

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



ITEM: 3.28
(ID # 19122)

MEETING DATE:
Tuesday, May 17, 2022

FROM : EXECUTIVE OFFICE:

SUBJECT: EXECUTIVE OFFICE: Expansion of the Riverside Inmate Destination Endeavor (RIDE) Program, All Districts. [Total Cost - \$TBD; General Fund Contingency 100%]

RECOMMENDED MOTION: That the Board of Supervisors:

1. Expand the Riverside Inmate Destination Endeavor (RIDE) program to include the Robert Presley Detention Center, the Larry Smith Correctional Facility, the John Benoit Detention Center, and the Blythe Jail.
2. Request that the Sheriff's Department report annually on the number of released inmates needing transportation assistance and the impact of the effort on crime in the area surrounding the facilities.
3. Direct the Executive Office to work with the Sheriff's Department to identify the actual costs of the expanded program and return to the Board of Supervisors in the next fiscal year with a budget adjustment.

ACTION:Policy

Jeff Van Wagenen, County Executive Officer 5/12/2022

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

On motion of Supervisor Jeffries, seconded by Supervisor Perez and duly carried by unanimous vote, IT WAS ORDERED that the above matter is approved as recommended.

Ayes: Jeffries, Spiegel, Washington, Perez and Hewitt
Nays: None
Absent: None
Date: May 17, 2022
xc: E.O., Sheriff

Kecia R. Harper
Clerk of the Board
By:
Deputy

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

FINANCIAL DATA	Current Fiscal Year:	Next Fiscal Year:	Total Cost:	Ongoing Cost
COST	\$ 0	\$ TBD	\$ TBD	\$ TBD
NET COUNTY COST	\$ 0	\$ TBD	\$ TBD	\$ TBD
SOURCE OF FUNDS: General Fund Contingency Funds - 100%			Budget Adjustment:	No
			For Fiscal Year:	22/23

C.E.O. RECOMMENDATION: Approve

BACKGROUND:

Summary

In 2014, the Board of Supervisors asked the Sheriff to implement a one-year pilot project that offered inmates released from the Cois Byrd Detention Center (CBDC), then known as the Southwest Detention Center, taxi vouchers if they could not find a ride to their destination. The intent was for the individual released from custody not to feel abandoned in an unknown or isolated area of the county. The safety of local residents was also a priority of the program. The program was named the Riverside Inmate Destination Endeavor or RIDE.

Generally speaking, the program works as follows. Inmates being released have access to free local calls from the phone located in the release cell and/or the lobby to make arrangements for transportation. Released subjects with arranged transportation are allowed to wait in the jail lobby for their transportation. Inmates that do not have transportation arranged are offered a taxi voucher to resolve their transportation needs.

Use of the taxi voucher is voluntary for the individual released from custody. Once a subject has been processed for release, the Sheriff's Department has no legal authority to order the subject's mode of egress. Further, the Department cannot detain a subject contingent upon securing transportation. As a result, released individuals can choose to decline the taxi voucher and leave the facility on their own accord.

Despite intended as a one-year pilot project, the Sheriff's Department has operated the RIDE program at CBDC since 2015. Since its inception, the RIDE program has been successful.

As part of the program, the Sheriff's Department reports annually on the number of released inmates needing transportation assistance and the impact of the effort on crime in the area surrounding the facilities. By way of example, in Fiscal Year 2019/20, the Sheriff released 14,185 inmates from CBDC. Of these releases, 3,261, were unable to arrange for personal transportation during the hours of the RIDE program transportation operation. A total of 1,807 vouchers were issued with an annual total of \$102,826 with an average cost per voucher of \$56.90. At the direction of the Board, the Executive Office provides annual net county cost of \$100,000 to fund this program.

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

With the success of the RIDE Program in keeping released inmates out of local communities to prevent loitering and criminal activity, there is a desire to expand the program to the John Benoit Detention Center in Indio, the Smith Correctional Facility in Banning, the Robert Presley Detention Center in Riverside, and the Blythe Jail. In Fiscal Year 2019/20, these four facilities collectively released more than 33,000 inmates of which some of the releases were unable to arrange for their own transportation and occurred after normal operating hours of the local bus lines. These three facilities are located within walking distance to several housing communities and business centers. Based on past experience, the assumed cost of expanding the program would be an additional \$100,000 for each facility, bringing the estimated total cost of the program to \$500,000. However, given the differences in each facility and the geographic population they serve, the actual costs will vary and will require new experience to determine the appropriate budget for the expanded program.

Impact on Residents and Businesses

The County jail facilities are all within walking distance to several housing communities and business centers. The RIDE program provides the Sheriff the ability to pay for the cost of transporting released inmates out of the local community and to their home residences resulting in preventing loitering and criminal activity in the local community.