



**COUNTY OF SAN MATEO**  
Inter-Departmental Correspondence  
County Manager



**Date:** April 16, 2014  
**Board Meeting Date:** May 6, 2014  
**Special Notice / Hearing:** None  
**Vote Required:** Majority

**To:** Honorable Board of Supervisors

**From:** Michael Callagy, Deputy County Manager

**Subject:** Emergency Funding for East Palo Alto David Lewis Community Reentry Center

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Approve one-time emergency funding for the East Palo Alto David Lewis Community Reentry Center to provide reentry services to formerly incarcerated inmates in an amount not to exceed \$35,000, as they work to develop an ongoing revenue source for their program.

**BACKGROUND:**

Assembly Bill 2436 (Chapter 779, Statutes of 2006) enabled the East Palo Alto Police Department (EPAPD) to enter into a partnership with the California Department of Corrections (CDCR) and community organizations to implement a three and one half year pilot parolee reentry program in East Palo Alto. The pilot reentry program, which operated from 2007 to 2010, yielded positive results.

EPAPD and CDCR worked to renew a contract and continue the reentry program when the pilot program funds expired in 2010; however, those efforts were thwarted by the fiscal crisis facing the State of California. Recognizing the importance of the reentry program and anticipating increased numbers of formerly incarcerated persons returning to East Palo Alto as a result of Public Safety Realignment in 2011, the East Palo Alto City Council authorized EPAPD to use \$198,000 of its surplus Measure C (crime reduction) Parcel Tax funds to reestablish a reentry program in East Palo Alto known as the David Lewis Community Reentry Center.

Former East Palo Alto Police Chief Ron Davis worked to secure continued funding from CDCR and to establish a new Caltrans employment program to compliment the services provided by the reentry program. Unfortunately, he was unable to do so before his departure in November 2013. Reentry program staff has continued to provide services to clients and the City of East Palo Alto was able to extend operations of the reentry

program by providing an additional \$50,000 from EPAPD. Reentry staff is currently working on reduced schedules, and these additional funds will soon expire.

**DISCUSSION:**

The David Lewis Community Reentry Center is in need of up to \$35,000 to stay operational through the end of the 2013-14 fiscal year. The East Palo Alto Police Department and the David Lewis Community foundation are actively working to fund the reentry program in FY 2014-15, by negotiating a new partnership with CDCR, establishing a Caltrans contract to operate work crews from the reentry program, and seeking funding from private foundations, while exploring the continued use of Measure C dollars. The goal of the David Lewis Community Reentry Program is to reduce recidivism and thereby increase public safety through effective community reintegration. The reentry program provides an array of evidence-based services targeted to address the needs of formerly incarcerated persons, including the recently realigned populations determined to be of moderate or high-risk to reoffend.

Approval of this action contributes to the Shared Vision 2025 outcome of a Collaborative Community by assisting the David Lewis Community Reentry Center to remain operational so that they can continue their work on reducing recidivism.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

There is no Net County Cost. The \$35,000 is part of the County's AB 109 allocation from the state and is included in the FY 2013-14 Adopted Budget.