News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Public Workshop to Review Sites for Detention Services Project

SPOKANE COUNTY, August 14, 2012 – A new Essential Public Facility (EPF) siting process is underway for the Detention Services Replacement project. The siting process will take approximately three months to complete and will include three public workshops.

The first workshop is scheduled for Wednesday, August 22nd from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. in the County Commissioners' Hearing Room on the lower level of the Public Works Building, (1026 W. Broadway Avenue, Spokane).

Spokane County began a new siting process earlier this month when Spokane International Airport (SIA) offered an alternative site on airport property for the relocation of the Geiger Corrections Center. The proposed site is located near the Waste to Energy Plant on Geiger Blvd. The SIA site, along with nine other public, private or government owned sites will be reviewed during the EPF siting process.

Relocating Geiger Corrections to the proposed site is more compatible with SIA's long term plan of providing a location closer to the runway for avionics and aerospace businesses. The proposed site also allows lease revenues from the county to remain with the SIA operations, which will be used to reduce fees to customers of the airport. Additionally, if this site is selected over the West Plains site, an estimated $3.2 million would be saved in capital and infrastructure costs.

Questions about the siting process should be directed to Commissioner Mark Richard's Executive Assistant Jim Brown at (509) 477-2742 or jvbrown@spokanecounty.org. Questions may also be directed to Lt. Michael Sparber at 509.477.2101 or msparber@spokanecounty.org.

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