



Work Release Expansion Project First Public Hearing

North Central Counties
August 11, 2021



Agenda

Public Hearing Objectives:

- Introduction
- Ground Rules
- Overview
- Public Comment
- Closing

Time	Topic	Lead
6:00 – 6:05	Introductions	Mike Schindler, <i>Facilitator</i>
6:05 – 6:10	Ground Rules	Mike Schindler
6:10 – 6:30	Overview	Mark Kucza, <i>Reentry Division Senior Administrator, Project Lead</i>
6:30 – 7:55	Public Comment	Mike Schindler
7:55 – 8:00	Closing	Mike Schindler

Mike Schindler, *Facilitator*



Ground Rules

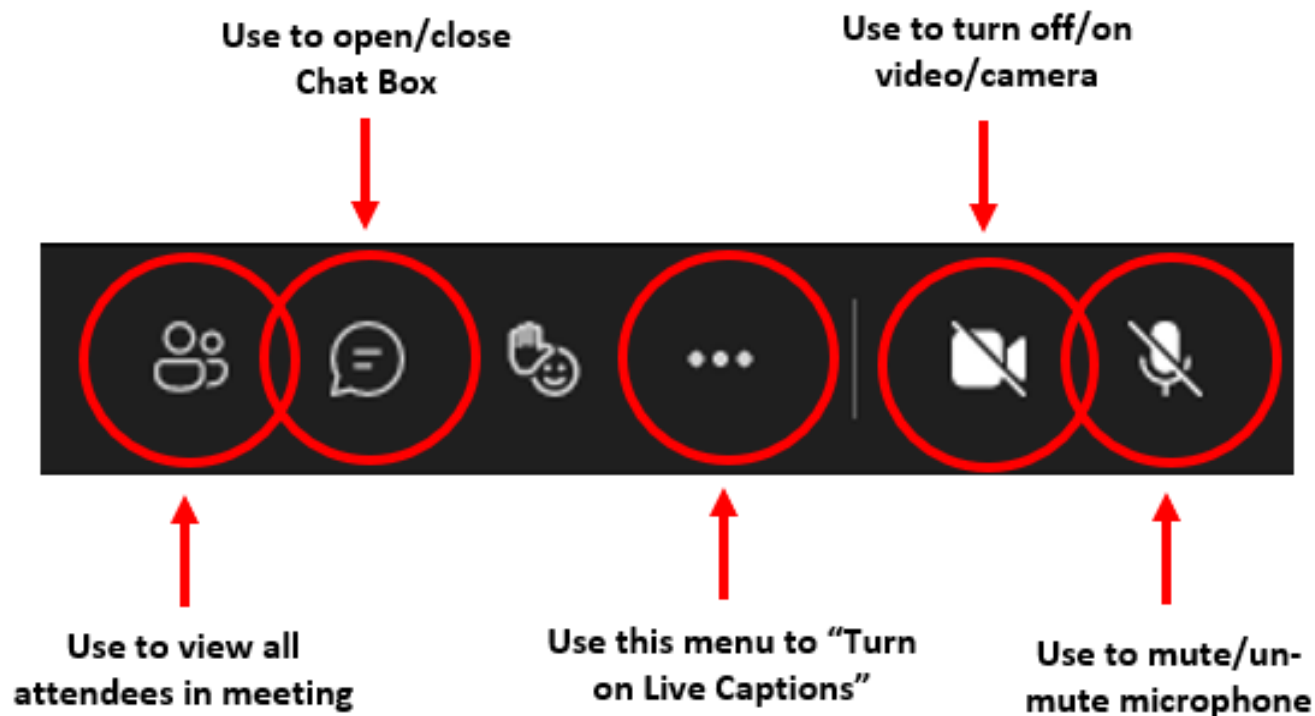
- Please refer to the Ground Rules document included in the chat box for meeting.
- The hearing will be recorded. By continuing to join, attendees give consent to being recorded.
- No responses to virtual "hand raising", comments, questions, concerns, or chats entered in the chat box will be provided at any time during the meeting. Virtually "raised hands" may be lowered by DOC during meeting.
- All attendees' microphones and videos will be disabled throughout the meeting and will only be enabled during the oral comment period if they are in a queue to speak.

