

Notice Seeking Comments regarding Juvenile Detention Options

The Okanogan Board of County Commissioners is seeking comments from the public regarding options for providing juvenile detention facilities. Okanogan County currently operates its own juvenile detention facility. The law allows leasing detention space as an alternative. The Board of County Commissioners has initiated the discussion of a cost-benefit analysis comparing the continued operation of the county owned facility versus leasing out-of-county detention space. This effort is primarily in response to concerns about the age and condition of the current juvenile detention facility which impacts level of service to both the juveniles and staff.

The Board is seeking comments from interested members of the public, agencies, and private organizations. The current effort is directed at identifying the issues that must be evaluated in an effective cost-benefits analysis. Comments regarding the impacts, both adverse and positive, of either alternative are desired.

Comments may be submitted in writing or electronically to: Perry Huston, Director; Office of Planning and Development; 123 5th Ave. N, Suite 130, Okanogan, WA 98840; (509) 422-7218. phuston@co.okanogan.wa.us or Dennis Rabidou, Juvenile Administrator; PO Box 432, Okanogan, WA 98840; (509) 422-7264; drabidou@co.okanogan.wa.us

Comments will be accepted at any time through the completion of the process. The duration of the process has yet to be determined. A meeting has been scheduled with the Board of County Commissioners and Okanogan County Superior Court for February 23, 2016 at 8:15 a.m. in the Virginia Grainger Building in Okanogan, WA to discuss the schedule of future meetings. Preliminary review of the comments received will begin then.

Meeting schedules, meeting agendas, comments received, and other materials generated through the duration of this process may be found at www.okanogancounty.org/planning. Anyone who is unable to access the materials on the website or who wish to be placed on a notification list should contact Lauren Davidson, Office of Planning and Community Development for assistance; 123 5th Ave. N, Suite 130, Okanogan, WA 98840; (509) 422-7160; ldavidson@co.okanogan.wa.us

Please publish the above notice in the LEGAL SECTION of your January 20, 2016 newspaper.

Furnish an affidavit of publication to Okanogan County Office of Planning & Development. Send the bill to:
Director
Okanogan County Office of Planning & Development
123 5th Avenue North, Suite 130
Okanogan, WA 98840