



Work Release Expansion Project

North Central Counties

April 2021



Agenda

Meeting Objectives:

- Introductions and Review Contacts
- Review the Work Release Program Overview
- Review Expansion Project Process/Timeline
- Review Site Specific Progress
- Review the Communication Plan
- Questions, next steps and closing

Time	Topic	Lead
4:00 – 4:10	Introductions & Review Contacts	Mike Schindler, Facilitator
4:10 – 4:20	Work Release Program Overview	Mike Schindler
4:20 – 4:30	Expansion Project Process/Timeline	Tony Lindgren, <i>KMB Consultant</i> Brian Little, <i>KMB Consultant</i>
4:30 – 4:40	Site Specific Progress	Tony Lindgren Brian Little
4:40 – 4:50	Communication Plan	Mike Schindler
4:50 – 5:30	Questions, Next Steps & Closing	Mike Schindler

Mike Schindler, *Facilitator*

Introductions and Project Objective

LAC Member Contact Information

Last Name	First Name	Company/Agency/Position	Email	Primary Phone
Crown	Steve	Wenatchee Police	scrown@wenatcheewa.gov	509-888-4201
Logan	Tim	Wenatchee DOC	telogan@doc1.wa.gov	509-431-0025
Moraga	Sebastian	Community Advocate	Moraga.svstar@gmail.com	509-885-7535
Olson	Ashley	Work Source	aolson@esd.wa.gov	509-665-3732
Overbay	Kevin	Chelan Commissioner	kevin.overbay@co.chelan.wa.us	509-667-6215
Romine	Lisa	Skills Source	lisar@skillsource.org	509-663-3091
Shull	Mike	Hospitality Ministries	southwind30@gmail.com	949-629-0566
Sleiman	Sasha	City of Wenatchee, Wenatchee Valley Chamber	Sasha@Wenatchee.org	509-433-1189

Mike Schindler, *Facilitator*



DOC Mission and Vision

DOC Mission: To Improve Public Safety by Positively Changing Lives

DOC Vision: Working Together for Safe Communities

- Work Release Expansion
 - Work release facilities serve as a bridge between life in prison and life in the community. Incarcerated individuals who complete the work release program are more likely to be successful in maintaining employment, stable housing, and in paying legal financial obligations. Recent research conducted by the Washington State Institute for Public Policy indicates that work release programs have a positive cost/benefit impact; for every dollar spent, \$3.82 is returned to the state.

Work Release Program Overview

Program Description

- From **prison to community** while:
 - Under DOC authority
 - In partial confinement

- Focus on **reentry, transition, and stability** by:
 - Finding/retaining employment
 - Re-connecting with family members
 - Becoming productive citizens
 - Learning/refining life skills such as:
 - Using public transportation
 - Shopping
 - Managing personal finances

Work Release Program Overview

Placement Criteria

- **Eligibility is an earned privilege**
 - Good behavior and program compliance
- **Screening Criteria**
 - Defined in law and established in policy*
 - Trained staff identify participants based on identified risk and needs
 - Multiple levels of review required to approve some cases
- **Can be ineligible due to:**
 - Misconduct
 - Outstanding legal issues
 - Community concerns such as:
 - Victim concerns
 - Prior failure or rules violations at work release
 - Excess or serious pattern of criminal history
 - Heinous or notorious crime(s)

* Screening criteria are listed in policy DOC 300.500

Mike Schindler, *Facilitator*



Work Release Program Overview

Participant Expectations

- **Participants must:**

- Work, attend school or vocational training or transitional programming
 - Monitored to ensure approved movements prohibit making any unauthorized stops
- Contribute financially
- Remain in the facility unless there is specific, prior written approval
- Undergo frequent UAs for drug/alcohol use
- Continue programming, treatment or therapy to address identified risk/need areas associated with criminal activity
- Cooperate with monitoring and behavioral expectations in the work release facility, workplace and other locations in the community

Work Release Program Overview

Progression Through Program

- Three phase program
- “Step down” approach
- Gradual community access based upon:
 - Following all rules
 - An individualized case plan
 - Compliant time in the facility
 - Meeting individual case plan objectives

...in order to increase public safety.

