



MULTNOMAH COUNTY AGENDA PLACEMENT REQUEST

(Revised: 6/3/2014)

Board Clerk Use Only

Meeting Date: 12/02/14
Agenda Item #: B.1
Est. Start Time: 10:00 a.m.
Date Submitted: 11/28/14

Agenda Title: **Informational Board Briefing on Commissioner Shiprack's FY15 Budget Note: Feasibility Assessment for Mental Health Jail Diversion**

Note: Title should not be more than 2 lines but be sufficient to describe the action requested.

Requested Meeting Date: December 2, 2014 **Time Needed:** 30 minutes
Department: Non departmental **Division:** LPSCC
Contact(s): Abbey Stamp, Executive Director, Local Public Safety Coordinating Council
Phone: 503.988.5777 **Ext.** 85777 **I/O Address:** 503/600
Presenter Name(s) & Title(s): Abbey Stamp, Executive Director, Local Public Safety Coordinating Council. Lore Joplin, Principal, Lore Joplin Consulting

General Information

1. What action are you requesting from the Board?

On December 4, 2014, Abbey Stamp will ask the Board of County Commissioners to vote to appropriate \$100,000 of General Fund Contingency funding to the Local Public Safety Coordinating Council (LPSCC) to pay for consultant fees and future planning for mental health jail diversion. This is in response to Commissioner Shiprack's FY15 Budget Note requesting a Feasibility Assessment for Mental Health Jail Diversion.

For this briefing on December 2, 2014, Ms. Joplin and Ms. Stamp will update the Board on the progress of the Feasibility Study.

2. Please provide sufficient background information for the Board and the public to understand this issue. Please note which Program Offer this action affects and how it impacts the results.

The Board of County Commissioners is concerned about the number of people with mental health issues being housed in the county's jails. It remains a questionable and expensive way to address individuals with mental illness who come in contact with the public safety system.

Jail diversion programs focused on stabilization, integration of health care, and the public safety system's ability to direct people with mental illness away from jails and into appropriate treatment have been successful around the Country. In places like Bexar County, Texas, thousands of people have been diverted from jail into more appropriate treatment facilities, saving millions of dollars annually in jail and emergency room costs.

Multnomah County leadership and staff are engaged in strategic conversations on how to

best grow and enhance housing and treatment options for individuals with mental illness who contact the criminal justice system but would be better served outside jail. The conversations have created momentum and a desire to improve appropriate diversion options.

3. Explain the fiscal impact (current year and ongoing).

In FY 2015, the Board of Commissioners earmarked \$100,000 in General Fund Contingency to be used to evaluate current efforts and further investigate opportunities for Mental Health Jail Diversion efforts in Multnomah County.

The request was documented in a Budget Note adopted by the Board. The Budget Note stipulated that by December 31, 2014, the Local Public Safety Coordinating Council (LPSCC) will provide the Board with an assessment of the feasibility of increasing jail diversion programs in Multnomah County. LPSCC will coordinate with a facilitator to convene stakeholders and produce the assessment, which shall include:

- Evaluation of current jail diversion pilot programs;
- Findings and recommendations from successful jail diversion programs in other municipalities, including elements central to a successful jail diversion program;
- An estimate of the number of people currently in Multnomah County jails or on community supervision in need of such services;
- Existing community capacity to implement and sustain a holistic jail diversion program, including identification of any new infrastructure that would be required by government or non-government service providers;
- Estimated savings from reduced use of the jails; and

In order to respond to the above and thoroughly inform the Board, additional staffing support and facilitation is necessary to augment current evaluation and programmatic efforts. The additional facilitation allows for capacity to evaluate current Multnomah County and other jail diversion programs, gaps, and opportunities; convene multidisciplinary teams; and prepare a report for the Board in December, 2014.

This action appropriates \$100,000 from the General Fund Contingency to the LPSCC budget to allow for payments to be made to the consultant. The consultant's scope of work indicates a total cost of \$62,203. In addition, planning will include recommendations to the Board on how to spend the total the remaining \$37,797 detailed in the Budget Note.

4. Explain any legal and/or policy issues involved.

This action will help guide the Board of County Commissioners (as well as LPSCC and other County leaders) on the best way to move forward with a robust continuum of jail diversion opportunities.

5. Explain any citizen and/or other government participation that has or will take place.

LPSCC is made up of a variety of County, City and community members and leaders. The consultant will work closely with LPSCC leadership in addition to community behavioral health and medical treatment providers and housing agencies that have been engaged in criminal justice and correctional alternatives.

Required Signature

Elected Official

or Department/

Agency Director:

Judy Shiprack /s/

11/19/14

Date:

Note: Please submit electronically. Insert names of your approvers followed by /s/ - we no longer use actual signatures. Please insert date approved."