



San Diego County Probation Department

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Tamika Nelson, Chief Probation Officer

April 5, 2022

Director Lucero,

Thank you for meeting with us last month to discuss San Diego County's realignment block grant plan. I appreciated the opportunity to learn about your vision for OYCR and I appreciate your interest in guarding against net-widening and the "if you build it, they will come" phenomenon. Thank you again for your time and attention to the local plan. In the pages that follow you will find our response to the questions presented during and after our meeting. This response is submitted on behalf of the local Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council's Subcommittee.

Sincerely,

Tamika Nelson
Chief Probation Officer

Please provide disaggregated demographic and offense data for all of your youth with 707(b) and/or 290.008 offenses for 2019, 2020, and 2021 (if already available)

True Findings for 707b Charges by date of True Finding 2019, 2020 and 2021:

707b True Finding Charges	2019	2020	2021	Grand Total
211 ROBBERY	154	96	55	305
245(a)(4) ASSAULT BY MEANS LIKELY TO PRODUCE GREAT BODILY INJURY	127	64	46	237
245(a)(1) ASSAULT W/DEADLY WEAPON OTHER THAN FIREARM OR GBI FORCE	39	22	30	91
288(a) LEWD ACT UPON A CHILD	16		17	
187(a) MURDER/ 664/187(a) ATTEMPTED MURDER			13	
215(a) CARJACKING				21
245(a)(2) ASSAULT WITH A FIREARM				21
245(a)(4), force ASSAULT BY MEANS LIKELY TO PRODUCE GREAT BODILY INJURY				
211 ROBBERY SECOND DEGREE				
192(a) VOLUNTARY MANSLAUGHTER				
136.1(b)(1) DISSUADING A WITNESS FROM REPORTING A CRIME				
288(b)(1) FORCIBLE LEWD ACT UPON CHILD				
246 SHOOTING AT INHABITED OCCUPIED STRUCTURES/VEHICLES/AIRCRAFT				
288(a) FORCIBLE ORAL COPULATION				
209(b)(1) KIDNAPPING FOR ROBBERY, RAPE, SPOUSAL RAPE, ETC.				
288a(b)(1) ORAL COPULATION OF A PERSON UNDER 18				
246.3(a) DISCHARGE FIREARM IN GROSSLY NEGLIGENT MANNER				
245(b) ASSAULT WITH SEMI-AUTOMATIC FIREARM				
246.3(b) DISCHARGING A BB DEVICE IN A GROSSLY NEGLIGENT MANNER				
186.22(a) STREET TERRORIST				
261(a)(3) RAPE BY USE OF DRUGS				
289(a)(1) RAPE BY FOREIGN OBJECT - USE OF FORCE				
244.5(b) ASSAULT WITH STUN GUN OR TASER				
136.1(b)(2) ATTEMPT TO DISSUADE A WITNESS FROM PROSECUTING A CRIME				
18755(b) EXPLOSION OF DESTRUCTIVE DEVICE CAUSING MAYHEM OR GBI				
207(a) KIDNAPPING				
205 AGGRAVATED MAYHEM				
26100(c) DISCHARGE A FIREARM FROM A MOTOR VEHICLE				
211/212.5(c) FIRST DEGREE				
18750 EXPLOSION OF DESTRUCTIVE DEVICE CAUSING BODILY INJURY				
136.1(a)(2) ATTEMPT TO PREVENT AND DISSUADE A WITNESS FROM TESTIFYING				
288.3 CONTACT OF MINOR WITH INTENT TO COMMIT A SEXUAL OFFENSE				
261(a)(2) FORCIBLE RAPE				
288a(c)(2) FORCIBLE ORAL COPULATION				
12022.5(a)(1) PERSONAL USE OF A FIREARM				
451(b) ARSON OF AN INHABITED STRUCTURE OR PROPERTY				
261.5(b) UNLAWFUL SEXUAL INTERCOURSE WITH MINOR - 3 YR AGE DIFFERENCE				
245(c) ASSAULT WITH A DEADLY WEAPON ON A PEACE OFFICER/FIREMAN				
Grand Total	388	235	206	829

