



STATE OF WASHINGTON  
**DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS**  
P.O. Box 41100 • Olympia, Washington 98504-1100

August 12, 2021

**TO:** All Interested Parties  
**FROM:** Cheryl Strange, Secretary  
**SUBJECT:** Update - Monroe Correctional Complex Unit Closures

Last week we hosted listening sessions, meetings, and discussions with our prison staff, those in our care and custody, families, program partners and elected leaders. These sessions provided valuable insight to us as we considered next steps for the department.

We understand the impacts these decisions create and worked hard to ensure the least impact possible to the daily lives of those who work for the department and those in our care and custody. After discussions with stakeholders and in consultation with health services, we identified the need to re-purpose unit 3A at the Monroe Correctional Complex (MCC). This unit needs to house individuals who have health conditions requiring proximity to hospital services, such as dialysis or cancer care.

Today, August 12, 2021, we notified our Teamster labor partners of our decision to proceed with phase two unit closures at MCC. We will be utilizing reassignments and redeployments temporarily wherever possible to minimize staff impacts and will be engaging in our collective bargaining obligations with our labor partners.

Incarcerated individuals may be transferred to other facilities, we will work with specific individuals on a case by case basis for those requiring a housing assignment at the remaining MCC units.

Currently, we have 4,129 vacant beds throughout the Prisons Division. These closures will result in the closure of 830 beds at MCC and more than 1300 additional beds are still being considered for closure in phase two.

**The following are MCC Phase Two units now scheduled for closure:**

Facility	Unit(s)
Monroe Correctional Complex (MCC/WSRU)	A/B, C/D

Phase two listening sessions for impacted stakeholders of units under consideration at other correctional facilities are scheduled for August 19, 2021. Information on these listening sessions is available on our website at [DOC Unit Closures Information](#). These listening sessions and other meetings and discussions with staff and labor partners, incarcerated individuals, families, advocacy groups, volunteers, and elected leaders connected to all impacted facilities will be valuable contributions to the department's decision-making process.

Facility	Unit(s)
Coyote Ridge Corrections Center (CRCC/MSU)	Camas, F-Unit
Larch Corrections Center (LCC)	Silverstar
Stafford Creek Corrections Center (SCC)	H3/H4
Washington State Penitentiary (WSP)	Unit 10

We understand these changes could have potential impacts on staff. DOC has strategies already in place to lessen the number of staff impacted. We look forward to working with our labor partners for solutions to support the staff who serve in our prisons.

Also, understanding the possible impacts on incarcerated individuals, families, and other support systems remains a key focus. We continue to be committed to working toward solutions that lessen such impacts. DOC looks towards minimizing transfers when possible, and maintaining access to education, treatment, cultural/religious practices, and other programming.

Your input remains an important part of this process, especially as we work to identify any common themes of concern or suggestions. Please send ideas, questions and comments to [DOCREentryExpansion@DOC1.WA.GOV](mailto:DOCREentryExpansion@DOC1.WA.GOV).

I have appreciated the participation by all who have stepped forward to offer their perspective and suggestions. The valuable contributions are key to helping us find the best options to keep staff and incarcerated individuals safe and healthy while reducing the unneeded prison capacity.