

Budget Deliberations & Issue Identification Alternatives to Police Response and the Criminal Legal System

Select Budget Committee | October 15, 2021

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Budget Summary (\$ in 000s)

	2021 Adopted	2022 Proposed	% Change
Appropriations¹			
Alternatives to Police Response			
Mobile Integrated Health (SFD/HSD)	\$1,782	\$4,328	142.9%
Community Safety and Communications Center	\$17,887	\$20,882	16.7%
Administrative Response	NA	NA	NA
Crisis Response Unit (SPD)	\$1,737	\$1,737	0%
Crisis Lines ²	\$NA	NA	NA
Total Appropriations³	\$21,406	\$26,947	25.8%
Alternatives to Prosecution and Jail			
Pre-filing diversion (LAW)	\$596	\$844	41.6%
Electronic home monitoring subsidies (SMC)	\$44	\$132	200%
Total Appropriations³	\$640	\$975	52.4%



Budget Summary (\$ in 000s)

	2021 Adopted	2022 Proposed	% Change
Community-Led Public Safety Investments			
Community Safety Capacity Building (HSD)	\$12,000	\$10,000	(16.7%)
King County Regional Peacekeepers Collective (HSD)	\$500 ⁴	\$1,500	200%
Seattle Community Safety Initiative (HSD)	\$4,000	\$0	(100%)
LEAD (HSD)	\$6,224	\$6,373	2.4%
Re-entry (HSD)	\$102	\$1,677	1544.1%
One Call ⁵ (HSD)	\$403	\$403	0%
Mobile Crisis Teams ⁶ (HSD)	\$1,000	\$1,000	0%
Total Appropriations	\$24,229	\$20,953	(13.5%)

¹ Items in this section are those with implications in the 2022 Proposed Budget or that are discussed in this paper, not a comprehensive reflection of all the options other than traditional police response, prosecution, and sentencing.

² Crisis Lines as alternatives to police include the 24-Hour Crisis Line funded by King County and the forthcoming 9-8-8 crisis line which is being funded and implemented through the State.

³ Numbers may not add up due to rounding.

⁴ The Regional Peacekeepers program was funded in [ORD 120112](#) (2021 Midyear Supplemental) and the Seattle Community Safety Initiative was funded in [ORD 119825](#) in late 2020, with most spending occurring in 2021.

⁵ OneCall is a resource available to SPD and SFD first responders rather than a crisis line alternative to police response.

⁶ Mobile Crisis Team is primarily funded through King County.



Overview

1. Introduction
2. Background
3. **Alternatives to Police Response**
 - A. Categories of Alternatives to Police Response
 - B. Implementation Alternatives
 - C. Issue Identification
4. **Alternatives to Prosecution and Jail**
5. **Community-Led Public Safety Investments**



Background (1/2)

Community Task Force Report on the Criminal Legal System

Major Principles:

1. Divest from the CLS and invest in communities to strengthen and build up community infrastructures that can address offenses otherwise classified as misdemeanor crimes under the CLS.
2. Support community capacity to respond to harms independent of the CLS and city roles.
3. Provide resources and funding to community organizations to do preventative work.
4. Prioritize survivor support.



Background (2/2)

Criminal Legal System Strategic Plan

Community Guiding Principles

- The City should reduce unequal and disparate treatment in the CLS.
- The City should compassionately and competently engage with vulnerable members of the community experiencing homelessness and mental illness.
- CLS reform should incorporate opportunities for restorative justice practices.
- The City should examine the root causes of why people are in jail and shift resources to address those needs.
- There should be alternatives to a formal law enforcement presence that community can rely on that decreases surveillance and emphasize de-escalation, mediation, and treatment.
- The City should increase opportunities for diversion, decriminalization, and alternatives to arrest to reduce the use of jail as well as surveillance through the probation system.



Alternatives to Police Response (1/2)

Categories of Alternatives to Police Response

1. Mobile Integrated Health (MIH) approaches
2. Civilianization of officer functions and the historic role of uniformed police staff
3. Administrative responses to service calls
4. Crisis lines
5. Dispatch protocols



Alternatives to Police Response (2/2)

Implementation of Alternatives to Police Response

- Community Safety and Communications Center
- Seattle Fire Department
- Community Service Providers



Issue Identification (1/4)

1. Service Call Response via 9-1-1

The 2022 Proposed Budget does not include a non-9-1-1 dispatch option. Such an option could set up a clear choice for callers, allowing them to request crisis response that would be therapeutic in nature.

Options:

- A. Add funding for a study to (1) recommend an implementation plan for a crisis response line other than 9-1-1 that callers can use to request emergency help with a mental health or behavioral health incident through one or both of the City's PSAPs and (2) explore various models for its staffing
- B. No Action



Issue Identification (2/4)

2. Proposed “Triage One” Unit in SFD

The program is not materially different from the existing Health One program and implementation could be delayed. Continuing to add potentially duplicative MIH and mental/behavioral health crisis response resources in SFD may not align with the Council’s intent.

Options:

- A. Reallocate requested funding to a contracted MIH program.
- B. Establish a new mental/behavioral crisis-response unit in the CSCC rather than SFD.
- C. Adjust parameters of Health One and/or Triage Team programs to align with the Council’s vision and goals.
- D. No Action



Issue Identification (3/4)

3. Potential Additional CSCC Functions

The Council created the CSCC with the intent that it would provide a central location for public safety-related services that did not require response from a sworn, armed, police officer. The Council could consider placing the Triage Team, CSO's or the Administrative Responders pilot project in the CSCC.

