



Justice and Safety

Goal: Support safe communities and accessible justice systems for all

This goal has four objectives:

1. Keep people safe in their homes and communities
2. Ensure fair and accessible justice systems
3. Ensure offending individuals are appropriately detained or sanctioned
4. Decrease damage or harm in the event of a regional crisis

The County plays different roles in support of these objectives. In some areas, the County is the regional government primarily responsible for providing services to meet the objectives: the prosecution, defense, detention, and adjudication of persons charged with felony crimes; civil and small claims matters above \$75,000; juvenile offenders; family law matters, such as divorce; and therapeutic courts. The County also leads regional planning efforts such as emergency management and supports partnerships with local jurisdictions to efficiently coordinate justice and safety operations across the region. In other areas, the County functions like a municipal government responsible for serving unincorporated areas or serving a city through a contracting relationship: police, traffic infractions, misdemeanor crimes, detention, and maintaining the safety and security of infrastructure such as roads and bridges.

Objective Indicators for Justice and Safety objectives reflect whether King County residents are safe from threats of crime and injury and prepared for an emergency.

Strategy Measures demonstrate King County government's role in keeping residents safe, preparing for and responding to emergencies, and ensuring accessible and equitable forums for justice.

For more about the King County Strategic Plan and how it's measured see the [About AIMs High page](#).



Goal
Justice & Safety

Objectives

Keep People Safe

Fair & Accessible Justice

Detain Offenders Appropriately

Decrease Regional Crisis Impact

Strategies

Proactive Law Enforcement

Safe Infrastructure

Victim Support

Emergency Response

Justice Collaboration

Code Enforcement

Court Access

Prosecution

Timely Court Cases

Public Defense

Therapeutic Courts

Detention Capacity

Detention Quality

Jail Diversion

Alternative Detention

Emergency Planning

Crisis Response

Regional Services

King County provides regional services for King County residents related to this goal:

- Public defense services for those who cannot afford an attorney
- Civil and criminal justice court services
- Adult jail and juvenile detention services
- Prosecution of felony/criminal cases
- Flood protection
- Disaster preparedness, including natural disasters and pandemics

Local Services

King County provides local services for unincorporated King County residents (and by contract for some cities) related to this goal:

- Sheriff/Law enforcement
- Flood protection
- Construction and maintenance of roads and bridges
- Animal Shelter and control

Key Agencies

King County Sheriff's Office

Superior Court

District Court

Prosecuting Attorney

Department of Judicial Administration

Adult and Juvenile Detention

Department of Community and Human Services

Department of Executive Services

Department of Permitting and Environmental Review

Public Health - Seattle/King County

Department of Natural Resources and Parks