

No New Women's Prison Open Meeting

...

April 11, 2020

Agenda

1. Welcome & brief introductions
2. Collective values
3. History of the prison
4. What we've done so far
5. Input & reflection
6. How to plug into upcoming work



Art by Monica Trinidad

Collective Values / Points of Unity

- **Abolition.** We can keep each other safe and prisons only harm us. We do not trust attempts to “improve” carceral institutions that only lead to more cages.
- **Community & Collective Power.** As we grow and strengthen our care for each other, we have what we need to replace prisons.
- **Accountability.** We strive in our work to be accountable to the people directly targeted by the violence of incarceration. Our actions are meaningful only to the extent that they enable the self-determination of targeted communities.
- **Gender, Disability & Racial Justice:** Carceral logics and institutions exist to maintain white supremacy and are inherently oppressive to BIPOC, queer people, women, and disabled people.

History of the DOC's plan for a new women's prison at Maple Lane and our fight against it

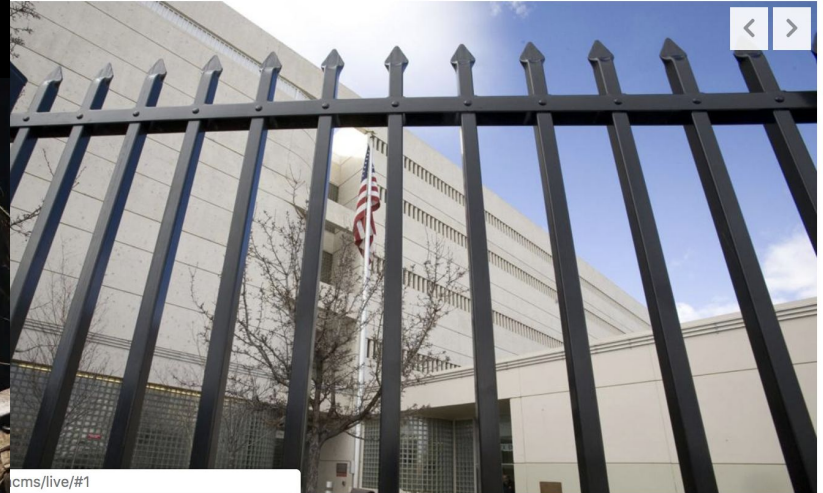
The DOC says overcrowding (a.k.a over-incarceration) in women's prisons means we need *more* cages. We don't.

"Awful" conditions at Yakima County Jail endanger contract to house state inmates

