



# AGENDA

## Marion County Public Safety Coordinating Council

### Join Zoom Meeting

Topic: MCPSCC  
Time: August 8, 2023 04:00 PM Pacific Time  
(US and Canada)  
Join Zoom Meeting:  
<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85806773155>  
Meeting ID: 858 0677 3155

**Date:** Tuesday, August 8, 2023  
**Time:** 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.  
**Place:** Courthouse Square, BOC Office  
**Staff:** Jessica Stanton, BOC Office  
**Phone:** (503) 588-5212

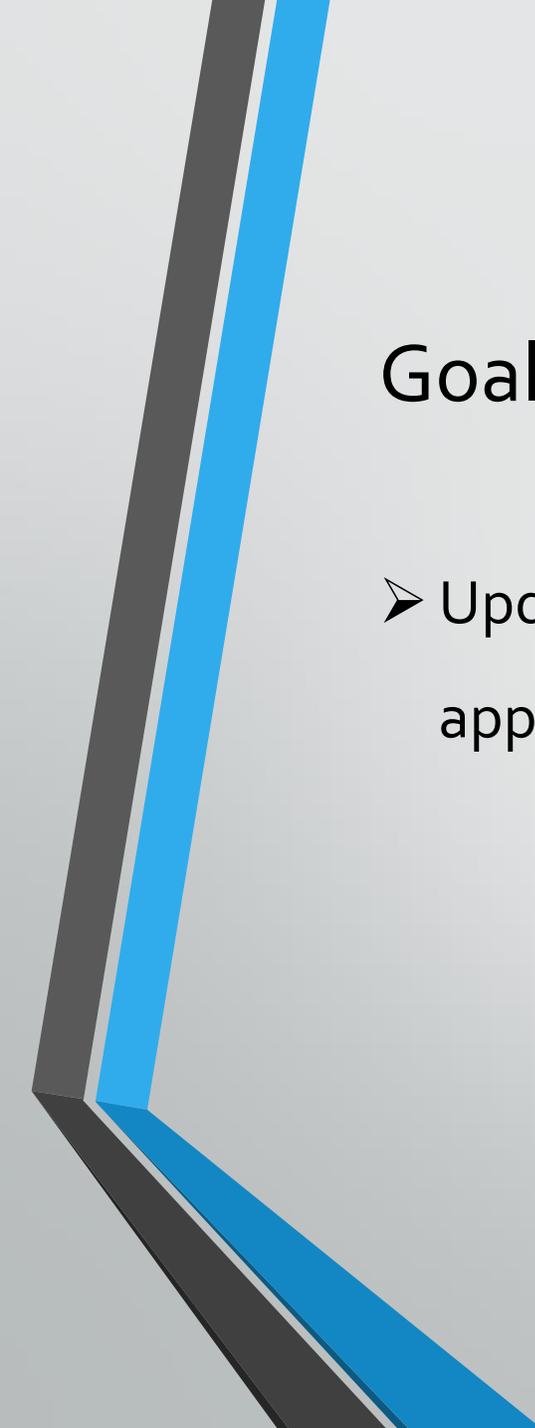
In Person Meeting At:  
**Courthouse Square, BOC Office**  
**555 Court St, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor**  
**BOC Office**  
**Salem 97309**

