



MULTNOMAH COUNTY
FY 2022 Budget Work Session Follow Up – Sheriff's Office

Sheriff's Office – May 4, 2021

Question 1

Commissioner Meieran (District 1): Chemical munitions – Understanding that there is no single line item reflecting expenditures on chemical munitions and related equipment and training because the products are used across programs - is it possible to parse out where spending on chemical munitions and other crowd control munitions (and related equipment and training) is accounted for in MCSO's budget?

- The Sheriff's Office budgets anticipated expenses at a ledger line item level titled 'Supplies' (General Ledger Line 60240), and the FY21 General Fund Supply budget for MCSO is \$2,949,538. As defined in the FY22 Budget Preparation Manual (see below), a Supply line item can be anything from paper clips, to vehicle floor mats, to protective equipment, to mattresses for our corrections facilities. The Sheriff's Office does not budget to a more specific or spend category level, thus it's not possible to parse this out.

60240 Supplies

Use this ledger account for all supplies whose original unit cost is less than \$5,000, including such items as office supplies, janitorial supplies, operating supplies, minor equipment and tools, clothing and uniforms, sponsorships, and computer equipment not capital. Food or catering for County business meetings is budgeted here. Budget for client food in 60155 (Direct Client Assistance). The maximum cost per single item is \$5,000. Items that cost \$5,000 or more are capital; budget those under ledger account 60550 (Capital Equipment).



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Question 2

Commissioner Meieran (District 1): Close Street (60445) – Can MCSO provide additional detail around Close Street Supervision services? What is the staff mix? Do deputies and corrections counselors directly provide the interventions and services listed in the program offer, or does MCSO contract for those services? How have the needs for services changed during the COVID pandemic, and how do we anticipate needs changing over the course of the fiscal year?

- Upon release, Close Street Supervision (CSS) Deputies will work directly with clients to ensure they comply with conditions of release and are aware of upcoming court dates. If the Court has ordered the client to engage in treatment as part of their release plan, deputies will work with defense attorneys to ensure appropriate treatment plans are arranged.
- The Corrections Counselors work one-on-one with clients who have requested services or who have been identified as having complex needs. The Counselor can directly connect clients to a Peer Mentor from MHA AO (grant-funded) or 4th Dimension (unfunded pilot) that can support recovery efforts; they can make direct referrals to substance use disorder treatment programs such as VOA, CODA, DePaul, Central City Concern, and others; and they can also connect clients to temporary shelter options such as the Wy'East Shelter, City Team, and the Bybee Lakes Hope Center. In addition, the Counselor will help clients identify their goals and connect them to other agencies that can assist with child custody, benefits, employment, and other needs.
- Staffing in CSS is currently one (1) Sergeant, six (6) Deputies, and two (2) Corrections Counselors (Counselor FTE are in inmate programs - PO 60430).
- Efforts to reduce the jail population due to COVID have resulted in higher case counts for Close Street Supervision. The numbers have continued to increase due to the delay in trials. Many clients have complex needs that would benefit from the assistance of professionals—such as peer support specialists or counselors—with experience in the social services field.
- We do not see a significant change in the types of resources being provided over the next fiscal year, although with a new collaborative effort for pre-trial county-wide, we would anticipate more continuity in resources used in both CSS and the Pre-Trial Supervision Program run by DCJ.



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Question 3

Commissioner Meieran (District 1): Jail capacity and dorm planning – What is the plan for jail capacity in the short term and the long term as we recover from the pandemic and the need for physical distancing decreases? Can MCSO explain the forecast for the jail population, given the potential rolling back of pandemic-related restrictions on booking for low-level charges and (on the flipside) reforms related to pretrial supervision? Does MCSO have a goal to maintain the COVID-era smaller jail census? And if so, how is a projected smaller population reflected in the budget?

- The relatively reduced jail population we see today, and have seen since mid-year 2020, is the result of collaboration with several County partners to move individuals out of jail custody whenever possible. This work has meant a drastically reduced number of individuals in jail who are serving sentences, who are serving probation and post-prison sanctions, or who are being held in custody on behalf of another jurisdiction.
- In contrast, the number of individuals in custody awaiting adjudication has remained steady, despite drastic policy and procedure changes that all but eliminated bookings on misdemeanor charges. Perhaps more concerning, the severity of the charges of these individuals has greatly increased. In spring 2019, just over half (55%) of adults in custody awaiting adjudication had one or more Ballot Measure 11 charges, compared to 79% in spring of this year. We know individuals with more severe charges stay in custody longer, and the Court process is already experiencing considerable delays due to COVID-19.
- In light of this, if the County wishes to return to pre-COVID policies and procedures in the coming years, there is real concern the resultant jail population will actually *exceed* that of pre-pandemic time. Thus, MCSO hopes many of the policies adopted in this past year can be continued into the future and can operate at 85% of capacity on an ongoing basis.
- Operating at 85% allows system housing capacity to meet the needs of Adults in Custody, focus programming opportunities on impacting recidivism, and continue to be agile in our response as we move through the pandemic.
- We are currently funding any overage in capacity with American Rescue Funds and anticipate as those funds are reduced, we will need to reconcile jail capacity overage with budgeted capacity.