Ground Rules (continued)

- Will be going through three queues for providing oral comment.
 - **1)** Those who pre-registered to provide oral comment
 - Will be identified by the name included in registration form
 - **2)** Those who did not pre-register to provide oral comment, but decide they want to provide an oral comment and have the ability to enter the required info in the chat box:
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 - **3)** Those who did not pre-register to provide oral comment, but decide they want to provide oral comment and are joining via phone
 - Will be identified by the last two digits of the phone number they are calling in from

Ground Rules

- Microsoft Teams toolbar functions:



- *Note: the "hand raising" option will not be monitored or addressed during the meeting*

RCW/WAC Site Selection Requirements

1. *When DOC has selected three or fewer sites for final consideration, DOC shall make public notification and conduct a public hearing in the local communities of the final three or fewer sites. Provide for opportunities for written or oral comments and wide dissemination of proposals and alternatives.
2. **After the preliminary public hearing and an initial review, the advisory committee shall submit its recommendations to the Secretary, and the Secretary may give preliminary approval to one of the recommended sites.
3. *An additional public hearing after public notification shall also be conducted in the local community selected as the final proposed site. Provide for opportunities for written or oral comments and wide dissemination of proposals and alternatives.
4. ***City of Wenatchee Conditional Use Permit process requires a Public Hearing before providing a written notice of final decision.
5. **After the required zoning permits, if any, have been obtained, and the Secretary has considered the comments expressed by members of the public during any zoning process or during the public hearing conducted by the Department, the Secretary may grant or withhold final approval of the proposed site.

*RCW 72.65.220

**WAC 137-57-050, 060 in part, govern the siting process.

*** Wenatchee Municipal Code 13.09

DOC Mission and Vision

DOC Mission: To Improve Public Safety by Positively Changing Lives

DOC Vision: Working Together for Safe Communities

- Work Release Purpose:
 - Work release facilities serve as a bridge between life in prison and life in the community. Incarcerated individuals who complete the work release program are more likely to be successful in maintaining employment, stable housing, and in paying legal financial obligations. Research conducted by the Washington State Institute for Public Policy indicates that work release programs not only reduce recidivism, but that they also have a positive cost/benefit impact for taxpayers but also the communities where they are located.

