

DATE: September 12, 2006

**STAFF: Angela Erker, Criminal
Justice Coordinator,
Larimer County**

**WORK SESSION ITEM
FORT COLLINS CITY COUNCIL**

SUBJECT FOR DISCUSSION

Larimer County Criminal Justice System.

GENERAL DIRECTION SOUGHT AND SPECIFIC QUESTIONS TO BE ANSWERED

The Larimer County Criminal Justice Coordinator will give a presentation detailing the current status of the Criminal Justice System.

BACKGROUND

Approximately three years ago, a group of professionals in the Criminal Justice System joined together to form the Criminal Justice Advisory Committee (CJAC). The CJAC focuses on elements of the criminal justice system that are inter-agency in scope, to better understand how changes in one part of the system affect other aspects. This allows the team to assess the most efficient use of overall tax dollars from arrest to release. The CJAC has developed a plan to address the jail overcrowding as well as other inefficiencies in the system which was approved by the County Commissioners. The proposal to fund these programs and help solve the criminal justice crisis will ask citizens for a 5 mill increase in property taxes this fall.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Ballot language.
2. PowerPoint Presentation.

LARIMER COUNTY CRIMINAL JUSTICE PROPERTY TAX QUESTION

SHALL LARIMER COUNTY TAXES BE INCREASED \$18,675,000 ANNUALLY (FIRST FULL FISCAL YEAR DOLLAR INCREASE IN 2007) BY THE IMPOSITION OF PROPERTY TAXES AT THE RATE OF FIVE MILLS ON ALL TAXABLE PROPERTY WITHIN THE COUNTY WITH ALL REVENUE GENERATED BY THE FIVE MILLS TO BE USED SOLELY AND EXCLUSIVELY FOR ADDRESSING JAIL OVERCROWDING AND EARLY RELEASE OF PRISONERS AND PROVIDING AN EFFICIENT AND COST EFFECTIVE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM BY PAYING AND FINANCING THE COSTS OF ACQUIRING, CONSTRUCTING, OPERATING, MAINTAINING AND EQUIPPING:

- * PROGRAMS AND FACILITIES FOR OFFENDERS WITH MENTAL HEALTH AND DRUG OR ALCOHOL ABUSE PROBLEMS
- * ALTERNATIVE SENTENCING AND WORK PROGRAMS AND FACILITIES FOR NON-VIOLENT OFFENDERS
- * NO LESS THAN 290 ADDITIONAL JAIL BEDS.
- * OTHER DETENTION AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE FACILITIES

AND SHALL THE COUNTY BE AUTHORIZED TO LEVY COLLECT AND SPEND THE PROCEEDS OF SUCH TAXES AND EARNINGS THEREON WITHOUT LIMITATION BY ARTICLE X, SECTION 20 OF THE COLORADO CONSTITUTION, SECTION 29-1-301, COLORADO REVISED STATUTES, AS AMENDED, OR ANY OTHER LAW?