Yakima Herald-Republic Dec 6, 2016

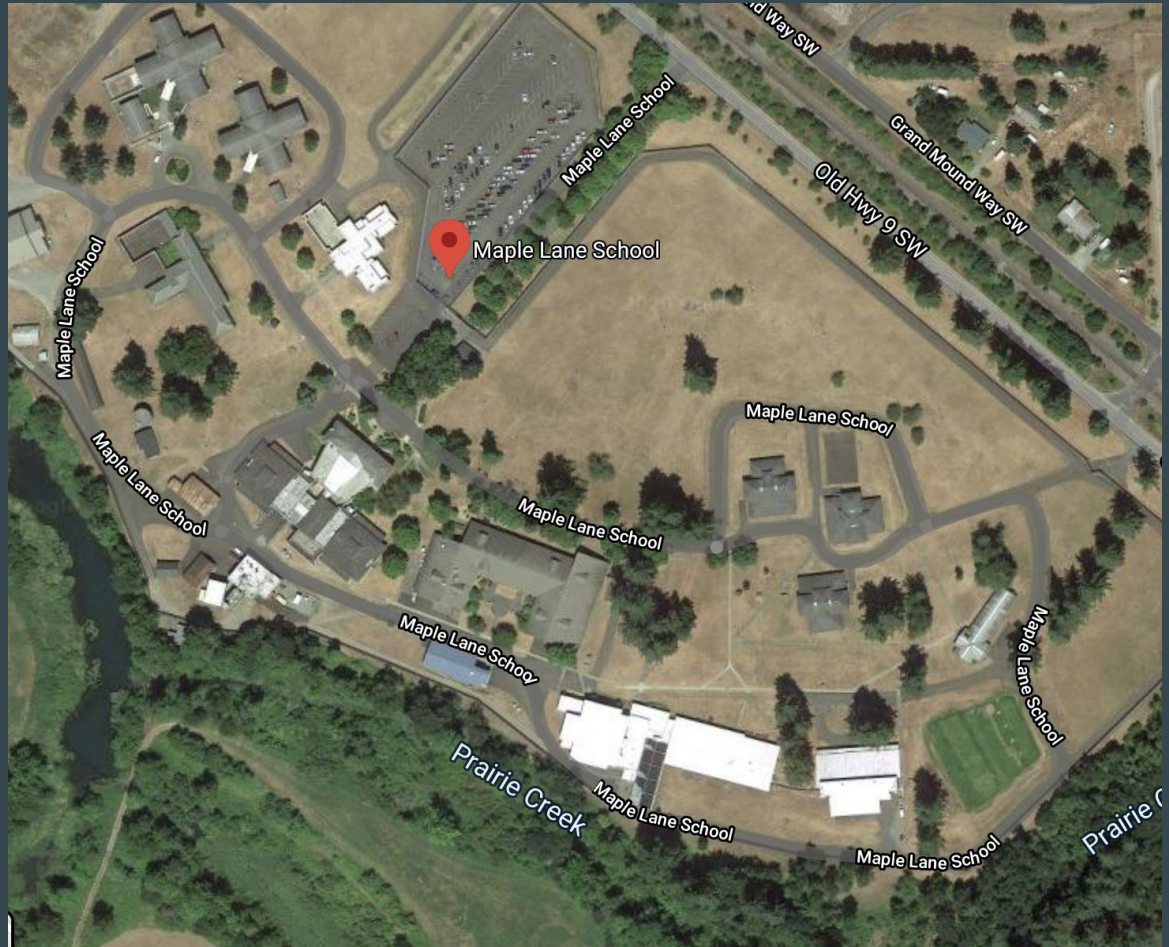
Overcrowding at WCCW Creates Great Hardship for Women Transferred to Yakima County Jail

by Civil Survival | Mar 28, 2018



cms/live/#1

The DOC's Plan to expand Maple Lane



An Opening: Prisons aren't a permissible land use in Grand Mound. The DOC is trying to change that. We won't let them.

PLANNED INDUSTRIAL PARK - DEVELOPMENT CODE AMENDMENT



Request:

Amend Title 20, Chapter 20.27 to include prisons/prerelease facilities as a permitted special use in Planned Industrial Park District.



[John Hutchings](#)
[District 1 Map](#)

Chair

Board of Health Vice-Chair
[Send an Email to Hutch](#)



[Gary Edwards](#)
[District 2 Map](#)

Commissioner

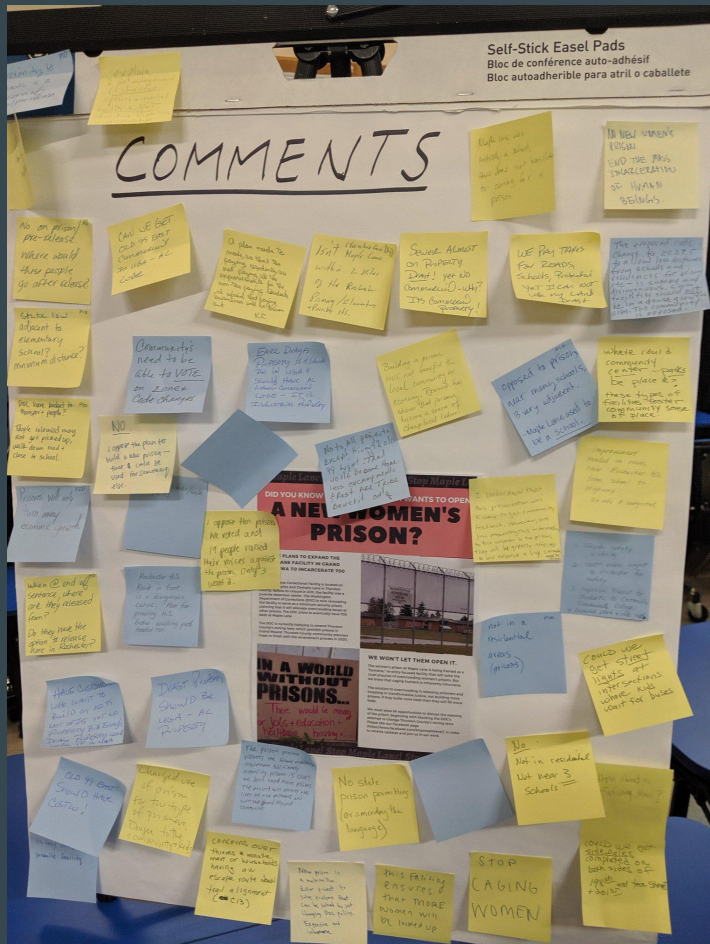
Board of Health Commissioner
[Send an Email to Gary](#)