Work Release Program

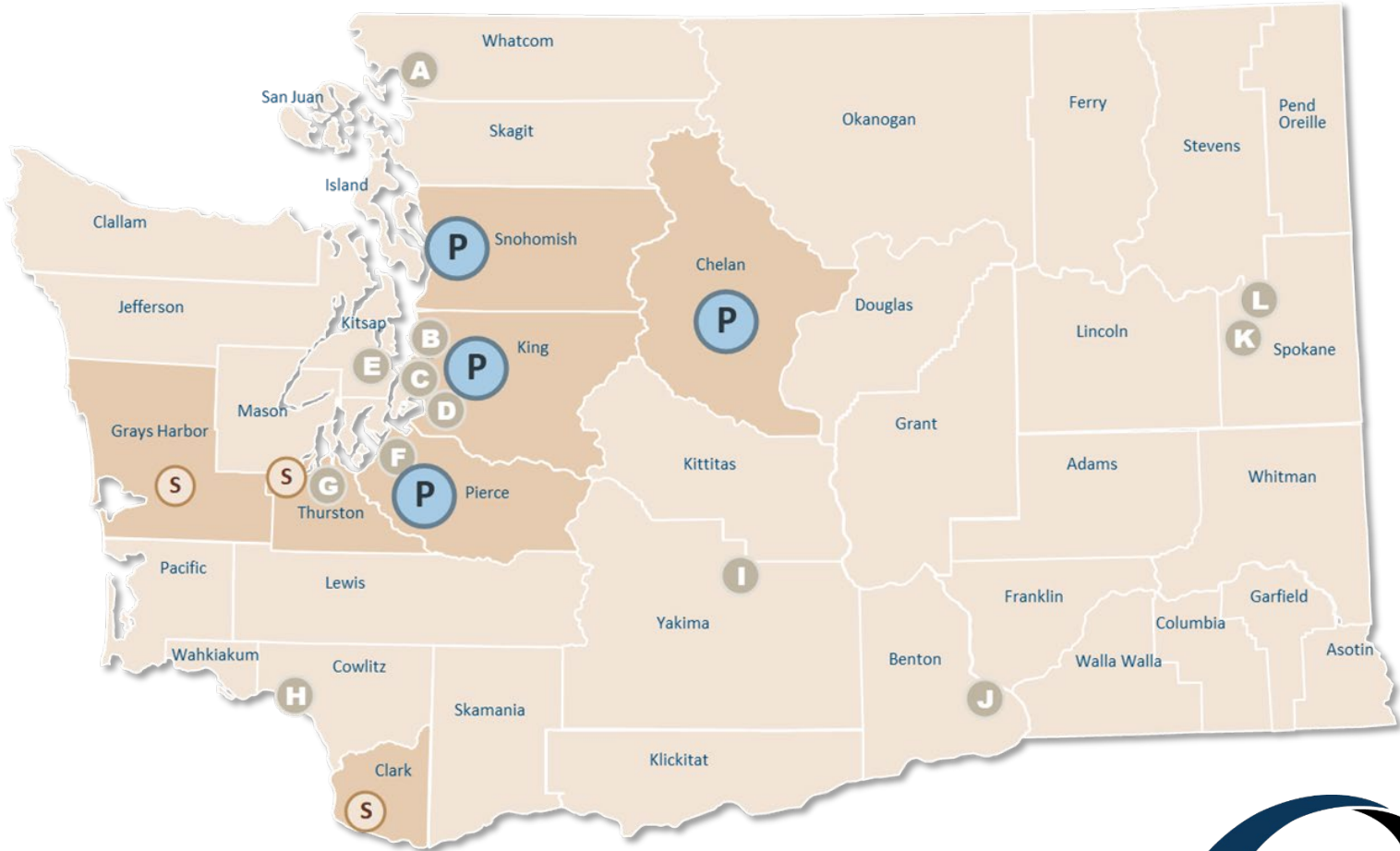
- Program created by the legislature in 1967
- Up to last 6 months of total confinement time
- Function as reentry centers; community-based work, school, treatment required
- 12 existing facilities across the state
- Most work releases house both males and females
- Current statewide capacity 782 (waitlist +/-1300)

Overview

Work Release Expansion and Existing Facilities

Department of Corrections

Primary and Secondary Work Release Service Areas



Mark Kucza, *DOC Reentry Division Senior Administrator, Project Lead*

Current DOC Work Release facilities

- **12 separate facilities:**

- Ahtanum View (Yakima)
- Bellingham (Bellingham)
- Brownstone (Spokane)
- Bishop Lewis (Seattle)
- Eleanor Chase (Spokane)
- Longview (Longview)
- Olympia (Olympia)
- Peninsula (Port Orchard)
- Progress House (Tacoma)
- Helen B. Ratcliff (Seattle)
- Reynolds (Seattle)
- Tri-Cities (Kennewick)

Program Description

- Transition from **prison to work release**:
 - Under DOC custody and control authority
 - Partial confinement

- Focus on **reentry, transition, and stability** by:
 - Finding/retaining employment
 - Re-connecting with family members
 - Becoming productive citizens
 - Learning/refining life skills such as:
 - Using public transportation
 - Shopping
 - Managing personal finances

