

# Justice Reinvestment in San Francisco



**COST ANALYSIS**  
**FEBRUARY 11TH, 2014**

**MICHAEL WILSON**



# San Francisco JRI Strategies



- Strategy A: Consider Shortening Length of Probation Sentences
- Strategy B: Maintain and Expand Pretrial Alternatives to Detention
- Strategy C: Eliminate Disproportionality of People of Color in Criminal Justice System

# Cost and Impact Analysis of Strategy A



- From 2010-2011 we examined probation sentences that were longer than three years
- We assumed that most would now receive 24 month sentences
- We excluded certain crime types from the impact
- Based on historical data we estimated that 30% would be unsuccessfully terminated
- Assumed the policy would take 24 months until full implementation.

# Caseload Impact Analysis Strategy A

- 4,322 individuals in 2011 and 2012 with 3+ year probation sentence
- Assumed 21% excluded based on crime type
- Estimated prospectively, meaning no impact on current probationers

Date	Caseload Change
1/1/2014	0
1/1/2015	0
1/1/2016	-75
1/1/2017	-541
1/1/2018	-1008
1/1/2019	-1103
1/1/2020	-1124
1/1/2021	-1126
1/1/2022	-1126
1/1/2023	-1126

# Probation Cost Estimate



- Current caseloads are over 90 probationers per officer
- Policy would reduce caseloads to 70 probationers per officer
- To get the same caseload reduction by hiring staff would require 16 Deputy Probation Officers and two Supervising Probation Officers
- This policy change would also increase the level of services that individuals receive

# Cost Analysis of Strategy A



## Cost of Added PO's Needed to Achieve the Same Caseload and Services as Policy Impact Reduction

Year	Services	Staff	Total
2014	\$0	\$0	\$0
2015	\$8,960	\$0	\$8,960
2016	\$230,673	\$0	\$230,673
2017	\$667,621	\$1,011,120	\$1,678,741
2018	\$920,139	\$2,506,815	\$3,426,954
2019	\$957,429	\$2,675,335	\$3,632,764
2020	\$966,754	\$2,991,390	\$3,958,144
2021	\$967,110	\$2,991,390	\$3,958,500
2022	\$967,110	\$2,991,390	\$3,958,500
2023	\$967,110	\$2,991,390	\$3,958,500

# Cost and Impact Analysis of Strategy B



- Average length of stay of those released through the San Francisco Diversion Project was five days
- Based on jail data for 2011 there were 998 individuals with release type OR that stayed in jail for an average of 38 days
- There were also 2,688 individuals with release type “Other” that stayed in jail for an average of 58 days
- We estimated the jail impact of different scenarios that increased the number of people released through the diversion project

# Jail Impact Analysis of Strategy B



## Avoided Jail Beds of Pretrial Expansion, Three Scenarios

Date	10% Impact	20% Impact	30% Impact
7/1/2014	-7	-14	-21
7/1/2015	-21	-41	-62
7/1/2016	-28	-55	-83
7/1/2017	-28	-55	-83
7/1/2018	-28	-55	-83
7/1/2019	-28	-55	-83



# Jail Cost Estimate



- Estimated marginal cost of a jail bed
- Cost estimate includes health care, meals, clothing and linens
- Staffing costs are also included when the impact is larger than 40 beds
  - Based on two deputies per pod

# Cost Analysis of Strategy B



## Avoided Costs of Pretrial Expansion, Three Scenarios

Year	10% Impact	20% Impact	30% Impact
2014	\$47,537	\$95,075	\$142,612
2015	\$151,255	\$869,020	\$1,586,784
2016	\$207,436	\$1,547,890	\$2,888,345
2017	\$207,436	\$1,547,890	\$2,888,345
2018	\$207,436	\$1,547,890	\$2,888,345
2019	\$207,436	\$1,547,890	\$2,888,345

# Contact Information



- Michael Wilson, Economist and Research Consultant
  - [Mike.wilson.inc@gmail.com](mailto:Mike.wilson.inc@gmail.com)
  - 503-949-8702