




Reimagine Public Safety Contra Costa

Measure X: July 7, 2021

Reimagine Public Safety - Our Vision




We envision a Contra Costa County where all people regardless of race, gender identity, sexual orientation, Immigration status, or disability can flourish from shared county resources and where racial equity is at the forefront of decision making. Public safety is not about policing, public safety is access to fair housing, quality food, safe and clean community spaces, healthcare services including mental health care, and economic opportunity.



Mission & Purpose



To rapidly reconstruct the public safety system and what we view as public safety by developing a recommendation for the county and cities to increase community safety through alternative non-police response programs, and investments in programs (such as health services, housing, jobs, etc) that address the root causes of violence and crime, and to focus on policies that address these disparities.

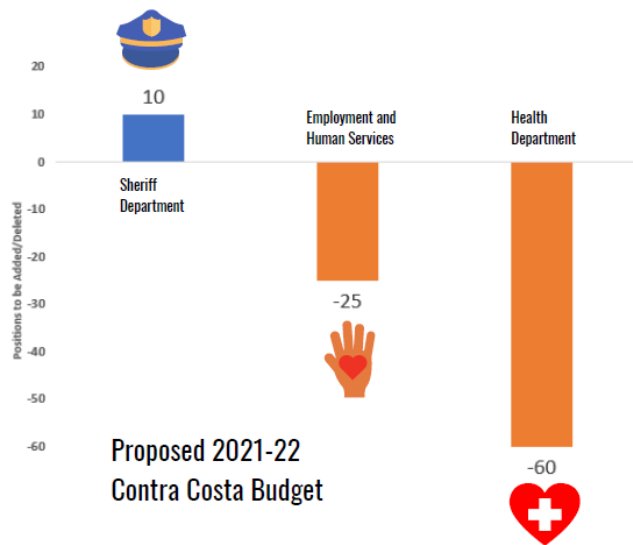


What's the problem?

- Law enforcement is tasked with responding to the needs of those who live with mental health issues instead of investing in more humane models that address their needs. This leads to the criminalization of our community members.
- Over 11,000 Contra Costa residents are facing houselessness and evictions, exacerbated by the pandemic. Unhoused residents need resources and a pathway to long-term housing options.
- Instead of looking at public safety as a quality of life issue, the county has looked at this as a policing issue and our communities are no safer for it.
- The county currently does not sufficiently invest in race and health equity.

What's the problem?

As we're recovering from the COVID-19 pandemic, the Sheriff Department is **adding positions** to detain community members, while Health and Human Services are **eliminating positions**.



Meanwhile in Contra Costa County...



11,200

Households are behind on their rent with average debt being **\$5,233 per household**



6x

COVID-19 infection rate for Latinx residents compared to white residents
*as of Dec. 19, 2020

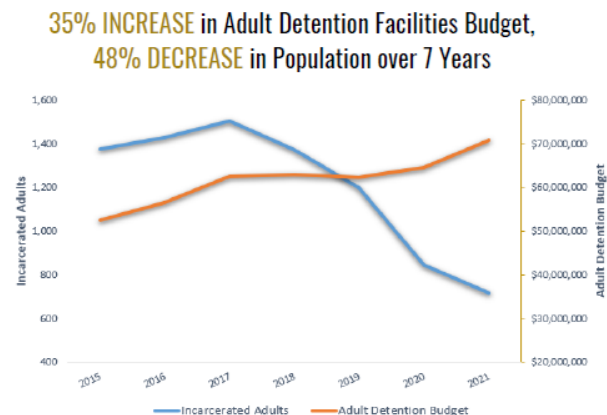
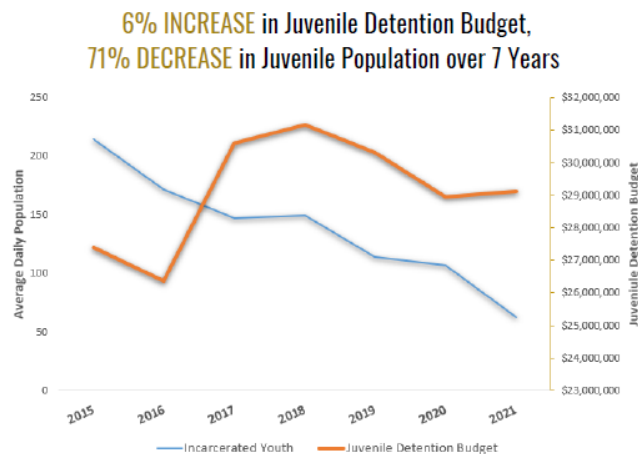


43,854

Households on CalFresh in 2021
(A **51% increase** from 2019)

