



**COMMISSION
AGENDA MEMORANDUM**

Item No.

8g

ACTION ITEM

Date of Meeting

October 13, 2026

DATE : September 1, 2026

TO: Stephen P. Metruck, Executive Director

FROM: Alycia McKinney, Deputy Chief of Police

SUBJECT: SCORE Public Safety Funding 2027

Amount of this request: \$2,232,250

Total estimated project cost: \$2,232,250

ACTION REQUESTED

Request Commission authorization for the 2027 Rate Amendment Agreement in the amount of up to \$2,232,250 for services provided by South Correctional Entity (SCORE) in conjunction with the SCORE Interlocal Agreement for Inmate Housing with the Port of Seattle.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Port of Seattle Police Department currently utilizes jail services under an ILA between the Port of Seattle and SCORE. SCORE is an efficient and effective solution for booking since it is located approximately at the southern border of SEA Airport, in Des Moines, Washington, and is the primary booking entity for most South King County law enforcement agencies.

On an annual basis, SCORE posts revised rates for the upcoming year to be executed as an Amendment that extends the original Interlocal Agreement. This item will authorize the Rate Amendment Agreement for 2027, and the funding required to support this Amendment. Without the authorization of this amendment, the original agreement will expire on November 1, 2026, and we would no longer be able to book into the facility.

JUSTIFICATION

SCORE remains the most practical primary booking facility for the Port of Seattle Police Department. Located approximately 3.5 miles south of SEA Airport, SCORE provides general housing, medical and mental health care, transportation, and virtual court services. Arrestees are generally held through their initial appearance, reducing the likelihood that they will immediately return to the airport following an arrest. Some arrestees also require individual housing because of safety concerns, while others require enhanced medical or mental health care. These circumstances increase costs but are necessary to safely manage individuals in custody. Other

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facilities considered were not viable because of higher costs, greater travel distances, limited capacity, booking restrictions, or facility conditions.

Key 2027 rates include:

Billable Bed Type	2027 Rates
General Guaranteed	\$171.26
General Non-Guaranteed	\$235.02
Medical Surcharge (in addition to daily rate)	
Mental Health General	\$187.78
Medical Acute	\$256.28
Mental Health Acute	\$328.31
Other Charges (in addition to daily rate)	
Booking Fee	\$99.75
Transports/Hospital Security	\$98.70
Virtual Court Admin Fee	\$78.75

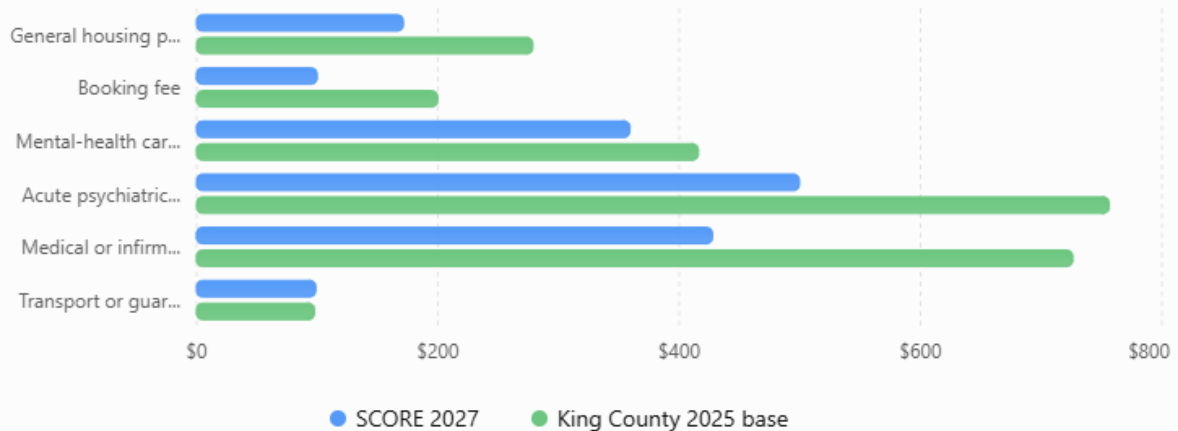
The adopted 2027 SCORE rates also compare favorably with the rates established under the King County jail agreement, and in the six most critical expense categories, SCORE offers either substantially more favorable or equal rates to King County. SCORE's guaranteed general-housing rate is \$171.26 per day, compared with King County's 2025 base maintenance charge of \$278.60 per day, a difference of \$107.34 before applying King County's required annual inflation adjustments. SCORE's booking fee is \$99.75, compared with King County's base booking fee of \$199.81 and standard booking fee of \$293.28 when King County provides personal-recognizance screening.

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SCORE and King County jail-rate comparison

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SCORE 2027 adopted rates compared with King County 2025 contractual base rates.



Specialized-care amounts include the base housing rate plus the applicable surcharge. SCORE calculations use the guaranteed-bed rate. King County rates are 2025 base amounts subject to annual inflation.

SCORE also offers lower specialized care costs. When the guaranteed housing rate and applicable surcharge are combined, SCORE's daily costs are \$359.04 for mental health care, \$499.57 for acute psychiatric care, and \$427.54 for medical acute care. King County's corresponding 2025 base daily costs are \$415.77, \$756.30, and \$726.03, respectively. Although the agencies' hourly transportation and guarding rates are comparable, SCORE's lower housing, booking, and specialized-care costs, together with its proximity to SEA, make it the more efficient and cost-effective primary booking option.

Actual SCORE expenditures totaled \$1,522,225 in 2025, a 26.3% increase over 2024. Recorded expenditures through July 2026 totaled \$892,424. SCORE attributed its 2027 rate increases primarily to rising medical-care and insurance costs and continued investments in jail safety associated with the opioid epidemic. These costs remain dependent on booking volume, length of stay, housing classification, and the medical or mental health needs of each person booked.

