



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 4, 2021
Placement: Departmental
Estimated Time: 45 Minutes
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) 2021-2022 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. Receive a presentation on the Fiscal Year (FY) 2021-2022 Public Safety Realignment Act Plan;
- B. Accept the Santa Barbara County FY 2021-2022 Public Safety Realignment Act Plan developed by the Community Corrections Partnership (CCP) and approved by the Executive Committee of the CCP; and
- C. Determine that the acceptance of the FY 2021-2022 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 5, 2021, the CCP and the Executive Committee of the CCP voted to approve the CCP Workgroup's recommended Realignment Spending Plan for FY 2021-2022, and on April 2, 2021, the FY 2021-2022 Public Safety Realignment Act Plan (Attachment A) was adopted by the CCP and the Executive Committee of the CCP. The FY 2021-2022 Realignment Plan demonstrates continued commitment to a data-driven approach to managing and allocating resources through evidence-based strategies that increase public safety and justice reinvestment strategies, 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 justice involved 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 related to funded strategies to ensure anticipated outcomes remain aligned with the five overarching performance objectives. Through additional opportunities and partnerships with California State Association of Counties (CSAC), 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.

The FY 2021-2022 Public Safety Realignment Act Plan provides for new programs, expansions, and program enhancements in the coming year. Key areas of focus are:

Supportive Transitional Housing

The Supportive Transitional Housing - Rapid Re-Housing project was launched as a two (2)-year pilot program on May 1, 2019. Good Samaritan Shelter and the Salvation Army Santa Barbara Hospitality House provide 28 transitional supportive housing beds for medium to high-risk justice-involved individuals with multiple areas of vulnerability such as; mild to moderate mental health challenges, substance abuse challenges, and individuals who are re-entering the community after lengthy incarceration without natural supports available for housing assistance. All participants are subject to community supervision by the Probation Department and are assigned a case manager that works closely with them to identify and resolve barriers to obtaining and maintaining housing, including transportation to

appointments and treatment. The programs connect participants to appropriate support services available in the community to foster long-term housing stability.

On February 5, 2021, the CCP approved the incorporation of the Supportive Housing Program into the ongoing budget, in the amount of \$400,000, which includes funding for a .15 FTE Housing Specialist (\$35,000). Additionally, \$1.65 million of one-time reserve funds remains earmarked for development of a "brick and mortar" supportive housing project for high- to medium-risked justice-involved individuals subject to community supervision by the Probation Department. Sanctuary Centers of Santa Barbara was selected to receive the funding for this project to augment the \$13 million housing project to be constructed at 115 W. Anapamu, in Santa Barbara. This project will provide studio and one bedroom permanent supportive housing units to 16 clients referred by Probation for thirty years.

Neighborhood Court Pilot Program

The Neighborhood Court (NHC) pilot program project was approved for a period of two (2) years in FY 2020-2021. The NHC Program is intended to be a restorative justice-based, pre-filing diversion program for certain misdemeanor offenses and infractions. Through the NHC program, a person accused of a qualifying offense would appear before a panel of trained community volunteers to discuss the alleged offense, the impact it had on the community, and actions that the individual can take to make amends with the community and prevent future criminal behavior. The participant would complete the agreed-upon accountability actions such as community service, letters of apology, educational opportunities, and counseling. In February of 2021, the City of Goleta approved the pilot program and will assist in providing a space for neighborhood court sessions to be held once it is again safe for people to gather. The pilot program will serve the City of Goleta and the unincorporated Goleta Valley (with the exception of Isla Vista/UCSB). Benefits of a NHC program include diverting low-level offenses through a restorative justice process that promotes accountability, increased community involvement in advancing public safety, and a reduction in time and money spent on adjudicating low-level offenses in court. One (1) staff member to oversee the NHC pilot program and costs associated with training and technical assistance are included. For FY 2021-2022, \$154,500 was allocated from the Programmatic Restricted Fund Balance. This additional funding will ensure a full two years of pilot data will be collected that will take the program into FY 2022-2023.

Racial and Ethnic Equity and Inclusion

In support of a systemic approach to studying and addressing racial and ethnic disparities in the justice system, the Racial and Ethnic Equity and Inclusion (REEI) sub-committee of the CCP Working Committee was launched in May 2019. The initial objectives of this sub-committee were to design and launch a data mining and analysis project to determine base rate of ethnic and racial representation in the justice system and partner with local justice partners to educate staff and stakeholders and strategize approaches to address any racial and ethnic disparities in our local justice system. Initial Implicit Bias training was provided to over 240 justice partner stakeholders. The Relative Rate Index (RRI) was calculated on race and ethnicity data of justice-involved clients at different decision points in the system and a presentation will be given to your Board in an upcoming hearing, along with equivalent juvenile data.

Goals in the coming year include, facilitating additional Implicit Bias trainings, developing a shared understanding of priorities to reduce racial and ethnic disparities and create a roadmap for advancing these

priorities, and developing and collecting survey responses and/or conducting interviews with victims and justice-involved clients to seek input to ensure the systematic treatment meets the desired objective.

Holistic Defense

Within the Community Defender Division of the Public Defender’s Office, Holistic Defense Masters Level Social Work (MSW) practitioners, work with justice-involved individuals employing interdisciplinary approaches, capacity building, and improving community based systems to achieve more successful legal and life outcomes. The Holistic Defense social workers duties may include interventions toward improved 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. In FY 2019/20 a total of 565 referrals for various services were received and processed. For FY 2021/22, an expansion of one additional social worker position will expand capacity for additional support for justice-involved clients when reentering the community following incarceration.

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		\$ 15,422,891.00	\$ 269,500.00
Federal			
Fees			
Other:			
Total	\$ -	\$ 15,422,891.00	\$ 269,500.00

Narrative:

The FY 2021-2022 Realignment Spending Plan is entirely funded by State revenue and consists of Santa Barbara County’s estimated FY 2021-2022 Base allocation (\$13,460,000), State General Fund Realignment Backfill (\$849,845), and Realignment Programmatic Restricted Fund Balance (\$1,113,046). Annual funding for ongoing programmatic operations is \$15,422,891. Additionally, the CCP approved the use of \$194,500 from Realignment Programmatic Restricted Fund Balance to fund one-time allocations for additional resources necessary for the two (2)-year Neighborhood Court Pilot Program (\$154,500) and data needs (\$40,000) as well as \$75,000 from Realignment Planning Restricted Fund Balance to fund the expansion of the evaluation contract (\$50,000) and annual training allocation (\$25,000).

Approval of the FY 2021-2022 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 2021-2022 Public Safety Realignment Act Plan in comparison to the adopted FY 2020-2021 Public Safety Realignment Act Plan. Changes to FTE for the upcoming fiscal year include Public Defender +1.0 FTE Social Worker and Community Services -0.35 FTE Housing Program Specialist (this position was funded at 0.5 FTE in 20-21 and will be 0.15 FTE in 21-22).

	FTE
Public Defender	+1.00
Community Services	-0.35

Attachments:

Attachment A: PowerPoint Presentation of FY 2021-2022 Public Safety Realignment Act Plan

Attachment B: FY 2021-2022 Public Safety Realignment Act Plan

Authored by:

Kimberly Shean, Deputy Chief Probation Officer