707b True Findings by Gender by date of True Finding 2019, 2020, 2021:

	+ 2019	+ 2020	+ 2021	Grand Total
707b True Findings ▼				
Female	61	27	32	120
Male	327	208	174	709
Grand Total	388	235	206	829

707b True Findings by Race/Ethnicity by date of True Finding 2019, 2020, 2021:

	+ 2019	+ 2020	+ 2021	Grand Total
707b True Findings ▼				
AMERICAN INDIAN				
ASIAN INDIAN				
BLACK	107	77	49	233
CAMBODIAN				
CHINESE				
FILIPINO				13
LAOTIAN				
MEXICAN/HISPANIC	195	126	122	443
OTHER				
OTHER ASIAN				
PACIFIC ISLANDER				
SAMOAN				
UNKNOWN				
VIETNAMESE				
WHITE	54	22	20	96
(blank)				
Grand Total	388	235	206	829

Please provide the disaggregated placements for all of your youth with 707(b) offenses and/or 290.008 offenses [e.g., placed in juvenile hall, ranch, home etc.] for 2019, 2020, and 2021 (if already available)

Data was separately pulled for all youth with a 707b finding who received Commitments between January 1, 2019 – December 31, 2021. Note: This data will not match the data above due to a variety of reasons, for example events happening at different times, e.g. if a youth received a true finding in 2019 but was not committed until 2020, stayed commitments, youth terminated without receiving a commitment, etc.

Commitment Types for 707b True Findings by Commitment Date 2019, 2020, 2021:

707b True Findings with Commitment	2019	2020	2021	Grand Total
211 ROBBERY	106	64	58	228
245(a)(4) ASSAULT BY MEANS LIKELY TO PRODUCE GREAT BODILY INJURY	82	57	32	171
245(a)(1) ASSAULT W/DEADLY WEAPON OTHER THAN FIREARM OR GBI FORCE	17	21	30	68
215(a) CARJACKING			12	24
187(a) MURDER/ 644/187(a) ATTEMPTED MURDER			14	22
245(a)(2) ASSAULT WITH A FIREARM			15	22
192(a) VOLUNTARY MANSLAUGHTER				
245(a)(4), force ASSAULT BY MEANS LIKELY TO PRODUCE GREAT BODILY INJURY				
246 SHOOTING AT INHABITED OCCUPIED STRUCTURES/VEHICLES/AIRCRAFT				
288(a) LEWD ACT UPON A CHILD				
136.1(b)(1) DISSUADING A WITNESS FROM REPORTING A CRIME				
245(b) ASSAULT WITH SEMI-AUTOMATIC FIREARM				
209(b)(1) KIDNAPPING FOR ROBBERY, RAPE, SPOUSAL RAPE, ETC.				
451(b) ARSON OF AN INHABITED STRUCTURE OR PROPERTY				
246.3(a) DISCHARGE FIREARM IN GROSSLY NEGLIGENT MANNER				
186.22(a) STREET TERRORIST				
207(a) KIDNAPPING				
288a(b)(1) ORAL COPULATION OF A PERSON UNDER 18				
245(c) ASSAULT WITH A DEADLY WEAPON ON A PEACE OFFICER/FIREMAN				
26100(c) DISCHARGE A FIREARM FROM A MOTOR VEHICLE				
205 AGGRAVATED MAYHEM				
288(b)(1) FORCIBLE LEWD ACT UPON CHILD				
12022.5(a)(1) PERSONAL USE OF A FIREARM				
211 ROBBERY SECOND DEGREE				
261(a)(2) FORCIBLE RAPE				
261(a)(3) RAPE BY USE OF DRUGS				
Grand Total	231	169	181	581

