

BOCC MEETING PUBLIC COMMENTS

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These are questions and comments received through the County website and through the Strategic Communications email.

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Received By:

This comment was received via Communications email.

Subject:

Public Comment

Comment:

Good afternoon Commissioners,

While reviewing tomorrow's agenda, I had questions about item M. The topic is regarding funding to the tune of \$2.5 million for a plane for the sheriff's department.

The staff report states that the plane currently in the fleet is 50 years old and the intended use is to transport prisoners. I would like to know the following, please:

How many prisoners are transported each year?

How many prisoners are being transported in a single trip?

How far are those prisoners being transported?

Could these prisoners be transported in a more economical and earth-friendly way?

Perhaps via Amtrak or a hybrid vehicle of some sort?

Are there secondary uses for this plane, such as fact finding missions to neighboring states?

Could freelance pilots be contracted as needed, similar to on-call services in other departments?

Have any other alternatives been considered?

The second part of my question is this: I noticed in the consent agenda that there is an item for staffing table changes within the Sheriff's department. The reason listed is that

"duties changed due to staffing levels and the elimination of the Corrections Mental Health Team." In regards to this, I have the following questions please:

Why, with the County's focus on mental health, was the CMHT eliminated?

Are these proposed "Intensive Supervision Officers" required to take additional mental health-related training to compensate for the dissolution of the CMHT?

Are these officers CIT trained?

Could part of the \$2.5 million allocated for a private plane be used to fund additional staff, additional training, other types of programs/interventions such as GED, AA meetings, parenting classes, healthy foods, etc.?

Thank you in advance for taking my questions seriously, and for fully considering alternatives that could better serve citizens, prisoners, and staff alike.

Respectfully,
Ginger Cullen