

KITTITAS COUNTY
Board of County Commissioners

AGENDA STAFF REPORT

AGENDA DATE: March 17, 2026

ACTION REQUESTED: Request to Approve a Resolution Authorizing an Interlocal Agreement with City of Ellensburg Regarding Public Defense Services Provided by Kittitas County.

BACKGROUND: The City of Ellensburg is to pay Kittitas County \$75,000 to provide indigent defense services for City of Ellensburg cases heard in Lower Kittitas County District Court.

INTERACTION: The Prosecutor's office had previously reviewed and drafted the modification to the Interlocal Agreement between the City of Ellensburg and the Lower Kittitas County District Court.

RECOMMENDATION: Approve the resolution of the Interlocal Agreement.

HANDLING: Original – Clerk of the Board
Copy – Auditor
Copy – Department of Public Defense

ATTACHMENTS: Resolution to the Interlocal Agreement with City of Ellensburg

LEAD STAFF: Eileen Murphy, Director Kittitas County Department of Public Defense

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
COUNTY OF KITTITAS
STATE OF WASHINGTON**

KITTITAS COUNTY RESOLUTION NO. 2026-055

CITY OF ELLENSBURG RESOLUTION NO. 2026-04

A RESOLUTION OF KITTITAS COUNTY AND THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ELLENSBURG APPROVING AN AMENDMENT OF THE EXISTING INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF ELLENSBURG AND KITTITAS COUNTY ON BEHALF OF THE KITTITAS COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC DEFENSE

WHEREAS, The City of Ellensburg, Washington hereinafter referred to as "CITY", and Kittitas County (COUNTY) on behalf of the District Court for Lower Kittitas County have previously entered into an Interlocal Agreement for Court Related Services ("Interlocal Agreement") effective in November 18, 2003; and

WHEREAS, the City by and through the City Manager's Office and the County, by and through the Director of Public Defense among others, have been collaborating on addressing the existing level of funding that provides less than actual defense costs; and

WHEREAS, the parties previously amended the Interlocal Agreement to reflect agreement on an additional amount of \$75,000 (Seventy-Five Thousand Dollars) for defense costs for the calendar year 2025 (Kittitas County Resolution No 2025-002; City of Ellensburg Resolution No. 2024-35); and


WHEREAS, the parties agree on an additional amount of \$75,000 (Seventy-Five Thousand Dollars) for defense costs for the calendar year 2026;

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners concur in the proposal;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AND IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, the Board of County Commissioners and the City Council of the City of Ellensburg approve the Amendment to the Interlocal Agreement and this resolution on behalf of the Department of Public Defense. This Amendment shall be filed in a manner consistent with RCW 39.34.040.

ADOPTED this 17th day of March 2026.

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
KITITAS COUNTY, WASHINGTON**



Chair



Vice-Chair



Commissioner



ATTEST:


- Clerk of the Board- Julie Kjorsvik
- Deputy Clerk of the Board- Mandy Buchholz

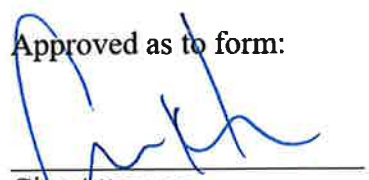
CITY OF ELLENSBURG



Mayor

Attest:


City Clerk

Approved as to form:


City Attorney