



Memorandum

Date: 6/17/2025

Meeting of: Committee of the Whole - Public Safety and Human Services

File No. CM 25-365

Type: Committee Memo

TO: Committee of the Whole - Public Safety and Human Services

FROM: Mayor Angela Birney

DEPARTMENT DIRECTOR CONTACT(S):

Police	Darrell Lowe, Police Chief	425-556-2529
Executive	Malisa Files, COO	425-556-2166

DEPARTMENT STAFF:

N/A	N/A	N/A
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TITLE:

Alternative Crisis Response Update

OVERVIEW STATEMENT:

The staff report in Attachment A provides a detailed overview of Redmond's evolving approach to non-law enforcement alternative response models. Since launching its Co-Responder Program in 2018, the City has steadily expanded its behavioral health service capacity. As an addition to the current program, staff recommends partnering with King County's Mobile Rapid Response Crisis Team to provide Redmond with 24/7 mental health response.

☐ **Additional Background Information/Description of Proposal Attached**

REQUESTED ACTION:

☒ **Receive Information**

☐ **Provide Direction**

☐ **Approve**

REQUEST RATIONALE:

- **Relevant Plans/Policies:**
Through the budget process, Council allocated funds to alternative crisis response and requested staff keep them updated on organizational changes moving forward.
- **Required:**
N/A
- **Council Request:**
In 2018, the Police Department launched their co-response model, utilizing a mental health professional on police calls. In 2021, the City expanded to a tiered community health model called THRIVE including homeless outreach, mobile integrated health, and community care coordinators.
- **Other Key Facts:**
Through the budget process, the Council requested 24/7 non-uniformed services for those needing crisis care. In

2023, voters passed the King County Crisis Care Levy which established, among other things, mobile rapid response crisis teams designed to de-escalate mental health and substance use crises to provide immediate support and connect individuals to long-term care.

OUTCOMES:

To round out the City's THRIVE program, staff is recommending partnering with King County's Mobile Rapid Response Crisis Team (MRRCT) to provide de-escalation services 24 hours per day, 7 days per week. MRRCT is equipped with two-person units, staffed by behavioral health professionals and peer counselors. The teams respond to incidents involving adults aged 18 and older experiencing mental health crises. The goal of the program is to provide the right response at the right time for individuals experiencing mental health or substance abuse crisis and need assistance. Please see description in Attachment B.

King County has placed a team in Redmond, stationed at the Together Center although there are other Crisis Teams countywide. All teams are a part of King County's Sound Behavioral Health Program, and the teams are dispatched through 911, 988, or their direct line.

Utilizing King County's services comes at no additional cost to Redmond as it is funded through the King County Crisis Care Levy. The diagram below illustrates the THRIVE 2.0 framework, integrating public safety, behavioral health, and outreach services under a centralized care coordination system to ensure warm hand-offs and continuity of care. Attachment C illustrates the continuity of care.

**Definitions:**

MIH - Mobile Integrated Health

CO-RES - Mental Health Co-Response

MRRCT - Mobile Rapid Response Crisis Team

HS - Human Services

COMMUNITY/STAKEHOLDER OUTREACH AND INVOLVEMENT:

- **Timeline (previous or planned):**
Currently community outreach has not been conducted.
- **Outreach Methods and Results:**
N/A
- **Feedback Summary:**
N/A

BUDGET IMPACT:

Total Cost:

MRRCT Services are funded through the 2023 King County Crisis Care Levy

Approved in current biennial budget: ☒ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A

Budget Offer Number:

N/A

Budget Priority:

Safe and Resilient

Other budget impacts or additional costs: ☐ Yes ☐ No ☒ N/A

If yes, explain:

N/A

Funding source(s):

King County Crisis Care Levy

Budget/Funding Constraints:

N/A

☐ Additional budget details attached

COUNCIL REVIEW:

Previous Contact(s)

Date	Meeting	Requested Action
N/A	Item has not been presented to Council	N/A

Proposed Upcoming Contact(s)

Date	Meeting	Requested Action
N/A	None proposed at this time	N/A

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Time Constraints:

There are no time constraints in forming a partnership with King County, however once the partnership is established the City will have 24/7 crisis care response.

ANTICIPATED RESULT IF NOT APPROVED:

If not approved, the City will continue to build out our own crisis care unit, but will not be able to staff a unit 24/7 given the resources allocated.

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment A: Alternative Response Team Update

Attachment B: Sound Behavioral Health Mobile Rapid Response Crisis Team

Attachment C: Alternative Crisis Care Workflow