<b>4:00 - 4:20 PM</b>	<b><u>1. Administrative (Information/Action)</u></b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Welcome and Introductions<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ New Sheriff</li></ul></li><li>• Announcements &amp; upcoming events<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ MCRI October 12, 2023</li></ul></li><li>• Memberships</li><li>• Approve April 11, 2023, MCPSCC meeting minutes (<i>Action</i>)</li><li>• Other</li></ul>	<i>Colm Willis, Chair</i>
<b>4:20 – 4:30 PM</b>	<b><u>2. Mosman Multi-Jurisdictional Letter</u></b> ( <i>Informational</i> )	<i>Colm Willis, Chair</i>
<b>4:30 – 4:40 PM</b>	<b><u>3. Mobile Crisis Letter</u></b> ( <i>Informational</i> )	<i>Colm Willis, Chair</i>
<b>4:40 – 4:55 PM</b>	<b><u>4. Justice Reinvestment Initiative Grant</u></b> ( <i>Action</i> )	<i>Jay Bergmann</i>
<b>4:55 – 5:05 PM</b>	<b><u>5. Criminal Justice Advisory Council (CJAC)</u></b> ( <i>Informational</i> )	<i>Tracy Prall</i>
<b>5:05 – 5:50 PM</b>	<b><u>6. Legislative Round Table - 2023 Legislative Session Overview</u></b> ( <i>Informational</i> ) <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Law Enforcement- City/County/State</li><li>• Juveniles- County/OYA</li><li>• Courts</li><li>• Defense Bar</li><li>• Community Corrections</li><li>• Health and Human Services Department</li><li>• Victim Services</li><li>• Other All</li></ul>	<i>Police/Sheriff/OSP</i> <i>Gregg/Runyon</i> <i>Judge Tracy Prall</i> <i>Shannon Wilson</i> <i>Jeffrey Wood</i> <i>Ryan Matthews</i> <i>Jayne/Alison</i>
<b>5:50 – 6:00</b>	<b><u>7. Emerging Issues/Other Business</u></b>	<i>All</i>
<b>6:00 PM</b>	<b>ADJOURN</b>	



# Marion County Public Safety Coordinating Council

August 8, 2023



## Goals

- Update and approval for the 2023-25 final and supplemental funding applications.



# The 2023-25 JRI application process

- Preliminary 2023-25 JRI application due May 25, 2023
- The CJC Grant Committee provides feedback
- Final application due September 13, 2023
  - Incorporate feedback
  - Budget
  - Supplemental funding (competitive)
  - Victim Services application

# Preliminary Application Feedback

- TJC Program – Ensure risk levels are not mixed in programming
  - Low risk are not mixed – individual or group.
- Adult Specialty Court – Are low risk ind. Included? - ensure they are not mixed
  - Are included, but providers individualize resources based on risk.
- Clarify if each program provides culturally specific services.
  - Community Advisory Committee, Justice Reinvestment Counsel
  - PMJ Consulting – Complete Dec. 2023

# Budget

- Formula Grant
  - Program Funding \$4,284,483
  - Evaluation Funding (3%) \$147,741
  - Victim Services Funding (10%) \$492,469
- Supplemental Grant
  - \$788,356
    - Prison Diversion

# Community Corrections JRI Programs

- Prison Diversion Program
  - 416 Prison Diversion – repeat property and drug offenses
  - Downward Departure (D2) – DV and SO referred to specialty
- Transition from Jail to Community (TJC)
- Adult Specialty Courts
- Link-Up
- Student Opportunity for Achieving Results (SOAR)
- DeMuniz Resource Center
- Transition Services/Housing
- Substance Use Treatment
- Peer Support Program



# Community Based Victim Services

## Applications

- Center for Hope and Safety (CHS)
- Liberty House



Thank you for your time and support!

MARION COUNTY PUBLIC SAFETY COORDINATING COUNCIL (MCPSCC)  
Full Council Meeting Minutes  
April 11, 2023, 4:00 p.m.  
Commissioners Boardroom, Courthouse Square, Salem, Oregon

MCPSCC: Chris Baldrige, John Bauer, Colm Willis, Rob Carney, Don Frederickson, Chris Eppley, Troy Gregg, Chris Hoy, Linda Hukari, Elizabeth Infante, Joe Kast, Christina McCollum, Pete McCallum, Todd McCann, Ed McKenney, Ryan Matthews, Tim Murphy, Tracy Prall, David Rash, Mike Runyon, Shaney Starr, Shannon Wilson, Trevor Womack, and Chris Zohner

Guests: Greg Walsh, Marion County Emergency Management Director, Frank Lonergan, City of Woodburn Mayor

Other: Brendan Murphy on behalf of Paige Clarkson, Kameron Wolfer on behalf of Alison Kelley

Commissioner Willis called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

**1. ADMINISTRATIVE (ACTION)**

-Colm Willis

Announcements and Upcoming Events

- The Marion County Reentry Initiative (MCRI) breakfast is tentatively scheduled for October 12, 2023.

