



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
AGENDA LETTER

Agenda Number:

Clerk of the Board of Supervisors  
105 E. Anapamu Street, Suite 407  
Santa Barbara, CA 93101  
(805) 568-2240

**Department Name:** Probation  
**Department No.:** 022  
**For Agenda Of:** May 18, 2021  
**Placement:** Departmental  
**Estimated Time:** 30 minutes  
**Continued Item:** No  
**If Yes, date from:**  
**Vote Required:** Majority

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**TO:** Board of Supervisors

**FROM:** Department Tanja Heitman, Chief Probation Officer  
Director(s) 805-803-8537  
Contact Info: Holly Benton, Deputy Chief Probation Officer  
805-803-8588

**SUBJECT:** Juvenile Justice Planning and Realignment Implementation

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**County Counsel Concurrence**

As to form: Yes

Other Concurrence:

N/A

**Auditor-Controller Concurrence**

As to form: N/A

**Recommended Actions:**

That the Board of Supervisors:

- A. Receive and file the County of Santa Barbara FY 2021-22 Juvenile Justice Realignment Plan (JJRP);
- B. Receive and file the County of Santa Barbara FY 2021-22 Comprehensive Multi-Agency Juvenile Justice Plan (CMJJP); and
- C. Determine that the above recommended actions are exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15061(b)(3), finding that the activities are covered by the general rule that CEQA applies only to projects which have the potential for causing significant effects on the environment, and where it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the activities in question may have a significant effect on the environment, the activities are not subject to CEQA.

**Summary Text:**

The Juvenile Justice Crime Prevention Act (JJCPA), which was enacted in 2000 as Assembly Bill (AB) 1913 and codified in Government Code Section 30061, provides counties with a reliable funding source for local programs and services aimed at reducing juvenile crime and delinquency. It mandates a local Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council (JJCC) whose multidisciplinary membership collaborates on identifying local needs, supports the development of relevant programs, and considers budget priorities.

Additionally, it requires the development of a Comprehensive Multi-Agency Juvenile Justice Plan (CMJJP) which is updated annually and submitted to the Board of State and Community Corrections (BSCC), the State agency that oversees the JJCPA.

Senate Bill (SB) 823 (2020) establishes the Juvenile Justice Realignment Block Grant program for the purpose of providing county based custody, care, and supervision of youth who are realigned from the state Division of Juvenile Justice or who were otherwise eligible for commitment to the Division of Juvenile Justice prior to its closure. Commencing with the 2021-22 fiscal year, and annually thereafter, each County will receive an allocation to provide appropriate rehabilitative housing and supervision services for this population. Santa Barbara's FY 2021-22 estimated allocation is \$424,182. In budgeting the funds, the legislation requires that the Board of Supervisors shall consider the County's Juvenile Justice Realignment Plan (JJRP).

**Background:**

SB 823, passed by the California State Legislature on August 31, 2020 and chaptered September 30, 2020, created the Office of Youth and Community Restoration (OYCR), prohibits the commitment of additional youth to the Division of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) effective July 1, 2021, and realigns responsibility for those youth to the counties. This legislation further requires that there shall be a Juvenile Justice Realignment Subcommittee of the JJCC, which is statutorily required to develop a separate Plan (JJRP) (Attachment B), describing the facilities, programs, placements, services, supervision and reentry strategies that are needed to provide appropriate rehabilitation and supervision services for the youth who are realigned from the state Division of Juvenile Justice to county based custody, care, and supervision or who were otherwise eligible for commitment to the Division of Juvenile Justice prior to its closure.

Due to the compressed timeline for the FY 2021-22 JJRP development and presentation to the Board for consideration, the Plan was prepared and written by Probation Department staff, and with input from the Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council Workgroup (JJCCW). The 2021-22 JJRP was subsequently approved by the JJCC and the JJCC Subcommittee on April 2, 2021. The JJRP was also reviewed with the Presiding Judge of the Juvenile Court, the Honorable Arthur A. Garcia, on March 25, and with the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council on April 7.

The JJRP is one of two Plans the County prepares to outline its goals and strategies for working with youth. The CMJJP (Attachment C) is annually prepared and updated by the County for submission to the BSCC. The CMJJP addresses local delinquency issues, identifies service needs and gaps, sets goals and priorities, and reports on local juvenile efforts and initiatives. In Santa Barbara County, the CMJJP incorporates aspects of JJCPA funding and the Youthful Offender Block Grant (YOBG) requirements in order to illustrate a complete picture of how funded programs, services, and strategies serve youth and families in our County. The 2021-22 CMJJP was developed and reviewed in coordination with the JJCC Workgroup, which meets throughout the year on issues related to the Plan, and was approved by the JJCC on April 2, 2021.

The County uses JJCPA funding for four strategic priorities: Probation supervision resources; behavioral health assessments; diversion; and, community-based treatment interventions. Deputy Probation Officers provide strength-based risk-needs-responsivity interventions and case management to approximately 170 youth identified as high or medium-risk for reoffending. Department of Behavioral

Wellness clinicians conduct comprehensive assessments that identify the needs and assets of clients to inform case planning and referrals. Community-based interventions are carried out by contracted non-government organizations providing a wide range of evidence-based services. These include diversion away from the juvenile justice system, as well as individual/group targeted interventions to respond to youth behaviors and address risk/needs factors. YOBG funding additionally supports: risk and needs assessment; intensive community supervision; community-based services, including mentoring, marijuana education classes, and targeted intervention programs; the collection and analysis of data related to youth outcomes and program performance; and, behavioral supports to youth in custody. Together with existing community supports and services, and the efforts of many youth-serving community-based and county organizations, JJCPA and YOBG allow the County to provide a continuum of services, supervision and supports for youth and families countywide.

As the responsibility for youth are realigned to the counties under the JJRP, it has become even more important that a rich continuum of services and supports be in place. From diversion away from the juvenile justice system entirely, all the way to the use of secure confinement for the protection of the community, the continuum described in the CMJJP and JJRP allows for individualized approaches to the unique needs and risk factors of each youth. The Probation Department continues to implement best practices in its approaches to working with youth, and to transform its youth-serving systems while adapting to legislative change.

**Performance Measure:**

The JJRP includes performance measures to assess the programs and interventions provided to youth across multiple dimensions, including psychological and social functioning, treatment engagement, and trauma. Contract-based services funded by JJCPA and YOBG and described in the CMJJP have incorporated performance-based measures and are evaluated by Probation for successful outcomes for youth on a quarterly basis.

**Contract Renewals and Performance Outcomes:** N/A

**Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:** N/A

**Fiscal Analysis:**

**Narrative:**

Receiving and filing the FY 2021-22 Juvenile Justice Realignment Plan and the FY 2021-22 Comprehensive Multi-Agency Juvenile Justice Plan has no financial impacts.

**Attachments:** Attachment A: PowerPoint Presentation of Juvenile Justice Planning and Realignment Implementation

Attachment B: 2021-22 Santa Barbara County Juvenile Justice Realignment Plan

Attachment C: 2021-22 Santa Barbara County Comprehensive Multi-Agency Juvenile Justice Plan

**Authored by:** Holly Benton, Deputy Chief Probation Officer