



TLG and LMC 2016 Case Study Application
Future Ready Communities



DUE: September 4, 2015

Email to: Ryan Spillers at rspillers@transformgov.org

COVER PAGE

1. Case Study Title: Reopening the City Jail
2. Case Study Category (Select only one, selection identified by highlighting your choice):

Planning for Your Future

Creating an Inclusive Community

Reinventing Local Government

Community Networks

Blinders

3. Jurisdiction Name: City of Hoquiam
4. Jurisdiction Population (US Census): 8,945
5. Would you like the application to be considered for our Rapid Fire Session? (Rapid Fire presentations are fast-paced, entertaining, interactive presentations. Each jurisdiction will have five minutes to make their presentations using 15 PPT slides set on auto-forward primarily containing photos/graphics. Participants will be seated at round tables to facilitate an energetic idea exchange. A cash bar will be available.)

YES

NO

6. Project Leader (Primary Contact for case study notification):

Name: Mike Folkers

Title: Finance Director

Department: Finance

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US Mail Address, including zip code: 609 8th Street, Hoquiam, WA 98550

Twitter Account: @cityofhoquiam

List additional presenters contact information below:

N/A

1. Presentation title and description of the innovation. *100 word maximum.*

City Jail Reopening.

The City of Hoquiam closed its jail in 2002 due to budget cuts. It took 10 years to get reopened. But, it could have never happened without a unique partnership.

2. When and how was the program, policy or initiative originally conceived in your jurisdiction? *100 word maximum.*

The partnership was conceived in 2012.

3. How exactly is the program or policy innovative? How has your innovation changed previous processes, products or services? *100 word maximum.*

Reopening the City jail is innovative because it used existing capacity to solve incarceration problems for two agencies. The Washington State Department of Corrections needed a place to house "low-risk" parole offenders and the City needed a way to fund their jail.

This innovative effort allowed us to pay for the operation of the City Jail. But more importantly, it gave the Police Department back the tool they needed to ensure that citizens are safe and that high risk offenders are locked up.

4. Explain how the program or initiative substantially stretched or improved the boundaries of ordinary governmental operations. *200 word maximum.*

Reopening the City Jail stretched ordinary government operations by continually bringing in money from outside the City to operate our jail. It did not take a tax increase. The jail could never have been opened on a full time basis within the current budget. However, by bringing in a steady stream of prisoners from an outside agency it provided the necessary funding to operate the jail. Funding is sufficient today to pay for all of the costs of operating the jail and even allows us to house all of our City prisoners.

5. What individuals or groups are considered the primary initiators of your program? How does the innovation engage stakeholders or demonstrate high performance teaming? Were strategic partnerships and/or community networks developed as a result of the innovation? *200 word maximum.*

The Police Department deserves all of the credit for initiating this program. They worked tirelessly to find ways to get the jail reopened. But, it wasn't until the Washington State Department of Corrections came to look for ways to house prisoners that it could be done. Most importantly, the Police Department staff continued to maintain the Jail for over a decade in hopes that it could be reopened. So, when it finally came time to open the doors the facility was ready to go.

6. If a private consultant was used please describe their involvement, identify the consultant and/or firm and provide contact information. *100 word maximum.*

N/A

7. To what extent do you believe your program or policy initiative is potentially replicable within other jurisdictions and why? To your knowledge, have any other jurisdictions or organizations established programs or implemented policies modeled specifically on this project? Please provide verification of the replication. *200 word maximum.*

When offenders are held accountable, citizens feel safer. This unique partnership has provided so many benefits to both the State and the City. We are truly excited about this opportunity and

believe it should be a model that can be replicated throughout the State. Word of the “Swift and Certain” program has even reached as far as the White House. President Obama has stated that he wants to expand this probation model and use it as an example to reform probation and parole.

8. What were the costs? What were the savings? *100 word maximum.*

In 2014, the Hoquiam City Jail cost \$485,000 to operate. However, the City billed the Washington State Department of Corrections \$440,000 for housing of prisoners resulting in a net cost of \$45,000 to operate the City Jail. In previous years it cost the City \$90,000 to house prisoners with other agencies. Therefore, the savings are \$45,000 per year.

9. Please describe the most significant obstacle(s) encountered thus far by your program. How have they been dealt with? Which ones remain? *200 word maximum.*

The most significant obstacles have been (1) developing a billing system with the Department of Corrections and (2) keeping up with demand for women parole offenders. As this was a new programs, the City needed to develop a process so that bill were submitted timely to the State of Washington. The City now had 5 new employees to pay and needed the reimbursement from the State of Washington to fund this program. Staff was able to determine when bills were due to the State's AP Department and what would be acceptable and the money began flowing in.

The City's Jail is set up to house 10 men and 4 women. However, we have quickly found out that there are just as many women parole offenders as men. Therefore, the City has begun to look at expansion plans for the current jail to house 18 men and 11 women.

10. What outcomes did this program or policy have? What baseline data did you collect? How did you measure the change based on the intervention, and why do you believe in the credibility of this assessment? *200 word maximum.*

N/A

11. Has the program received any press or other media coverage to date? If yes, please list the sources and briefly describe relevant coverage. *100 word maximum.*

Surprisingly, the program has received very little media coverage. It was covered in our local newspaper (www.thedailyworld.com) but aside from that has not been picked up by other media. It has been recognized at the Federal level however and the entire program can be looked at as a solution to for parole violators and local government jail funding.

12. Please provide web links where the innovation can be seen/tested (in the case of something that is web-based) *100 word maximum.*

N/A

13. Please provide any key references and their contact information who can be interviewed/called to discuss the innovation and its impact. *100 word maximum.*

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14. You've been to a lot of conferences. TLG should be a unique experience for everyone. Describe how your case study presentation will be different than other conference presentations. *200 word maximum.*

- How will you make the session creative and unique?
- How do you plan to be both entertaining and educational?
- Include a description of how your session will facilitate group activities and/or interaction.

I've given a lot of presentations over the years and plan to show plenty of pictures of the jail facility before and after. Who doesn't like pictures of a jail?

Also, it is an interesting topic. It has the potential to be replicated by almost any local government whether they have a jail or not. The states have a need to house "low risk" parole offenders and local government have a need to find low cost housing for misdemeanants. Let's partner together and find solutions.

Lastly, my personality is very open, inviting and entertaining. I can make a budget presentation exciting.

15. Anything else you would like to add? *200 word maximum.*