Membership

- The MCPSCC city representative position is open:
  - The “Volunteer Application for Appointment to a Committee, Board, Commission, Task Force or Council” on page 5 of the group’s packet is the application that will be used;
  - The Board of Commissioners would like this position to be a spokesperson for the cities of Marion County as a group, rather than just an individual city; and
  - If current MCPSCC members know of someone who would be a good representative of the cities of Marion County, they are encouraged to ask them to fill out an application.

Approve the January 24, 2023, MCPSCC Meeting Minutes

**MOTION:** Don Frederickson made a motion to approve the January 24, 2023, MCPSCC meeting minutes. Seconded by Mayor Chris Hoy. Motion passed unanimously.

**2. 2023 - 2025 JUVENILE CRIME PREVENTION PLAN (ACTION)**

-Troy Gregg

***Summary of presentation:***

- Every two years the Juvenile Department has to go before the Oregon Youth Development Division (YDD) and apply for grant funding for one of their programs:

- For many years the Juvenile Department has applied for funding for the Family Support Program:
  - The Family Support Program is an early intervention program that works with pre-adjudicated youth who are between 9 and 13 years old;
  - There are two probation officers who work with families who are self-referred, and with families who are referred by a school district, a concerned parent, or law enforcement:
    - One of the probation officers is bilingual.
  - The goal of the program is to support families by teaching them different parenting styles and approaches;
  - The focus is on helping youth who are headed towards being involved in the juvenile justice system; and
  - Currently, approximately 50 youth per year are served, and there is a waiting list of approximately 25 to 30 youth.
- The Juvenile and Health departments are partnering to add a new position that will focus on youth with drug and alcohol issues:
  - This is separate from the prevention plan.
- Early intervention is not necessarily the Juvenile Department's role:
  - Statutorily they are to take care of youth who come through the adjudication piece.
- Families within the Family Support Program often have more than one child, and these children are also impacted by the program;
- The Juvenile Crime Prevention Plan is in the group's packet;
- The MCPSCC executive committee approved the plan at their last meeting; and
- The Family Support Program is a good deterrent for a lot of youth, and it does prevent a lot of them from becoming involved in the juvenile justice system:
  - It also helps the Juvenile Department deal with youth who are unsuccessful in the program:
    - The Juvenile Department learns about their family as they go through the program.

***Summary of discussion:***

- Commissioner Willis commented that the board supports this program, and they are working to expand it.

**MOTION:** Shaney Starr made a motion to approve the Juvenile Crime Prevention Plan. Seconded by Don Frederickson. Motion passed unanimously.

**3. JUSTICE REINVESTMENT INITIATIVE (JRI) GRANT (ACTION)**

2023 – 2025 JRI Preliminary Grant Application

-Lieutenant Mike Hartford

***Summary of presentation:***

- MCPSCC is responsible for developing and approving Marion County's JRI grant program;

