



**II. FISCAL IMPACT ANALYSIS**

**A. Five Year Summary of Fiscal Impact:**

<b>Fiscal Years</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2025</b>
<b>Capital Expenditures</b>					
<b>Operating Costs</b>					
<b>External Revenues</b>					
<b>Program Income (County)</b>					
<b>In-Kind Match (County)</b>					
<b>NET FISCAL IMPACT</b>					
<b>#ADDITIONAL FTE</b>					
<b>POSITIONS (CUMULATIVE)</b>					

Is Item Included in Current Budget?      Yes       No  
 Does this item include the use of federal funds?      Yes       No

**Budget Account No:**  
 Fund                          Dept                          Unit

**B. Recommended Sources of Funds/Summary of Fiscal Impact:**

**C. Departmental Fiscal Review:**

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**III. REVIEW COMMENTS:**

**A. OFMB Fiscal and/or Contract Dev. and Control Comments:**

*[Signature]*  
 OFMB # 8221 LM  
 8/12

*[Signature]*  
 Contract Dev. & Control  
 8/10/21

**B. Legal Sufficiency**

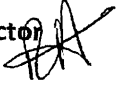
*[Signature]*  
 Assistant County Attorney

**C. Other Department Review**

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Department Director

**(THIS SUMMARY IS NOT TO BE USED AS A BASIS FOR PAYMENT.)**

**INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM**

**DATE:** July 20, 2021  
**TO:** Verdenia C. Baker, County Administrator  
**THRU:** Dorritt Miller, Assistant County Administrator  
**FROM:** Regenia Herring, Executive Director  
Criminal Justice Commission   
**RE:** PEACE Proposal on Community Identification Program

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Below is summary on the background of the Community Identification Program and its current status.

**Background** - In late 2017, the Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) requested the Criminal Justice Commission (CJC) review the Community Identification (ID) Card program proposal presented by the PEACE Community. The CJC established an Ad Hoc Committee, consisting of the following individuals, to perform this review:

- Rev. Kevin L. Jones, Chair
- Chief Deputy Michael Gauger, PBSO
- Chief Sarah Mooney, WPB Police Department
- Erika Whitfield, PB School District
- Jennifer Loyless, Public Defenders Office
- Vanessa Coe, Legal Aid Society

This committee met and reviewed the proposed program, other similar community identification programs, and the requirements for obtaining a Florida driver license and identification card, as well as consular identification cards. The following benefits and concerns were noted:

*Benefits:*

- Reduction in jail for those eligible for a notice to appear, but arrested instead because they lacked a valid ID;
- Reduction in law enforcement resources needed to transport arrestees; and
- An increase in employment for individuals who need an ID to access gated communities to work.

*Concerns:*

- Public records exposure for individuals provided this ID, if project is funded with public dollars;
- Law enforcement voiced the need for the retention of documents as a means to verify the integrity of the issuance of the card and to inspect the documents if an ID card is used in a fraudulent or criminal manner; and

- Potential for fraud, use of counterfeit documents to obtain an ID in another person's name or counterfeiting themselves and then using to commit criminal acts.

**CJC & Sheriff Recommendations** - In December 2017, the CJC voted unanimously to conceptually endorse the Community ID Card program, using the Mercer County, NJ program model as its guide for proof of identity, residence, age, establishing fees and expiration date. The Sheriff's Office was not in support of the program as it was presented. Subsequently, the Board of County Commissioners voted against funding the project.

**Program Startup and Current Status** - According to Vanessa Coe, Supervising Attorney with the Legal Aid Society, the City of West Palm Beach awarded a \$40,000 grant to Legal Aid for the startup of the Community ID Card program in February 2019. During the first year of operations, 3,000 ID cards were issued and no incidences of fraud reported. It is estimated that 75-90% of these cards were issued to undocumented members of the community. In 2020, the program issued only 100 cards because of funding shortfalls and the pandemic. The cost of each ID card is \$20 and is renewable annually.

The Cities of West Palm Beach, Lake Worth Beach and Belle Glade passed resolutions to accept the community ID cards for access to city services; such as:

- Library use
- Secondary form of ID for utilities
- Admissions to city events

Law enforcement service was not mentioned in the resolutions; however, The City of West Palm Beach Police Department indicated they, in some cases, were recognizing the ID cards for minor offenses in lieu of physical arrests.

