



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS
 P.O. Box 41100 • Olympia, Washington 98504-1100

August 26, 2021

TO: All Interested Parties
FROM: Sean Murphy, Deputy Secretary of Correctional Operations
SUBJECT: Update – Phase Two Unit Closures

Last week we hosted listening sessions regarding the Phase 2 unit closures that would be in addition to the Monroe Correctional Complex units closures announced on August 12, 2021. These sessions provided valuable information and we appreciate the time people took to participate.

We heard more about the very real impacts on our staff, who may have changes to their jobs, including where and how they do their work. This was passionately shared with us during the listening sessions and has helped as we make tough decisions. The message was also clear that every unit closure decision impacts not only those who are in prison, but also their loved ones and those from the community who provide services and supports for them.

After hearing from staff in these sessions and consulting further with our budget and capital operations teams, we have decided to close the Elkhorn unit (rather than Silverstar) at Larch Corrections Center, as was clearly expressed by staff as the preferred option.

Today, August 26, 2021, we notified our Teamster labor partners of our decision to proceed with the additional phase two unit closures. We will be utilizing reassignments and redeployments temporarily wherever possible to minimize staff impacts and will be engaging in our collective bargaining obligations with our labor partners.

Incarcerated individuals may be transferred to other facilities; however, we will work with specific individuals on a case-by-case basis for those requiring a housing assignment at the remaining MCC units. There will also be attempts to maintain the programs and supports provided in the facilities.

Currently, we have 4,133 vacant beds throughout the Prisons Division. These unit closures are expected to occur by the end of October 2021 and will result in the closure of 1,555 beds.

Final Phase Two Units Now Scheduled For Closure

Facility	Unit(s)
Coyote Ridge Corrections Center	Camas and F Unit
Larch Corrections Center	Elkhorn
Stafford Creek Corrections Center	H3 and H4
Washington State Penitentiary	Unit 10

Thank you for you input; your voice continues to be an important part of this process, especially as we work to identify solutions and common themes of concern. Please send your ideas, questions, and comments to DOCreentryExpansion@DOC1.WA.GOV .