- During the JRI grant process the council is briefed on the county's Community Corrections prison diversion and re-entry programs, and they decide which programs they would like to fund;
- Following is a brief history of Oregon's Justice Reinvestment Initiative:
  - Between 2000 and 2010 the Oregon prison population increased by almost 50 percent, to approximately 14,000 adults in custody:
    - The total biennial corrections budget increased to approximately \$1.4 billion.
  - In 2010 the Commission on Public Safety was established:
    - They were tasked with evaluating criminal justice data; and
    - The commission found that the correction system had become more expansive and less effective over time.
  - The 2013 legislature passed House Bill 3194, the Justice Reinvestment Act:
    - The JRI grant program was created to redirect prison funding to evidence based programs designed to reduce recidivism, increase public safety, increase client accountability, and reduce prison populations.
- Marion County has participated in the JRI grant application process each biennium since 2015;
- The county normally receives approximately \$4 million;
- The preliminary JRI application is due May 25, 2023, to the Criminal Justice Commission (CJC):
  - Once the application is submitted the CJC Grant Review Committee will provide feedback on the preliminary application.
- The final application is due September 13, 2023, and it includes any requests for supplemental or competitive funding, the victim services application, and MCPSCC's approval of the budget;
- Following are the nine Community Corrections programs currently being supported by JRI funding:
  - Downward Departure Program:
    - This is an evidence based sentencing and prison alternative program.
  - Transition from Jail to Community Program:
    - The goal of this program is to reduce the number of individuals returning to custody by providing targeted release services, and by addressing immediate needs such as housing and referrals to community based treatment.
  - Housing subsidies and clothing vouchers for adult specialty courts;
  - Link Up Program:
    - Recovery mentor service case managers provide program assistance prior to an individual's release from custody, and they provide support after an individual is released.
  - Student Opportunity for Achieving Results (SOAR) Program:
    - This is an intensive 15 week program designed for individuals with substance use issues and high criminogenic needs; and
    - On March 20, 2023, a female version of SOAR was implemented.

- The De Muniz Resource Center:
  - The De Muniz Resource Center is designed to improve access to resources, and to provide direct services to adults in custody at the Transition Center and to clients on supervision with Community Corrections.
- Transition services housing program:
  - This program allows Community Corrections to provide housing subsidies for transitional housing to clients who are a medium to high risk to reoffend.
- Substance use treatment program:
  - This program increases access to substance use treatment for medium to high risk clients who are not enrolled in the Oregon Health Plan.
- Resiliency and recovery project:
  - This project provides peer support and mentoring services to clients on supervision with Community Corrections.
- The Justice Reinvestment Act requires 10 percent of JRI funds to be used for community based victim services:
  - The Center for Hope and Safety and the Liberty House receive Marion County JRI funding.
- JRI funding has had a tremendous impact on Marion County:
  - Since the implementation of evidenced based practices in 2013 the county has seen an overall downward trend in recidivism, except for the last 12 months where there was an increase of 2.2 percent;
  - Between 2014 and 2021 the county saw a 71 percent reduction in non-violent property crime revocations, and a 57 percent reduction in drug crime revocations; and
  - Between November 2021 through November 2022, there was a decrease in prison utilization by over 5,000 months.

**MOTION:** Rob Carney made a motion to approve the 2023 – 2025 JRI Grant application. Seconded by Mayor Chris Hoy. Motion passed unanimously.

2021 – 2023 Budget Amendment

-Lieutenant Mike Hartford

***Summary of presentation:***

- The Sheriff’s Office is requesting to balance their JRI personnel budget;
- There is an estimated \$17,500 shortfall in a personnel expense as of June 30, 2023; and
- Another personnel position has been vacant for several months, and the Sheriff’s Office would like to transfer those funds to cover the \$17,500 shortfall.

**MOTION:** Chris Hoy made a motion to approve the 2021 – 2023 budget amendment. Seconded by Don Frederickson. Motion passed unanimously.

#### **4. EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PRESENTATION**

-Greg Walsh

##### ***Summary of presentation:***

- Following are the natural hazards that the county has assessed:
  - Earthquake:
    - If a major earthquake occurs off of the coast of Oregon, 7 million people would be impacted within 10 minutes or less.
  - Wildland interface fire and wildfires;
  - Drought;
  - Flooding; and
  - Others.
- Following are the non-natural hazards that the county has assessed:
  - Active shooter;
  - Hazardous materials; and
  - Others.
- Marion County Emergency Management works with each agency that is the primary lead for a given hazard;
- Flood mapping is done to determine what the impacts would be if a dam were to fail, including flood mapping for the Detroit Dam:
  - An earthquake or acts of terrorism could cause multiple dam failures.
- During a major earthquake most of Salem will experience severe shaking;
- Following is the hierarchy for disaster response plans:
  - City plans, including individual preparedness;
  - County plans;
  - State plans; and
  - Federal plans.
- The Oregon Office of Emergency Management developed the Cascadia Playbook to prepare for, and respond to, a major earthquake:
  - Communities could potentially be without services for several months.
- The state has purchased new continuity of operations planning software that will be used starting July 1, 2023.

