

**CITY COUNCIL REGULAR SESSION**

Resolution authorizing execution of an interagency agreement with the City of Issaquah for jail services.

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**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

This Resolution authorizes execution of an interagency agreement with the City of Issaquah for jail services.

**RECOMMENDATION**

Move to adopt Resolution No. 9893.

**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, Issaquah provides backup jail services for Bellevue inmates booked on misdemeanor investigations. Bellevue occasionally uses the Issaquah jail when other contracted jail facilities reach capacity or might be limiting intake due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

In October, Issaquah sent notice to the City of Bellevue that it was adjusting its rates and pricing structure to reflect the increasing costs of operating a jail facility. The new rates became effective on January 1. The new proposed interagency agreement is for an indefinite term and can be terminated by either party with 90 days' notice. All of the cities contracting with Issaquah for jail services received the same interagency agreement.

The new proposed interagency agreement is substantially similar to the prior agreement. It represents an increase in the daily non-guaranteed bed rate from \$118.02 to \$140, but also includes the addition of enhanced but limited medical services which are available eight hours a day/seven days a week. While the addition of these services is positive, it is unlikely that Bellevue would increase its use of the Issaquah jail due to the unavailability of medical and/or psychiatric services on a 24-hour/seven days per week basis. Bellevue will continue to use the Issaquah jail to house the occasional inmate that does not require special services. The City of Bellevue houses fewer than two percent of its inmates at the Issaquah jail facility.

## 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 interagency agreement.

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

### Fiscal Impact

Issaquah City Jail Administration conducted a cost-benefit analysis as part of a Citywide Service Assessment workplan priority for 2020. The 2021 rates remain competitive with regional jail costs. Consistent with the prior agreement, Issaquah will not charge a booking fee. Under the terms of the new proposed agreement, the City will have two guaranteed beds at a cost of \$110 per day per inmate regardless of actual use. The City may purchase additional beds, if available, at a non-guaranteed bed rate of \$140 per day per inmate.

The average daily bed count for Bellevue inmates housed at the Issaquah jail decreased from 2.16 in 2019 to 0.88 in 2020 as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic emergency protocols. The City's 2019 and 2020 costs for use of the Issaquah facility as compared to SCORE and King County are illustrated below.

	2019 Actual	2020 Prelim Actual
Issaquah Jail	\$76,727	\$12,510
SCORE	1,124,597	547,662
King County	149,659	38,067

Having two guaranteed beds per day will allow the City to take advantage of the lower bed rate when jail operations return to normal. Until the COVID-19 emergency protocols are lifted, Issaquah will not require Bellevue to pay for unused guaranteed beds. If approved, the interagency agreement will remain in effect unless terminated by either party. There is sufficient funding available to cover these costs in the City's 2021-2022 Budget.

## OPTIONS

1. Adopt the Resolution authorizing execution of an interagency agreement with the City of Issaquah for jail services.
2. Do not adopt the Resolution and provide alternative direction to staff.

## ATTACHMENTS & AVAILABLE DOCUMENTS

Proposed Resolution No. 9893

**AVAILABLE IN COUNCIL LIBRARY**

October 2020 Letter of Notification from the City of Issaquah  
Interagency Agreement between the City of Issaquah and City of Bellevue