Current DOC Work Release facilities

- **12 separate facilities:**

- Ahtanum View (Yakima)
- Bellingham (Bellingham)
- Brownstone (Spokane)
- Bishop Lewis (Seattle)
- Eleanor Chase (Spokane)
- Longview (Longview)
- Olympia (Olympia)
- Peninsula (Port Orchard)
- Progress House (Tacoma)
- Helen B. Ratcliff (Seattle)
- Reynolds (Seattle)
- Tri-Cities (Kennewick)

Work Release Program Overview

Building Components

BUILDING COMPONENTS

- Controlled building access
- Normative street presence
- Clean, organized, safe sleeping space
- Supervised lobby and dayroom
- Room for administration and programs
- Robust service space (storage, laundry, etc.)
- Transportation, equipment, and supplies for work

Work Release Program Overview

Ahtanum View Work Release (Yakima)



Work Release Program Overview

Bellingham Work Release (Bellingham)



Work Release Program Overview

Bishop Lewis Work Release (Seattle)



Work Release Program Overview

Olympia Work Release (Olympia)



Expansion Project Process/Timeline

Program History

- Legislative Report, Implementation Plan
 - September 1, 2019
- Formed Local Advisory Committees in King, North Central, Pierce, and Snohomish Counties
 - Started: October 2019. Paused due to COVID-19, May 2020.
 - Restarted: February 2021
- Request for Proposals (RFPs) to lease space for Work Release facilities preferably in the four counties listed
 - Publication: December 27, 2019
 - Due Date: February 13, 2020
 - 6 submittals, 2 deemed responsive in North Central (Chelan County)
- Additional ongoing searches by DOC and LAC members to identify viable sites

Expansion Project Process/Timeline

Site Selection Steps

1. RCW 72.65.220 Facility siting process

- When DOC has selected three or fewer sites for final consideration, DOC shall make public notification and conduct a public hearing in the local communities of the final three or fewer sites.
- Provide for opportunities for written or oral comments and wide dissemination of proposals and alternatives.

2. WAC 137-57-060 Site selection

- After the preliminary public hearing and an initial review, the advisory committee shall submit its recommendations to the Secretary, and the Secretary may give preliminary approval to one of the recommended sites.

Site Selection Steps (continued)

3. RCW 72.65.220 Facility siting process

- An additional public hearing after public notification shall also be conducted in the local community selected as the final proposed site.
- Provide for opportunities for written or oral comments and wide dissemination of proposals and alternatives.

4. WAC 137-57-060 Public notice, hearing requirements

- After the Secretary gives preliminary approval to a site, the Department shall either apply for or assist others in applying for any permits which may be required by local zoning laws with respect to the operation of a work/training release facility.
- After the required zoning permits, if any, have been obtained, and the Secretary has considered the comments expressed by members of the public during any zoning process or during the public hearing conducted by the Department, the Secretary may grant or withhold final approval of the proposed site.

Site Specific Progress

Deaconess Building - 300 Okanogan Ave.

Chelan County Regional Jail Annex - 401 Washington St.

300 Okanogan Ave. - Met with City of Wenatchee Planning Department for a Pre-Application meeting

- Subject property will require a Conditional Use Permit (CUP) in the Residential Mixed Use (RMU) zoning district. Conditional uses are uses which may have adverse impacts upon or be incompatible with other land uses in a neighborhood, and the purpose of the review and permitting process is to determine whether the use meets the established criteria, and to allow the Hearing Examiner to impose any other conditions reasonably required to allow the proposed use or activity.

401 Washington St.

- Based on preliminary information from the City of Wenatchee, a CUP will likely not be required. Next step is to set up Pre-Application meeting to discuss site specific requirements.

Tony Lindgren, *KMB Consultant*

Brian Little, *KMB Consultant*



Communication Plan

LAC Communication Plan



Mike Schindler, *Facilitator*

LAC Communication Plan

Communication plan considerations:

- Two sites in close proximity to each other
 - How will this affect the communications strategies?
- Public outreach and hearings informed by local requirements and RCW

LAC Communication Plan

Specific groups to meet (and exceed) the notification requirements identified in the RCW.

- United Neighborhood Association
- Housing: Coordinated Entry, YWCA, Women's Resource Center
- Managed Care Organizations: Molina, Amerigroup, and Coordinated Care
- Training: SkillSource, Wenatchee Valley College
- Transit: Link Transit
- Wenatchee Valley Chamber of Commerce
- Employers who have experience with Work Release participants (Crunch Pak, Standard Pallet, Loues Trusses, and apple packing businesses like Stemilt)
- WorkSource – Ashley Olson (already part of the LAC)
- Local law enforcement

LAC Communication Plan

Specific groups (continued):

- Wenatchee City Council
- East Wenatchee City Council
- Mayor's office
- Commissioners
- Department of Health and Social Services (DSHS)
- Newspapers/media
- Press release in conjunction with contact info of those who can answer questions
- School districts (principals and Superintendents)
- Community Partnership Transition Services (CPTS) – Ashley Olson (already part of the LAC)

Questions and Next Steps

- Open discussion
- Recommendations
- Action items

Closing

- Local Advisory Committee materials
 - On DOC website: <https://doc.wa.gov/about/business/capital-planning/capacity-work-release.htm>
 - Materials available within 2 weeks
- Email questions
 - North Central Counties
 - docwrexpandnc@doc1.wa.gov
- Next Meeting
 - Wednesday, May 12, 2021 (recurring 2nd Wednesday of each month)

Thank you!