##### ***Summary of discussion:***

- Judge Prall commented that the county needs to have a plan to coordinate local law enforcement and public safety resources in the event of a major disaster, and the different jurisdictions within the county need to coordinate together:
  - Mr. Walsh will connect with the different jurisdictions do discuss their plans; and
  - The coordination needs to include an accessible location where the relevant parties can meet.

## 5. CRIMINAL JUSTICE ADVISORY COUNCIL (CJAC) (ACTION)

### Specialty Court Support Letter

-Judge Prall

#### ***Summary of presentation:***

- All of the county's specialty courts are funded by grant dollars through the Oregon Criminal Justice Commission;
- The Criminal Justice Commission requires a letter of support from the local Public Safety Coordinating Council:
  - All five specialty courts are included in one letter.
- Following are the five specialty courts:
  - Adult Drug Court;
  - Veterans Court;
  - Mental Health Court;
  - Fostering Attachment Treatment Court; and
  - Supervised Treatment and Recovery (STAR) Court.
- The grant funds the specialty court coordinators and all of the drug treatment.

**MOTION:** Shaney Starr made a motion to approve the specialty court support letter. Seconded by Tim Murphy. Motion passed unanimously.

### Status of Defense Attorney Availability

-Judge Prall and Shannon Wilson

#### ***Summary of presentation:***

Judge Prall:

- Oregon has a shortage of defense attorneys;
- A lot of lawyers left the field or moved to different jurisdictions during the pandemic;
- The lawyers that the county has been able to hire are newer lawyers with little experience, or lawyers who are only able to handle misdemeanors;
- The county used to have more misdemeanors than felonies, and now there are more felonies than misdemeanors:
  - To handle the workload the county needs experienced lawyers; and
  - The county does not have enough lawyers to handle all of the cases.
- Judges are required by the constitution and statute to appoint counsel:
  - Many of the lawyers contracted through the Office of Public Defense Services (OPDS) are reaching the maximum number of cases that they can take in a year; and
  - When judges run out of lawyers that they can appoint, they will have to appoint OPDS:
    - This is not appointing a lawyer, and it is in violation of the constitution:
      - This will leave individuals in custody without lawyers; and
      - Individuals will have to be released from custody.
- The legislature is looking at a bill that would change the structure of how lawyers are appointed and paid.

Shannon Wilson:

- The Public Defender of Marion County (PDMC) is a non-profit law firm providing public defense services:
  - They are contracted through the state.
- PDMC has lost a lot of highly qualified attorneys;
- In 2020 PDMC had 89 percent of the county's major felony cases;
- In 2021 PDMC had 82 percent of the county's major felony cases;
- PDMC is within their contract terms with OPDS;
- PDMC is at capacity:
  - They cannot ethically or constitutionally take any more cases; and
  - Yesterday they received an additional 50 cases over their objection.
- PDMC has a nationwide posting for attorneys.

## **6. BEHAVIORAL HEALTH UPDATE**

Oregon State Hospital

-Brendan Murphy

### ***Summary of presentation:***

- Before an individual can stand trial they have to be able to aid and assist in their own defense:
  - If they are unable to aid and assist, they can be sent to the state hospital for rehabilitation.
- The Mosman Order reduced the timelines for how long the state hospital can hold individuals who are unable to aid and assist:
  - The order requires individuals to be released from the state hospital to create capacity, so that individuals can be released from the jail to the state hospital; and
  - The concern is that individuals are being released from the hospital before they are able to aid and assist, and individuals are being released who are not safe within the community.
- The county has had 22 individuals released from the state hospital to community restoration:
  - 16 have felony charges;
  - Several have multiple misdemeanor charges;
  - These individuals are monitored based on their public safety risk, to themselves and to others; and
  - One individual is on warrant status.
- Previously, it was taking approximately 45 days for an individual to be released from the jail to the state hospital, and it is now taking approximately 20 days;
- The District Attorney's Office has been notified by the state hospital that there are 11 additional Mosman Orders in place:
  - These are individuals who need to be released from the state hospital; and
  - The county is running out of options for placement of these individuals, as a lot of the facilities are full.
- The District Attorney's Office is monitoring the situation.

