

REPORT TO THE LEGISLATURE

Western State Hospital – City of Lakewood Community Policing Program

Engrossed Substitute Senate Bill 5092, Section 202 (1)(b)

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The 2021 Washington State Legislature enacted Engrossed Substitute Senate Bill 5092, the 2021-23 Operating Budget which provides:

\$311,000 of the general fund—state appropriation for fiscal year 2022 and \$310,000 of the general fund—state appropriation for fiscal year 2023 are provided solely for a community partnership between western state hospital and the city of Lakewood to support community policing efforts in the Lakewood community surrounding western state hospital. The amounts provided in this subsection (1)(b) are for the salaries, benefits, supplies, and equipment for one full-time investigator, one full-time police officer, and one full-time community service officer at the city of Lakewood.

The proviso also requires the Department of Social and Health Services to collect data from the City of Lakewood on the use of the funds and the number of calls responded to by the community policing program and submit a report with this information to the Office of Financial Management and the appropriate fiscal committees of the legislature each December of the fiscal biennium.

In 2017, through collaboration with the Lakewood Police Department (LPD), the Pierce County Prosecutor's Office, and the Washington State Patrol, Western State Hospital (WSH) signed an interlocal agreement for *WSH Community Partnerships* to support community policing efforts in the Lakewood community surrounding WSH. This partnership established a collective commitment to consistency as it relates to criminal cases, human resource information, investigations, emergency managements, and security in the community shared by the Lakewood Police Department and Western State Hospital.

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP

Per the agreed to statement of work regarding community partnership activities, representatives from the Lakewood Police Department and Western State Hospital Incident Management Office meet at regular intervals (bi-weekly) to discuss the status of cases referred, accepted, declined, and forwarded to the Pierce County Prosecutor's Office for review and consideration of charging.

Representatives of LPD participate in meetings with the WSH human resources department, the Chief of Safety and Security and the Washington State Patrol to discuss the status of cross-agency cases and works with the WSH Incident Management Office to schedule interviews and meetings regarding investigations or incidents involving WSH employees and/or patients.

The Lakewood Police Department also participates in emergency management planning, training and exercises and attends monthly meetings involving both the Chief of Lakewood PD and the WSH Chief of Safety and Security.

The community partnership agreement provides annual safety and security training to WSH staff, including preservation of crime scenes, searches, and security measures on the wards and grounds. In addition, LPD provides additional training on crime prevention, the types of incidents that require notification of the police department, and community outreach and reporting.

POLICE PROTECTION

The Lakewood Police Department provides patrol services and emergency police protection (911), evidence preservation and incident investigation at WSH and adjacent areas. Representatives from LPD also attend meetings as necessary and participate in conference calls concerning crimes, incidents and/or investigations.

The following table shows data during the first three quarters of the community policing program with regard to the number of calls made from the Hospital to LPD for incident response and the number of times LPD was on campus for non-emergent duties. This table also outlines the investigative data submitted by the assigned detective that investigates crimes that occurs on campus and the number of cases cleared during each quarter.

	Patrol Responses	Cases assigned to LPD Investigator	Cases Cleared
1 st Quarter 01/01/2021 – 03/30/2021	9	132	46
2 nd Quarter 04/01/2021 – 06/30/2021	6	73	46
3 rd Quarter 07/01/2021 – 9/30/2021	4	106	23

2021 Q1, Q2 & Q3 BILLING TOTALS

Lakewood Police Department billed DSHS for services starting on 01/01/21 through 03/30/21.

Police Protection- \$11,250.00
Community Partnership- \$77,625.00

Lakewood Police Department billed DSHS for services starting on 04/01/21 through 06/30/21.

Police Protection- \$11,250.00

Community Partnership-	\$77,625.00
Lakewood Police Department billed DSHS for services starting on 07/01/21 through 09/30/21.	
Police Protection-	\$11,250.00
Community Partnership-	\$77,750.00
Total	\$ 266,750.00

OBSERVATIONS & NEXT STEPS

In July 2021, several Police Reform bills were enacted by the Washington State Legislature. Specifically, HB 1054 and HB 1310 were concerning to the Lakewood Police Department as they felt that it would impact how they respond to incidents at WSH. There were several incidents that occurred with patients in the community where there was a delay in a response from LPD as they were determining probable cause.

Lakewood Police Department has also suffered staffing challenges during this fiscal year and has asked to suspend the Community Policing Program Contract until the department is able to hire more staff. Western State Hospital Leadership is working with the Lakewood Police Department to determine alternate reporting methods for criminal cases that occur on campus.

In summary, due to the recent Police Reform Bills and staffing challenges; Lakewood Police Department is unable to provide Community Policing Services at this time. Western State Security and the BHA Incident Management Department will need to supplement some of the services that were offered in our contract until Lakewood Police Department is able to provide these services again.

In the absence of the LPD investigator, the WSH security department is exploring avenues for staff to report potential criminal activity that occurs on campus such as how to file a police report either online or through a non-emergency police phone line. Additionally, the security department is working on stop gap measures to continue parking enforcement and campus patrols.