



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 3, 2022
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: Holly L. Benton, Deputy Chief Probation Officer
(805) 803-8588
SUBJECT: Fiscal Year (FY) 2022-2023 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) 2022-2023 Public Safety Realignment Act Plan;
- B. Accept the Santa Barbara County FY 2022-2023 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 2022-2023 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 each year for approval and adoption.

On February 4, 2022, the CCP and the Executive Committee of the CCP voted to approve the CCP Workgroup's recommended Realignment Spending Plan for FY 2022-2023, and on April 1, 2022, the FY 2022-2023 Public Safety Realignment Act Plan (Attachment B) was adopted by the CCP and the Executive Committee of the CCP. The FY 2022-2023 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 non-violent, non-serious, non-sex offenders (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 California Policy Lab (along with support from the Reentry 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 2022-2023 Public Safety Realignment Act Plan provides for new programs, expansions, and program enhancements in the coming year. Key areas of focus are:

Multi-Agency Assessment, Case Management and Reentry Coordinator

The current Discharge Planning Team consists of one Community Release Specialist, one Discharge Planner contracted through the Sheriff's Department, two Deputy Probation Officers assigned as Jail Assessors), and two Rehabilitation Services Coordinators employed through the Public Defender's Office. This multidisciplinary approach allows the team to utilize their skills and knowledge as they collaborate in the assessment of inmates' needs and subsequent discharge planning. In addition to the efforts of the Discharge Planning Team and Probation Report and Resource Center (PRRC) staff, multiple county departments and agencies partake in reentry and discharge planning efforts. These

efforts include, but are not limited to, work by Probation, the SBSO, Behavioral Wellness, Santa Barbara County Department of Social Services, and the Public Defender.

To reduce barriers, enhance coordination and collaboration between agencies, and remove work from silos, the CCP funded a Multi-Agency Assessment, Case Planning and Reentry Coordinator position. Through collaboration amongst the partner agencies and the leadership of the Coordinator, Santa Barbara County will ensure individuals entering the jail receive multi-agency assessments and case planning that will assist in successful release at the earliest stage possible based on their risk and needs and the statutorily available options. This approach will assist in ensuring all diversionary options are maximized and individuals exiting the jail at all stages (pre-trial and post sentence) have a more robust discharge plan and a warm handoff as appropriate.

Pretrial Services Expansion

The Santa Barbara County Pretrial justice system is committed to effectively supervising those released on pretrial supervision, reasonably assuring attendance at court hearings while maintaining the presumption of innocence and providing protection to the public. During this past FY, the Pretrial Supervised Release Program experienced a continued rapid growth of defendants being released on some form of pretrial supervision. In July of 2020, 371 defendants were on pretrial release and a year later in July of 2021, the number of defendants was 439. As of April 2022, the number is 518. The number of defendants is projected to continue to increase into the next fiscal year. The CCP approved the funding of two contracted Pretrial Services Navigator (PSN) positions to provide supportive services to the pretrial population; two additional positions were added through the use of departmental resources. Also for FY 2022-2023, two (2) additional Deputy Probation Officers, one of which is classified as a Senior Deputy Probation Officer, were funded to supervise the increase in the supervised pretrial population.

Holistic Defense

The Santa Barbara County Public Defender's model of holistic defense is a team-based reentry model in partnership with multiple agencies. These teams work to address socially rooted problems, beyond simple criminal risk, such as homelessness, unemployment, and addiction. Through Community Defender Division (CDD), the office directly addresses the underlying life circumstances that lead clients to criminal justice involvement, such as addiction, mental illness, family dynamics, and housing instability. During COVID-19, CDD has adapted to meet in-custody clients through virtual technology, Skype and Zoom, as well as appearing in court with clients via Zoom. CDD navigated jail quarantine and technology challenges hindering direct access to incarcerated clients. CDD has also concentrated efforts toward enhancing collaboration with community partners, including the Sheriff's Office and Behavioral Wellness, to ensure seamless and continued access to therapeutic services during the pandemic. For FY 22-23, the CCP approved the addition of three positions: one Licensed Clinical Social Worker, one Client Services Specialist, and one Recovery Assistant; these positions will expand capacity for additional support for justice-involved clients reentering the community following incarceration.

Champion Center Crestwood Pilot Project

In April of 2021, the CCP approved a proposal to use funds from the ongoing operational Mental Health Rehabilitation Clinic (MHRC) budget to fund two (2) reserved mental health rehabilitation beds at the Lompoc Crestwood Champions MHRC as a pilot project to divert clients that are Misdemeanants Incompetent to stand trial (MIST). These beds are distinct from non-forensic MHRC beds in that they provide services for individuals referred by the Superior Court that require a greater level of staffing and services while pending resolution of their legal matters. These clients were connected with Justice Alliance outpatient team for case management and follow-up. The FY 2020-2021 funding allocated \$365,000 two (2) bed pilot with no capital costs needed to initiate the pilot program. During the past FY, a MHRC Subcommittee of the CCP Workgroup convened to explore what data elements are required to support the need for the MHRC. Additionally, the subcommittee discussed how to examine the jail and the Psychiatric Health Facility’s (PHF) populations in need of a bed, what treatment needs exist for non-acute, non-IST individuals, and how to serve them if they are decompensating at the jail. Ultimately, the subcommittee’s recommendation was a two-pronged approach to expand the pilot from two to four guaranteed beds and set aside funding for two contingent beds as needed. Expansion would allow for additional services to be provided and more data to be collected for deliverables.

For FY 2022-2023, an additional \$365,000 of funding from the ongoing operational costs was approved to be used to add an additional two (2) beds to the pilot at Lompoc Crestwood Champions MHRC, for a total of four (4) beds. However, the passage of Senate Bill (SB) 317, which requires diversion and outpatient treatment of MISTs, will impact the use of these beds. Discussions are ongoing between CCP partners, including Behavioral Wellness, the Public Defender and Probation, as to how best to use this resource and ensure individuals requiring a bed for mental health treatment and/or restoration are afforded that opportunity.

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		\$ 18,136,309.00	\$ 265,000.00
Federal			
Fees			
Other:			
Total	\$ -	\$ 18,136,309.00	\$ 265,000.00

Narrative:

The FY 2022-2023 Realignment Spending Plan is entirely funded by State revenue and consists of Santa Barbara County’s estimated FY 2022-2023 Base allocation (\$15,934,650) and FY 2020-2021 Growth funds (\$2,201,659). Annual funding for ongoing programmatic operations is \$18,136,309. Additionally,

the CCP approved the use of \$190,000 from Realignment Programmatic Restricted Fund Balance to fund one time allocations for additional resources necessary to extend the Neighborhood Restorative Justice Program (\$150,000) for an additional two years 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 2022-2023 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 2022-2023 Public Safety Realignment Act Plan in comparison to the adopted FY 2021-2022 Public Safety Realignment Act Plan. Changes to FTE for the upcoming fiscal year include Probation +1.0 FTE Multi-Agency Assessment, Case Planning and Re-Entry Coordinator, +1.0 FTE Senior Deputy Probation Officer and +1.0 FTE Deputy Probation Officer; Public Defender +1.0 FTE Licensed Clinical Social Worker, +1.0 Client Services Specialist (formerly an extra-help position in FY 2021-2022) and +1.0 Recovery Assistant.

	FTE
Probation	+3.00
Public Defender	+3.00

Attachments:

Attachment A: PowerPoint Presentation of FY 2022-2023 Public Safety Realignment Act Plan

Attachment B: FY 2022-2023 Public Safety Realignment Act Plan

Authored by:

Holly L. Benton, Deputy Chief Probation Officer