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Question 4

Commissioner Jayapal (District 2): How does the FY 2022 budget change jail capacity relative to FY 2021? Please address how jail capacity/population is impacted by the closure of Dorm 11 due to the SB 1145 revenue reduction.

- The closure of dorm 11 results in the reduction of 78 jail beds. New FY22 capacity moves from 1117 to 1039.
- Short term, this reduction results in the compression of the jail population. It will increase Adults in Custody average numbers in open dorm housing units and decrease opportunities for physical distancing of jail populations.
- We are monitoring SB 1145 discussions at the State level, and if approved, these funds would eliminate the need for this reduction.
- The change in overall population will increase about five percent from current percentages, which range between 65 - 75% of system capacity.



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Question 5

Commissioner Jayapal (District 2): Civil Process (60510) – The outputs (ROs served and evictions) are significantly lower than for 2021, but staffing remains the same. Could you explain? Also, the percentage of ROs served (50%) seems quite low. Since staffing was maintained last year, could you explain why there were lower person hours available to serve? And what percentage of ROs included "unknown" or "homeless" as addresses?

- Over the past year, MCSO served fewer protection orders and executed fewer evictions, as compared to a typical year. This is largely due to the pandemic and multiple associated factors, including the moratorium on evictions. However, over that same time period, the complexity of the orders and the resources required has increased. For instance, two years ago an order took, on average, four attempts to serve, and we now average six attempts. We have also been asked to complete more extraditions and are currently on track to double our extradition rate in 2021. Extraditions require two or more deputies to travel for two to three days to return an individual to the State of Oregon, during which time, the assigned deputies cannot complete other service for the Civil Unit. COVID and associated travel challenges only exacerbates the time and effort it takes to complete these processes.
- Regarding the percentage of protection orders served, the fiscal year estimated 50% service rate is fairly typical. Currently, we are at 57% of protection orders served. As noted, the number of attempts required to serve an order has increased over the past few years, and more than a quarter of orders assigned to MCSO do not have an associated address. Regarding person hours available to serve, our civil deputies have been pulled in many different directions over the past year, as COVID-19 and other extenuating circumstances have placed significant strain on our current staffing. This has also limited our ability to successfully hire and train new staff. Deputies assigned to the Civil Unit have been regularly reassigned to other areas of law enforcement response, which does occur in a typical year, but not to the extent to which it occurred in 2020.
- With respect to the percentage of protection orders that include "unknown" or "homeless" as an address, we do not currently have a data collection system in place to provide this information. However, from a hand research sampling of all of the protection orders from February, March, and April of 2021, it was determined approximately a quarter of the protection orders received are not immediately assigned for service because there is no address associated with the order.



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Question 6

Commissioner Jayapal (District 2): School Resource Officers (60535) – The Proposed General Fund amount is \$700,295. The Corbett and Reynolds SD contributions total approximately \$500K. This seems to leave a \$200K CGF budget; as mentioned this morning, I thought we had cut all CGF contributions to SROs? As part of your response, please provide the breakdown of all the positions in the program offer, including how much of the position is funded by the relevant school district. In addition, please provide information regarding the sergeant position, including what duties does the position has and whether it is supported by any revenue.

- This program offer includes .75 FTE for four (4) Reynolds School Resource Deputies, .35 FTE Corbett School Resource Deputy, and one (1) FTE Sergeant - we plan to restructure the program offer to reduce any confusion moving forward.

\$200,251	Sergeant position paid for out of General Fund
\$ 91,434	Paid for by Reynolds School District
\$121,700	Paid for by Reynolds School District
\$ 43,514	Paid for by Corbett School District
\$121,700	Paid for by Reynolds School District
\$121,700	Paid for by Reynolds School District
\$700,299	Total

- The Sergeant position is responsible for supervising the daily activities of the HOPE Team (two Deputies), Community Resource Deputies (three), Metro Deputy (one), and School Resource Deputies (four Reynolds/one Corbett), when they are physically assigned to the respective schools.

