



**OFFICE OF THE CITY COUNCIL  
RESEARCH DIVISION**

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**SPECIAL COMMITTEE TO REVIEW JSO PRIMARY FACILITIES:  
Holistic Facilities (Behavioral, Mental, Physical & Spiritual health) Working Group  
Meeting Minutes**

**December 11, 2023  
4:00 pm**

**Location:** Lynwood Roberts Room, 1<sup>st</sup> floor, City Hall

**In attendance:** Council Members Rahman Johnson, Jimmy Peluso and Michael Boylan; James Washington, JPH Health Networks (Zoom)

**Also:** Colleen Hampsey, Council Research Division

**Meeting Convened:** 4:09 pm

Chairman Johnson welcomed the group and called for introductions. He reviewed the working group's charge and meeting schedule. He said the focus for the January meeting will be on inmate spiritual well-being and social support, jail design and technology and he said someone from JSO will be in attendance. CM Johnson said he will be visiting the jail facility in Orlando on an upcoming trip, and he plans to see facilities in Austin and Los Angeles when he travels to those cities in the next few weeks.

James Washington, JPS Health Networks, provided an overview of a jail facility in Dallas that includes an internal almost fully functioning health care center. They provide most health care services in-house, with the exception of vision care and surgical procedures. Mr. Washington said the facility provides OB-GYN care, phlebotomy, and x-rays, among other services. He talked about rapid response bracelets for inmates with health issues that monitor vital signs and convey the results to the full-time nursing staff. The bracelets may also be used to call for help in a medical emergency. Mr. Washington said the Dallas facility is working towards accreditation with the National Commission of Correctional Health Care. Facilities that achieve NCCHC accreditation demonstrate their commitment to high-quality health care services based on nationally recognized standards.

There were some technical difficulties with the Zoom sound quality, so CM Johnson said he will send Mr. Washington a list of follow-up questions for him to answer and the answers will be shared at the next meeting.

The council members discussed space limitations and the cost to provide comprehensive health services in-house. CM Boylan talked about the high cost for a new facility built recently in Phoenix. CM Peluso spoke about the presentation from the Putnam County Sheriff's Office at his most recent working group meeting where they discussed Putnam's correctional philosophy and the importance of yoga and art classes for inmate rehabilitation. He recalled what the Putnam County Undersheriff said about how their new facility improved staff morale and retention. CM Boylan said the committee's final report will make recommendations to JSO about necessary space, location and design, but ultimately it will be up to JSO to choose which jail classes and programs to offer, if any.

Public comment: Carnell Oliver talked about civil citations, and the association between cash bail requirements and plea deals.

The next meeting for this group is scheduled for January 8th. With no further business, CM Johnson adjourned the meeting.

**Meeting adjourned:** 4:47 pm

Minutes: Colleen Hampsey, Council Research Division

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