



**STAFF REPORT**  
**9/25/2024**

**TO:** Honorable Mayor and City Council Members

**FROM:** Dr. Gabriel Martin, City Manager

**SUBJECT:** Approve the Cooperative Agreement with the County of Riverside to Provide Fire Protection, Fire Prevention, Rescue, Fire Marshal and Medical Emergency Services and the Approve Cooperative Agreement between the Cities of Coachella, Indio, La Quinta and County of Riverside to Share the Cost of a Ladder Truck Company

---

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION:**

1. Approve a Cooperative Agreement with the County of Riverside to provide fire protection, fire prevention, rescue, fire marshal and medical emergency services (Exhibit “A”);
2. Approve Cooperative Agreement between the Cities of Indio, La Quinta, Coachella, and the County of Riverside to share the cost of a ladder truck company (Exhibit “B”);
3. Authorize the City Attorney to make any necessary non-monetary changes to the agreement; and
4. Authorize the City Manager to execute the Agreement.

**BACKGROUND:**

Since 1990, the City of Coachella has received “All-Risk” fire services through a Cooperative Agreement with the County of Riverside. The current contract provides fire staffing for the only fire station in the City, Fire Station #79, which is in service 24 hours a day and provides a Battalion Chief to support and oversee day-to-day operations. In addition, the current contract provides a medic engine with three Captains, three Engineers, three Fire Fighters III and Office Assistant III.

Since 2006, the City has participated in a cooperative agreement to operate a ladder truck for the mutual benefit of the Cities of Coachella, Indio, La Quinta and County. The cost allocation remains the same: the City of Indio contributes 50%, the County 25%, and the cities of Coachella and La Quinta each pay 12.5% of the actual cost of staffing and ladder truck maintenance. The estimated cost for FY 2024/25 is \$271,515.

### **DISCUSSION/ANALYSIS:**

On April 2024, Chief Bill Weiser provided a memo to City partners of the increase and cost estimates for fire service for the upcoming Cooperative Agreement (Exhibit “C”). On July 18, 2024, Chief Bill Weiser provided a memo to discuss items that may impact fire services and increase cost, which include the implementation of a 66-hour work week and CalPERS retirement contribution reduction.

On July 24, 2024 (Item 12), The City Council approved and filed the Notice of Completion for the completed Fire Station 79 Expansion and Rehabilitation Project (No. F-7).

Approval of the proposed agreements represents a continuation of current and new fire service levels for the City of Coachella. The new services consist of the addition of a new medic squad, which includes three new Engineers and three new Fire Fighter II Medic. This contract will also include the addition of Fire Marshal positions, including a Fire Marshal Specialist, and Deputy Fire Marshall. The proposed agreements increase the term limits from 3-years to 5-years, running from July 1, 2024, to June 30, 2029.

### **ALTERNATIVES:**

1. Recommend denial of First Amendment.
2. Continue this item and provide staff with direction.

### **FISCAL IMPACT:**

Overall, the annual cost for services for Fiscal Year 2024-2025 is estimated to total \$4,699,860. On July 10, 2024, the City Council approved a budget appropriation for Fiscal Year 2024-2025 for animal control services in the amount of \$5,396,227, so the proposed cost is within budgeted parameters and there will be no additional impact to the General Fund.

### **ATTACHMENT(S):**

1. Exhibit “A” - Cooperative Agreement with the County of Riverside to provide fire protection, fire prevention, rescue, fire marshal and medical emergency services;
2. Exhibit “B” - Cooperative Agreement between the Cities of Indio, La Quinta, Coachella, and the County of Riverside to share the cost of a ladder truck company; and
3. Exhibit “C” – Fire Department Memo on Fire Services Estimates
4. Exhibit “D” – Fire Department Memo on State Budget Impacts