

CITY COUNCIL REGULAR SESSION

Resolution authorizing execution of a two-year interlocal agreement with King County for jail services.

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This Resolution authorizes execution of a two-year interlocal agreement (ILA) with King County for continuation of jail services.

RECOMMENDATION

Move to adopt Resolution No. 9865

BACKGROUND/ANALYSIS

The City of Bellevue contracts with three agencies to provide jail services: South Correctional Entity (SCORE), King County, and the City of Issaquah. SCORE remains the City's primary jail, however, King County is the only one of the three agencies that will house a City inmate booked on a felony investigation. King County is also able to accommodate inmates with psychiatric and medical needs. The City additionally uses the King County facility to house misdemeanor offenders when the SCORE facility reaches capacity or is otherwise unable to house the individual.

In December 2011, the Bellevue City Council authorized execution of a nine-year interlocal agreement with King County for jail services. That agreement, which terminated on December 31, 2020, covered 28 King County cities and the Port of Seattle. The City of Seattle has a different agreement with King County that does not expire until 2030.

On December 15, the King County Council authorized a new two-year year agreement to continue providing jail services to its city partners. The two-year agreement will allow time for King County officials to continue a process to realign criminal justice services and other county services in its downtown Seattle facility. This process could result in potentially significant changes to how existing county buildings are used or repurposed, including the King County jail facility.

The new proposed agreement is substantially similar to the prior agreement in the scope of services and rate methodology. One change in the new agreement is the addition of language offering access to an electronic intake tool for city police officers that will "go live" in 2021. Another change is that references to Community Corrections have been removed because that program was shut down in 2020 due to COVID-19 and will remain closed through 2022. If approved, the proposed agreement for jail services will run from January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2022.

Under the terms of the proposed agreement, the City has access to beds in the King County jail facility with no minimum use requirement. King County charges a booking fee for each City inmate booked on a misdemeanor charge and a maintenance fee for each day the inmate is housed. Consistent with the City's prior agreement, the new agreement also identifies specific surcharges related to the provision of physical and behavioral health services as well as for offsite medical care.

POLICY & FISCAL IMPACTS

Policy Impact

RCW 39.34.180 and RCW 70.48.090 allow the City to contract with other cities or counties for jail services through an interlocal agreement.

Executing this agreement will provide certainty and continuity of jail services from King County.

Fiscal Impact

Due to local and regional growth, the City has experienced an increase in the number of misdemeanor offenders. As a result, the City has seen an overall increase in its jail population and associated costs. During the COVID-19 emergency, King County has restricted new booking to felonies/misdemeanor assault and bookings that are mandated by statute. Accordingly, the average daily bed count for City inmates housed at King County and SCORE jails has decreased from 51 in 2019 to 18 in 2020. The City's 2019 and 2020 actual expenses for King County jail services are below.

	2019	2020
King County Jail Spending	\$149,724	\$41,027

The rates for 2021 in the new proposed agreement are 1.5 percent higher than the 2020 rates, which is below the City's budgeted Consumer Price Index-All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) assumption of a 2.44 percent increase. King County will provide notice to the City no later than August 15, 2021 of any increase in fees, charges, and surcharges for 2022. The percentage increase is tied to an annual inflator of the Seattle-Tacoma-Bremerton Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) (covering the 12-month period ending in June). The anticipated fiscal impacts are \$96,000 for 2021 and \$97,000 for 2022. Those projections are based on previous jail costs and incorporate the continued anticipated impacts of COVID-19 booking restrictions.

If approved, the interlocal agreement will commence on January 1, 2021 and will terminate on December 31, 2022. There is sufficient funding available to cover these costs in the City's 2021-2022 Budget.

OPTIONS

1. Adopt the Resolution authorizing execution of a two-year interlocal agreement with King County for jail services.
2. Do not adopt the Resolution and provide alternative direction to staff.

ATTACHMENTS & AVAILABLE DOCUMENTS

Proposed Resolution No. 9865

AVAILABLE IN COUNCIL LIBRARY

2021 Rate Template

Attachment A – JSA 2021-2022