



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS
Reentry Division

P.O. Box 41118, Olympia, WA 98504-1118

February 1, 2021

Dear Chelan County Work Release Expansion Stakeholders,

On June 17, 2020, I sent a message advising you of the Department's need to pause the work release expansion project. At the time, the decision was made due to overall fiscal uncertainty brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic.

After revisiting the agency's priorities and future operations, we were instructed to continue work and completion of the work release expansion project. The instruction was provided because work release facilities are demonstrated to aid in lowering recidivism and thereby increasing public safety. I'm now reaching out to ask you to rejoin these efforts. We anticipate that we will restart our public outreach efforts mid-February 2021 within King, Pierce and Snohomish counties and North Central Washington (Chelan, Douglas and Kittitas counties).

Your investment of time, knowledge and community awareness is of great value to this important project and we hope you re-engage in the Local Advisory Committee (LAC) process.

Based upon a high level review, the site evaluation and analysis has identified a total of four (4) potential sites in the state that appear to meet code, zoning and criteria previously established by the LACs, which provided for access to employment, education and other community services such as transportation, etc. Beginning in Mid-February, we will bring those potential sites to their appropriate, respective LACs for input, evaluation and consideration. With the help of the LAC, we will continue our evaluation efforts on the sites identified in Wenatchee for the North Central portion of the state.

Work release continues to be a high-priority for our agency, with a proven return-on-investment. In our first call, we will provide a recap, answer questions, and provide a planned way-forward.

It is my hope that you will join us and continue this important public safety work as your voice is important and meaningful to our state's effort.

Sincerely,

Danielle Armbruster, Assistant Secretary
Reentry Division

DA:cm