Ms. Coe indicated that the card is also accepted by Guardians Credit Union, local pharmacies, county libraries, and the Health Care District.

On, Thursday, July 15, 2021, Legal Aid held an ID card drive at the West Palm Beach Library from 10am-4pm and only five cards were issued. The next event will be held on Wednesday, July 21, 2021. These events are by appointment only.

On July 19, 2021, I spoke with the Sheriff about his current position on the ID program. He indicated that he was not in favor of this program in its present form; however, he has directed his staff to conduct research on best practice community ID programs operating across the US and compare them to Legal Aid's program. Upon completion of this research, which is expected by mid-August 2021, he plans to present the findings and recommendations.

## Program Summary

Below is a description of the program as outlined on Legal Aid's website.

The screenshot shows a website page for the Legal Aid Society of Palm Beach County. The page title is "Community ID of the Palm Beaches". The content is organized into several sections: "WHY WAS THE ID PROGRAM CREATED:", "WHO ADMINISTERS THE PROGRAM:", "WHO CAN RECEIVE A COMMUNITY ID?", "WHAT DOCUMENTATION IS REQUIRED TO RECEIVE AN ID?", "HOW ARE IDs DISTRIBUTED?", and "WHAT THIS ID IS:". To the right of the text is a graphic for the "Community I.D. of the Palm Beaches Identification Card". The graphic includes the ID number "ID# CID1- 1", the name "Jane Doe", address "1234 Main Street, Anytown, FL 33401", and date of birth "Date of Birth: 1/1/1990". Below the graphic is a disclaimer: "THIS IS NOT A GOVERNMENT ISSUED I.D." and a list of participating cities: "West Palm Beach" and "Lake Worth Beach". At the bottom of the graphic is the slogan "Your Community. Your I.D." and contact information: "For information, Call 561-822-9740". The footer of the page reads "An affiliation of FaithAction International House."

**Community ID of the Palm Beaches**

**WHY WAS THE ID PROGRAM CREATED:** Some residents of Palm Beach County do not have the ability to receive a state or federally issued ID card. Residents are often required to prove their identity for numerous reasons each day, and without a reliable ID may not be able to identify themselves with law enforcement, receive urgent services with schools, health centers, city departments or agencies

**WHO ADMINISTERS THE PROGRAM:** Legal Aid Society of Palm Beach County

**WHO CAN RECEIVE A COMMUNITY ID?** The Community ID card is available to all residents of Palm Beach County

**WHAT DOCUMENTATION IS REQUIRED TO RECEIVE AN ID?**

- proof of identity (passport, consular ID card, state or federal government issued ID)
- proof of residency (bill, lease)

**HOW ARE IDs DISTRIBUTED?** The Legal Aid Society will be holding monthly ID drives throughout Palm Beach County. At the ID drives, interested participants will take part in an orientation about what the card is and isn't.

Other community partners will be invited to the drives – like the police or local nonprofits – to present about the services they offer.

If the provided documents are sufficient, the participant will pay \$20.00 and move to the next station where they will have their picture taken. ID cards are not printed immediately but instead are printed when our staff return to the office. The cards will be mailed 2-3 weeks after an ID drive.

**WHAT THIS ID IS:** The cards provide cardholders with a reliable form of identification that can be used as a tool by law enforcement, city departments, health centers, schools, businesses and cultural art organizations to better identify, serve, and protect us.

**WHAT THIS ID IS NOT:** The card is not a state issued form of identification or a driver's license. It cannot be used to vote and does not entitle cardholders to any social welfare benefits nor will it prevent an individual from being arrested. It does not have any impact on an individual's immigration status.

**ID EXPIRATION:** The cards will expire in one year and are renewable at that time.

**FOR QUESTIONS, CONTACT:** Sol Couto, Coordinator, Legal Aid Society of Palm Beach County, Inc. 561-655-8944 ext. 146. [scouto@legalaidpbc.org](mailto:scouto@legalaidpbc.org)

**Community I.D. of the Palm Beaches  
Identification Card**

ID# CID1- 1

Jane Doe  
1234 Main Street  
Anytown, FL 33401  
Date of Birth: 1/1/1990

**THIS IS NOT A GOVERNMENT ISSUED I.D.**

**Participating Cities:**

West Palm Beach      Lake Worth Beach

**Your Community. Your I.D.**  
For information, Call 561-822-9740  
An affiliation of FaithAction International House.