Options:

- A. Move an additional function or functions to the CSCC by a date certain.
- B. Adopt a SLI defining the Council's vision and goals for a Triage Team and requesting that the Executive develop an MOA consistent with that vision, formalizing the roles and responsibilities of SFD, SPD, and the CSCC relative to a new Triage Team, with a report to the Council prior to finalization of the MOA.
- C. Adopt a SLI requesting that the Executive provide the Council a scope, schedule, and budget for an Administrative Responders pilot project.

D. No Action



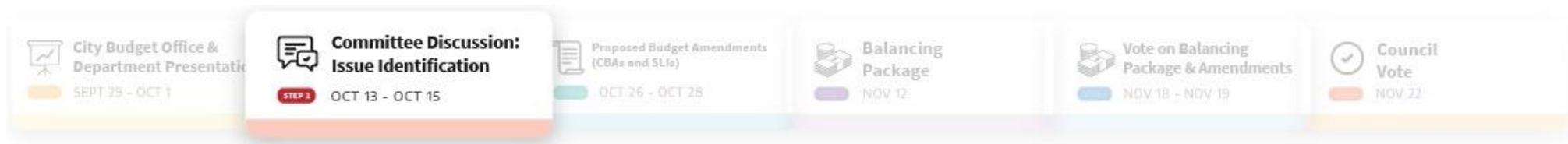
Issue Identification (4/4)

4. Response to “Low-level” Criminal 9-1-1 Calls

SPD’s analysis of NICJR call data may identify a body of work that could be performed by civilians with minimal risk.

Options:

- A. Adopt a SLI requesting that the Executive report by a date certain which calls for service and administrative support tasks from the NICJR report could be performed by civilians with minimal risk.
- B. Add funding for civilian responders in the CSCC
- C. No Action



Alternatives to Prosecution and Jail

1. Pre-filing diversion
2. Electronic Home Monitoring subsidies



Issue Identification (1/3)

1.a. Fully staffing existing pre-filing diversion

Options regarding alignment with principles

- A. Fund the program in the 2022 Proposed Budget and:
 - 1. Adopt a SLI requesting that LAW describe program alignment and changes to align with the principles in the Task Force Report and the PFD RET.
 - 2. Add a proviso prohibiting expenditure until LAW describes program alignment or changes to align with principles in the Task Force Report and the PFD RET.
 - 3. Proviso the proposed funds by requiring that funds spent on the program must align with the principles in the Task Force Report and the PFD RET.
- B. No Action

Options regarding funding source

- A. Cut the funds allocated in the 2022 Proposed Budget and do not add staff to the program.
- B. Cut the GF and replace it with existing funds and staff from SPD, other places in LAW's criminal division or SMC.
- C. No Action



Issue Identification (2/3)

1.b. Expanding the pre-filing diversion

Options regarding alignment with principles

- A. Adopt a SLI requesting that LAW describe program alignment or changes to align with the principles in the Task Force Report and the PFD RET
- B. Appropriate funds to expand pre-filing diversion:
 - 1. Without a proviso;
 - 2. With a proviso requiring that funds spent on the program must align with the principles in the Task Force Report and the PFD RET; or
 - 3. With a proviso to prohibit expenditure until LAW submits a report to Council describing how the new program would align with the principles in the Task Force Report and the PFD RET
- C. No Action

Options regarding funding source

- A. Add General Fund to provide support and staff to create this new program.
- B. Move existing funds and staff from SPD, other places in LAW's criminal division or SMC.
- C. No Action



Issue Identification (3/3)

2. Electronic Home Monitoring Subsidies

Options regarding mandatory supervision

- A. Maintain the allocation in the 2022 Proposed Budget and:
 - 1. Proviso the funds to require that they can only be used when EHM is mandated by state law;
 - 2. Do not proviso funds but request an evaluation; or
 - 3. Do not proviso funds but include priorities in the City's State Legislative Agenda about reform regarding mandatory supervision through EHM or incarceration required by state law
- B. No Action

Options regarding funding source

- A. Cut the General Fund allocation in the 2022 Proposed Budget and replace it with funds and staff to be moved from SPD, LAW's criminal division, or SMC
- B. No Action



Community-Led Public Safety Investments (1/1)

1. Community Safety Capacity Building
2. King County Regional Peacekeepers Collective
3. Let Everyone Advance with Dignity (LEAD)
4. Re-entry Services



Issue Identification (1/3)

1. Community Safety Capacity Building

The 2021 Adopted Budget has \$13M dollars for the Community Safety Capacity Building program, including \$3M appropriated in September of 2021. \$7 to \$10M of the 2021 funding will likely be carried forward to 2022. The 2022 Proposed Budget appropriates new, ongoing funding of \$10M, resulting in at least \$17M available in 2022, higher than originally contemplated.

Options:

- A. Reduce funding for Community Safety Capacity Building in 2022 to make funding available for other Council priorities and minimize a "funding cliff" at the end of 2022 when funding reduces to \$10 million
- B. No Action



Issue Identification (2/3)

2. Seattle Community Safety Initiative

In 2020, the Council funded \$4 million in one-time funds for the Seattle Community Safety Initiative through December 31, 2021. The 2022 Proposed Budget does not include funding for the program.

Options:

- A. Amend the 2022 Proposed Budget to include funding for the program (one-time or ongoing)
- B. No Action



Issue Identification (3/3)

3. LEAD

The 2022 Proposed Budget provides \$6.4M for LEAD, approximately \$3M less than the total amount provided by the Council for LEAD over the course of 2021. The 2022 Proposed Budget does not maintain the \$3M increase from June 2021. If LEAD receives the \$3 million increase appropriated in mid-2021 and increases services, it would likely have to reduce those new services in 2022 due to the reduced funding level in the 2022 Proposed Budget.

Options:

- A. Add funding for the LEAD program
- B. No Action



Questions?

Budget Timeline | FALL 2021