[Tye Menser](#)
[District 3 Map](#)

Vice-Chair

Board of Health Chair
[Send an Email to Tye](#)



Our Strategy

**CALL THE THURSTON
COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
AND TELL THEM TO STOP
PLANS TO BUILD A NEW
WOMEN'S PRISON!**

JOHN HUTCHINGS (360) 357-2470
GARY EDWARDS (360) 786-5747
TYE MENSER (360) 786-5414

CALL
GOV. INSLEE
TO HALT
PLANS TO
BUILD A
NEW
WOMEN'S
PRISON
(360) 902-4111

**BLACK WOMEN
ARE 2X MORE
LIKELY TO BE
IMPRISONED FOR
KILLING THEIR
ABUSIVE
PARTNERS THAN
WHITE WOMEN**

Building with Thurston County + Grand Mound Communities



\$19 million jail expansion in Tumwater



\$250 million for a new Courthouse in Olympia

Feedback & Reflection

What excites you about this campaign?

Do you have any insights into strategy going forward?

Are there things you would like to see this campaign do?

Are there ways you would like to contribute?

Going forward

- How to get involved... 4 key tasks
 - **Communications** - Join this group if you want to be part of helping create messaging about the campaign (targeting WA residents who don't know about the project, Gov Inslee who could stop it, and the Thurston County Commission who could slow it by refusing zoning), using social media, doing direct outreach to organizations we want to, developing a strategy for getting orgs to sign on to a shared platform against the prison, working with journalists to generate articles, etc. (Contact: Meredith meredith.ruff11@gmail.com)
 - **Local Government and Community Orgs** - This group is focused on generating awareness about the campaign in Thurston County and Grand Mound specifically, which might include outreach to organizations there, to residents, and a focus on the Thurston County Council. (Contact: Dani danishapiro1@gmail.com)
 - **Connecting with Incarcerated People in WA State** - this group is responsible for maintaining and building inside/outside relationships with people at WCCW and Yakima Jail and building shared analysis about the Maple Lane project so we can work together across the walls. (Contact: Scout scsmedley94@gmail.com)
 - **Research** - this group is responsible for researching the history and current state of the DOC's plans for Maple Lane. This research includes finding out what the gaps in our knowledge are, communicating with people have information we need, creating records requests, and summarizing information for the larger group (Contact: Will will.mckeithen@gmail.com)

Closing go-round

Briefly, what is something that is giving you faith or strength during this difficult time?

Next Meeting

Saturday, 4/18 - 10:30AM-11:30AM

<https://washington.zoom.us/j/5415975606>

+16027530140,,5415975606#

ACTION YOU CAN DO RIGHT NOW! Tell them No New Womens' Prison!

CALL Gov. Inslee 360-902-4111

Thurston County Commissioners

John Hutchings 360-357-2470, Gary Edwards 360-786-5747, Tye Menser 360-786-5414

County Planner: Shannon Shula - 360-786-5474 - shannon.shula@co.thurston.wa.us (a good to email to submit public comment if commissioner mailbox is full; Shannon is recording and collecting public comment)

Sign On Link: <https://forms.gle/Lqup3w7CvQAYJMhn6>