

**PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE
CITY OF PALM DESERT
STAFF REPORT**

MEETING DATE: January 21, 2025

PREPARED BY: Daniel Hurtado, Public Safety Analyst
Chris Escobedo, Assistant City Manager

SUBJECT: DEVELOPMENT OF 2025 WORKPLAN

RECOMMENDATION:

1. Staff recommends that the Public Safety Committee identify and establish two to three major priorities for the 2025 calendar year.

BACKGROUND/ANALYSIS:

For 2024, the Public Safety Committee (PSC) established a comprehensive work plan to guide its efforts. The key focus areas of the work plan include:

Traffic Enforcement

The PSC reviewed traffic enforcement programs, received updates, and provided input on traffic calming initiatives and related Capital Improvement Projects (CIPs).

Over the past year, the PSC received updates from law enforcement on speed enforcement measures and provided feedback to the City's Capital Improvement Projects team on traffic calming improvements.

Public Safety Budget

The PSC conducted a review of the police and fire budgets, received updates, and analyzed fire and police contract rates and staffing levels. This included discussions on the development of a new fire station and minor adjustments to police staffing levels.

Community-Oriented Policing

The PSC engaged in discussions on community-oriented policing, received presentations on related programs, and worked on formulating recommendations for the City Council. This initiative received fewer resources due to the significant attention allocated to traffic enforcement and public safety priorities.

Measure Success

On November 5, 2024, voters approved the Palm Desert Public Safety, Roads, and City Services Measure, providing additional revenue to strengthen the City's General Fund.

The funding will be allocated to key priorities, including:

- Expanding staffing levels for police, fire, and public works.

- Constructing a new fire station and renovating two existing stations.
- Enhancing storm channel infrastructure and improving the retention basin.

Next Steps

PSC members are encouraged to submit their proposed priorities for 2025 individually before the next meeting. Staff will compile these submissions and provide a consolidated list for review and consideration.

The compiled priorities will be discussed in depth at the subsequent meeting to ensure thorough evaluation and alignment. Staff recommends that the PSC identify and establish two to three major priorities for the 2025 calendar year.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

No fiscal impact