



FY2008 RECOMMENDATION/FY08-BP48 IMPROVE DOC'S INMATE TRANSPORTATION/DROP-OFF SYSTEM

Status: Implementation Complete

Actions/Updates

2013 UPDATE

No major changes have occurred since the 2012 update was submitted. The following explains DOC's procedure for discharging offenders. Releasing offenders to their final destination is primarily based on location. Offenders being released in Colorado Springs are dropped off at two bus stops depending on the scheduled move for the day. The first bus stop is located on Nevada. When the offender is dropped off the transport staff provides the offender a bus pass and map of routes for that area. The second bus stop location is on Las Vegas Street next to CAE (Community Alternative of El Paso County). During the months when the weather is frigid, offenders are also given a pair of brown jersey gloves and a blue knit cap to stay warm. Offenders released in Denver are dropped off at the Denver Complex and catch the bus stop on Smith Road. These offenders are also provided with a bus pass, bus routes/ maps, gloves and knit caps.

2012 UPDATE

On two occasions the DOC submitted a solicitation for contract transportation services without favorable results. Despite this the DOC moved forward with initiatives to improve the offender transportation/drop-off system.

Administrative Regulation (AR) 200-01, Monetary Consideration for Departure, dated May 1, 2011, requires the department to provide public bus transportation for offenders, discharging their sentence or paroled, to and authorized destination with the state of Colorado. Offenders may have authorized individuals pick them up from the facility and transport them to their release destination. However, if offenders do not have a ride from prison to their release destination they are to advise their case manager who will arrange transportation with Offender Services. They will be taken to a location where public bus services are available. Funds or bus tokens are provided for public transportation from the drop off location to their release destination.

The DOC Division of Adult Parole, Community Corrections, and Youth Offender Services developed and provides offender clients an education session on transportation, options, and resources. Included is information on reading maps and bus routes, how to manage one's time on the bus, and transportation methods, routes and trip planners. Pre-release specialists provide assistance to offenders to reinstate their driver's licenses, if eligible, and to connect offenders to faith/community-based organizations for transportation assistance. A kiosk for public transportation routes and a limited supply of bus tokens are available at some parole offices.

2011 UPDATE - OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE ACTION STEPS

Department of Corrections Chief Financial Officer Karl Spiecker to report back to CCJJ staff with an update on the status of this recommendation.

2010 UPDATE

Implementation unknown. Officials from the Department of Corrections report that pre-planning for drafting a solicitation for transportation services began in September 2009. The official solicitation requesting Documented Quotes was published on December 30, 2009. The posting closed on January 29, 2010, and a potential vendor was identified. During the review process, it was found the owner had recently discharged parole and was a convicted sex offender. The RFP process was terminated.

2009 UPDATE - ACTION/IMPLEMENTATION

The Department of Corrections reports that it plans to develop improved drop-off procedures for all offenders, including those that discharge their sentence and have no supervision requirements. It intends to analyze the number and types inmates per location for the purpose of developing an RFP (request for proposal) by August 1, 2009 for transportation services to be performed during regular work hours to Denver's John Inmann Work and Family Center. DOC plans to develop an after hours and emergency process to deliver parolees to their community destination by September 1, 2009. DOC plans to provide re-entry brochures, RTD bus route information and bus tokens for after hours and emergency drop offs by September 1, 2009. DOC plans by December 1, 2009 to begin collaboration with faith- and community-based organizations, including CURE, to coordinate transportation and community services for discharged offenders.

2009 UPDATE-IMPACT

Future Commission reports will document the progress made by DOC's response to this recommendation.

2009 UPDATE-BARRIERS

The Department of Corrections reports potential barriers regarding staffing and funding. Specifically, contracted transportation services may exceed \$40,000 annually. This recommendation requires careful coordination among three DOC entities: Case Management, Pre-Release, and Central Transport.

Description

Develop an efficient system for transferring an offender from DOC institutional custody to the custody of community corrections and/or parole supervision.

Agencies Responsible

Department of Corrections

Discussion

Removing barriers to successful offender re-entry into the community is a Commission objective. DOC's efforts to improve the offender's first experience in the transition from prison to the community further the Commission's statutory mandate to "focus on evidence-based recidivism reduction initiatives..." and, by doing so, ensure the "...cost effective use of public resources." [C.R.S. 16-11.3-103(1)].