

REPORT TO THE LEGISLATURE

Eastern State Hospital – City of Medical Lake Community Policing Program

Engrossed Substitute Senate Bill 5187, Section 202(4)

December 2024

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The 2023 Washington State Legislature enacted Engrossed Substitute Senate Bill 5187, the 2023-25 Operating Budget which provides:

\$311,000 of the general fund—state appropriation for fiscal year 2024 and \$311,00 of the general fund-state appropriation for fiscal year 2025 are provided solely for the salaries, benefits, supplies, and equipment for one full-time investigator, one full-time police officer, and one full-time community services officer for policing efforts at Eastern State Hospital. The department must collect data from the city of Medical Lake on the use of the funds and the number of calls responded to by the community policing program and submit a report with this information to the Office of Financial Management and the appropriate fiscal committees of the legislature each December of the fiscal biennium.

The proviso also requires the Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS) to collect data from the City of Medical Lake on the use of the funds and the number of calls responded to by the community policing program and submit a report with this information to the Office of Financial Management and the appropriate fiscal committees of the legislature each December of the fiscal biennium.

Eastern State Hospital (ESH) and the City of Medical Lake have maintained formal and informal arrangements for a variety of services to support the operations and safety of both parties. Policing services are an example of these arrangements with the City of Medical Lake extending the policing services to property owned by the Department of Social and Health Services. Policing Services have been provided by the City of Medical Lake for over 50 years. To achieve effective policing services, the City of Medical Lake contracts with the Spokane County Sheriff Department (SCSD) to provide the service of responding to calls on both the city grounds and DSHS properties. In the following sections, police protection, billing totals, police protections cost details, and future collaboration are discussed.

POLICE PROTECTION

The SCSD, on behalf of the City of Medical Lake, provides patrol services and emergency police protection (911), evidence preservation and incident investigation at ESH and adjacent areas.

The following table (**Table 1**) shows data during the third quarter of the community policing program regarding the number of calls made from the Hospital to SCSD for incident response and the number of times SCSD was on campus for non-emergent duties.

Table 1: Total Calls for Service and Reponses October 2023-September 2024

	Single-Unit Responses	Multiple-Unit Responses	Total Calls for Service
2023 Q4 (Oct – Dec)	76	52	128
2024 Q1 (Jan – Mar)	84	53	137
2024 Q2 (Apr – Jun)	78	50	128
2024 Q3 (Jul – Sep)	57	58	115
Totals	295	213	508

BILLING TOTALS

The City of Medical Lake billed DSHS for services starting on 10/1/2023 through 9/30/2024 which included the following:

Police Protection (ESSB 5187 sec 202(4)) (Quarterly \$311,000

Billing):

Police Protection (ESSB 5187 sec 202(5)) (Annual Billing): \$25,000

Total \$336,000

POLICE PROTECTION COST DETAILS

The SCSO bills the City of Medical Lake an hourly charge for deputies responding to calls at a rate of \$150/hour, covering wages, vehicle use, and administrative overhead. On average, calls to the DSHS properties take 4 hours from initiation to resolution.

An estimated cost for calls during the period: 10/1/2023-9/30/2024

	Calls	Rate*	Est. Total Hours (4 hours per call)	Total
Single Unit (1 Deputy)	295	\$150.00	4	\$177,000
Multiple Unit (2 Deputy)	213	\$300.00	4	\$255,600

Total cost of DSHS facility responses: \$432,600

^{*}The rate is \$150 per hour, the rate for multiple units assumes 2 deputies.

FUTURE COLLABORATION

The City of Medical Lake considers Eastern State Hospital and Lakeland Village as key partners in the community. Relating to policing services, it is our desire to organize a quarterly meeting with leadership at ESH to bridge any communication gaps and ensure mutually beneficial outcomes.