



CITY OF LAKE FOREST PARK

CITY COUNCIL

AGENDA COVER SHEET

Meeting Date	January 9, 2025
Originating Department	Police Department
Contact Person	Mike Harden, Chief of Police
Title	Resolution 25-1993/Authorizing an Interlocal Agreement for Jail Services Between the City of Lynnwood and the City of Lake Forest Park

Legislative History

- First Presentation January 9, 2025 Regular Meeting
-

Attachments:

1. Resolution 25-1993
 2. Attachment A - The Interlocal Agreement for Jail Services between the City of Lynnwood and the City of Lake Forest Park
-

Executive Summary

The City of Lake Forest Park had contracted with the City of Lynnwood for jail services to handle short-term incarceration for over 20 years. Following the closure of Lynnwood's facility in 2021 and the construction of a new jail, the updated facility is set to accept inmates starting in 2025. This Interlocal Agreement (ILA) establishes a renewed partnership for jail services. Lynnwood Jail provides an alternative option for inmate bookings and housing from King and Snohomish County Jails. The Lynnwood Jail's closer proximity and lower costs make it a more economical choice than the other alternatives in the region.

Background

For over twenty years, the City of Lake Forest Park contracted with the City of Lynnwood for jail services, using the facility to handle short-term incarceration needs. The partnership proved to be an effective and cost-efficient solution for Lake Forest Park and other neighboring jurisdictions. However, in 2021, the Lynnwood Jail closed due to its aging infrastructure and limitations in meeting modern operational and regulatory standards. This closure left partner cities reliant on alternative facilities in King and Snohomish counties, at higher costs and greater distances.

The City of Lynnwood embarked on constructing a new, state-of-the-art jail facility designed to address the shortcomings of the original jail. The updated facility includes significant improvements, including increased capacity, advanced security features, and enhanced living and working conditions. One of the most notable upgrades is the expanded size of the facility, which will now house 84 beds, nearly double the 46 beds in the old jail. This increased capacity ensures the jail can meet the growing demands of its partner jurisdictions while providing a reliable and modernized solution for short-term incarceration. They also upgraded their medical services and a mental health services component similar to our Connections Crisis Response Center.

While Lake Forest Park used Lynnwood Jail for services, they often did not accept inmates for us because of limited space and various medical issues. With the new jail facility, that should be significantly reduced.

The new Lynnwood Jail is set to begin accepting inmates in 2025, marking the start of a renewed partnership with Lake Forest Park. This Interlocal Agreement (ILA) reestablishes Lynnwood as a provider of jail services for our city.

Key Benefits of the New Facility

- **Increased Capacity:** The expansion to 84 beds will allow the facility to better serve the needs of partner cities and reduce its reliance on alternative jails.
- **Proximity and Accessibility:** Lynnwood Jail is conveniently located closer to Lake Forest Park and other jails, offering a practical and time-saving alternative to jails in King or Snohomish counties.
- **Cost-Effective Services:** Lynnwood Jail has lower operational costs than other county jails, making it an economical solution for inmate bookings and housing.
- **Modernized Capabilities:** State-of-the-art technology, improved safety features, and contemporary correctional standards ensure better conditions for inmates and staff.

The reopening of the Lynnwood Jail strengthens the longstanding relationship between Lake Forest Park and Lynnwood. The renewed ILA underscores the importance of maintaining cost-effective and reliable jail services for the region. By leveraging the updated facility's proximity, expanded capacity, and lower costs, Lake Forest Park can continue to meet its public safety obligations efficiently.

Alternatives

Lake Forest Park also uses the King and Snohomish County Jails for booking services. Lynnwood Jail is a better option, as the transport officer does not have to navigate Everett and Seattle traffic. However, the King and Snohomish County Jails are much busier and suffer from staffing shortages. Felonies are always booked into KCJ (Not SCJ or Lynnwood).

Another option for jail services that the City is not currently using is SCORE Jail in Des Moines. This jail is in South King County and is a further drive past King County Jail in Seattle traffic. Using SCORE would increase the time off patrol duties, higher gas mileage, vehicle wear and tear, and longer times to be seen in court.

Fiscal & Policy Implications

The city anticipates decreased expenses from using Lynnwood Jail services.

2025 Booking Fee:

King County	\$293.28
Snohomish County	\$147.19
Lynnwood Jail	\$100.00

2025 Daily Maintenance Fee

King County \$293.28
Snohomish County \$204.85
Lynnwood Jail \$198.00

2025 Video Court

King County N/A
Snohomish County \$243.81
Lynnwood Jail \$100.00

Alternatives

<i>Options</i>	<i>Results</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Do not approve the ILA for Lynnwood Jail.	Continue using Snohomish and King County jails exclusively and forgo the cost savings from using Lynnwood Jail.
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Approve the ILA for Lynnwood Jail.	The city will use Lynnwood Jail services for 2025 to 2027 as well as Snohomish and King County when necessary.

Staff Recommendation

Approval of Resolution 25-1993.