



Work Release Expansion Project

Pierce County

May 2021



Agenda

Meeting Objectives:

- ✓ Introductions and Review Contacts
- ✓ Review Work Release Program Overview
- ✓ Hear Work Release Resident Lived Experiences
- ✓ Discuss Authorities Having Jurisdiction (AHJ) Outreach
- ✓ Review LAC Site Review Responsibilities
- ✓ Review Site Specific Progress
- ✓ Review Communication Plan
- ✓ Questions, Next Steps, Closing

Time	Topic	Lead
4:00 – 4:10	Introductions & Review Contacts	Mike Schindler, <i>Facilitator</i>
4:10 – 4:20	Work Release Program Overview	Mark Kucza, <i>DOC Reentry Senior Administrator, Project Lead</i>
4:20 – 4:50	Work Release Resident Lived Experiences	Mike Schindler With guests: Kelsea Kuhnert and Hyuk Ro
4:50 – 5:00	Authorities Having Jurisdiction (AHJ) Outreach	Tony Lindgren, <i>KMB Architects Consultant</i> Brian Little, <i>KMB Architects Consultant</i>
5:00 – 5:10	LAC Site Review Responsibilities (WAC)	Tony Lindgren Brian Little
5:10 – 5:15	Site Specific Progress	Tony Lindgren Brian Little
5:15 – 5:20	Communication Plan	Mark Kucza
5:20 – 5:30	Questions, Next Steps & Closing	Mike Schindler

Mike Schindler, *Facilitator*

Introductions and Review Contacts

LAC Member Contact Information

Last Name	First Name	Company	Email	Phone
Harris	Cornell	Progress House Program Director	cornellharris@progresshouse.us	253-389-8008
Mello	Ryan	Pierce County Council Human Services Committee, Chair	ryan.mello@piercecountywa.gov	253-798-7590
Quintana	Larry	DOC Navigator	lquintana@tacomacc.edu	
Scruggs	Assistant Chief	City of Tacoma - Assistant Police Chief	FScruggs@cityoftacoma.org	253-591-5596
Thomson	David	DOC Field Administrator	david.thomson@doc.wa.gov	253-680-2778
Turner	Rachel	Goodwill	RachelT@goodwillwa.org	253-254-3868

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

Mark Kucza, *DOC Reentry Senior Administrator, Project Lead*

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

Mark Kucza, *DOC Reentry Senior Administrator, Project Lead*

Participant (Residents) Expectations

- **Participants (residents) 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