***Summary of discussion:***

- The county is in the process of leasing another residence and a few more apartments to increase capacity for placement of individuals being released to community restoration:
  - There are approximately 60 individuals currently in community restoration; and
  - There are no time limits to how long an individual can be in community restoration.
- The state hospital is not at capacity due to staffing issues.

**Salem Navigation Center Update**

-Chris Hoy

***Summary of presentation:***

- The Navigation Center is opening May 1, 2023:
  - There will be 75 beds.
- An open house is being held on April 24, 2023, from 8 to 10 a.m.;
- The Navigation Center is located at 1185 22nd Steet SE;
- Marion County and the State of Oregon helped fund the renovations of the building;
- Crossroads Communities will be the service provider running the facility;
- A ribbon cutting was held for Yaquina Hall which is on the site of the former nurses' dormitory at the north campus of the Oregon State Hospital:
  - There are 52 units:
    - 20 of the units are for individuals with serious and persistent mental illness; and
    - The remaining units are for individuals needing permanent supportive housing.
- A third micro shelter community is being opened in Salem:
  - It will focus on youth ages 17 to 24 years old; and
  - There will be 40 units.

**7. LEGISLATIVE ROUND TABLE – 2023 LEGISLATIVE SESSION**

**Law Enforcement**

Trevor Womack:

- Salem has been focused on implementing police reform changes that were addressed by the legislature over the last several years; and
- There is no new legislation this year that has a direct impact on municipal policing.

Jeff Wood:

- Typically, public safety funding bills are dealt with towards the end of the session:
  - Community Corrections hopes to maintain their current funding level.

**Juvenile**

Mike Runyon:

- The Oregon Youth Authority (OYA) is tracking three bills that address the peer support program, the Department of Corrections youth re-sentencing, and OYA maintaining demographic information on youth and staff.

Troy Gregg:

- The juvenile director is working to obtain funding for youth around Measure 110.

#### District Attorney's Office

Brendan Murphy:

- The District Attorney's Office is monitoring over 180 bills that affect their work:
  - There are no major legislative policies.

#### Courts

Judge Prall:

- They are following several bills that would affect court operations.

#### Defense Bar

Shannon Wilson:

- Senate Bill 337 moves the Office of Public Defense Services from the judicial branch to the executive branch.

#### Health and Human Services

Ryan Matthews:

- There are a lot of bills related to health care, and there is bipartisan support for investments in public health, intellectual and developmental disabilities, substance use treatment, and mental health;
- There is an acknowledgement that the workforce crisis is real:
  - There are bills related to using non-traditional and union health care workers;
  - There is a workforce incentives bill; and
  - There is an administrative burden bill that addresses critical resources having to do paperwork when they should be providing services.
- It will be hard to maintain the mobile crisis collaboration between mental health and law enforcement for the long term due to the way that the mobile crisis funding is designed:
  - All of the enhanced crisis funding is for non-law enforcement based response.

#### ***Summary of discussion:***

- The Commissioners met with Senator Wyden when they were in Washington, D.C., and he said that the bill covers Marion County's mobile crisis law enforcement:
  - Commissioner Willis thinks that MCPSCC should send a letter of support for the county's current mobile crisis model; and
  - Mr. Matthews commented that Senator Wyden may not understand some of the details of the funding.

#### Victim Services

Kameron Wolfer:

- They are tracking a funding bill, and a bill related to children's advocacy center (CAC) liability reform.

## **8. EMERGING ISSUES/OTHER BUSINESS**

- None.

Commissioner Willis adjourned the meeting at 5:59 p.m.