Authorization of \$2,232,250 will provide the funding capacity necessary to maintain uninterrupted jail services throughout 2027 while accounting for these variables and increasing costs. Continued access to SCORE supports public safety, reduces officer travel and booking time, and allows officers to return to patrol duties more efficiently.

Diversity in Contracting

South Correctional Entity (SCORE) is a public entity and does not adversely or positively impact Diversity in Contracting goals.

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DETAILS

Scope of Work

If the authorization is granted, jail services will continue under the current ILA without interruption.

ALTERNATIVES AND IMPLICATIONS CONSIDERED

The following alternatives were considered:

Alternative 1 – Do not approve the 2027 SCORE Rate Amendment Agreement and rely primarily on King County jail facilities.

Cost Implications: This alternative would avoid authorizing \$2,232,250 for SCORE services; however, jail costs would shift to King County and would likely be higher. King County's 2025 base maintenance charge is \$278.60 per day, compared with SCORE's 2027 guaranteed housing rate of \$171.26. King County's base booking fee is \$199.81, or \$293.28 when personal-recognition screening is provided, compared with SCORE's \$99.75 booking fee. King County's rates are also subject to annual inflation adjustments. The total cost cannot be reliably projected because it would depend on booking volume, length of stay, housing classification, and medical or mental health needs.

Pros:

- (1) Avoids committing up to \$2,232,250 for SCORE services.
- (2) Maintains King County as an available booking option when its capacity and booking criteria permit.

Cons:

- (1) King County's housing, booking, medical, and mental health charges are generally higher than SCORE's rates.
- (2) King County may impose booking restrictions or experience capacity limitations that prevent the acceptance of some arrestees.
- (3) Greater travel distances and longer booking times would keep officers away from SEA and maritime patrol duties for longer periods.
- (4) Additional officer time, fuel, vehicle use, and potential overtime costs would reduce or offset any savings from not authorizing SCORE.
- (5) Relying primarily on King County would reduce the Department's operational flexibility and could limit its ability to safely address repeat or serious criminal activity.

This is not the recommended alternative.

Alternative 2 – Reduce custodial bookings and use cite-and-release, diversion, or other non-custodial options whenever legally and operationally appropriate.

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Cost Implications: Annual SCORE expense could range from \$0 to the requested ceiling of \$2,232,250 depending on how often a custodial booking remains necessary. Any savings cannot be reliably predicted.

Pros:

- (1) May reduce jail expenditures below the requested authorization based on actual use.
- (2) Preserves custodial booking for cases involving warrants, significant public-safety concerns, or individuals who are not suitable for release.

Cons:

- (1) Savings cannot be guaranteed because booking volume, length of stay, and medical or mental health needs are not fully within the Port's control.
- (2) Further limiting of bookings could result in individuals returning immediately to Port property and could reduce the Department's ability to address repeat or serious criminal activity.

This is not the recommended alternative.

Alternative 3 – Approve the 2027 SCORE Rate Amendment Agreement and authorize up to \$2,232,250 for SCORE jail services.

Cost Implications: Up to \$2,232,250 in 2027 operating expense, based on actual utilization at the adopted rates.

Pros:

- (1) Maintains uninterrupted access to a jail located near SEA and supports the prompt return of officers to patrol duties.
- (2) Provides access to general housing, medical and mental health care, transport or hospital security, and virtual court services.

Cons:

- (1) Commits up to \$2,232,250 in 2027 operating expense and incorporates the adopted rate increases.
- (2) Actual costs will vary with booking volume, length of stay, and the level of medical or mental health care required.

This is the recommended alternative.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

This request authorizes a maximum of \$2,232,250 in 2027 operating expense for SCORE jail services. Charges will be based on actual utilization at the adopted 2027 rates.

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Cost Estimate/Authorization Summary

Capital

Expense

Total

COST ESTIMATE			
Original estimate	\$0	\$2,232,250	\$2,232,250
AUTHORIZATION			
Previous authorizations	0	0	0
Current request for authorization	0	\$2,232,250	\$2,232,250
Total authorizations, including this request	0	\$2,232,250	\$2,232,250
Remaining amount to be authorized	\$0	\$0	\$0

Annual Budget Status and Source of Funds

The requested \$2,232,250 is included in the Police Department's 2027 operating budget. Expenditures will be charged to the Police Department operating expense budget and monitored against actual bookings, housing days, medical and mental health services, transportation or security services, and virtual court activity.

Financial Analysis and Summary

Project cost for analysis	\$2,232,250
Business Unit (BU)	Police Department
Effect on business performance (NOI after depreciation)	2027 operating expense of up to \$2,232,250
IRR/NPV (if relevant)	Not Applicable
CPE Impact	Not Applicable

Future Revenues and Expenses (Total cost of ownership)

The authorization applies to 2027 services only. Future annual costs will depend on SCORE's adopted rates and the Port's actual utilization. Any authorization required for later years will be presented through the applicable agreement and budget process.

ATTACHMENTS TO THIS REQUEST

- (1) Attachment A - 2027 Rate Amendment Agreement
- (2) Interlocal Agreement Between SCORE and Port of Seattle for Inmate Housing

PREVIOUS COMMISSION ACTIONS OR BRIEFINGS

October 24, 2023 – The Commission approved ongoing funding for SCORE (2023-2026)

September 12, 2021 – The Commission approved a five-year renewal with SCORE

September 8, 2020 – The Commission approved a new housing agreement with SCORE

September 1, 2012 – The Commission approved a new housing agreement with SCORE