



STATE OF WASHINGTON
SEX OFFENDER POLICY BOARD

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**SEX OFFENDER POLICY BOARD
SCTF Siting and LRA Placements
Sub-Committee Meeting**

August 12th, 2020

3:00pm-5:00pm

Microsoft Teams

In Attendance: Leah Landon, Staff; Terrina Peterson, WASPC; Jamie Weimer, WASPC; Devon Gibbs, King County Office of Public Defense; Lowell Porter, SCC; Alex Mayo, Washington Voices; Daniel Yanisch, SCC; Linda Farmer, AWC; Dan Davis, Pierce County Prosecuting Attorney's Office, Cathi Harris, DOC; Liz Williams, Kitsap County; Sonja Hardenbrook, Snohomish County PDA; David Flynn, SCC

Meeting Notes

Welcome & Call to Order

Leah Landon (staff) called the meeting to order and discussed tips for participating in the virtual meeting. Meeting participants were asked to mute their microphones when not actively participating. The meeting was recorded and can be provided upon request.

Approval of Meeting Minutes

Meeting participants were asked to review the meeting minutes from July 29, 2020. Leah asked for a motion to approve the meeting minutes.

MOTION 20-2-10: MOTION TO APPROVE THE JULY 29, 2020 MEETING MINUTES AS WRITTEN:

MOVED: Lind Farmer

SECOND: David Flynn

Passed: Unanimously

Abstained: Cathi Harris

Meeting Objectives

Objective 1: Review Draft LRA Placement Matrix

Leah reviewed the draft LRA Placement Matrix that she had prepared for the group. One of the group's goals is to provide recommendations on LRA placements as right now, there is not consistency in selecting LRA housing and housing options are limited. The matrix idea was taken from the SCTF Siting Matrix with the goal of providing whomever is reviewing housing with a tool to select the best housing possible. The matrix includes considerations for both protective factors as well as criminogenic risk needs.

Objective 2: Discuss Draft LRA Placement Matrix

- **Linda Farmer** asked if when this tool is used if the county and city had already been selected.
 - **Leah Landon** responded that in the conversations she has had, the housing is selected based on proximity to the selected treatment provider.
 - **Linda** added that in Lakewood they are near a lot of things and that can be good or bad, and their residents may look at this as a detriment. Linda added that other cities that do not have as many LRAs may not have the infrastructure needed to house LRAs.
- **Liz Williams** said one of the things she had observed is there is no mention of working with local jurisdictions and having discussions with those people like there is with SCTFs. Liz said it may be helpful to discuss this with jurisdictions and have that be at the forefront of discussions.
 - **Devon Gibbs** said she had a conversation with Rachael Seevers and she reviewed some edits sent to Leah, but they discussed the need to add fair share principles to the matrix. In addition, Rachael recommended splitting the matrix into two areas, one on creating housing and another focused on the individual. Devon added that if DSHS is more involved in the planning they may be able to do more of the work with the local communities, but the defense would not be able to do this as they are working on behalf of their client.
 - **Sonja Hardenbrook** said this is doable by the SCC but not by the defense. DSHS is in a position to work with local communities and determine the best placement whereas the defense is beholden to landlords and they may not have control over a lot of those things. Sonja added that the SCC would be able to require these things as the contracting entity.
 - **Dave Flynn** said if a contractor isn't meeting agreed upon conditions the court is still ordering them to live there. Even if DSHS makes the decision to terminate a contract the people are still living there because they have been ordered there by the court.
 - **Sonja** said if DSHS had the funding and the responsibility to plan it out thoughtfully they could add these things in the contract in an enforceable way.
 - **Dave** said that having the ability to enforce contracts is greatly important but there has to be a mechanism to do the enforcement and under the current circumstances it does not matter who is finding the housing, the court still orders the placement in the house contracted or not.

- **Sonja** said the current system is not workable but in a future system it may be.
 - **Dave** asked how this would be enforceable with DSHS taking on this role.
 - **Sonja** said DSHS would know what is going on in the contracted housing and they could come to the court with alternate housing proposals and petition for a switch to an alternate housing provider.
 - **Terrina Peterson** said what Dave is saying, even if they hold the contract, they cannot remove a resident without the approval of the court. So DSHS will have to go to court any time the provider is not in compliance and then they would have to propose another residence?
 - **Sonja** said this would be a natural next step if the housing is not working as planned. Sonja added that often on LRAs they switch housing and it is not uncommon. They would have to go to court, but if they are the creator of the LRA it may not be a concern.
 - **Leah Landon** said she was concerned about the focus of the conversation being on the SCC taking on this role when this is not currently up for debate and does not look to be the case soon.
 - **Linda Farmer** said if this is something the group feels strongly about, she would like to be able to propose it along with everything else being discussed. Linda added that they are willing to put things in legislation and lobby, and the discussion should not be dropped altogether.
 - **Cathi Harris** said as a recommendation to the SOPB, DOC would be behind regulating and inspecting houses in general. Cathi added that there are housing issues for SVPs as well as others coming out of DOC and they need better housing options, and maybe this is part of a larger discussion about available housing for those transitioning back into the community.
 - **Alex Mayo** and **Linda Farmer** agreed with this.
 - **Leah** said her goal with the LRA Placement Matrix was to get to a point where we can provide better housing for those releasing to an LRA. Leah added that housing more generally could be discussed by the full board.
- **Devon Gibbs** asked for clarification on who would be using the matrix. **Leah** said it could be used by various stakeholders in the process while they consider a specific housing option.

The group determined that they would continue working from the LRA Placement Matrix. **Leah** will make the following changes to the matrix prior to the next meeting:

- Added fair share principles;
- Separate into two sections, one for general housing considerations and one for individual considerations;
- An area to assign components to various stakeholders who are responsible for completing the item.

Next Steps

- Next Full Board meeting on August 20, 2020 from 9:00am-1:00pm
- Leah will create a second draft of the LRA matrix for members to review.

Meeting adjourned at 3:39pm.

APPROVED AND ADOPTED BY THE SCTF Siting and LRA Placements Sub-Committee

 /s/
Sub-Committee Chair
David Flynn

 September 9, 2020
Date