

AMENDING THE 2026 OPERATING BUDGET IN THE PRETRIAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT FOR ELECTRONIC MONITORING

The Dane County Pretrial Services Department provides supervision and support to referred defendants during the pendency of their criminal court cases. Circuit court judges and court commissioners refer defendants to the program and may order supervision conditions such as GPS and/or alcohol monitoring. These forms of electronic monitoring are often utilized as an alternative to incarceration and help reduce unnecessary pretrial detention. This allows defendants to remain in the community while simultaneously providing protection for victims and the public.

Dane County Pretrial Services staff directly oversee all electronic monitoring usage and provide relevant updates to the judiciary, defense counsel, and the District Attorney's Office. Historically, the only limits on electronic monitoring were due to workload capacity. However, after thorough review by the Harvard Kennedy School Government Performance Lab, recent programmatic changes have been implemented to reduce the use of electronic monitoring. These data-driven decisions align with best practice and encourage a fiscally responsible use of resources.

During this transition period, judicial officials have been reviewing cases and removing electronic monitoring conditions when appropriate. While usage is being reviewed and the deployment of monitoring devices reduced, there is a need for additional budgetary resources to pay for monitoring devices in the Pretrial Services Department. This resolution increases funding for the department for 2026 to accommodate projected usage through the end of the calendar year. The increased expenditure is offset by revenues in the Treasurer's Office that exceed the 2026 budget amounts.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that revenue account TREAS 80285 "Payment in Lieu of Taxes be increased by \$30,000 and revenue account TREAS 80150 "Statutory Penalty" be increased by \$10,000 and expense account PRETRIAL 30940 "Electronic Monitoring-POS" be increased by \$40,000.