_____ YES

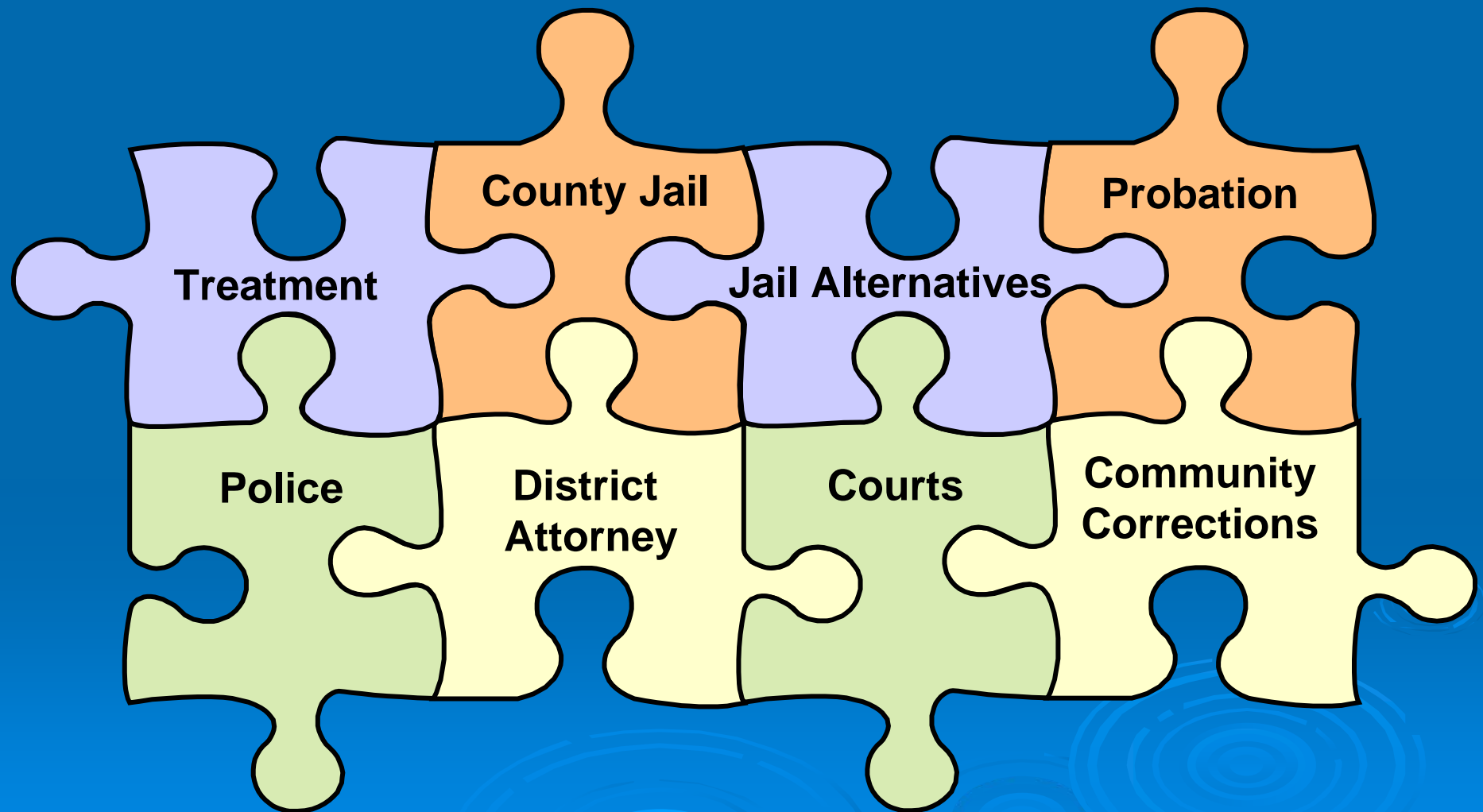
_____ NO

Larimer County Criminal Justice System

An Invisible System

***The invisible Larimer County
Criminal Justice System that
protects YOU
and makes Larimer County a
great place to live is in crisis.***

What is this Invisible System?



What is the Problem?

- System is not Expanding with Growth
- Jail is Dangerously Overcrowded
 - Releasing at 75% of Sentence
- Jail Alternatives are Saturated
 - Not enough space
 - Long Waiting List
- Can't Deal with Causes Effectively
 - Treatment

How Does it Affect You?

- More Criminals will be released in the community.
- More Recidivism
- Greater chance of being victimized
- Losing Your “Safe” Community
- Justice is not Swift and Sure

What Needs to be Done?

- Expand Alternative programs
- More treatment
 - Mental Health
 - Substance Abuse
 - Detox/Acute Treatment Center
- Expand Jail - keep up with Growth
Speed-up Justice

What Are We Proposing?

