

Kittitas County Juvenile Probation

Agenda Staff Report

AGENDA DATE:

11/17/2009

ACTION REQUESTED:

Request BOCC sign the Resolution.

BACKGROUND:

Kittitas County Resolution NO. 2007-94 sent a 3/10th's Sales Tax for criminal justice purposes to the citizen's of Kittitas County after a Citizens Advisory Committee studied the issue and made recommendations to the BOCC. KC Ordinance No. 27-36 implemented the tax after the popular vote passed the initial Resolution. The implementation is due to expire December 31, 2014. Members of the Kittitas County Law and Justice Council were sources of information to the citizen's committee and have previously recommended evaluation measures be initiated to ensure the use of the funds can be measured and reflected as to how they are effective to the citizens of the County. At the October 21, 2009, meeting of the KC Law & Justice Council, after several reviews by members of the LAJ Council and review at LAJ Council meetings, a quorum of the LAJ Council voted to recommend applying its discretionary grant fund of 1/10th of 1% Sales Tax (that funding mechanism originally authorized in KC Resolution 96-178 and subsequent superceding Resolutions) toward a grant to research the impact of the application of the 3/10th's Sales Tax. The final research proposal is attached to the current Resolution.

INTERACTION:

Professor Charles Reasons, Department Chair of the Law and Justice Department at CWU has been a regular attendant at the Kittitas County Law and Justice Council. He volunteered to structure a research project at the passing of the 3/10th's criminal justice Sales Tax. Various members of the LAJC reviewed what should be included in such a project with the concurrence of the LAJC. A draft of a potential project was made. The draft ultimately resulted in further discussion and changes to result in what is attached to this current Resolution request. The Prosecuting Attorney's office reviewed, approved as to form and signed the draft resolution indicating that approval. The County Budget Director was consulted on the reasonableness of cost of the project and what like projects contained which had been previously accepted by the BOCC. The final draft was reviewed at the LAJC and a recommendation motion for funding from the 10% of .1% fund was passed unanimously by the LAJC on October 21, 2009.

RECOMMENDATION:

The Kittitas County Law and Justice Council recommends the BOCC approve the use of .1% grant funds to pay for the attached research proposal by signing the attached Resolution.

HANDLING:

Please provide copy/notice to Law and Justice Council CoChair, William Holmes for notice to LAJC and Professor Reasons.

LEAD STAFF:

William Holmes