

**SUBMITTAL TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA**



FROM: Supervisor Chuck Washington

SUBMITTAL DATE:
August 25, 2015

SUBJECT: Reinstating the Riverside Inmate Destination Endeavor (RIDE) Program, District 3 [Court Facilities (General Fund 100%) \$100,000]

RECOMMENDED MOTION: That the Board of Supervisors

1. Reinstatement the Riverside Inmate Destination Endeavor (RIDE) immediately;
2. Authorize payment of \$100,000 to reimburse the Sheriff's Corrections Division by directing the Auditor-Controller to make the budget adjustments on the attached Schedule A.
3. Request that that the Sheriff's Corrections Division report annually on the number of released inmates needing transportation assistance and the impact of the effort on crime in the area surrounding the Southwest Detention Center.

BACKGROUND:

Summary

At the Board meeting on August 18, 2015 (3-7) the Board accepted a year-end report on the impact of the Riverside Inmate Destination Endeavor. At that time I asked the Sheriff's Department if the program could be easily reinstated if the need existed. I am convinced of the urgency to reinstate this program and have heard from my constituents that they feel safer knowing that inmates released from the Southwest Detention Center will have essential transportation to take them home.

Chuck Washington
Chuck Washington
Supervisor, Third District

Departmental Concurrence

FINANCIAL DATA	Current Fiscal Year:	Next Fiscal Year:	Total Cost:	Ongoing Cost:	POLICY/CONSENT (per Exec. Office)
COST	\$ 100,000	\$	\$ 100,000	\$	Consent <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
NET COUNTY COST	\$ 100,000	\$	\$ 100,000	\$	
SOURCE OF FUNDS: Court Facilities (General Fund) 100%				Budget Adjustment: Yes	
				For Fiscal Year: FY 15/16	

C.E.O. RECOMMENDATION:

County Executive Office Signature

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

On motion of Supervisor Washington, seconded by Supervisor Tavaglione and duly carried, IT WAS ORDERED that the above matter is approved as recommended and report back annually.

Ayes: Jeffries, Tavaglione, Washington and Ashley
 Nays: Benoit
 Absent: None
 Date: September 1, 2015
 xc: Third District, Auditor, Sheriff

Kecia Harper-Ihem
Clerk of the Board
By: *Kecia Harper-Ihem*
Deputy

- A-30
- Positions Added
- 4/5 Vote
- Change Order

Prev. Agn. Ref.: 3-6 3/10/15 | District: 3 | Agenda Number:

3-35

**SUBMITTAL TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA
FORM 11: Reinstating the Riverside Inmate Destination Endeavor (RIDE) Program, District 3 [Court Facilities
(General Fund 100%) \$100,000}**

DATE: August 25, 2015

PAGE: 2 of 3

BACKGROUND:

The Sheriff reports that \$77,161 was spent to provide between June 1, 2014 and May 31, 2015. In order to ensure that the Sheriff has sufficient support to rapidly deploy the program I am requesting that the Board approve this item and authorize a budget transfer of the full cost of one year, \$100,000.

Last year the Sheriff released 7,158 inmates from the Southwest Detention Center during the hours of the transportation operation. Of these 1,547 who were unable to secure transportation were provided a taxi voucher averaging \$49.88 each. After further review of additional crime data provided by the Murrieta Police Department, and citing additional statistics reported by the Sheriff's Department that crimes of robberies and assaults have leaped up 15% it is clear that without the transportation provided it is impossible to know how those released might have impacted the community. I am committed to ensuring the safety of Third District constituents. While \$100,000 is a significant amount of money; public safety is the Board's top priority.

Impact on Citizens and Businesses

Third District constituents living near the Southwest Detention Center have benefitted from knowing that the transportation effort was in place. Continuing the effort provides released inmates with a ride home and gives the community a greater sense of safety.

ATTACHMENTS

A. BUDGET ADJUSTMENT

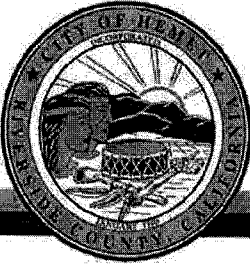
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Schedule A

Decrease Appropriations 10000-1103900000-528500	Project Cost Expenses	\$100,000
Increase Appropriations 10000-1103900000-551100	Contributions to Other Funds	\$100,000
Increase Estimated Revenue 10000-2500400000-790600	Contribution from Other County Funds	\$100,000
Increase Appropriations 10000-2500400000-527780	Special Program Expense	\$100,000



City of Hemet

The Honorable Linda Krupa
Mayor of Hemet
445 East Florida Avenue
Hemet, California 92543

Re: Riverside Inmate Destination Endeavor ("RIDE") Program

Dear Mayor Krupa:

As you know, I have strongly opposed Supervisor Washington's decision to end the funding for the Riverside Inmate Destination Endeavor ("RIDE") Program. It is truly unfortunate that you chose not to allow my proposed emergency resolution to be discussed at last Tuesday's City Council meeting given that the health and safety of the citizens we represent could be jeopardized by this short-sighted action of Supervisor Washington. Rather than discuss the matter at our regular hearing and allowing the Council to act immediately, you have asked for a written report concerning the RIDE program's merits. I offer the following:

1. The voucher program was implemented to solve the problem of newly released prisoners roaming the residential areas surrounding the Southwest Detention Center looking for transportation away from the area. The closest available public transportation system is the bus stop on Winchester Road. Inherent in the releases are two different problems:

a) The first problem occurs when inmates are released after bus service ends (7:30 p.m. to 6 a.m.). Released prisoners either loiter in the lobby waiting for bus service to start or venture out into the neighborhoods surrounding the detention center. Hundreds of citizens petitioned and complained regarding the invasion of their neighborhoods, which then resulted in the Board of Supervisors directing the Sheriff to change the way that released prisoners receive transportation.

b) The second problem is that the bus service from the detention center only has two municipal destinations -- Temecula and Hemet, with no other municipalities in between. Those two cities that are impacted by bus route 79 then have to shoulder the burden of the inmates panhandling and trying to find other means in which to continue their travels. Sadly, it is more than likely that the majority of the newly released inmates end up in Hemet via the bus.

