



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 12, 2020
Placement: Administrative
Estimated Time:
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from:
Vote Required: Majority

TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: Department Tanja Heitman, Chief Probation Officer
Director(s) (805) 803-8537
Contact Info: Kimberly Shean, Deputy Chief Probation Officer
(805) 882-3675
SUBJECT: Fiscal Year (FY) 2020-2021 Public Safety Realignment Act Plan

County Counsel Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Other Concurrence: N/A

Auditor-Controller Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Recommended Actions:

That the Board of Supervisors:

- A. Accept the Santa Barbara County FY 2020-2021 Public Safety Realignment Act Plan developed by the Community Corrections Partnership (CCP) and approved by the Executive Committee of the CCP; and
- B. Determine that the acceptance of the FY 2020-2021 Public Safety Realignment Act Plan is 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 a significant effect 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:

On October 1, 2011, the Public Safety Realignment Act (Assembly Bill 109) was implemented as a means of addressing overcrowding in California's prisons and in alleviating the State's financial crisis. The Act transferred the responsibility for specific inmates and parolees from the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) to counties. Additionally, it expanded the role of the CCP, as established in the California Community Corrections Performance Incentives Act of 2009 (Senate Bill 678), and created a seven (7) member Executive Committee from at-large CCP members. Subsequent to passage of the Act in 2011, a plan for implementation of Realignment in Santa Barbara County has been brought before the Board of Supervisors (BOS) each year for approval and adoption.

On February 6, 2020, the CCP and the Executive Committee of the CCP voted to approve the CCP Workgroup's recommended Realignment Spending Plan for FY 2020-2021, and on April 3, 2020, the FY 2020-2021 Public Safety Realignment Act Plan (Attachment A) was adopted by the CCP and the Executive Committee of the CCP. The FY 2020-2021 Realignment Plan demonstrates continued commitment to a data-driven approach to managing and allocating resources through evidence-based strategies that increase public safety, while holding individuals accountable. The strong collaborative foundation of the local Realignment efforts has allowed for expansions and program enhancements in the coming year that are holistic in approach, considerate of the vast and diverse needs of the Post Release Community Supervision (PRCS) and the non-violent, non-serious, non-sex (NX3) populations in Santa Barbara County, and are designed to support the ultimate goal of reducing recidivism.

Background:

Realignment brought two (2) additional populations under the supervision and responsibility of local county jurisdictions. The PRCS population are individuals who exited from prison after serving a commitment for a non-violent, non-serious felony and who are deemed not to be high risk sex offenders. The NX3 population, known locally as Post-Sentence Supervision (PSS), are individuals who served their prison sentences locally and are subject to a mandatory period of supervision as ordered by the Superior Court.

Realignment planning in Santa Barbara County is overseen by the CCP, a collaborative, inter-agency partnership of representatives who maintain shared goals. Further support is afforded by a Workgroup that meets on a monthly basis to review performance data associated to funded strategies to ensure anticipated outcomes remain aligned and to consider any new approaches that may promote local endeavors. Through additional opportunities and partnerships such as Results First, and the Re-Entry Steering and Quality Assurance Committees, all agencies have had opportunities to expand their capacity to understand and implement evidence-based practices and benefit from technical assistance. Various impacts to the criminal justice system, such as those resulting from passage of Proposition 47 (Prop. 47), are utilized as opportunities by the stakeholders as they work to improve successful outcomes.

The Public Safety Realignment Act Plan for FY 2020-2021 provides for new programs, expansions, and program enhancements in the coming year. Key areas of focus are:

Neighborhood Court Pilot Program – District Attorney’s Office

For the upcoming Fiscal Year, the CCP has approved \$154,500 for two years to fund a Neighborhood Court (NHC) Program in the city of Goleta. The NHC Program is a restorative justice-based program that will serve as a pre-filing diversion for certain misdemeanor offenses and infractions. An individual who commits a qualifying offense would appear before a panel of trained community volunteers to review the offense, discuss the impact of the offense on the community, and the actions the individual can take to make amends with the community, with a goal to prevent the individual from committing future offenses. The participant would complete agreed-upon accountability actions such as community service, letters of apology, educational opportunities, counseling, etc. Upon the participant’s successful completion of accountability actions, the District Attorney’s Office would not file the charge(s) in court.