Police



County Jail



Courts and DA



Treatment



Jail Alternatives

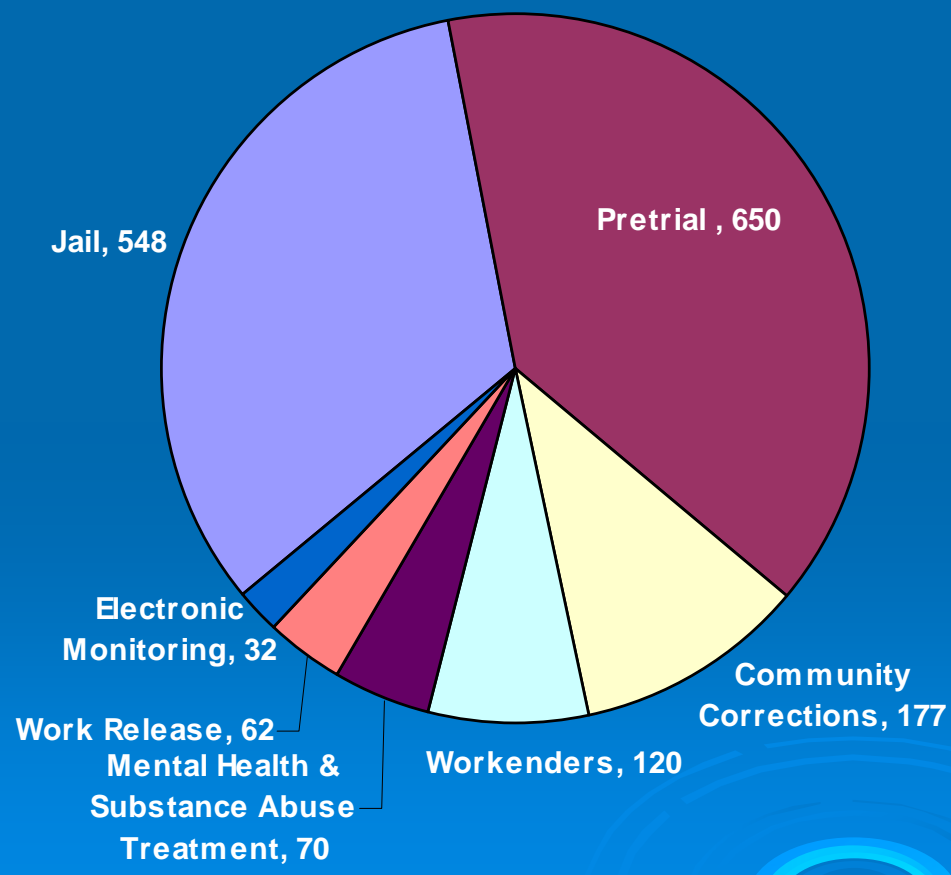


What Are We Proposing?

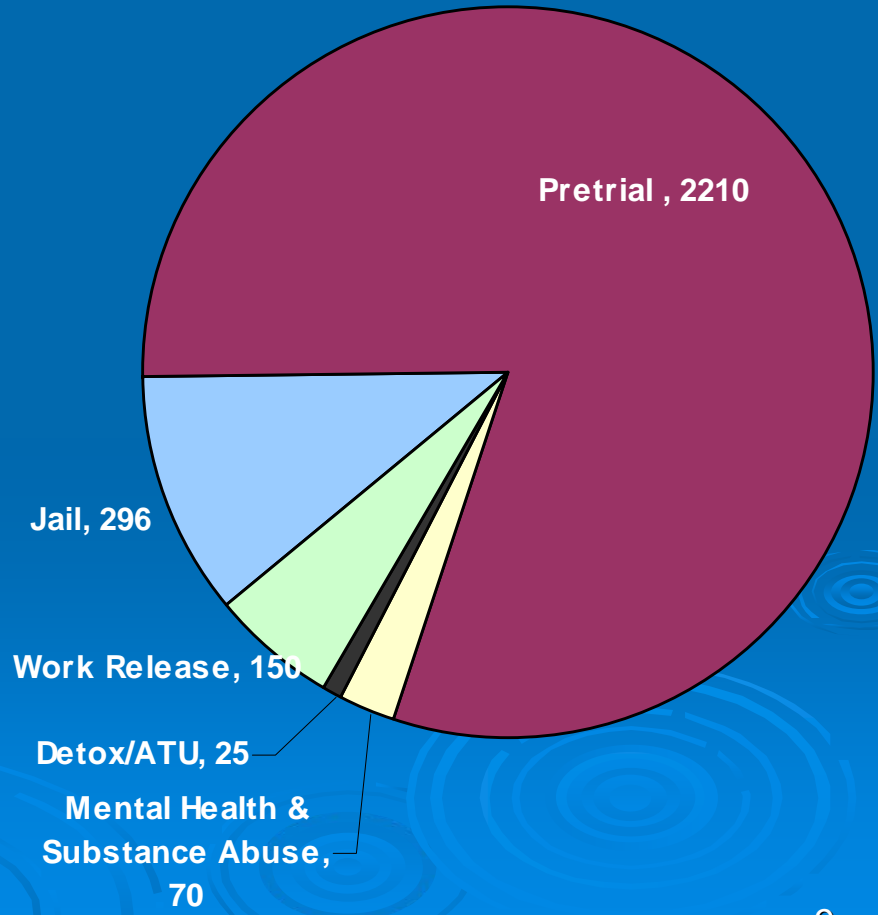
- Expanded Pre-trial Supervision
- Mental Health and Substance Abuse Programs
- Alternative Sentence beds
- Additional jail beds
- Acute Treatment Unit/Detox seed money contribution
- Provides a short term solution to our current debt service

