

RESOLUTION 2023- 07

A resolution expressing Skamania County Commissioners' support for a Criminal Justice Training Commission (C.J.T.C.) expansion to add a regional law enforcement training center in Southwest Washington.

- WHEREAS,** law enforcement and criminal justice professionals are essential to ensuring public safety; and
- WHEREAS,** for the past several years, law enforcement agencies across Washington state and the nation have experienced an increase in law enforcement resignations, retirements, and a decrease in applications and new hires; and
- WHEREAS,** agencies across Southwest Washington need to recruit new law enforcement professionals in order to fill vacancies and this requires mandatory training at the C.J.T.C.; and
- WHEREAS,** in July 2022, Governor Jay Inslee announced his work with Senator John Lovick to pursue legislative approval to create regional law enforcement training academies across Washington state in order to attract quality recruits who can commute to and from an academy every day and who will then serve their own communities upon graduation; and
- WHEREAS,** part of Governor Inslee's and Senator Lovick's vision is to create a regional public safety training academy in Southwest Washington, which will strongly enhance the Skamania County Sheriff's Office's ability to recruit and retain future law enforcement professionals from the great Southwest Washington area; and
- WHEREAS,** removing the barrier for new applicants of living away from their homes, families, and friends for months in order to attend their required academies increases the opportunities for those who may not be able to spend that amount of time away from home;
- WHEREAS,** a local regional public safety academy improves community engagement and outreach efforts by increasing equitable access to all; and
- WHEREAS,** as Southwest Washington communities continue to grow and our population density increases, a long-term investment from the State of Washington ensures a strong C.J.T.C. relationship; and
- WHEREAS,** a Southwest Washington C.J.T.C. training facility will allow for all local law enforcement agencies to provide state-mandated training, such as L.E.T.C.S.A. requirements, de-escalation training, Crisis Intervention Team training, and continuing career development courses; and
- WHEREAS,** a Southwest Washington regional training facility gives the public a strong vision of investment in community safety and of careers for those who choose a life of service to others.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Skamania County Board of Commissioners expresses its full and complete support for establishment of a Criminal Justice Training Commission regional police training campus in Southwest Washington.

PASSED IN REGULAR SESSION this 24th day of January, 2023.

ATTEST:



Lisa Sacks

Clerk of the Board

SKAMANIA COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Thomas R. Lannen

Commissioner T.W. Lannen

Richard Mahar

Commissioner Richard Mahar

Asa Leckie

Commissioner Asa Leckie

APPROVED as to form only:

[Signature]

Skamania County Prosecuting Attorney

Aye 3
Nay 0
Abstain 0
Absent 0