



SHORELINE CITY COUNCIL

Mayor Keith Scully
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Councilmember Chris Roberts

June 5, 2023

Administrative Office of the Courts
1112 Quince St SE
Olympia, WA 98501

To whom it may concern:

On behalf of the City of Shoreline, I would like to share our support for King County District Court's Courts of Limited Jurisdiction Therapeutic Court application. The City of Shoreline has partnered with King County District Court as part of the Community Court model since December 2019. Since this time, our community has benefitted from the both the weekly Community Court session and the Community Resource Center occurring in our City Hall facility and remotely via phone and Zoom. The Community Court model allows for there to be an opportunity to address the underlying conditions that may have brought someone to commit a crime while also holding them accountable for the harm done to the Shoreline community.

There are a number of ways Shoreline already leads regarding race and inclusion efforts, criminal justice reforms, and crisis supports, which positions us well as a partner for this grant. In November 2020, the Shoreline Council signed Resolution 467 declaring the City's commitment to building an anti-racist community through addressing the ways racism is maintained through beliefs, behaviors, and policies. One of the first topics covered by our community was police services. More recently, our Council supported the expansion of the RADAR Program (now known as the Regional Crisis Response Program). This program partners mental health professionals with police officers to support people in acute crisis and connects those in crisis to services after de-escalation. Shoreline also successfully worked with four other north King County cities to secure capital funding from Washington State for King County's first behavior health crisis care center, which will be opening in 2024. Operated by Connections, it will have the capacity to serve up to 14,000 people each year, many of whom currently end up in jail or the emergency room because there is no where else to go when they are in crisis.

Therapeutic courts within King County District Court play an important role Shoreline's interest in advancing racial equity, investing in a more robust behavioral health system, and diverting people with behavioral health needs away from jail and the criminal justice system to the more robust system of care. This grant would help Shoreline's Community Court provide hot meals to community members and court participants during our Community Resource Center, transit cards that work on all transportation systems in our region, and items that serve our community's

families, such as diapers, formula, and socks. We would also be able to use these funds on UAs, when needed. These items draw people in, and once there, we can connect them to supports that keep them from becoming familiar faces in our emergency room, jail, and court room.

Thank you for your time as I shared how important this work is to the Shoreline community. I encourage you to fund this important Courts of Limit Jurisdiction Therapeutic Court project from King County District Court during the fiscal year 2024 grant cycle.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Keith Scully", written in a cursive style.

Mayor Keith Scully
City of Shoreline