

## **Graduated Reentry Program & Reentry Eligibility Information Continued**

Through the new Legislation passed in 2021 (SB5121), incarcerated individuals have the opportunity to transition into their communities through the following pathways:

- Track One: Prison to Reentry Center (up to 12 months remaining on sentence) to Electronic Home Monitoring (EHM) (up to five months remaining on sentence) to Release or Prison to EHM (five months) to Release.
- Track Two: Prison to EHM (up to 18 months remaining on sentence) to Release.
- Traditional Reentry Center: Prison to Reentry Center (up to six months remaining on sentence) to Release.

Incarcerated individuals are referred to the program by a classification counselor. After prescreening, the individual is placed on a waiting list. The list is not necessarily first come, first serve. Admission into the program is based upon factors such as completion of a treatment program (if eligible) which reduces the risk to reoffend, staying infraction free and creating a feasible and realistic individualized case plan detailing what are they interested in accomplishing and what would aid in making them successful.

Individuals participating in the Reentry Center program on average have been incarcerated for five years or less. The rational being, while individuals are in full confinement, the community and built environment around them may go through many changes over time. This makes transition back into society more shocking and difficult to navigate for individuals that serve a longer sentence. An incarcerated individual having served 10+ years go through a different step down transitional program that takes longer than the traditional six months Reentry Center allocation to acclimate the individual into reentering society. This helps explain why for instance, someone convicted of first degree murder who would typically spend 20 yrs. in full confinement, will rarely ever be enrolled in the Reentry Center program.

Once Individuals have reached their release date, they are released to their County of origin, where their first conviction took place (not necessarily the crime they are currently serving time for). A concern expressed by PC is that individuals within a potential Reentry Center in SeaTac will then be released into the City of SeaTac. While that may be true for some, it does not pertain to all. The individual must provide an address to where they wish to be released within the County (King County). A family member or support person/agency willing to provide assistance but located in a different County may be approved, but not guaranteed. The residence and its inhabitants must comply with all conditions of supervision, i.e., drugs, alcohol, and firearms are prohibited.

The Department of Corrections may issue rental vouchers for up to six months if an approved address cannot be obtained without the assistance of that voucher. There are currently four residential properties across the City of SeaTac that accept the DOC rental vouchers (see exhibit 2).