Overview

Placement Criteria

- **Eligibility is an earned privilege**
 - Good behavior and program compliance
- **Screening Criteria**
 - Defined in law and established in policy*
 - Trained staff identify participants based on identified risk and needs
 - Multiple levels of review required to approve some persons
- **Can be ineligible due to:**
 - Misconduct
 - Outstanding legal issues
 - Community concerns such as:
 - Victim concerns
 - Prior failure or rules violations at work release
 - Excess or serious pattern of criminal history
 - Heinous or notorious crime(s)

* Screening criteria are listed in policy DOC 300.500

Mark Kucza, *DOC Reentry Division Senior Administrator, Project Lead*

Overview

Participant Expectations

- **Participants must:**
 - Work, attend school or vocational training or transitional programming
 - Monitored to ensure approved movements prohibit making any unauthorized stops
 - Contribute financially (room and board and legal financial obligations)
 - Remain in the facility unless there is specific, prior written approval to be in the community
 - Undergo frequent UAs for drug/alcohol use
 - Continue programming, treatment or therapy to address identified risk/need areas associated with criminal activity
 - Cooperate with monitoring and behavioral expectations in the work release facility, workplace and other locations in the community

Overview

Progression Through Program

- **Three phase program**
- **“Step down” approach**
- **Gradual community access based upon:**
 - Following all rules
 - An individualized case plan
 - Compliant time in the facility
 - Meeting individual case plan objectives

...in order to increase public safety.

Overview

Expansion Project History

- 2019 Legislature (ESHB 1109)
- Report and Expansion Plan
 - September 1, 2019
- Request for Proposals (RFPs) seeking:
 - Leased space for Work Release facilities
 - In the identified areas
 - Published: December 27, 2019
 - Responses Due: February 13, 2020
 - 2 responsive sites submitted in North Central (Chelan County)
- Local Advisory Committee (LAC):
 - Established October, 2019
 - Paused due to COVID-19, May 2020.
 - Restarted: February 2021

Overview

Local Advisory Committee (LAC) Members

Last Name	First Name	Representation
Crown	Steve	Wenatchee Police
Logan	Tim	Wenatchee DOC
Moraga	Sebastian	Community Advocate
O'Neill	Kristi	Work Source - Community Liaison
Overbay	Kevin	Chelan Commissioner
Romine	Lisa	Skills Source
Shull	Mike	Hospitality Ministries
Sleiman	Sasha	City of Wenatchee, Wenatchee Valley Chamber

Mark Kucza, *DOC Reentry Division Senior Administrator, Project Lead*



LAC Role and Activities

- Act in the best interest of public
- Develop an understanding of the community's concerns and sensitivities
- Active engagement and regular attendance throughout siting process
- Have an accurate understanding of DOC's role, charge, and limitations
- Advocate for DOC program and site within your community
- Support the work release program's mission and activities

Work Release siting considerations

Close proximity to:

- Transportation
 - Access to Public Transportation
 - Access to Major Arterials
- Employment Opportunities
- Education Opportunities
 - Community/Technical colleges
- Treatment and other resources
 - Drug and Alcohol
 - Crisis Intervention
 - WorkSource
- Support Systems
 - Community, social and cultural
 - Religious

Overview

Deaconess Building - 300 Okanogan Ave.

Chelan County Regional Jail Annex (CCRJ) - 401 Washington St.

300 Okanogan Ave., Wenatchee

- Site will require a Conditional Use Permit (CUP) in the Residential Mixed Use (RMU) zoning district. The Conditional Use review and permitting process is to determine whether the use meets the established criteria, and to allow the Hearing Examiner to impose any other conditions reasonably required to allow the proposed use or activity.

401 Washington St., Wenatchee

- Zoned Central Business District (CBD)
- Pre-application meeting with the City of Wenatchee determined that a CUP will not be required.

Overview

Deaconess Building - 300 Okanogan Ave.