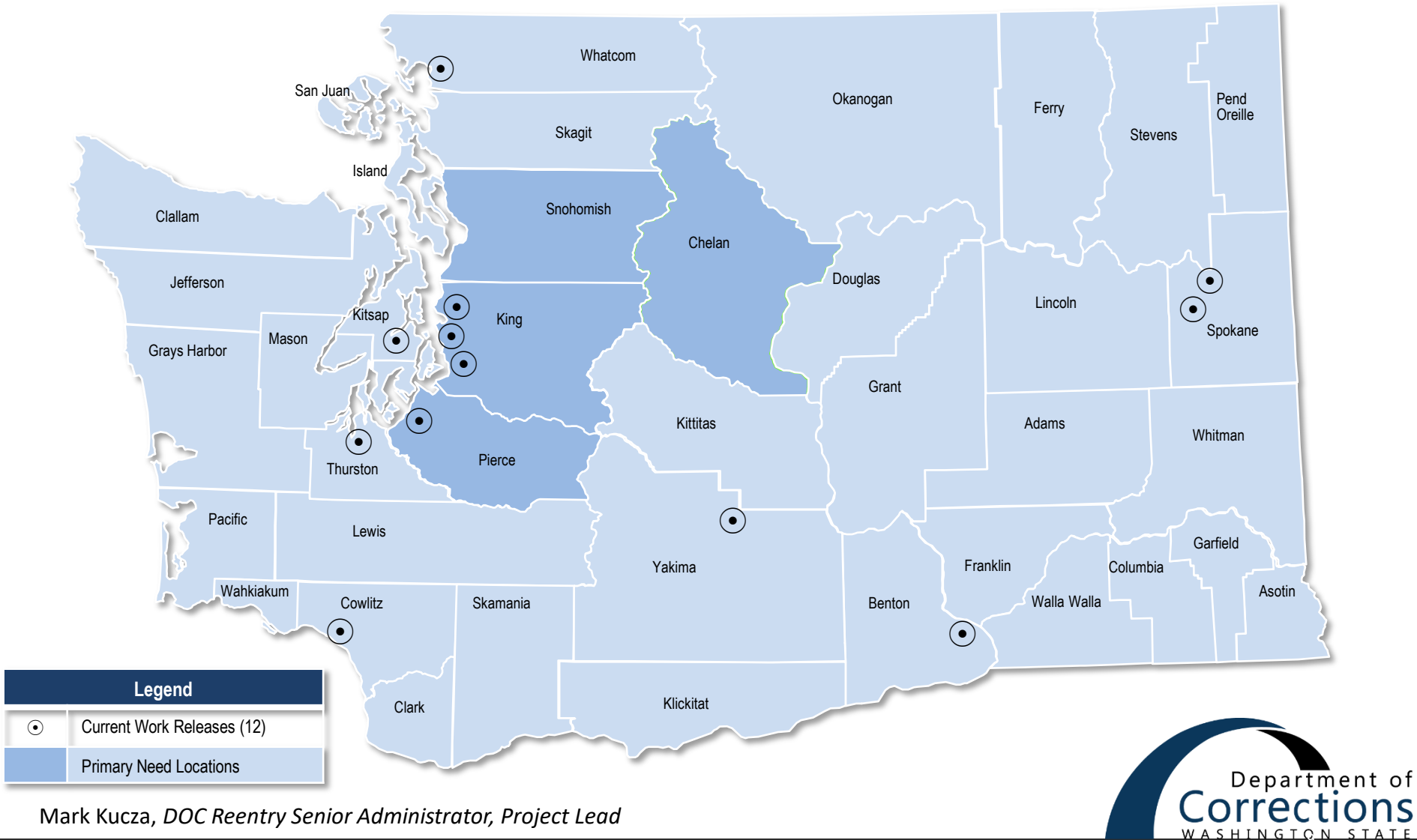
Progression Through Program

- 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.

Work Release Program Overview

Work Release Expansion and Existing Facilities



Mark Kucza, DOC Reentry Senior Administrator, Project Lead

Work Release Resident Lived Experiences

- **From Prison to Work Release**
 - Preparing to transition to Work Release
 - Case plan and goals
- **While At Work Release**
 - Work or ?
 - Average day
 - Passes
 - Social outings
 - Accountability
 - Behavior in the facility
 - Behavior in the community
- **How Work Release made a difference for you**

Mike Schindler, *Facilitator*
With guests: Kelsea Kuhnert and Hyuk Ro

Authorities Having Jurisdiction (AHJ) Outreach

Notification requesting assistance



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS
P. O. Box 41100 • Olympia, Washington 98504-1118

- Notifications to every AHJ in Pierce County sent this week.
 - Provides Work Release Program detail.
 - Informs of the process.
 - Request for assistance to identify allowable zones and likely land-use requirements to site a new facility.

May 10, 2021

SUBJECT: Department of Corrections State Work Release Bed Expansion

The Department of Corrections (DOC) is expanding its Work Release program. Pierce County is an area that DOC has identified as underserved or unserved for work release beds available for incarcerated persons to transition to the community and is being considered for work release bed expansion.

Washington's work release institutions serve as a bridge between life in prison and life in the community for Washington inmates nearing the end of their sentence. In short, work release facilities are separate and apart from Washington state prisons. They exist to provide participating inmates the opportunity to engage in paid employment or vocational training programs in the community while remaining under DOC supervision at an appropriate facility when not at their job or other pre-approved activity. 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.

In 2019, DOC formally initiated a public Work Release (WR) facility site selection process in King, Pierce, Snohomish, and North Central Counties. As required under WAC 137-57, the site selection process began with the formation of a search committee, establishment of a Local Advisory Committee (LAC) within each of the counties, and ongoing efforts to identify suitable sites. A public web site containing general information and records of the LAC public presentations and minutes are available online at <https://www.doc.wa.gov/about/business/capital-planning/capacity-work-release.htm>.

A DOC WR facility is defined as a "State correctional institution" per the Revised Code of Washington (RCW) 72.65.010(3). Washington Administrative Code (WAC) 137-56-010 (8) defines a "Work/training release facility" as "an establishment approved for housing and monitoring of work/training release residents during the resident's stay in a work/training release program." State correctional facilities are identified as essential public facilities under WAC 365-196-550 (1)(d)(vi).

At this time, no specific site within Pierce County has been selected for a new WR facility. DOC is reaching out and seeking assistance from your department to identify allowable zones and likely land-use requirements for siting a WR facility within your City. This information would allow us to focus our search for suitable sites.

Thank you for your help and assistance with this important initiative. If you have any questions regarding this request, please contact us at our program email: docwrexpandpc@doc1.wa.gov.

Tony Lindgren, *KMB Consultant*
Brian Little, *KMB Consultant*



LAC (Local Advisory Committee) Site Review Responsibilities

WAC 137-57-050 Site selection

(2) After the sites have been identified, the search committee shall submit a description of them to the advisory committee for review. The advisory committee's review shall evaluate the following factors:

- (a) The cost of acquiring the use of the site, and the cost of improvements that would be required to renovate, repair, remodel, or alter the site to make it suitable for a work release program;
- (b) The desirability of the site for program activities;
- (c) The access to public transportation available at the site;
- (d) The community impacts associated with the site; and
- (e) The zoning restrictions applicable to the geographical area in which the site is located.

Tacoma CJC Annex – 1007 Center Street

- 1007 Center Street – Tacoma CJC Annex
 - Property is being evaluated.
 - Property has not been selected.
- City of Tacoma - Planning Department
 - Next step is to prepare and submit a pre-application conference meeting application to walk through the project and proposed changes to the site/building.
- Continue search for additional properties.

Communication Plan

LAC Communication Plan



Mark Kucza, *DOC Reentry Senior Administrator, Project Lead*

LAC Communication Plan

- **Specific location/neighborhood focused follow-up if a possible location moves from being evaluated to being considered**
- **Specific location(s)**
 - Inform of timeline and strategies

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
 - Pierce County
 - docwrexpandpc@doc1.wa.gov
- Next Meeting
 - Wednesday, June 16, 2021 (recurring 3rd Wednesday of each month)

Thank you!