As a solution to these problems, the RIDE program was introduced with a two-phase implementation. The first phase, which is the current phase (now ended by Supervisor Washington), provides that during the hours of 7:30 p.m. and 6 a.m., (the time of no bus service) the detention center releasing officer fills out a taxi voucher for the inmate to go to his or her current place of residence as identified by the county/state record. The RIDE program does not allow the inmate to choose wherever he or she may want to travel, it is only valid to transport him or her to their legal place of residence. This allows the detention center officer to inform the local law enforcement agency and probation/parole officers, if appropriate, of that person returning to their jurisdiction. There is far more accountability with the RIDE program.

Given the realignment that the State has implemented, much more dangerous felons are housed in County jails, and there is a much greater threat to public health and safety to our local citizens when these

Mayor Linda Krupa
page two of two

dangerous felons are released. What Supervisor Washington has inadvertently done has given a newly released prisoner, without private transportation, a choice of taking the bus to either Hemet or Temecula as opposed to any other number of cities in Riverside County where that particular felon calls home. This is extremely short-sighted and unnecessarily burdensome to Hemet and/or Temecula.

The RIDE program not only reduces the likelihood of those individuals wandering around neighborhoods at night, it also lessens the probability of them automatically ending up in one of only two cities. It is important to remember that the Southwest Detention Center services all areas of southwest Riverside County, including, but not limited to, Lake Elsinore, Perris, Temecula, Murrieta, Menifee, Hemet, San Jacinto, and the unincorporated areas in between.

It is also unacceptable that the Sheriff's administrative fee add-on has not been challenged by Supervisor Washington, and that he has not asked the important questions of what the real world impact is of administering the RIDE program. Funding should only go to the cost of the fare of the taxi and nothing else. Also, alternative funding should be aggressively demanded, especially from the State of California. Realignment is tantamount to an unfunded mandate with no regard from the State as to its unintended consequences. To summarily defund the RIDE program without an alternative is a dereliction of our duty to protect our citizens – the first and most important charge of an elected official.

The second phase of the RIDE program was to allow this taxi voucher system at all times of the day. This would, obviously, provide more accountability and transparency regarding the whereabouts of the offenders and to make it easier for law enforcement to ensure the safety of the public.

I am opposed to spending public money for feel good transportation projects, however, the RIDE program has demonstrated real world positive results. In researching this issue, I spoke with a local resident who has been directly impacted by the RIDE program. This gentleman is a retired law enforcement officer of San Jacinto and now lives in a neighborhood close to the Southwest Detention Center. He was dumbfounded that the Board of Supervisors would go along with Supervisor Washington's request to end the RIDE program. As elected officials charged with protecting the safety of our citizens, we should immediately pass a resolution imploring the Board of Supervisors to reinstate the RIDE program with increased oversight as to what the Sheriff charges for its administrative fees.

Respectfully submitted,



Shellie Milne

Councilmember

cc: Gary Thornhill
Eric Vale, esq.
Riverside County Board of Supervisors

**Riverside County Board of Supervisors
Request to Speak**

Submit request to Clerk of Board (right of podium),
Speakers are entitled to three (3) minutes, subject
to Board Rules listed on the reverse side of this form.

SPEAKER'S NAME: Julie Paule

Address: 31544 Juliette Dr.
(only if follow-up mail response requested)

City: Winchester **Zip:** 92596

Phone #: _____

Date: 9/1/15 **Agenda #** 3:35

PLEASE STATE YOUR POSITION BELOW:

Position on "Regular" (non-appealed) Agenda Item:
 Support **Oppose** **Neutral**

Note: If you are here for an agenda item that is filed
for "Appeal", please state separately your position on
the appeal below:

Support **Oppose** **Neutral**

I give my 3 minutes to: _____

BOARD RULES

Requests to Address Board on "Agenda" Items:

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Requests to Address Board on items that are "NOT" on the Agenda:

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Power Point Presentations/Printed Material:

Speakers who intend to conduct a formalized Power Point presentation or provide printed material must notify the Clerk of the Board's Office by 12 noon on the Monday preceding the Tuesday Board meeting, insuring that the Clerk's Office has sufficient copies of all printed materials and at least one (1) copy of the Power Point CD. Copies of printed material given to the Clerk (by Monday noon deadline) will be provided to each Supervisor. If you have the need to use the overhead "Elmo" projector at the Board meeting, please insure your material is clear and with proper contrast, notifying the Clerk well ahead of the meeting, of your intent to use the Elmo.

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Riverside County Board of Supervisors
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SPEAKER'S NAME: RANDON LANE

MAYOR OF MURRIETA

Address: MURRIETA

(only if follow-up mail response requested)

City: MURRIETA Zip: _____

Phone #: 951-830-3485

Date: 9/1/15 Agenda # 3-35

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SPEAKER'S NAME: RICK GIBBS

COVANA MURRIETA

Address: _____
(only if follow-up mail response requested)

City: MURRIETA Zip: 92562

Phone #: 377-0553

Date: 9/5/15 Agenda # 3-35

RIDE

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SPEAKER'S NAME: SEAN HADDEN
C.I.O.P. MURRIETA Please call first

Address: _____
(only if follow-up mail response requested)

City: MURRIETA Zip: 92562

Phone #: 951-204-5684

Date: 09-01-15 Agenda # 3-35

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