 10, 2015

SUMMARY:

A resolution authorizing the First Amendment to the Interlocal Agreement with the City of Fife for jail services and terminating these services, effective June 30, 2015. A resolution authorizing an emergency standard agreement with the South Correctional Entity (SCORE) as well as agreements with Pierce County and the Nisqually Tribe will be presented at the same City Council meeting for consideration to address overall services needs..

COUNCIL SPONSORS:

Mayor Strickland and Council Members Campbell, Lonergan and Woodards.

STRATEGIC POLICY PRIORITY:

This first amendment to the interlocal agreement for jail services best aligns with the strategic policy priority to *encourage and promote an efficient and effective government, which is fiscally sustainable and guided by engaged residents.*

BACKGROUND:

Through the City Council's adoption of Resolution No. 38585, the City entered into an interlocal agreement with the City of Fife for jail services effective January 1, 2013 through December 31, 2022. Due to cancellation of the jail services agreement by the City of Fife and the City's desire to have a more affordable, long-term agreement with Pierce County, the City of Tacoma must approve several jail agreements. These agreements will help provide a smooth and orderly transition from Fife to Pierce County and ensure pre-sentenced Tacoma misdemeanants can be booked and held at the Pierce County jail to the greatest extent possible.

It is necessary for the City of Tacoma to assume the responsibility of coordinating jail services for Tacoma misdemeanants due to the City of Fife's notice of cancellation effective June 30, 2015. Fife currently performs the key roles of booking and jail services coordination, the latter which will now have to be handled by a City department. Additionally, Fife subcontracts for sentenced inmate bed days with other corrections facilities including: SCORE (South CORrectional Entity), Yakima County and the Nisqually Tribe Corrections Department.

ISSUES

The City of Tacoma received a Notice of Contract Termination from the City of Fife on March 2, 2015, that included a termination date of May 30, 2015. The City of Tacoma requested an extension of the contract to June 30, 2015. This will be accomplished by an amendment to the Fife contract that allowed the time needed for development of a long-term agreement with Pierce County. The City of Tacoma will pay rates of \$80 per inmate day, \$20 per inmate for booking, and \$195 per inmate per trip for transport to the Tacoma Municipal Court. The City of Fife has agreed to this extension. The current rate is \$75 per inmate per day.



The City of Tacoma has a separate agreement with the City of Fife for the provision of Electronic Home Monitoring services. That contract expires on December 31, 2015. The City of Fife will continue to provide those services.

ALTERNATIVES:

Since the City of Fife has the right to terminate the interlocal agreement and staff negotiated an extension until transition services can be provided, there is no viable alternative at this time.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

Staff presented four jail related recommendations to the Public Safety, Human Services and Education Committee (PSHSE) at the Special Meeting on June 10th. The PSHSE approved the forwarding of all four action items to the full City Council for consideration, including the First Amendment to the Interlocal Agreement per Fife's notice of contract termination. Once the Fife agreement terminates, the City will see a decrease in the sentenced bed rate through the end of the year by using Nisqually. The rate for pre-sentenced inmates to be held by Pierce County will also be reduced. In the long run, it will be more efficient to locate pre-sentenced inmates in the Pierce County jail.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The coordination role previously provided by Fife Corrections was not meeting Tacoma Municipal Courts' needs. Cutting out the "middle man" which currently results in a daily rate mark-up under the Fife contract will save substantial funding through bed location management efforts. The estimated cost of a contract manager to perform this function from September 1, 2015 for the remainder of the biennium is approximately \$160,000 which will be funded within current resources through daily bed rate savings.

Approval of a resolution providing the First Amendment to the Fife Jail Services Agreement will increase the daily rate and extends full services from the City of Fife through June 30, 2015, as authorized by the City Managers for both cities. The billing rates currently being charged include: SCORE (via Fife) is \$97 per day per inmate, plus an additional \$50 per day for each mental health inmate; Pierce County is currently charging \$92 per day for pre-trial incarceration; and, sentenced inmates are being billed at \$80 per day via Fife even though these beds are subcontracted out at lower rates. It is difficult to project costs since there are many variables, including: crime and arrest rates; sentencing policies and local practices; transitioning from old to new contracts; and, jail diversion programs. All of these issues factor into total costs. For example, the practice of sentencing of prisoners by the Tacoma Municipal Court to specific facilities can and has greatly impacted overall costs so facility guidelines should be developed for sentenced, non-sentenced and special needs populations in cooperation with the City contract manager. SCORE currently provides services to Tacoma's special needs population.