Social Worker – Public Defender’s Office

The CCP has approved \$97,523 for one additional Master Level social worker for the Office of the Public Defender to service as a Holistic Defense Advocate within the Community Defender Division. This additional position will work with individuals in or exiting jail and will employ interdisciplinary approaches to achieve more successful legal and life outcomes for justice-involved clients. Additional responsibilities will include utilizing social work interventions to improve legal and life outcomes for clients, bio-psycho-social assessments, drafting mitigation reports, facilitate improved trust and communication between attorney and client, conduct short-term supportive counseling, crisis intervention, stabilization and psychoeducation, and identify client needs and coordinate resources. Goals for the program include the following: (1) improve public defender clients' criminal case outcomes, such as secure pretrial release and reduce post-conviction jail time; (2) stabilize clients' lives by addressing their housing, employment, substance use, mental health, and social relationship and integration needs; and (3) reduce recidivism, including for violent offenses.

Sheriff’s Edovo Tablet Program Expansion

The CCP has approved the use of \$237,230 of ongoing Realignment funds for the Sheriff Edovo tablet program in the jail, specifically \$98,550 for tablet leases, \$5,000 for ear pieces, and \$133,680 for security escort. This program was previously funded through one time monies. Funding has been allocated for a full-time Sheriff’s Deputy to maintain oversight of the program and ensure the tablets remain in circulation and in good repair as well as the purchase of additional earpieces. The Edovo tablets were implemented in the jail in August 2018 and the platform focuses on educational programming with an “Earn and Learn” component. Inmates earn entertainment credits based on the amount of time spent on the educational platform. Inmates are given the opportunity to earn certificates for classes completed on the tablets and have access to over 24,000 videos, articles, books, and courses. Courses include those accredited by the American Community Corrections Institute, GED preparation, Cognitive Behavioral Interventions (such as Anger Management), alcohol and drug education, religious instruction, and health education. The tablets are available to be deployed each week to inmates who do not participate or have access to programming in the Sheriff’s Treatment Program (STP), and each individual has access to the tablets for approximately four hours per week.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

Budgeted: Yes

Fiscal Analysis:

<u>Funding Sources</u>	<u>Current FY Cost:</u>	<u>Annualized On-going Cost:</u>	<u>Total One-Time Project Cost</u>
General Fund			
State		\$ 14,705,414.00	\$ 614,167.00
Federal			
Fees			
Other:			
Total	\$ -	\$ 14,705,414.00	\$ 614,167.00

Narrative:

The FY 2020-2021 Realignment Spending Plan is entirely funded by State revenue and consists of Santa Barbara County’s estimated FY 2020-2021 Base allocation (\$13,663,991), FY 2018-2019 Growth funds (\$531,882), and Restricted Programmatic Fund Balance (\$509,541). Annual funding for on-going programmatic operations is \$14,705,414. Additionally, the CCP approved the use of \$614,167 of one-time funds consisting of \$539,167 from Realignment Restricted Programmatic Fund Balance and \$75,000 from the Realigned Restricted Planning Fund Balance. The CCP allocated \$539,167 in additional resources necessary for the Prop. 47 Petitions Project (\$78,000), the two (2) year Neighborhood Court Pilot Program (\$154,500), data needs (\$40,000), Supportive Housing Pilot Program (\$66,667), and an increase to the Prudent Reserve (\$200,000). The CCP allocated \$75,000 from the Realignment Restricted Planning Fund Balance to fund the expansion of the evaluation contract (\$50,000) and annual training allocation (\$25,000).

Approval of the FY 2020-2021 Public Safety Realignment Act Plan will not increase the General Fund Contribution of the departments mentioned above.

Staffing Impacts: The staffing impacts listed below indicate deviations of FTE positions in the proposed FY 2020-2021 Public Safety Realignment Act Plan in comparison to the adopted FY 2019-2020 Public Safety Realignment Act Plan.

	<u>FTE</u>
Sheriff	+1.00
Public Defender	+1.00
Behavioral Wellness	-0.25

Special Instructions:

None

Attachments:

Attachment A: FY 2020-2021 Public Safety Realignment Act Plan

Authored by:

Kimberly Shean, Deputy Chief Probation Officer