

**COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
TUESDAY, MAY 24, 2022**

MINUTE ORDER NO. 22

SUBJECT: INITIAL INTERIM REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS ON DATA-DRIVEN APPROACHES TO PUBLIC SAFETY, TREATMENT AND SERVICE EXPANSIONS, AND ADVANCING EQUITY THROUGH ALTERNATIVES TO INCARCERATION, AND AMEND PRE-TRIAL FELONY MENTAL HEALTH DIVERSION PROGRAM AGREEMENT WITH DEPARTMENT OF STATE HOSPITALS TO INCLUDE ADDITIONAL GRANT FUNDS (DISTRICTS: ALL)

OVERVIEW

On October 19, 2021 (3), the Board of Supervisors (Board) directed a series of actions focused on creating alternatives to incarceration, with an emphasis on data and stakeholder input to develop recommendations to enhance public safety, advance equity, and reduce incarceration of people who do not pose a public safety threat by providing community-based rehabilitative services and supports in lieu of custody. The Board directed development of comprehensive policy and service recommendations based on data-driven analysis of jail population reductions realized during the COVID-19 public health emergency, policy research, and stakeholder input. Board direction also included analysis of public safety outcomes, fiscal analysis and recommendations for short, mid, and long-term actions to reduce San Diego County jail populations safely and permanently and identified actions to be led by the County Chief Administrative Office (CAO) and actions to be conducted by an independent contracted consultant.

On February 8, 2022 (11), the Board received a Preliminary Report on Data-Driven Alternatives to Incarceration and approved referring the proposals for enhancing the capabilities of sobering services in the Central region to serve higher acuity clients and provide additional care transition services for high needs clients at sobering services to the Fiscal Years 2022-24 CAO Recommended Operational Plan.

Today's request includes receiving the San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG) Data-Driven Approach to Public Safety Alternatives to Incarceration Initial Interim Report, which includes details and analysis on community engagement for the project; primary pandemic-related policy drivers of reduced incarceration; San Diego County regional crime statistics; changes in San Diego County jail population 2018-2021, needs of justice-involved individuals, community services received by local custody populations; and next steps. In addition, today's request includes receiving a presentation on the report and a review of local community-based services supporting alternatives to incarceration.

SANDAG's initial interim report includes analysis of mental health-related data that shows a disproportion of people with mental health needs in custody persisted, even as jail populations were reduced during the pandemic. Today's item includes a request to amend and extend a contract with the California Department of State Hospitals for its mental health diversion program to increase the funding amount by \$852,000 from \$3,328,000 and extend the contract end date by one year to June 30, 2024, thereby increasing the capacity of the County's Behavioral Health Court Diversion program by 20 percent, to serve a new population of clients found incompetent to stand trial, whose criminal behavior is due to untreated mental illness, and who can be safely and effectively supported with community treatment.

RECOMMENDATION(S)

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

1. Receive SANDAG's Initial Interim Report on Data-Driven Alternatives to Incarceration.
2. Receive a presentation from SANDAG.
3. Authorize the Deputy Chief Administrative Officer (DCAO), Public Safety Group, to amend the contract with the Department of State Hospitals (DSH) to increase the grant amount by \$852,000 and extend the contract term by one year for a total contract amount of \$4,180,000 for the term period of, July 15, 2020 thru June 30, 2024, for a Pre-Trial Felony Mental Health Diversion Program and to execute all required contract documents, including any extensions, amendments or revisions thereto, that do not materially impact either the program or funding level.
4. Waive Board Policy B-29, Fees, Grants, Revenue Contracts - Department Responsibility for Cost Recovery, which requires docketing revenue contracts at least 60 days prior to effective date of the contract.

EQUITY IMPACT STATEMENT

Nationally, arrest and incarceration disproportionately impact people of color and those who are poor, mentally ill, struggling with addiction, disabled or homeless. The same is true in San Diego County, where people of color are disproportionately incarcerated, as are those with behavioral health conditions and those experiencing homelessness. Reports on homeless and jail populations reflect similar disproportionality. For example, in 2021 black individuals composed 20 percent of the average daily jail population, according to jail data, while only 5 percent of San Diego County residents are black, according to Census data. The 2020 Point in Time (PIT) Count estimated 25 percent of individuals in jail had been homeless at the time of arrest, while homeless individuals represent only a small fraction of San Diego County's residents. The 2020 PIT Count also found 7 of 10 unsheltered individuals interviewed in the community had been to jail at some point.

Throughout this project, community stakeholders will be engaged in the review of data and outcome measures to provide diverse perspectives and inform ongoing implementation.

FISCAL IMPACT

There is no current year fiscal impact associated with today's request related to Data-Driven Alternatives to Incarceration. Staff will return to the Board with possible actions according to the schedule directed by the Board regarding Data-Driven Alternatives to Incarceration and seek approval for financial impacts associated with future recommendations.

If approved, today's request related to the contract with the Department of State Hospitals will result in total costs and revenue of \$852,000 and will extend the contract by one more year through June 30, 2024. The funding source is an allocation from the Department of State Hospitals. The additional funds will increase the total agreement amount from \$3,328,000 to \$4,180,000. Appropriations will be included in future year operational plans. There will be no change in net General Fund cost and no additional staff years.

BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT

N/A

ACTION:

ON MOTION of Supervisor Lawson-Remer, seconded by Supervisor Fletcher, the Board of Supervisors took action as recommended.

AYES: Vargas, Lawson-Remer, Fletcher, Desmond

ABSENT: Anderson

State of California)

County of San Diego) §

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true and correct copy of the Original entered in the Minutes of the Board of Supervisors.

ANDREW POTTER

Clerk of the Board of Supervisors



Signed

by Andrew Potter