



STAFF REPORT
9/11/2024

TO: Honorable Mayor and City Council Members

FROM: Dr. Gabriel Martin, City Manager

SUBJECT: Agreement for Law Enforcement Services Between the City of Coachella and the County of Riverside From July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2029

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

1. Approve the agreement for law enforcement services between the City of Coachella and the County of Riverside from July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2029 (Exhibit "A").
2. Authorize the City Attorney to make necessary non-monetary changes to the agreement.
3. Authorize the City Manager to execute the agreement.

BACKGROUND:

The City of Coachella currently contracts with the Riverside County Sheriff's Department, which provides 90 hours of general law enforcement services per 24-hour period. In addition to general law enforcement services, the City of Coachella funds a dedicated sergeant position, and three deputy sheriff positions, which make up the Coachella Community Action Team (CCAT). There is one deputy sheriff assigned to each of the following Task Forces: the Coachella Valley Narcotics Task Force, the Coachella Valley Violent Crime and Gang Task Force, and the Post Release Accountability and Compliance Team (PACT). In Fiscal Year 2019-2020, the City of Coachella added two Community Service Officer (CSO) positions. In Fiscal Year 2021-2022, the City of Coachella added a third CSO, which is funded by a three-year California Healthcare, Research and Prevention Tobacco Act of 2016 (Prop 56) and administered by the California Department of Justice that will expire on June 30, 2025. The police services budget total for the FY 23-24 is \$10,760,440. The budget includes line items for operations, overtime, special events, facility fees, CAL-ID, jail access, professional services, vehicle mileage, and traffic programs. The current law enforcement services contract with the County of Riverside expired on June 30, 2024.

In 2008, the level of service included 110 patrol hours per day, 2 Special Enforcement Team Deputies, a dedicated Sergeant, a School Resource Deputy, a Gang Task Force Deputy, a Narcotics Task Force Deputy, 2 Motor Officers and 2 Community Service Officers. In 2024, the current level of service includes 90 patrol hours per day, 3 Special Enforcement Team Deputies, a

dedicated Sergeant, a Gang Task Force Deputy, a Narcotics Task Force Deputy, a PACT Deputy (Reimbursed) and 3 Community Service Officers (1 Tobacco funded). As a result, the current level of service is less with a higher population and community need than it was in 2008.

The City of Coachella has experienced a steady population, housing and economic growth since 2008. Pursuant to the 2019 Southern California Association of Government (SCAG) Report, Coachella's population has grown at a rate of 18%, from 38,521 in 2008 to 43,590 in 2024, whereas the law enforcement level of service has not adjusted or grown in proportion to meet the needs and demands of the community.

DISCUSSION/ANALYSIS:

On July 10, 2024, during presentation on the 2024-2025 annual operating budget (Item 5), the City Council wanted to explore the possibility of increasing law enforcement services for the residents of the City and wanted to develop a plan for those expanded services. On July 10, 2024 (Item 29), the City Council approved a budget appropriation for Fiscal Year 2024-2025 for law enforcement services in the amount of \$11,268,079. At the request of the City Manager, the following 5-year plan (Exhibit "B") for an increase in law enforcement services is as follows:

- **In Fiscal Year 2024-2025 (Year 1) – The City will add a Traffic Enforcement Deputy:**

Increase law enforcement services with the addition of one dedicated deputy sheriff position for the purpose of traffic enforcement. The cost of amendments all-inclusive over current contract services is estimated to be \$426,000.

Current Contract without Traffic Enforcement Deputy: \$10,823,000

Total Contract with Traffic Enforcement Deputy: \$11,249,000

- **In Fiscal Year 2025-2026 (Year 2) – The City will add a CCAT Deputy and CSO to replace Tobacco Grant CSO:**

Increase law enforcement services with the addition of one dedicated CCAT deputy. This will even out the numbers on the team and allow even pairing of staff for enforcement. This would also assist with special events staffing such as the 4th of July, El Grito, etc.

Addition of one CSO to replace the expiring tobacco grant position. This CSO would be utilized as a community outreach position to continue the work of enforcement and education of the tobacco related violations, prevention/education at schools and added responsibility of community outreach programs such as neighborhood watch. The cost of amendments all-inclusive over current contract services is estimated to be \$1,067,000.

Current Contract without CCAT Deputy and CSO: \$11,348,000

Total Contract with CCAT Deputy and CSO: \$12,415,000

- **In Fiscal Year 2026-2027 (Year 3) – The City will increase contract hours from 90 per day to 96:**

Current contract is for 90 hours of patrol service. With the deputies working 12 hour shifts this equates to 4 deputies during dayshift and 3 deputies during night shift. Raising the contract hours to 96 would allow even distribution of shift personnel to 4 deputies per shift (day & night). The cost of amendments all-inclusive over current contract services is estimated to be \$1,692,000.

Current Contract without the increase of hours: \$11,899,000

Total Contract with the increase of hours: \$13,591,000

- **In Fiscal Year 2027-2028 (Year 4) – The City will add a 2nd Traffic Enforcement Deputy:**

Increase law enforcement services with the addition of one dedicated deputy sheriff position for the purpose of traffic enforcement. This would raise traffic staffing to two traffic deputies. With anticipated increase in population, traffic congestion, and collisions, a second deputy would be recommended. This would also be with the anticipation of converting these two positions to motorcycle enforcement officers in Fiscal Year 2028-2029. The cost of amendments all-inclusive over current contract services is estimated to be \$2,277,000.

Current Contract without 2nd Traffic Enforcement Deputy: \$12,514,000

Total Contract with 2nd Traffic Enforcement Deputy: \$14,791,000

- **In Fiscal Year 2028-2029 (Year 5) – The City will convert two existing Traffic Enforcement Deputies to two Motorcycle Enforcement Deputies:**

Convert the two existing traffic enforcement deputy positions into motorcycle enforcement deputies. The suggested conversion would increase the efficiency of traffic enforcement within the City of Coachella Motorcycle enforcement is best utilized in pairs. The cost of amendments all-inclusive over current contract services is estimated to be \$2,358,000.

Current Contract without two Motorcycle Enforcement Deputies: \$13,072,000

Total Contract with two Motorcycle Enforcement Deputies: \$15,430,000

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Approve Agreement for Law Enforcement Services with City Council modification.
2. Recommend denial of Agreement for Law Enforcement Services.
3. Continue this item and provide staff with direction.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The City Council approved a budget appropriation for Fiscal Year 2024-2025 for law enforcement services in the amount of 11,268,079, so the proposed cost is within budgeted parameters and there will be no additional impact to the General Fund.

Staff will bring back amendments to this agreement to increase law enforcement services on an annual basis for City Council consideration per the estimated cost below (refer to Exhibit “B”):

1. Year 1: \$11,249,000
 2. Year 2: \$12,415,000
 3. Year 3: \$13,591,000
 4. Year 4: \$14,791,000
 5. Year 5: \$15,430,000
- Total: \$67,476,000***

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Exhibit “A” - Agreement for Law Enforcement Services Between the City of Coachella and the County of Riverside From July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2029.
2. Exhibit “B” – City of Coachella 5-Year Staffing Plan.