Commitment Type for 707b True Findings	2019	2020	2021	Grand Total
Youthful Offender Unit.	36	44	26	106
24 HOUR SCHOOL COMMIT	25	31	34	90
URBAN CAMP 250	28	32	19	79
URBAN CAMP 130	29	24	26	79
DJJ/CYA COMMIT	17	15	24	56
HOPE			35	35
URBAN CAMP 85	20			30
URBAN CAMP 120				29
CB BC COMMIT	15			15
CAMP BARRETT COMMIT	14			14
SHORT-TERM COMMIT				12
BREAKING CYCLES COMMIT				
WEEKENDS				
STOP				
ADMINISTRATIVE REMOVAL				
GRF BC COMMIT				
GRF DIRECT COMMIT				
Grand Total	231	169	181	581

Commitment for 707b True Findings by Gender 2019, 2020, 2021:

	+ 2019	+ 2020	+ 2021	Grand Total
Commitment for 707b True Findings				
Female	20	29	31	80
Male	211	140	150	501
Grand Total	231	169	181	581

Commitment for 707b True Findings by Race/Ethnicity 2019, 2020, 2021:

	+ 2019	+ 2020	+ 2021	Grand Total
Commitment for 707b True Finding				
AMERICAN INDIAN				
BLACK	56	52	49	157
FILIPINO				
LAOTIAN				
MEXICAN/HISPANIC	126	98	103	327
OTHER				
OTHER ASIAN				
PACIFIC ISLANDER				
SAMOAN				
VIETNAMESE				
WHITE	21	13	17	51
Grand Total	231	169	181	581

Please provide further details on the facility improvements that you are making to accommodate youth in the secure track who will be subject to longer commitments, as you described to us, including the improvements related to softening the environment, your recent addition of a track and field, planned incorporation of clinicians’ offices into the space, and others. To the extent that this information is contained in a separate document such as a facilities grant application, you are welcome to attach it and incorporate it into your plan by reference.

The Basis of Design being developed for these units incorporates core beliefs including:

- “Every youth should leave a correctional program better than when he or she came in”
- “If you treat an individual as if he were what he ought to be and could be, he will become what he ought to be and could be.” – Johann Wolfgang von Goethe
- “For as challenging as they are, we must not lose hope for them, and we must help them not lose hope for their own futures”
- The physical design of the space will promote pro-social environments and provide functional space to achieve programming goals outlined in Youth In Custody Practice Model (page 30):
 - Establishing an identity
 - Establishing autonomy
 - Achieving something
 - Developing a personal value system
 - Developing a sense of belonging

- Physical facility should “be designed to support positive youth development, including pro-social interactions between and among staff and youth

The conceptual design approved during Phase I is called “Find Your Path.” This concept is inspired by pathways organically created in nature and topography. It is based on the conceptual ideas outlined in the Youth In Custody Practice Model that with the new approach to youth in custody, the youth will be given more opportunities to make their own choices. The hope is that they will use their time at the EMJDF facility as an opportunity to choose a new path and change their lives in a positive direction. The concept is reflected throughout the design by using organic shapes and soft, calming colors. Nature will also be encompassed into the design. Understanding the influence of nature on the human psyche in a detention setting can have a positive influence on the youth. Numerous studies demonstrate that factors in the physical and social environment can positively impact people within a space. Some of the elements of nature inspired design used on the project include natural shapes and forms, and natural patterns.