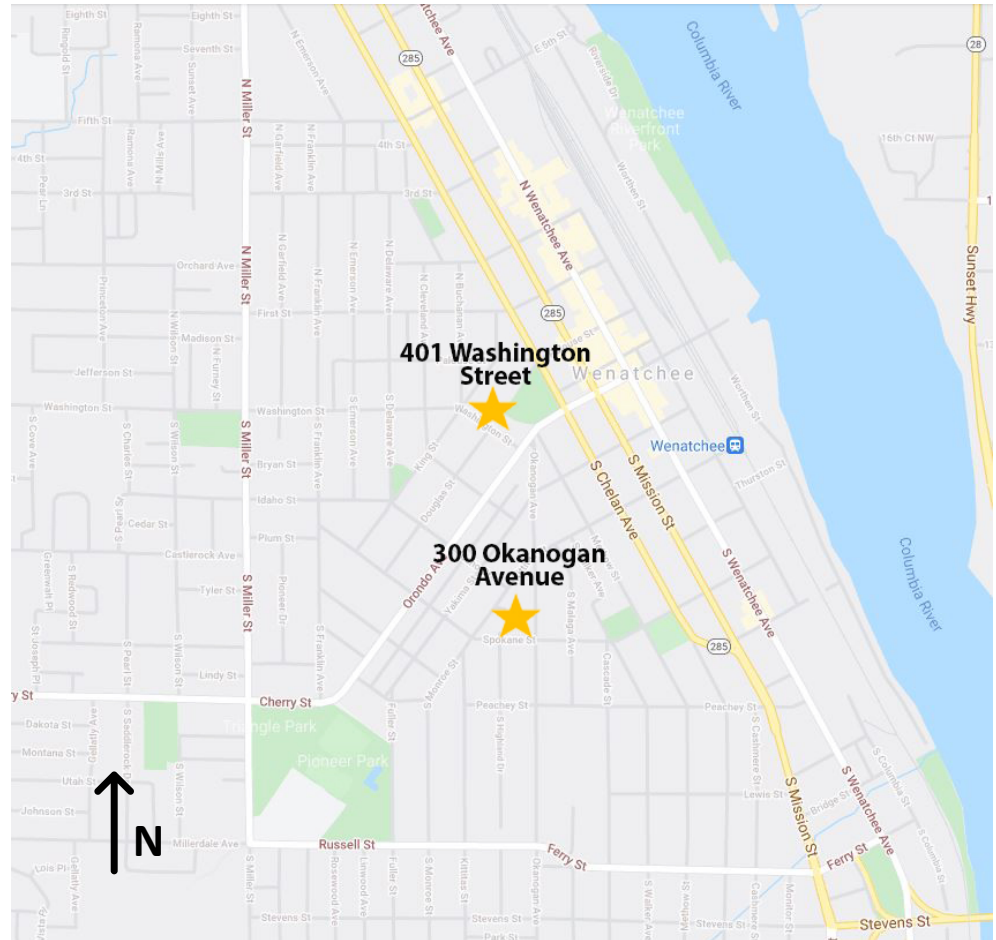
Chelan County Regional Jail Annex (CCRJ) - 401 Washington St.

401 Washington St.

- Candidate to serve (32) male and (8) female occupants (total 40).

300 Okanogan Ave.

- Candidate to serve (59) male and (23) female occupants (total 82).



