



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS
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July 2, 2007

Mr. Victor Moore, Director
Office of Financial Management
Post Office Box 43113
Olympia, Washington 98504-3113

Dear Mr. Moore:

RE: Chapter 483, 2007 Laws, (ESSB 6157) – Equitable Distribution of Work Releases and Community Justice Centers

ESSB 6157 requires that the Washington Department of Corrections (DOC) provide the Office of Financial Management a list of counties where DOC anticipates a need for additional Community Justice Centers and Work Release capacity. This letter and the accompanying enclosures are being provided to meet this requirement. This information is also being sent to the individual counties as required by the 2007 Legislature.

Community Justice Centers:

In relation to the locations for additional Community Justice Centers, the Department has preliminarily identified four potential need areas, Thurston County, Kitsap County, Benton/Franklin County area, and Chelan/Douglas/Kittitas County area.

Work Release Demand Methodology:

The enclosed map and table present the preliminary analysis of priorities for additional work releases for the state of Washington at the county (or group of counties) level. This information will also be provided as a working tool to the review committee which consists of representatives from around the state. The review committee will include:

- Victim Advocacy Groups,
- The Associations of Washington Cities and Counties,
- The Washington Association of Prosecuting Attorneys,
- The Superior Court Judges Association,
- The Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs,
- The State Department of Community, Trade and Economic Development and,
- A representative from the Department of Corrections.

This committee will be tasked with reviewing both the methodology for the prioritization and the potential partnerships between counties as identified in this table. This review may change the prioritizations identified in this preliminary information. A final report will be provided at the conclusion of the committee's review and analysis.

The primary methodology used in generating these priorities started by determining the percentage of offenders in each county as reflected in Fiscal Year 2006 Release Data and the Active Community Supervision Cases. The release data is based on the county of conviction and the active community supervision data represents the county where the offender is being supervised. These two data elements were compared to the percentage of work release beds currently available by county. Based on the differences of these data elements, the Department has divided the counties into three prioritized groups for consideration for additional work release capacity. The groups of counties are categorized as:

- **High Need:** This grouping has the largest discrepancy between release/supervision counts and available work release capacity.
- **Moderate Need:** This grouping has few releases/supervised individuals or has adequate work release capacity. This group may be candidates for partnering with adjacent counties for expansions that will meet the area's needs.
- **Low Need:** This grouping includes counties that have most of the existing work release capacity and that may become a priority for additional capacity in the future.

This methodology will serve as the initial step toward finalizing the equitable distribution as identified in ESSB 6157. The statewide review committee will guide the Department in determining how to balance other factors in determining which county or group of counties would require additional work release capacity.

If you have any questions regarding this submittal, please contact me at (360) 725-8810.

Sincerely,

Harold W. Clarke
Secretary

HC:djj

Enclosures