

CITY OF PALM DESERT STAFF REPORT

MEETING DATE: August 24, 2023

PREPARED BY: Mindy Esqueda, Emergency Services Coordinator

REQUEST: APPROVAL OF AN AGREEMENT FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT SERVICES BETWEEN THE CITY OF PALM DESERT AND THE COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE FOR A THREE-YEAR TERM FROM FY2024/2025 TO FY2026/2027

RECOMMENDATION:

1. Approve Agreement for Law Enforcement Services with the County of Riverside for a three-year term effective from July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2027.
2. Authorize the City Attorney to make any necessary, non-monetary changes to the Agreement.
3. Authorize the Mayor to execute the Agreement and any documents necessary to effectuate and implement the actions taken herewith.

BACKGROUND/ANALYSIS:

The current Agreement for Law Enforcement Services between the City of Palm Desert and the County of Riverside will expire on June 30, 2024. Staff reviewed this new agreement and found it to be identical to the current document, with minor non-substantial changes. Either party may still terminate the agreement upon providing not less than twelve (12) months written notice, prior to the effective termination date.

Strategic Plan:

This matter is related to the Public Safety and Emergency Services section of the Palm Desert Strategic Plan, specifically under Priority 1: Enhance the Delivery of Public Safety Services. The priority's strategy is to expand the existing superlative services provided by the fire and police departments to address future growth and safety concerns.

Project Description:

The Level of Service in the Agreement is as follows:

Average Patrol Services

144 supported hours per day (equivalent of 28 Deputy Sheriff positions at 1,884 annual productive hours per position)

Non-Dedicated Positions

One (1) Deputy Sheriff position (Commercial Enforcement)- Supported
(*Cove Communities Shared Positions*)

Two (2) Deputy Sheriff positions (Burglary Suppression)- Supported

Dedicated Positions

- One (1) Sheriff Lieutenant position
- Two (2) Sheriff's Sergeant positions (Business District Team and Traffic)
- Four (4) Deputy Sheriff positions (Motor Officers)- Supported
- Three (3) Deputy Sheriff positions (SET)- Supported
- Four (4) Deputy Sheriff positions (Business District)- Supported
- Two (2) Deputy Sheriff positions (School Resource)- Unsupported
- One (1) Deputy Sheriff position (Violent Grime Gang Task Force)- Unsupported
- One (1) Deputy Sheriff position (Coachella Valley Narcotics Task Force)- Unsupported
- Eleven (11) Community Officer II positions

Over the last year, City staff has worked closely with Palm Desert Sheriff Station staff on developing service level metrics, reallocating positions to respond to community concerns, and putting the automated license plate reader (ALPR) system into operation to keep staffing levels flat. Going forward, the City will work with the Sheriff's department on evaluating cost recovery charges, reporting out ALPR data, and continue to monitor response times. Maintaining this partnership with the Sheriff will continue to allow the City to refine law enforcement services in Palm Desert and preserve the community's safety.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

The approved Fiscal Year (FY) 2023/24 budget for police services in the City of Palm Desert is approximately \$21.5 million. This amount was based on the Riverside County Sheriff's Department projected FY2023/24 contract rate increase of 2-2.5%. Staff estimates the FY 2024/25 budget request for police services will be approximately \$21.9 million based on recent contract rate increases reflected below:

| FISCAL YEAR | CONTRACT RATE INCREASE | BUDGET TOTAL |
|--------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------|
| 22/23 | 1.89% | \$20.9 million |
| 23/24 | 2-2.5%*projected | \$21.5 million |

The Riverside County Sheriff's Department will provide the exact contract rate increase for FY2023/24 once approved by the Board of Supervisors in the Spring of 2024. Cities are charged prior year rates until that time and receive a rate adjustment invoice for the difference.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Agreement for Law Enforcement Services