

Public Safety Investments

1. Increasing the police presence and eliminating crime in our neighborhoods

The Mayor's budget will include \$10 million for new police officers, corrections officers, emergency communications officers and civilians necessary to support police work. In addition, the budget includes funds for overtime pay to deploy existing officers until the first 40 new police officers hit the streets. The funds are allocated as follows:

\$5.5 million – this funds 40 new police officers to be hired in FY 08/09 and provides the continuation funding for the 40 officers to be hired in the current fiscal year. This is the first 80 officers (of the total 225) officers recommended to be hired.

\$1.5 million – this funds overtime officers until permanent officers complete academy training and are fully deployed. Mayor and Sheriff will partner to identify additional savings that can be used for overtime.

\$1.7 million – this funds 80 new corrections officers. The JSO has a current need for 124 permanent corrections officers. That need is currently being met by overtime officers – a far more expensive alternative. By hiring 124 overtime officers over two years (FY 2009 and 2010); we will save \$1.1 million in FY 2011.

\$1.1 million – this funds 23 emergency communications officers (ECOs) and provides continuation funding for the 15 ECOs hired in the current year. A total of 38 ECOs were recommended by Matrix. These ECOs will improve 911 response times and assist with call diversion, allowing sworn officers to engage in better crime response and proactive policing.

\$190,000 – this funds four civilian positions to assist the JSO in shifting sworn officers out of civilian positions.

Crime Haven Elimination Programs – Collaborate with JSO on enacting and monitoring non-police strategies designed to impact violent crime within Jacksonville neighborhoods. Implement these strategies through DARTs, Code Enforcement activities and other, sound Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) practices. Targeted housing and neighborhood stabilization and beautification projects will be a part of this as well. (**\$1.284 Million**)

Neighborhood Job Opportunities – These recommendations reduce crime and improve general safety in commercial corridors in neighborhoods. City support should be strategically focused in neighborhoods where residents are most engaged in the development and management of the service, invested in strategies that leverage city funds. (**\$1.8 million**)

2. *Containing kids in after-school facilities, summer programs and out of school suspension centers*

Out of School Suspension Centers – Students serving out-of-school suspension will be sent to one of four retrofitted truancy centers that are located across the county. Proposed locations are: Frank H. Peterson Academies of Technology, Southside Middle School, A. Phillip Randolph Academies of Technology, Boys & Girls Clubs of Jacksonville Beach and a faith based model. Students will be monitored and required to keep current with their schoolwork. In addition, the centers will house all students picked up throughout the day for truancy. Short-term, centers will dramatically reduce the numbers of students unsupervised throughout the school day, require students serving suspension to remain current in their school work, and reduce crime in the surrounding neighborhoods. Long-term impact is to reduce crime and the dropout rate of at-risk students.

COSTS: Current projections allow the Out-of School-Suspension Centers to serve 150 students per day/180 days per school year/27,000 students annually.

Projected budget: **\$1.94 million in year one or \$72 dollars per student served.**

Team Up – Provides **\$2.8 million** for Jacksonville’s optimum after school supervision program. This will fund all eligible Middle Schools across the county.

Additionally, 10 new “Team Up” programs will be added to eligible elementary schools in Zone 1.

Early Literacy -- Provides **\$2 million** to transition 25 custodial child care facilities in Zone 1 into early learning centers by deploying early learning literacy coaches into those centers.

JaxParks After School Recreation Leagues – This program targets 13 to 17-year-olds and will contain them in supervised recreation programs with positive adult role models. The **\$816,000** to be budgeted adds programs to three sites in Zone 1 and five in other “hot spot” neighborhoods, serving approximately 500 youth.

Juvenile Assessment Center – **\$325,000** will be budgeted to detain and assess approximately 7,000 youth per year. The facility frees up sworn officers to return to patrol. Delinquent youth are turned over to the Florida Department of Juvenile Justice.

Summer Camp – **\$1.542 million** to increase supervised instruction and activities for summer. Increases camp session from 6 to 8 weeks to better align with time students are not supervised in school. Plan will serve an additional 2,105 children in Zone 1.

Expand City’s Summer Jobs Program – **\$250,000** will be budgeted to provide highly supervised employment opportunities for Jacksonville youth.

Maintain Juvenile Crime Prevention/Intervention Programs – \$325,000 to maintain current inventory of intervention and prevention programs and seek additional funding for programs designed for youth/juveniles being run by the State Attorney's Office.

Repair Neglected City Assets and Program them for Supervised Youth Activities – The City of Jacksonville should define physical assets in neighborhoods for use for after-school and summer programs. Schools (closed or open) should be looked at as a priority, with Community Centers, Libraries, Parks and other public/private facilities filling in the gaps. Facilities should be used as leverage to attract non-government partners for capital and programming needs. Recommendation was made that the goal should be for all public facilities to have public, private and neighborhood components for operations and programming. (**\$7 million**)

Student Scholarship Program – \$1 million will be budgeted for The Jacksonville Commitment, a college scholarship program that ensures every Duval County 12th grader who qualifies -- by income and meeting certain minimum academic standards -- a place in a local college.

3. Focusing on felon re-entry

Ex-Offender Re-entry Portal -- \$650,000 budgeted for the establishment and further development of a portal providing referral information on re-entry services for ex-offenders – the Jacksonville Re-entry Center (portal of entry for all local, state, and federal offenders whose residency and county of conviction was Duval and who are now returning to Duval County upon release from incarceration.) JREC enforces terms of release and registration requirements. Since October 2007, JREC has provided service to over 3,700 individuals.

Training and Re-entry programs for Ex-Offenders –\$738,000 budgeted for ex-offenders to be trained in range of skills necessary to re-enter workforce and become productive. These programs are proven to reduce recidivism. Each participant would receive case management, job-readiness training, job placement and ongoing monitoring. 180 participants would be served.

Ex-Offender Employment Program –\$475,000 budgeted to make WorkSource the central administrator for ex-offender employment opportunities. In 2005, more than 76,000 people registered to find work with WorkSource and more than 41,000 obtained jobs through their services. The typical WorkSource client is harder to place due to lack of work history, lack of education, lack of workforce training, etc. It is estimated that as much as 60% of their applicants have some sort of criminal background.