

March 10, 2023

TO:	All WCC Staff
	Teamsters 117

FROM: Sean Murphy, Deputy Secretary

SUBJECT: Streamlining Reception Services

First, I want to thank Washington Corrections Center (WCC) staff for all the hard work you put into running the state's main reception facility, your work does not go unnoticed and is appreciated.

As you may know, DOC's reception systems have historically had significant challenges that the agency has worked to fix on multiple occasions. One identified challenge – intake processes take 60-90 days on average, while an industry target is set at 30 days. Another challenge, over time WCC as a physical plant has not been able to meet the needs of reception based on changing policy statutes, court decisions and many other factors.

It is in all our best interests to ensure that our main reception center for incarcerated men in Washington State runs as smoothly and efficiently as possible. I have asked my leadership team to put together a multidivisional team made up of Men's Prisons Division, Health Services Division, Comprehensive Case Management, Statewide Records, and Employee & Business Support Services Administration to carefully assess these challenges and propose meaningful solutions.

While this work is just beginning, they have already identified that previous attempts to solve reception challenges were unsuccessful because the focus was on WCC as the problem, rather than considering that the statewide system itself was the main issue.

The ultimate goal of this project team will be to redesign reception processes to eliminate floor sleepers. While we are very excited about this project and are eager to get started, it is important to take the time to fully understand the scope of this project and how we can accomplish these goals. You can expect to start seeing the project team present at WCC starting March 14, 2023.

As this project develops, we will share more information with you including project updates, progress and estimated completion dates. For now, please be patient as the project team gets started, while this is a very long awaited and much needed project, this work takes time. Superintendent Dean Mason will communicate with you regularly about any local impacts.