Mark Kucza, DOC Reentry Division Senior Administrator, Project Lead

Overview

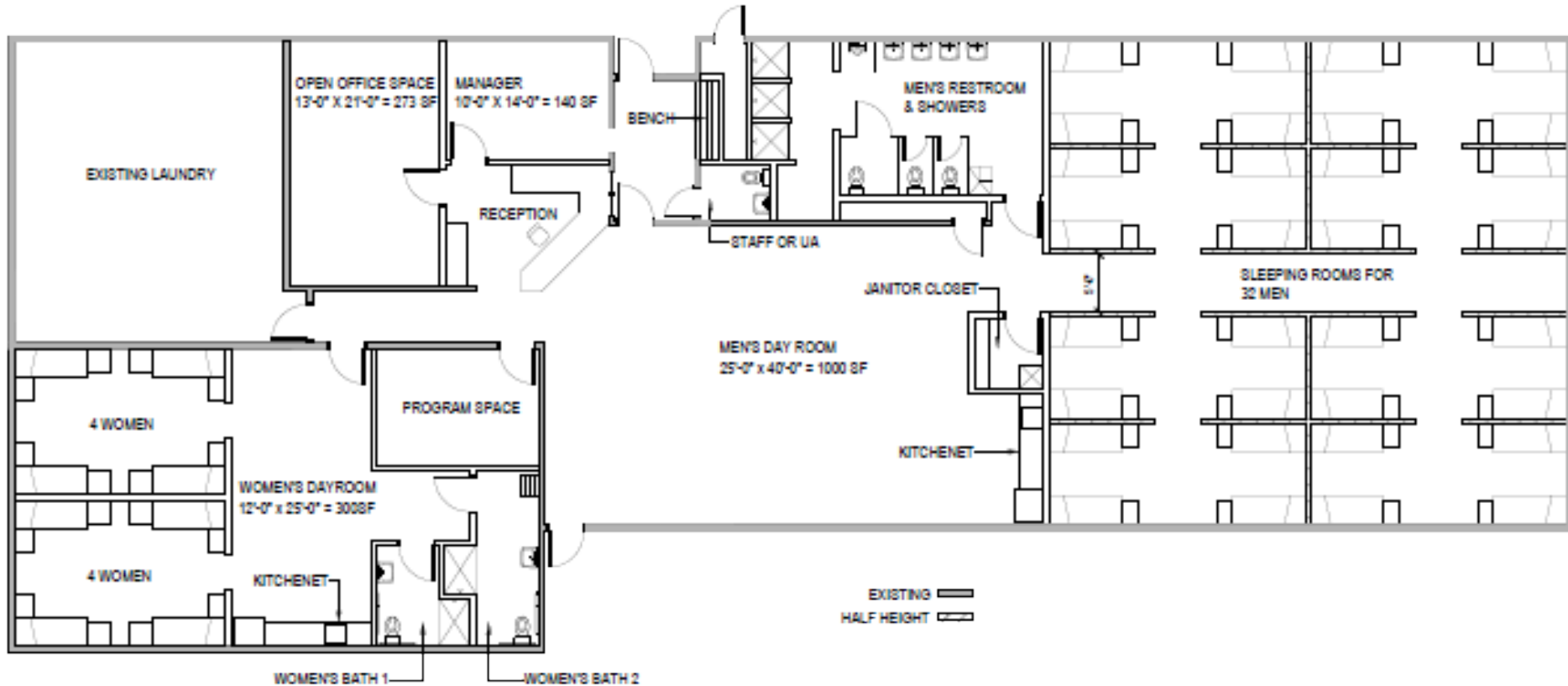
Chelan County Regional Jail Annex – 401 Washington St.



