## OFFICE OF THE SHERIFF





IIM SKINNER, SHERIFF

Date:

April 12, 2024

To:

Commissioners Court

From:

Sheriff Jim Skinner

Re:

Amended FY 2024 Funding for Out-of-County Inmate Housing

The Sheriff's Office respectfully requests a budget amendment in the amended amount of \$1.888,966.00 to fund the projected Inmate Housing shortfall for the remainder of FY 2024. Our projections are as follows:

Month	# of Days	# of Inmates	Daily Rate	<b>Total Housing Fee</b>	Medical Fee Average	Transport Fee Average	Monthly Total
April 2024	30	120	\$95	\$342,000	\$3,625	\$2,136	\$347,761
May 2024	31	120	\$95	\$353,400	\$3,625	\$2,136	\$359,161
June 2024	30	100	\$95	\$285,000	\$3,625	\$2,136	\$290,761
July 2024	31	100	\$95	\$294,500	\$3,625	\$2,136	\$300,261
August 2024	31	100	\$95	\$294,500	\$3,625	\$2,136	\$300,261
September 2024	30	100	\$95	\$285,000	\$3,625	\$2,136	\$290,761

Total Requested	\$1,888,966
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The county jail's rising population forced the Sheriff's Office to house inmates out of county. The County spent the original \$408,000 FY24 Inmate Housing budget by early March 2024. On March 11, 2024, the Court added \$714,000 to the line item by amendment. See Commissioners Court Order No. 2024-282-03-11.

The SO has vigorously managed the inmate population, including by increased use of personal (PTR) bonds and by regular work with TDCJ to move paper-ready inmates to the state system. The Magistrate Judge has increased the use of ELM release. Nonetheless, the inmate population has continued to grow steadily (that is, arrests and admissions are exceeding releases). In addition, inmate security classifications, mandatory housing separations based on gender and other factors (e.g., co-defendants or gang affiliation), a growing backlog for competency-restoration beds at the Texas State Mental Health Hospital, and regular facility maintenance, limit the county jail's options for housing inmates.

I recommend the Court add at least another \$1,888,966.00 to this line item. This projection assumes that the SO will need to house 120 inmates out of county in April and May and 100 in June to September. If the inmate population does not drop after the end of May (and it often rises in the summer months) and the SO needs to house 120 inmates out of county for the rest of FY24, then this projection would increase by \$231,800 to \$2,120,766.

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