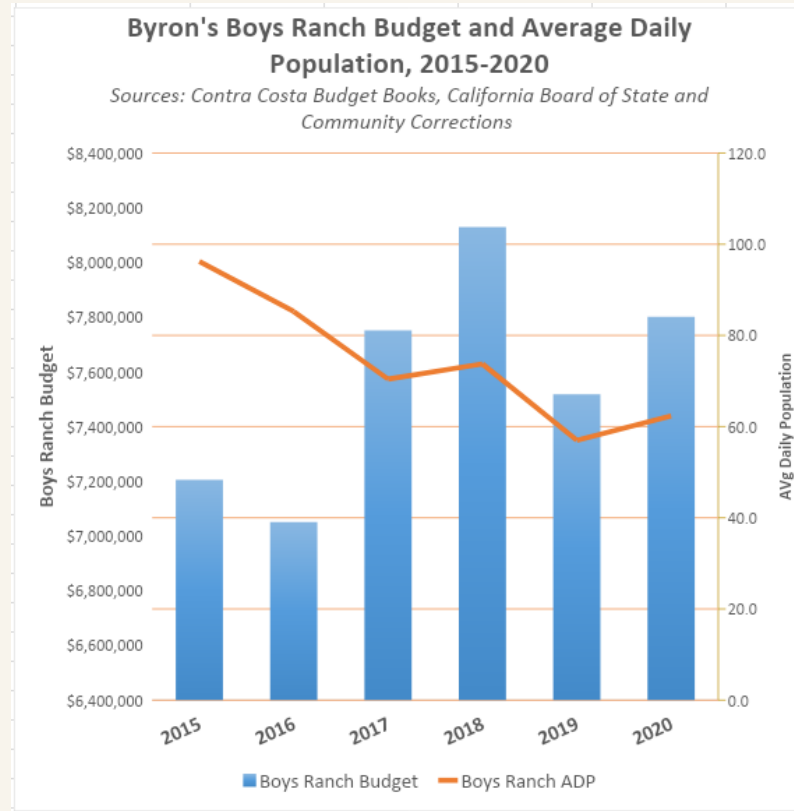
What's the problem?

Jail populations for both adults and children have steadily **decreased** in the last 7 years while budgets for incarceration continued to **increase**.



Sources: Contra Costa Budget Books, California Board of State and Community Corrections

What's the problem?

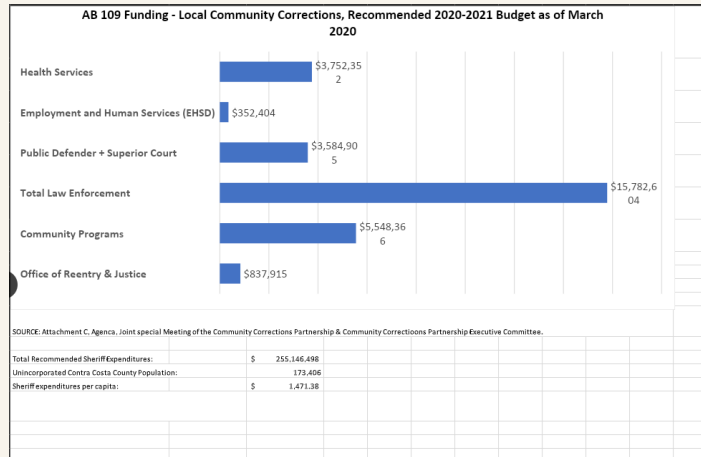


What's the problem?

- From 2018 to 2020, Juvenile Hall's incarcerated youth population decreased from 111 to 47 youth, a reduction of 58%.
- However, from 2018 to 2020, the budget for Juvenile Hall decreased from \$23,042,295 to \$21,147,551, a reduction of only 8%.
- Simply put, Juvenile Hall's youth population has decreased drastically while its budget has decreased only slightly.
- In 2015, Juvenile Hall and the Byron Boys Ranch combined had 160 full time staff.
- In 2020, Juvenile Hall and the Byron Boys Ranch combined had 155 full time staff, a staffing reduction of 3%.
- During this same period, the incarcerated youth population of these two detention facilities decreased by 55%.

What's the problem?

- Contra Costa prioritizes law enforcement funding.
- Of the \$15,000,000 AB 109 funds allocated to law enforcement, the Sheriff's department receives \$9,000,000, Probation receives \$4,000,000, and the District Attorney receives \$2,000,000.
- The Public Defender's Office receives \$3,300,000 in AB 109 funding.



What can we do now?



Reimagine Public Safety

It means access, inclusion, and belonging. It means everyone is treated with dignity and has quality food, shelter, healthcare, and resources.



County budget

The budget must reflect a commitment to reimagined public safety and meet the needs of under-resourced and BIPOC communities

What's the solution?

Justice reinvestment -
moving funding from law
enforcement and putting it
towards community resources
that **will uplift everyone** and
**address the root causes of
violence and crime**



Measure X funds should go towards...

01



Public Defender's Office

To hire social
workers to connect
clients to resources
at first contact

02



Youth & Equity Center

In East County with
\$22 mill one-time
Measure X funding

03



Eviction Defense

Legal services for
residents
experiencing
housing insecurity

Contra Costa County should divest from...

01

Internal Affairs

Conflict of interest:
The Sheriff's own
office is ill-equipped
to hold the Sheriff
accountable

02

Sheriff's Civil Unit

Sworn deputies to
engage in civil matters
with community
members is unnecessary.
It is costly and
traumatizes Black &
brown residents

03

Sheriff's coroner role

Creates an inherent
conflict of interest
when a community
member dies at the
hands of law
enforcement

Justice reinvestments

01

Independent Sheriff Oversight

With subpoena power and led by residents most harmed by law enforcement

02

Parks & Rec

Safe spaces for kids, elders, and families

03

Housing

For our unhoused neighbors

04

Miles Hall Community Health Hub

05

Fire Department

so they can respond to community emergencies

06

Job Training



**We invite you to
reimagine
public safety in
Contra Costa
County with us!**





Thanks!

Do you have any questions?
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