

MULTNOMAH COUNTY

FY 2025 Budget Work Session Follow Up

Sheriff's Office

May 9, 2024

Due May 17, 2024



Commissioner Brim-Edwards (District 3)

1. Please explain how MCSO's budget maps to the National Institute of Corrections' recommendations.

Response

There are two primary ways, corrections funding and human resources funding, that MCSO's submitted budget for FY 2025 relates to recommendations and observations from evaluations received in 2023 and early 2024, including the technical assistance from the National Institute of Corrections. After review and analysis of observations and recommendations from the evaluations – three themes emerged as areas of focus for change.

- **Operations:** Recommendations focused on activities performed by staff in the jails to meet legal requirements, fulfill expectations in their job description or meet the needs of adults in custody.
- **Staffing:** Recommendations focused on recruitment, hiring, training, retaining and deployment of MCSO staff.
- **Facilities:** Recommendations focused on making changes to the physical layout or features of the MCDC or MCIJ facilities.

A key priority in MCSO's FY 2025 budget submission, including both in-target and out-of-target funds is focused maintaining operations for the current capacity of 1,130 jail beds. Historically – funding jail beds in Multnomah County has included several funding streams that result in unnecessary destabilizing factors. Recommendations and observations from the NIC report, and in other evaluations, emphasized the need for adults in custody – especially women in custody and individuals with behavioral health needs to have access to the least restrictive housing units, healthcare, programming, and outdoor recreation time.

The programs to Backfill MCIJ SB1145 Funds (60330I) and Restore MCIJ General Funds (60330H) endeavor to maintain our current capacity and our commitment to operating corrections settings that are safe and supportive to individuals' wellbeing. MCSO appreciates the Chair included both programs in the FY 2025 Proposed Budget.

To address the ongoing staffing crisis in our corrections division, another key priority in MCSO's FY 2025 budget submission is to provide ongoing funding for six FTE in our Human Resources Unit – four Background Investigators and two HR Analysts. The NIC report included an emphatic recommendation to hire more jail staff as soon as possible and noted the dire consequences of not doing so for both adults in custody and current staff.

Insufficient jail staffing means that County jails run on mandatory overtime, a practice that puts an undue burden on current staff and can result in closure of facility posts, resulting in inequitable access to amenities like outdoor recreation or out-of-cell time for our adults in custody. Meeting our ask to expand funding for our Human Resources unit (program offer 60215B) will help MCSO keep pace with departures and work toward appropriate staffing in our corrections facilities and across the organization.

Commissioner Beason (District 2):

2. How does the Multnomah County Sheriff's Office staffing compare to peer counties?

Response

MCSO Detectives Unit includes 9 FTE detectives and 4 FTE admin. support/supervision positions. Specific to FY 2025, MCSO reached out to neighboring counties in regard to their Investigations Unit and primarily for their detective positions FTE numbers. We received the following:

- Clackamas County Sheriff's Office has (30) detective positions with (9) current vacancies.
- Washington County Sheriff's Office has (29) detective positions.
- Clark County Sheriff's Office has (29) detective positions.

*These numbers reflect detectives only, not support positions within the investigation's units. Clackamas, for instance, has 17 additional positions in its Investigations unit, for a total of 47 FTE.

3. Please provide more demographic data on how corrections staff are exiting. Are they retiring, moving to other jurisdictions, etc.?

Response

Corrections Deputy	2024 (as of 5/16/24)	2023	2022	2021
Hires	23	59	52	47
Promotions	0	7	5	5
Retirements	14	20	18	36
Separations <i>*Separation reason is not always reported.</i>	15 <i>8 on probation 4 to other agencies</i>	25 <i>17 on probation 7 to other agencies</i>	24 <i>10 on probation 8 to other agencies</i>	25 <i>12 on probation 4 to other agencies</i>
Demotions During Probation	1	6	6	4

Commissioner Meieran (District 1)

4. Can you provide a chart of roles/responsibilities in unincorporated, contract cities, PPB, Gresham Police, etc.?

Response

In all 36 counties in Oregon, the sheriff's primary duty is to give full police protection to the unincorporated areas of the county. Cities may also elect to contract with their sheriff's office if they do not fund and manage their own independent city police department.

Sheriff's Offices responsibilities cover the entire spectrum of law enforcement — criminal investigation, Search and Rescue, service of legal process of the courts, the operation of the county jail, and total police services on a 24-hour basis. The sheriff's office must provide court security, transport all incarcerated individuals to and from corrections institutions, and facilitate civil court matters for mental health patients within their jurisdiction.

MCSO is the primary law enforcement provider and response for all calls for service in unincorporated Multnomah County (Corbett, Dunthorpe, and Sauvie Island) and the contract cities of Fairview, Maywood Park, Troutdale, and Wood Village. This means MCSO holds all the

law enforcement roles and responsibilities in these areas. We provide the patrol services of Deputy Sheriffs in police vehicles, detectives for all investigations, and the administrative supervision and support for these positions. The Portland Police Bureau and Gresham Police Department do not have any foundational or regular daily role/responsibility in these areas.

5. What is the status of the work, outcomes, caseloads, etc. for Close Street Supervision?

Response

This information was not going to be ready by 5/17. Program details will be provided at a later date.

Chair Vega Pederson

1. How many detective cases are in unincorporated, contract cities, part of major crimes investigations in other jurisdictions, etc.? Please provide data on the workload for the detectives including where did the cases originate (i.e. MCSO jurisdiction, contracted city or a partner jurisdiction like part of a major crimes case).

Response

571 cases were assigned for follow-up investigations across the Detective Unit in 2023. Of those cases, 313 were closed, and 43 cases remain open from last year.

MCSO's percentage breakdown for the location of these investigations are as follows:

- 61% originated in one of our contract cities, Troutdale, Fairview, Wood Village, or Maywood Park
- 25% originated in unincorporated Mult. County or other areas
- 14% originated in Gresham or Portland

Each detective works with a rolling caseload of anywhere from roughly 10 to 30 cases per week. Assignments are given with consideration of the severity of the crimes being committed, detective skill sets, and the current priorities of the Detective Unit.

In addition to MCSO's primary jurisdiction for investigations, we participate in the Major Crimes Team (MCT). This multiagency collaboration is comprised of MCSO, Gresham Police, Port of Portland Police, Oregon State Police, and the MCDA's Office. This team works various homicide cases within the jurisdiction of the participating agencies. That means all of Multnomah County NOT including the city of Portland. Only in an extreme case is the MCT

asked by the Portland Police Bureau to also assist with their investigations, an example of this would be on an officer involved shooting.

The MCSO Detective Unit **provided** support to Major Crimes Team partner agencies outside of MCSO's proprietary jurisdiction for the following number of cases:

- 2023:
11 MCT investigations
- 2024 so far:
4 MCT investigations

The MCSO Detective Unit **received** support from our partner agencies for cases specific to MCSO for the following number of cases:

- 2023:
7 In-Custody Death investigations
1 multi-agency suspected serial murder investigation (still on-going)
2 long-term internal investigations at the jail
5 MCT investigations
10+ death investigations of bodies recovered by River Patrol
1 elder abuse / financial crimes \$3million+
- 2024 so far:
4 MCT Investigations
6+ death investigations of bodies recovered by River Patrol