

**County of Santa Clara**  
Office of the County Executive

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**DATE:** September 15, 2021

**TO:** Honorable Board of Supervisors  
Jeffrey V. Smith, County Executive

**FROM:** Martha Wapenski, Deputy County Executive

**SUBJECT: Update on Framework for the County's Justice-Involved Clients**

To address Board-approved referrals from Supervisors Cortese, Ellenberg, Lee, and Simitian related to an analysis of building a licensed mental health treatment center or a replacement jail facility or another approach, the Administration plans to provide a comprehensive report to the Board on November 16, 2021 on the following topics:

- Explore potential partnerships relating to the construction of a multi-county or regional mental health facility in the justice system.
- Conduct a community engagement process over a period of 120 days (6/8/2021 – 10/6/21) and report on these community input sessions to PSJC and the Board of Supervisors.
- Relying on the community input, report on the short- and long-term plan and timeline for:
  - Cost benefit analysis of mental health treatment center
  - Assessment of efforts of reduced jail population due to COVID-19
  - Jail population study, including analysis of mental health needs
  - Report to all Board committees except for HLUET
  - Facility Needs Assessment
  - County Correctional System Master Plan
  - Costs of facility improvements versus building replacement facilities
  - Report on findings related to regional mental health facility
  - Assurances related to compliance with Sustainability Master Plan
  - Presentation of the Service Model and Operational Plan for Elmwood

As noted in the above bulleted list, one aspect of the referral from Supervisor Cortese was to provide the comprehensive report to all Board committees except for HLUET before it is presented to the Board on November 16, 2021. Administration is still on track to provide a comprehensive report to the Board on November 16, however there has been an unavoidable change to the timeline that impacts the submission of the comprehensive report to all of the Board committees, except PSJC. The Administration has been working with the consultant Burns Institute to facilitate both virtual and in-person community engagement sessions. The virtual sessions were conducted on July 8 and July 10. An in-person session was conducted on August 27. Following that in-person session, it was determined that there was a need for a second in-person session prior to the finalization of the report from Burns Institute. The second in-person session was planned for the end of September, however the facility that was chosen, Mexican Heritage Plaza (MHP) in San Jose, was unavailable on the dates that the Burns Institute staff was available. County staff looked at other venues, but the sites either did not have the necessary setup (audio/video setup, outdoor venue, etc.) that MHP does, or the sites were not allowing outside groups to use their venue due to COVID-19 concerns. Staff is now working with the MHP and the Burns Institute on a date in early October. Given the amount of time needed for Burns Institute to conduct the in-person session and also include that information in their final report, the Administration plans to move the final comprehensive report to PSJC from the planned October 7, 2021 date to November 4, 2021, and then to proceed directly to the Board on November 16 without going to the other committees as planned in October. This change will also allow staff the time to include the information from the final Burns Institute in the comprehensive report to the Board on November 16.

cc: Chief Board Aides  
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