# Marion County

## OREGON

### Board of Commissioners

June 13, 2023

(503) 588-5212  
(503) 588-5237-FAX

Honorable Tina Kotek  
Office of the Governor  
900 Court St NE, Suite 254  
Salem, OR 97301

Mr. David Baden  
Oregon Health Authority  
500 Summer Street NE, E-20  
Salem, Oregon 97301

#### BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Colm Willis, Chair  
Kevin Cameron  
Danielle Bethell

#### CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

Jan Fritz

#### **Re: Adverse Consequences to Local Communities Arising from the Federal Court Order Limiting Admissions and Services at the Oregon State Hospital**

Dear Governor Kotek and Mr. Baden,

On September 1, 2022, Senior United States District Judge Michael W. Mosman issued an order in a civil rights case changing Oregon aid and assist law by drastically shortening the period during which criminal defendants may receive restoration services at the Oregon State Hospital (OSH). This order also essentially ended all civil commitments to the state hospital and has left more individuals with untreated behavioral health needs requiring a hospital level of care in our communities.

Marion and Washington counties, along with three district attorneys and five circuit court judges, have been granted amici status in this lawsuit and been very vocal regarding the negative impact this order has on counties. The parties in the case continue to push their agenda limiting OSH admissions, however, with little regard for local input.

The September 1, 2022, order has, and will continue, to impact public safety and the overall health and livability of our communities. Our local communities need support from the State of Oregon in advocating for solutions to the additional public safety and community resource problems caused by this order.

These problems are serious and will not be resolved on their own. For example, because many individuals currently being placed on community restoration would have previously been treated at OSH, more individuals who present a higher-than-normal level of both safety risk and behavioral health concerns now remain in our communities. Community restoration involves service in offices or unsecured residential treatment facilities. Since September of 2022, numerous individuals who have been charged with violent felony offenses in restoration services in Marion County alone have simply walked off their placements.

BOC: AMK

DRO and the Metropolitan Public Defenders are pushing to have the court order that OSH cannot admit individuals charged with misdemeanor crimes. Many person-on-

person crimes are misdemeanors. If these individuals require a hospital level of care but cannot be admitted, their charges will not be prosecuted, and they will be released untreated back into our communities.

Below are solutions we continue to seek:

- 1) Return individuals in community restoration to the Oregon State Hospital for additional services if there is a risk to community safety and it is possible that further treatment may restore their ability to stand trial;
- 2) Require the State to develop a long-term plan which would include providing sufficient secure in-patient restoration services for the anticipated need in the next twenty years;
- 3) Require the State to modify its expedited admissions policy so that more individuals can be admitted through the civil commitment process;
- 4) Require the state to retain liability for individuals on community restoration if, under state law, they would have been released from the State Hospital;
- 5) Limit the amount of time an individual may remain in community restoration;
- 6) Allow for a "safety valve" to allow for longer stays at the state hospital if, upon petition by the district attorney, a trial court finds by clear and convincing evidence that a defendant presents specifically identifiable and significant public safety or victim safety concerns; and
- 7) Continue admission of individuals charged with misdemeanor crimes to OSH.

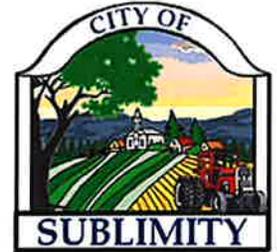
Of these asks, the most pressing is the need for the state to provide more inpatient beds so that severely ill individuals can receive involuntary medication, a process the legislature has authorized only the State to provide. This process would assist in stabilizing individuals so that they are able to begin participating in their own treatment and recovery.

The above list provides some relief to local communities from the impact of the federal order. Getting traction on them continues to be an uphill battle, however, and the State needs to step in to protect our communities.

Thank you for considering our letter. We look forward to working with you on these issues.

