



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: September 19, 2023
Placement: Administrative
Estimated Time: N/A
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from: N/A
Vote Required: Majority

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Department Holly L. Benton, Chief Probation Officer (805) 803-8537
Director(s)
Contact Info: Melinda Barrera, Deputy Chief Probation Officer (805) 882-3715

SUBJECT: **Juvenile Justice Crime Prevention Act - Youthful Offender Block Grant 2022-2023 Expenditure and Data Report**

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 Department's Juvenile Justice Crime Prevention Act (JJCPA) – Youthful Offender Block Grant (YOBG) 2022-2023 Expenditure and Data Report to the Board of State and Community Corrections (BSCC) as mandated by statute.
- B. Determine that the above actions are government fiscal activities or funding mechanisms which do not involve any commitment to any specific project which may result in a potentially significant physical impact on the environment and are therefore not a project under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Section 15378(b)(4) of the CEQA guidelines.

Summary Text:

Assembly Bill (AB) 1998, passed by the California state legislature in 2017, combined annual JJCPA and YOBG reports to the BSCC into one fiscal year-end report (Attachment A) due October 1st of each year. The report provides expenditure detail for both JJCPA and YOBG, as well as specified county-wide data for justice involved youth, taken from existing statewide juvenile justice data systems or networks, as specified by the BSCC. AB 1998 further requires that each county receiving an allocation of funds submit its report concurrently to the county board of supervisors.

Background:

AB 1913, passed by the California state legislature in 2000, created the Schiff-Cardenas Crime Prevention Act, subsequently renamed the JJCPA, which provides State funds to support local programs and services that address crime and delinquency among at-risk youth and justice involved youth. To obtain funds, the JJCPA requires the County to establish and maintain a multi-agency Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council (JJCC) for the purpose of developing, reviewing, and updating a Comprehensive Multi-Agency Juvenile Justice Plan (CMJJP) that describes the local juvenile justice system and its efforts to address delinquency. Annually, the CMJJP is reviewed and revised as needed prior to being submitted to the BSCC.

Senate Bill (SB) 81, enacted in 2007, created the YOBG, and along with subsequent clean-up legislation under AB 191 in 2011, limited commitments to the State Division of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) to youth with dispositions for the most serious offenses enumerated in section 707(b) of the Welfare and Institutions Code (WIC) and certain sex offenses. The YOBG prohibited state level commitment of youth adjudicated for all other offenses after September 1, 2007. The legislation included funding to offset the cost of providing services to non-707(b) WIC adjudicated youth returning to the county, and to increase officer capacity to supervise them. YOBG funds are allocated based on a county's population of persons aged 10-17, and the number of juvenile felony dispositions. More recently, Senate Bill 823, enacted in 2020, precluded the commitment of any youth to a DJJ facility beginning July 1, 2021, ultimately closing all DJJ facilities permanently on June 30, 2023. As a result, youth who in the past may have been committed to a DJJ facility for serious offenses are now housed locally, including unprecedented long-term commitments at the Juvenile Justice Center (JJC). To meet the needs of this population, local jurisdictions can obtain funding by submitting a detailed plan of programs and services in the County's Juvenile Justice Realignment Plan (JJRP) which is submitted to Office of Youth and Community Restoration (OYCR) every third year beginning in January of 2022.

Locally, in 2018, the JJCC formed the Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council Workgroup (JJCCW) whose membership includes county and community partner agencies. The JJCCW analyzes gaps, trends and service delivery, discusses data and resources, and reviews issues of interest in order to present recommendations to the JJCC. The JJCCW has sought input and perspective from a range of stakeholders, with a primary focus on the development and refinement of the CMJJP to meet contemporary needs. The CMJJP has the overarching goals of maintaining public safety by reducing recidivism, enhancing the use of diversion for appropriate youth, coordinating efforts and improving system collaboration to support connection of youth and families in the community, and supporting a systematic approach to studying and addressing disparities in the juvenile justice system including but not limited to gender, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender identity, and gender expression. This year's CMJJP plan was combined with the JJRP to illustrate the continuum of the juvenile justice system from community prevention efforts, to programming, and re-entry efforts for youth detained in the juvenile facilities.

Historically, JJCPA funding has been used for the assessment, supervision, and treatment of, and aftercare services for justice involved youth. In addition to JJCPA, the Santa Barbara County Probation Department (Probation) uses a variety of other funding sources to provide services to at-risk juveniles, justice involved youth, and their families. These sources include Federal Title IV-E funds, Juvenile Camp and Probation Funding (JCPF), YOBG funds, and County General Funds.

Prior to 2017, counties submitted separate year-end or annual reports for JJCPA and YOBG. With the creation of a combined plan, counties now report once yearly on both programs in a format specified by BSCC. The attached report includes required program descriptions, expenditures, and juvenile justice data as reported through the Juvenile Court and Probation Statistical System. The reporting for that system relies on specified definitions that may not directly match local data definitions.

This year's combined report reflects expenditures within expectations. Between 2021 and 2022 total juvenile arrests increased 27% within the County of Santa Barbara. Youth arrested for a misdemeanor increased 32% (from 288 arrests in 2021 to 380 in 2022) and juvenile felony arrests increased 17% (from 156 arrests in 2021 to 182 arrests in 2022). While increasing, the local rate remains below reported increases statewide (37% overall increase statewide vs. 27% in Santa Barbara County). Likewise, by arrest type, misdemeanor and felony, the local increases remain below the reported state rate (California misdemeanor arrests increased 44% vs. 27% locally and statewide felony arrests are up 30% vs 17% locally).

Information from Probation's case management system also indicates Probation has experienced a slight 3% increase in the number of supervised juveniles to 222 youth in a one-day snapshot from fiscal year 22/23 as compared to 215 youth in the previous fiscal year, a total of 7 youth. At the same time, Probation has seen a substantial increase in the percentage of youth on diversionary supervision. Of the total 222 youth supervised on June 30, 2023, 20% were supervised on a diversionary option, an increase from 15% the year prior. Probation continues efforts to limit the total number of youth under probation supervision to those who represent the highest risk to reoffend, while at the same time limiting the number of youth placed on probation for misdemeanor offenses, and the time youth remain under supervision. Probation utilizes the Positive Achievement and Change Tool (PACT), an evidenced based risk and needs assessment tool to identify both youth's risk to reoffend, as well as their criminogenic needs and strengths to build upon. JJCPA and YOBG funding is utilized to provide programming to address these criminogenic needs, and Probation staff funded through these grants work with youth and families to create case plans with meaningful goals to address identified needs through these interventions.

Objective Outcome:

The 2022-2023 CMJJP details several outcomes to measure the achievement of goals established (Attachment B). These include, but are not limited to: assessing and monitoring program fidelity of evidence-based programs utilized for youth, advancing a restorative justice diversion program, facilitating trauma informed care and implicit bias training for Probation staff working with youth, reducing technical violations filed, increasing the use of non-ward probation grants, expanding the re-entry navigator position which assists youth exiting the JJC after long commitments, expanding family engagement, and improvement in data collection and service provision to indigenous and LBGTQ youth populations to ensure services available are meeting the needs of the populations.

Fiscal Analysis:

The attached report recaps FY 2022-23 statistical and budget information for the JJCPA and YOBG programs. Receiving and filing the attached report has no fiscal impact.

Attachments:

Attachment A: Juvenile Justice Crime Prevention Act/Youthful Offender Block Grant 2022-2023 Expenditure and Data Report

Attachment B: Santa Barbara County 2022-2023 Consolidated Annual Comprehensive Multi-Agency Juvenile Justice Plan

Authored by:

Erin Cross, Probation Manager