


Cumberland **County**
POSITION PAPER FOR AGENDA ITEM

TO:	Cumberland County Commissioners
FROM:	James H. Gailey, County Manager
DATE:	May 16, 2023
SUBJECT:	Proposed Use of Community Corrections Center – Proposal #2

Title:

Proposed Use of Community Corrections Center – Proposal #2

Requested Action:

Commissioner guidance to staff.

Background & Purpose of Request:

As the Commissioners are aware, over the last six months the County has received two inquiries into use of the Community Corrections Center (CCC) at 30 County Way. The Community Corrections Center's purpose is to provide an transitional program on the jail complex allowing inmates to serve their time, while integrating through employment opportunities back into the community. With current staffing levels, the County has been unable to reopen CCC and has been using a portion of the building for trainings and sleeping quarters for correctional officers who have worked long shifts. Half the building remains vacant, roughly 20 bedrooms (roughly 10x10 in size each).

Back in April, the Commissioners heard a proposal from Hope Acts. They proposed housing pregnant asylum females and those who needed additional care coming out of Maine Medical.

On Monday evening, the Commissioners will hear from United Recovery Fund, Maine Works and the Department of Corrections who have all teamed up to submit a proposal to use the CCC as a transitional living program. This program is geared towards providing safe housing and treatment for individuals who are on probation, working with them to explore job opportunities, while aiding in their treatment. All in an attempt to better the person, while giving an alternative to incarceration.

Their proposal is requesting no monthly rent. They have stated that they will cover a pro-rated amount of utilities for the building. We need to continue discussion on maintenance and custodial as the County does not have the capacity to take that on.

Staff have come up with some early comments on what has been submitted. At the time of writing this memo, neither the requesters or County staff have had a conversation on the items below.

1. We will talk more on the 3-year term and how that is structured.


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2. The County is unable to assume any inside or outside maintenance to this property. We simply don't have the employee capacity to take this on.
3. I will be talking with the Risk Pool this week concerning any comments they may have.
4. Parking Spaces - we are unable to provide 10-15 parking spaces for this building. We can talk more, but that many spaces are not feasible. Six spaces are more realistic.
5. Placement of a dumpster will most likely take away from parking, but we can talk further.
6. You presented a State Lease. We can't live with sections of that lease. We will talk more, but I wanted to let you know that what is written isn't accepted.

Members of all three agencies will be in attendance on Monday evening.

Funding Amount and Source: No cost to the County.

Attachments: 1) Proposal and 2) DOC Policy on Transitional living programs

Agenda Item Number: _____

Date on Agenda: _____

Chair of Board, Date