The current design process calls for changes to the units including:

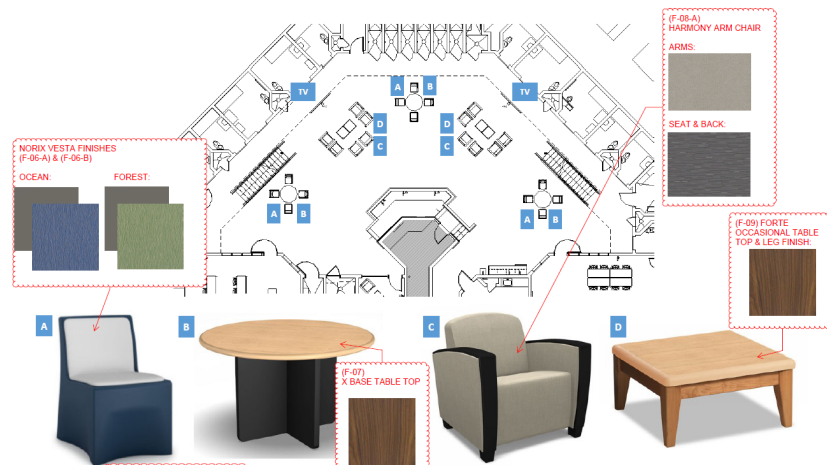
- Wood-look vinyl flooring throughout the living spaces
- Replace acoustic ceiling with light grey fractal pattern ceiling tile



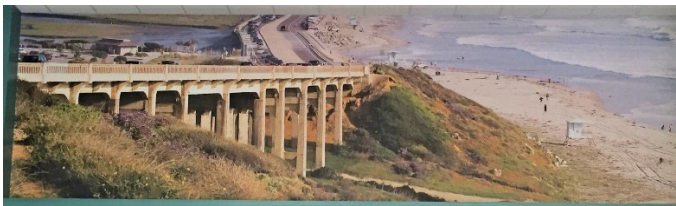
Proposed flooring

Proposed Ceiling Tile Pattern

- New epoxy flooring within the youth rooms
- Paint throughout the unit
- Reduction in the number of youth rooms from 30 to 16, with a plan to use 12 ground floor rooms, with flexibility to use up to 4 additional rooms on the mezzanine in an emergency
 - Conversion of secure rooms to a supervisor office
 - Conversion of ground floor secure rooms to a meeting space
 - Conversion of mezzanine secure rooms to 3 treatment team/clinician offices
- New finishes to soften the look of existing control room in the center of each unit
- Replace light fixtures
- Replace furnishings in common spaces to create two “living room” sets and three dining tables in each unit



- Install large photo murals of nature scenes



- Install larger shower doors for increased privacy
- Replace all furnishings in youth rooms
- Replace all classroom furnishings

The County also recently completed the addition of a track and field at East Mesa Juvenile Detention Facility which will be available for use as part of the Youth Development Academy.



The \$1.5 million track and field was completed in Fall 2021 offering justice-involved youths a green, outdoor space with the opportunity to exercise, learn new activities, and play competitive sports.

To the extent you have any further details on how you will classify youth or a classification tool that you will use to make initial housing placements to ensure the safety and protection of youth having different ages, genders, special needs, and other relevant characteristics in the secure facility, please include them. We understand that this classification process is a work in progress but would appreciate your current approach.

Our overall classification philosophy is based on the idea that juvenile facilities are not prison. We strive to provide a therapeutic approach in which youth from different backgrounds learn to work through their treatment program in an environment of acceptance and inclusion. To that end, our practice is to seek an appropriate balance of youth within each living unit, i.e., we do not place all youth from a gang or racial group in a particular unit for the purpose of separating them from rivals. Additionally, every youth is assigned to an individual room. There are no roommates within our institutions.

Currently, the San Diego County Probation Department uses the attached Unit Classification Form to screen each incoming youth. Central Control assigns each youth to an appropriate housing unit based on their age, size, sophistication, and these screening factors. The classifications for each living unit are updated by the Watch Commander on an ongoing basis according to changing needs and numbers of youth.

For the Youth Development Academy, we are looking to augment the existing classification process to include collaboration with treatment members and behavioral health, consideration of treatment needs in the classification process, and a means for youth to classify up or down based on performance and achieved goals. This could ultimately provide the possibility of classifying down to a stepdown location and/or furloughs.