Mark Kucza, *DOC Reentry Division Senior Administrator, Project Lead*

Overview

Chelan County Regional Jail Annex – 401 Washington St. Conceptual Layout



Mark Kucza, DOC Reentry Division Senior Administrator, Project Lead

Overview

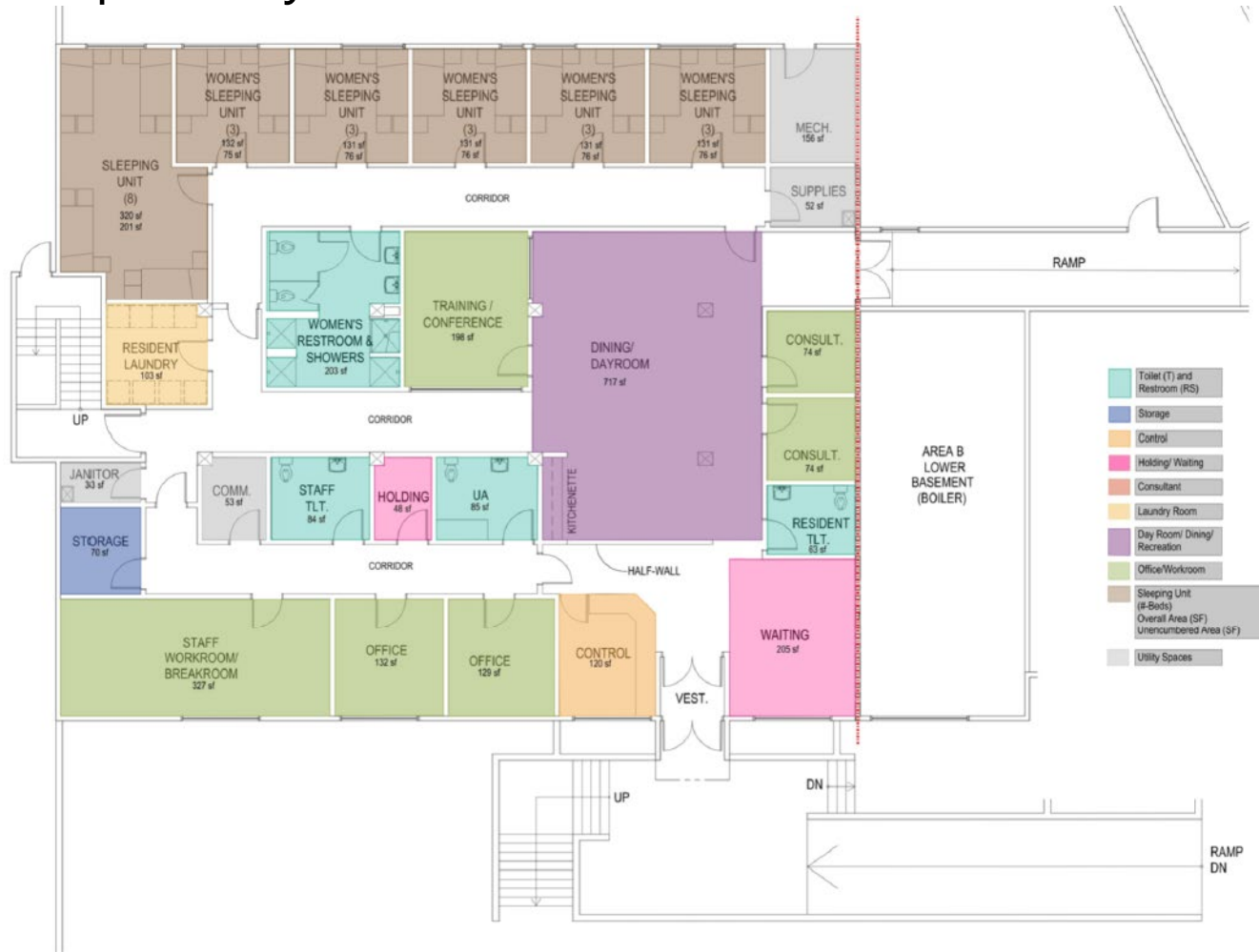
Deaconess Building – 300 Okanogan Ave.



