

# Federal Way Municipal Court

## Budget Presentation

September 27, 2018



Judge David Larson  
Judge Rebecca Robertson  
Susanne White, Court Administrator

# Requests and Comments

- Requests
  - \$5,000 for Community Court Expenses and Pilot Project
  - \$7,000 for increased security costs
- Comments
  - Challenges and Opportunity
  - Public Defense Contract
  - SCORE Transition
    - Jail Alternatives
    - Courtroom Improvements

# Community Court

- [Spokane](#) as an example
  - Grant funding is significant
- No funding in Federal Way
  - Started small
    - Great Community - More volunteers than needed
  - Successes and failures
  - Part of addressing homelessness
    - Stabilization and crime free
  - CC needs to grow
    - Catch 22 - Not big enough yet to warrant breadth of services, but can't grow without services
    - Allocation of City Funds/Grants?
    - \$5,000 Pilot Project

# Security Contract

- Pierce County Security (PCS)
  - December 2015 @ \$23.47/hour
- PCS operation cost increases
  - Insurance, equipment, supplies, taxes, fuel, the Affordable Care Act, and other business expenses.
- PCS proposes rate of \$24.60 per hour (+\$1.13 hour)
- +\$7,000 per year

# Challenges and Opportunity

## 1. Challenges for all courts of limited jurisdiction

- a) User pay system with costs, fees, assessments used to fund various programs
- b) *RCW 10.01.160(3)*
- c) *State v. Blazina*
- d) HB 1783
  - Example: Interest income alone has averaged \$50,773/year since 2014
  - Less infraction filings too (local issue)
- e) The local impact is complicated
  - "Cost Fee Codes"

## 2. Opportunity

- a) Alignment between AWC, WAC, and AOC to seek ways to replace lost revenue

# Public Defense

- Public defense contract expires December 31, 2018
  - Guaranteed higher costs
  - Investment
    - Better chance of defense firm keeping qualified people

# SCORE Transition/Jail Alternatives

- ADP is complex
- Court = Long-term commitment to jail alternatives
  - Thank you for commitment to subsidies by the police department

# Jail Alternatives

- SCORE Transition
  - Adopt a philosophy that jail alternative vendors are another jail/detention vendor
    - Not a panacea, but participation and success rate will increase among indigent defendants



# SCORE Transition

- Courtroom Improvements
  - Unknown cost



# Questions