Sincerely,

		
Colm Willis Chair	Kevin Cameron Commissioner	Danielle Bethell Commissioner



**adapt**  
Integrated Health Care







# MARION COUNTY PUBLIC SAFETY COORDINATING COUNCIL

Chair: Commissioner Colm Willis

Vice-Chair: Jayne Downing

**Council Members:**

**Chris Baldridge, Safety & Risk Mgmt.**  
Salem Keizer School District

**John Bauer, Chief Legal Officer**  
Salem Health Hospital and Clinics

**Joseph Budge, Fire Chief**  
Woodburn & Hubbard Fire Districts

**Mark Caillier**  
Citizen at Large

**Robert Carney, Councilor**  
City of Woodburn

**Paige Clarkson, District Attorney**  
Marion County

**Jayne Downing, Director**  
Center for Hope & Safety

**Don Frederickson**  
Citizen at Large

**Judge Courtland Geyer**  
Marion County Circuit Court

**Chris Eppley, Director**  
Community Services Department

**Troy Gregg, Director**  
Marion County Juvenile Department

**Chris Hoy, Councilor**  
City of Salem

**Linda Hukari, Administrator**  
Marion County Circuit Court

**Elizabeth Infante**  
Citizen at Large

**Joe Kast, Sheriff**  
Marion County

**Alison Kelley, Executive Director**  
Liberty House

**Pastor Garland King**  
NAACP

**Rick Lewis, Representative**  
District 18

**Pete McCallum**  
Citizen at Large

**Todd McCann**  
Public Defender/Attorney

**Ed McKenney**  
Citizen at Large

**Ryan Matthews, Administrator**  
Health & Human Services Department

**Tim Murphy, Executive Director**  
Bridgeway Recovery Services

**Judge Tracy Prall**  
Marion County Circuit Court

**Dave Rash, Police Chief**  
City of Hubbard

**Mike Runyon, Supervisor**  
Oregon Youth Authority

**Cari Sessums, Representative**  
Alcohol & Drug Planning Committee

**Shaney Starr, Program Director**  
National CASA

**Colm Willis, Commissioner**  
Marion County

**Shannon Wilson**  
Public Defender

**Trevor Womack, Police Chief**  
City of Salem

**Lt. Chris Zohner**  
Oregon State Police

April 20, 2023

The Honorable Senator Wyden  
United State Senate  
Washington DC, 20510

Dear Senator Wyden,

The Marion County Public Safety Coordinating Council (MCPSCC) is writing to express our strong support for the continued funding and operation of mobile crisis response teams in Marion County, particularly those that include a law enforcement partner alongside a qualified mental health professional. As you may know, these teams have been providing critical support to individuals in our community experiencing mental health and substance use challenges, while also working to reduce the need for law enforcement involvement in these situations.

We wish to express our strong support for continued funding for mobile crisis response teams. We greatly appreciate your leadership in advocating for enhanced mobile crisis response and are excited about the expanded opportunities that are now available to us through Medicaid funding.

Marion County currently has four mobile crisis teams that have been successful in large part due to their partnership with law enforcement, which has allowed them to respond quickly and effectively to crisis situations throughout the county. These teams have been particularly effective in breaking down barriers between jurisdictions, allowing them to respond regardless of city borders. Additionally, we have been working to build a non-law enforcement response team and a youth-focused response team to better meet the needs of our community.

We are concerned, however, that recent changes to Medicaid funding may have the unintended consequence of limiting our ability to continue to fund mobile crisis response teams with a law-enforcement based response. We understand the importance of expanding access to non-law enforcement-based response teams, but we must also recognize the value of the current model and work to sustain it as we move forward. The direction we have received from Oregon Health Authority is that the new Medicaid enhanced funding cannot be used to cover the costs of law-enforcement based response teams.

Our concern is that in the long term, as State General Fund support diminishes, mobile crisis teams will be forced to abandon the co-response model in favor of a model that does not include law enforcement. This would be a great loss for our community, as the co-response model has been effective in providing the best possible care to individuals in crisis and is critical to the safety and well-being of our healthcare professionals.

The MCPSCC urges you to consider the unique needs and successes of mobile crisis response teams with a law enforcement partner in Marion County, and to advocate for our continued ability to fund these teams. We believe that this model is critical to ensuring the safety of our staff and our community, and we appreciate your continued support and passion to expand mobile crisis response services throughout Oregon.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Commissioner Colm Willis, Chair  
Marion County Public Safety Coordinating Council