

**REAGAN DUNN**  
Metropolitan King County Council, District Nine

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JAN 28 2009  
MAYOR'S OFFICE

January 28, 2009

Honorable Denis Law, Mayor  
City of Renton  
1055 South Grady Way  
Renton, WA 98055

Re: South Correctional Entity (SCORE)

*Denis*  
Dear ~~Mayor~~ Law,

Thank you for meeting with me recently on the progress of the South Correctional Entity, known as SCORE. This organization, which will be owned by the cities of Auburn, Burien, Des Moines, Federal Way, Renton, SeaTac and Tukwila, is being formed for the purpose of constructing and operating a misdemeanor jail facility that will house the prisoners of the owner cities.

As we discussed, the decision by King County in 2002 to terminate cities' use of King County jails, has forced the cities of King County to investigate alternatives for housing your misdemeanor prisoners. I understand thirty-seven of the thirty-nine cities, working collectively as the Jail Administrative Group (JAG), have spent years of effort and extensive resources to address our jail needs and concerns.

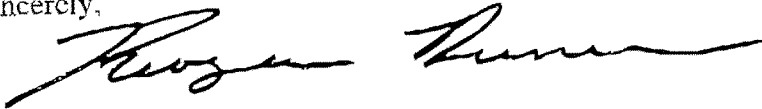
In general my view is that in a perfect world, King County should be the regional jail service provider. However, the King County Executive has been slow to offer contract extensions as proposed by the King County Council. The County has no firm plan to provide jail beds to south King County misdemeanants after that date. Given that King County has not provided reasonable alternatives to the cities, I believe that you are prudently planning for the future.

After our discussion, I believe that the approach you are pursuing represents an efficient and effective way to provide this essential public service to the tax payer and is a good example of how governments should partner to leverage scarce resources.

I encourage SCORE in its site location process to be sufficiently open in order to give the public confidence that the proper site has been selected. Given the very short timelines imposed by your current jail contracts with King County and Yakima, I understand your commitment to have this facility operational prior to 2012, to ensure adequate jail space throughout the King County system.

Thank you again for the briefing, and please contact my office if I can assist further in your efforts.

Sincerely,



Reagan Dunn,  
King County Council

Ccs to King County Council members, Executive Sims, SCORE Mayors