

MEMO TO: Finance, Administration, and Communications Committee of the Whole

FROM: Michelle M. Hart, MMC, City Clerk

DATE: November 27, 2018

SUBJECT: Public Defendant Indigent Screening Services Interlocal Agreement

I. $\underline{PURPOSE}$ \square For Info Only \square Potential Agenda Item \boxtimes Scheduled for Council Action

II. <u>RECOMMENDATION</u>

Approval of an Interlocal Agreement with the King County Office of Public Defense for indigent screening services of Redmond defendants. The matter will be brought forward under the Consent Agenda on December 4, 2018, for the Council's consideration.

III. DEPARTMENT CONTACTS

John Marchione, Mayor; 425-556-2106

Maxine Whattam, Chief Operating Officer; 425-556-2310 Michelle M. Hart, MMC, City Clerk; 425-556-2190

IV. <u>DESCRIPTION/BACKGROUND</u>

For the past several years, the City of Redmond has partnered with the King County Office of Public Defense to provide indigent screening services for Redmond District Court Defendants. Office of Public Defense staff screen defendants on behalf of Redmond for income requirements making them eligible for public defender services during their court proceedings. Providing these services is a requirement of state law and the process of public defense.

Redmond renegotiated the agreement in 2016 at the request of King County when the county removed on-site screening services from the King County Courthouse – East Division, and moved these services to a telephonic format. Defendants now call into the screener to determine eligibility. The 2016 agreement is expiring and the City must renew its Interlocal prior the end of 2018 in order to continue these services.

The cost of services is reduced in the new agreement from the previous \$1000 per month to \$596 per month (\$7,152/yr; \$14,304 for the biennium). Per King County Code, the rate is based on the full cost of recovery for providing the service and includes the salary and benefits of the screening staff, their supervision, and King County overhead necessary to provide the service. The rate is based on the County's proposed budget for the 2019-2020

biennium and staff does not expect that this rate will change. The reduction is a result of a reduction in the factors noted above.

V. <u>TIME CONSTRAINTS</u>

The City's current Interlocal Agreement expires on December 31, 2018. In order to continue these services for 2019, a new agreement must be adopted prior to that date.

VI. <u>LIST OF ATTACHMENTS</u>

Attachment A: Proposed Agreement