Mark Kucza, *DOC Reentry Division Senior Administrator, Project Lead*

Overview

Deaconess Building – 300 Okanogan Ave. Conceptual Layout



PROPOSED WORK RELEASE FACILITY – GROUND FLOOR – WOMEN'S UNIT

Mark Kucza, DOC Reentry Division Senior Administrator, Project Lead

Overview

Deaconess Building – 300 Okanogan Ave. Conceptual Layout



PROPOSED WORK RELEASE FACILITY – SECOND FLOOR – MEN'S UNIT

Mark Kucza, DOC Reentry Division Senior Administrator, Project Lead

Summary

- Proposed sites under consideration
 - Deaconess Building - 300 Okanogan Ave.
 - Chelan County Regional Jail Annex (CCRJ) - 401 Washington St.
- DOC is considering developing both sites.
 - CCRJ Annex has a shorter timeline to remodel and begin work release operations if approved.
 - South wing of the Deaconess Building has a longer timeline for development and greater capacity (number of occupants) to serve program needs.
 - It is intended that only the Deaconess Building would be needed once complete and operating.

Ground Rules (review)

- Will be going through three queues for providing oral comment.
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Ground Rules (continued)

Providing oral comment:

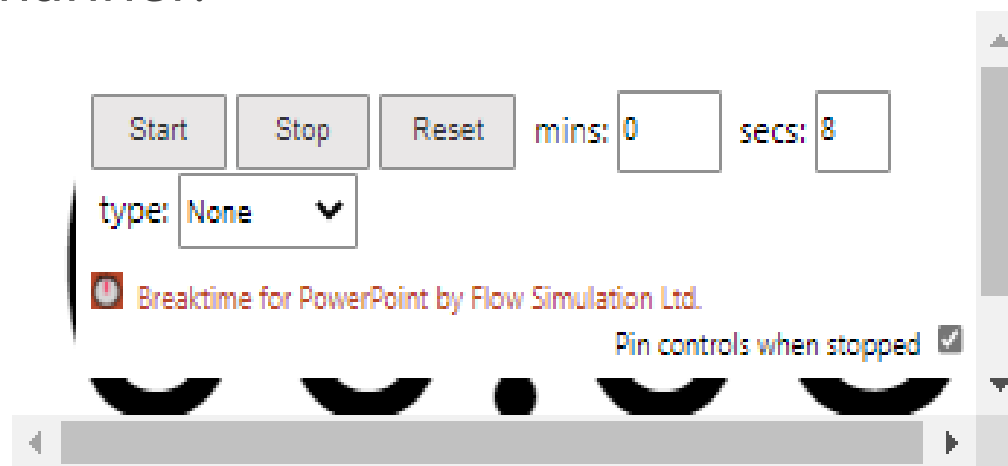
- Attendees in each queue will be called upon by name or the last two digits of their phone number.
 - For attendees joining via computer/laptop/mobile device:
 - When called upon by name, the attendee's mic/video will first be enabled by DOC; then the attendee will need to enable their mic/video in the MS Teams toolbar to speak.
 - For attendees joining via phone:
 - When called upon by the last two digits of phone number, attendees must "raise their hand" by entering ***5** on their keypad in order for DOC to enable their mic.
 - Once an attendee's mic has been enabled, they must enter ***6** on their keypad to unmute to speak.

Ground Rules (continued)

- All oral comments must first include the attendees':
 - Full name
 - Physical address
- Each attendee in a queue will be allowed 3 minutes to provide their oral comment. The attendee's mic/video will be disabled after 3 minutes.
- Attendees will not be permitted to cede their allotted time to another attendee.
- All oral and written comments will be considered in the decision-making process and will be included as part of the public record.
- All comments are required to be made in a courteous and respectful manner.

Oral Comments

- When called on, DOC must first enable an attendee's mic and then the attendee will be able to unmute themselves.
- All oral comments must first include the attendees':
 - Full name
 - Physical address
- Each attendee in the queue will be allowed 3 minutes to provide their oral comment. The attendee's mic/video will be disabled after 3 minutes.
- All comments are required to be made in a courteous and respectful manner.



Closing

- DOC Work Release Expansion Website
 - On DOC website:
 - <https://doc.wa.gov/about/business/capital-planning/capacity-work-release.htm>
- Email questions
 - docwrexpandnc@doc1.wa.gov

Thank you!