Current Capacity vs. Additional Capacity

Current Capacity



Additional Capacity

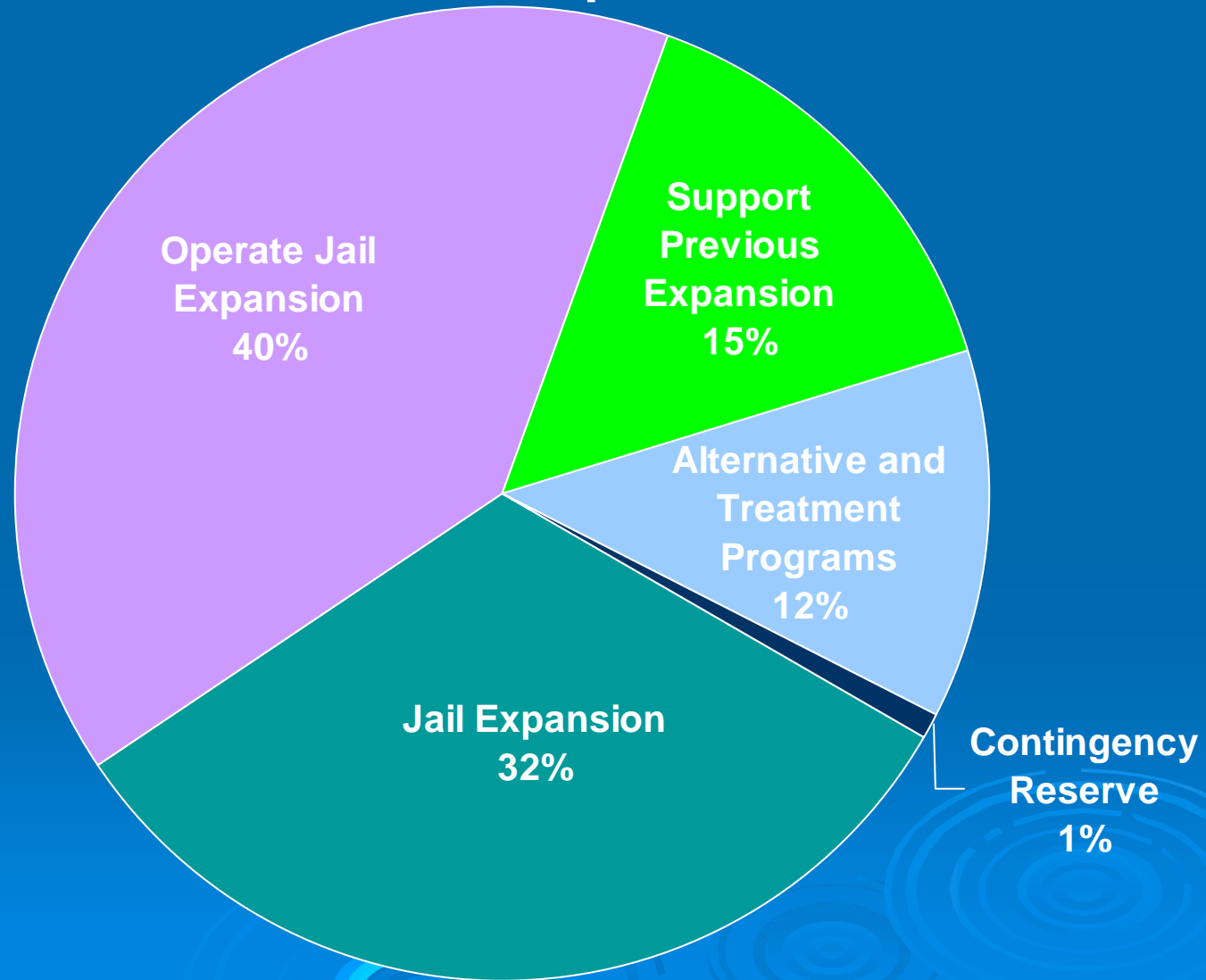


Funds Generated from 5 Mill Levy

Over 4 years period- \$74.9 million (2007-2010)

Category	# Served	Specific Use	Investment
Alternative & Treatment Facilities		Pre-Trial & Mental Health and Substance Abuse Facility	\$ 2,585,056
Operating Treatment Programs	70+ slots	Mental Health & Substance Abuse Staffing & Operating Costs	\$ 3,823,233
Operate Jail Alternative Program	2210 slots	Pre-Trial Program - Staffing and Operating Costs	\$ 1,822,517
Detox Center Contribution	25 beds	Contribution to Public/Private Detox Facility	\$ 1,000,000
Jail Expansion		Jail Expansion	\$24,127,192
Operate Expanded DC	296 beds	Expanded Jail - Staffing and Operating Costs	\$30,038,472
Support Previous Jail Expansion		Operating and Debt Service	\$10,940,374
Contingency Reserve		Reserve for Contingency	\$ 630,233
			\$74,967,075

Uses of Funds - \$74.9 million (2007-2010) 5 Mill Criminal Justice Proposal/Ballot Measure



What Does This Mean To My Taxes?



Cost to you per Week:
\$1.91

This is "The Same as":

Gallons of Gas:	0.64
Flavored Lattes:	0.64
Packs of Cigarettes:	0.77
Pop Machine Cokes:	2.94
Sunday Newspapers:	1.91

What Happens if We Don't Expand the System

- More Releases out of Jail
 - Or not arrested for crimes
- Reduction of Charges Filed
- More Plea Bargaining
- Costly and Non-functioning System
- Less Swift and Sure Justice
- Increased Crime in the Community

Questions or Comments?