- Duties for the Sergeant position include:
 - Providing supervision and guidance to the Deputies assigned to each of these units, as well as the Reserve Deputy Sheriff program and the Community Patrol program. This includes daily scheduling, program development, community engagement, and building system partner/community relationships to ensure each unit is meeting the needs and expectations of the city, school, or system partner leadership team.
 - Engaging with our houseless population to ensure services and resources are extended, while also continually developing innovative strategies to address community livability challenges, including outreach and engagement efforts.
 - Engaging with our partners and leaders from the education system by attending school and community focused meetings, coordinating security and safety response for potential threat situations, and providing an MCSO supervisory contact to ensure efficient lines of communication.
 - Overseeing MCSO involvement in community events through collaborative planning, attending and providing educational outreach opportunities, and ensuring appropriate MCSO staffing for various community events.
 - MCSO liaison to County Emergency Management.



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Question 7

Commissioner Jayapal (District 2): Turn Self In – Do you have race/ethnicity data on the TSI population?

- Looking at data from calendar years 2018 and 2019, 61% of persons serving TSI sentences identify as White, 19% as Black, and 15% as Latino/a. Relative to the composition of the Booked population, White and Black persons are slightly under-represented in this population while Latino/a persons are over-represented (typical booked % is 64% White, 22% Black, and 9% Latino/a).

Question 8

Commissioner Stegmann (District 4): Turn Self In – How has COVID impacted the Turn Self In program? Do you anticipate the need for TSI to increase post-COVID?

- The Turn Self In (TSI) program was paused at two different points during 2020 and early 2021 due to the pandemic. Between these two closures, the program did not operate for eight and a half months. Throughout this time, as well as currently, many of the cases that would have been referred to the TSI program have also been delayed due to COVID restrictions.
- Recently, program courts like DISP, START, and STOP have all started to operate once again. This has led to a recent increase in the use of the TSI program.
- As COVID-19 restrictions are lifted in the community, there will be a return to more normal court operations and an increase in the number of cases being adjudicated. We anticipate a return to the use of the TSI program as a sentencing option when this happens.
- Due to the number of holding areas available, the program is limited in capacity, so any significant increase in the use of the TSI program will lead to creation of a backlog versus additional resources being used to conduct an expanded program.



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Question 9

Commissioner Vega Pederson (District 3): What will be the impact of eliminating the Turn Self In program in terms of jail time served? What's the timeline for setting up alternatives to the Turn Self In program to ensure that the elimination of the program doesn't result in more jail time for individuals?

- Many of the cases being sentenced to the TSI program are subject to mandatory sentences dictated by statute. As a result, we would expect to see an increase in the use of jail beds in MCSO facilities to accommodate these sentences.
- A look at pre-COVID TSI participation numbers reveals an average of 265 individual jail bed days utilized each month. Determining the number of these bed days, representing a mandatory sentence, is outside the scope of MCSOs data collection. In speaking with the judiciary, it is believed a bulk of the sentences assigned to the TSI program are part of a mandatory sentence.
- An ancillary impact to jail bed use, more difficult to estimate, is the number of increased sentences coming from the reduced efficacy of programs courts such as DISP and START. These courts indicate a primary reason for participants to consider a program court is the Turn Self In option. Without this option, these courts fear they will see an increase in repeat cases, and as a result, additional jail sentences.
- There is not a current plan to replace the Turn Self In program. Because many of the mandatory sentences require the person to be sentenced to a jail bed, there are not alternatives readily available for replacing the program.

Question 10

Commissioner Stegmann (District 4): Kitchen Deputy Staffing – How will the changes to the kitchen Deputy staffing be implemented (60330H)?

- Corrections Deputies currently assigned to the kitchen posts will fill vacant corrections Deputy positions elsewhere, which will assist in reduction of overtime costs. As of May 1, we have 30 vacant FTE within the Corrections Division.
- Aramark is hiring additional staff for meal preparation and service, as Adults in Custody are no longer assigned to kitchen crews.
- Over the past year, we have seen a significant reduction in eligible Adults in Custody workers, as our population has decreased, for which Aramark has been adding staff to supplement.



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Question 11

Commissioner Jayapal (District 2): What impact does passage of SB 554 and the associated increase in gun license fees have on MCSO's budget?

- The Concealed Handgun Unit has dedicated funding based on license fees and is self-sustaining based on revenue; it is not dependent on the general fund, including indirect costs.
- Should an increase in individual license fees drive down demand, which is possible, there would not likely be an increase in overall revenue as a result.