



# Seattle Municipal Court Programs & Services Redesign

In June 2020, Seattle Municipal Court released an evaluation of our Probation Services department commissioned from the Vera Institute of Justice. We committed to implementing recommendations from the evaluation to improve services and further our court-wide commitment to lessen barriers and increase equity in the criminal legal system.

We began to implement the report's recommendations in June 2020 and will continue restructuring the Programs and Services division, which includes Probation Services, through 2021.

## Focus on high-risk case types.

- Prioritize probation referrals on domestic violence, driving under the influence, and Seattle Mental Health Court cases
- Discontinue practice of monitoring individuals' criminal records after case obligations have been completed

## Make probation goal-based.

- Shift to a goal-based supervision approach, focused on short term engagement aligned with client treatment needs and community-based supportive services
- Ensure meaningful client interactions and use incentives for early release

## Redesign Pretrial Services.

- Center our pretrial justice approach on Seattle Community Court, and promoting community-based social service connections through our Community Resource Center
- Phase out in-person Day Reporting program and shift to more supportive model to engage individuals returning to court

## Engage with community.

- Engage stakeholders to reduce race and gender disparities through listening sessions and analysis of probation outcome data
- Listen to community members and people with lived experience to inform policies through multiple community engagement approaches