



BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

AGENDA REQUEST & STAFF REPORT

MEETING DATE: April 2, 2025

SUBJECT: BOCC Letter of Support for the Deschutes County Justice Reinvestment Preliminary Formula Grant Application for the 25-27 Biennium

RECOMMENDED MOTION:

Move to authorize Chair signature of a letter supporting an application for an Oregon Justice Reinvestment Program preliminary formula grant.

BACKGROUND AND POLICY IMPLICATIONS:

House Bill 3194, passed by the Oregon Legislature, aimed to control prison growth by investing in local criminal justice systems. The funding began in the 13-15 biennium and has continued since that time. Deschutes County, in collaboration with LPSCC agencies, has applied for and received grant funds every cycle.

Justice Reinvestment has focused on two major goals: safe prison bed reduction for individuals with prison-eligible drug, property and driving crimes; and reduction in recidivism for clients on supervision for JRP eligible crimes. While doing this the focus has also been on ensuring public safety and holding clients accountable. Funding for the 25-27 biennium will sustain efforts that have already shown impacts in both areas.

The Deschutes County Justice Reinvestment Program (JRP) supervises clients who receive a "downward departure" sentence as well as clients on early release from prison through Short-Term Transitional Leave or the Alternative to Incarceration Program. The JRP program aims to safely and effectively supervise clients in the community based on their criminogenic risk and needs. In addition to supervision, clients receive risk and needs assessments, case management with an emphasis on structured skill building, and support for cognitive-based therapy. Staff works to connect clients to treatment based on their risk needs profile and further helps to reduce basic needs barriers such as housing and transportation. This program has worked closely with the District Attorney's office over the years.

Part of the JRP grant program is that 10% of funds awarded to Deschutes County are for

victims services agencies. In the past, this has included Mary's Place, CASA, KIDS Center, JBARJ Anti-Trafficking Project, and In Our Backyard. The LPSCC will run a grant application and review process for these funds.

Staff requests that the Board approve a letter of support for the preliminary grant application, which has been reviewed and approved by LPSCC.

BUDGET IMPACTS:

A budget has not been released in terms of the amount of funds available for Deschutes County—those figures will be available once the legislative session has concluded. Staff anticipates a similar allocation to the last biennium. For the 2023-2025 biennium, the County received \$1,695,269 for FTE and services connected to formula funding. This did not include supplemental and other competitive funds.

ATTENDANCE:

Trevor Stephens, Business Manager