



STAFF REPORT

September 13, 2023
File Number 0600-10; A-3476

SUBJECT

SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER AGREEMENT

DEPARTMENT

Police Department

RECOMMENDATION

Request the City Council adopt Ordinance No. 2023-13 authorizing the Chief of Police to execute, on behalf of the City, a School Resource Officer (“SRO”) Agreement with the Escondido Union School District. The SRO program allows local schools, the Escondido Police Department, and the community to provide a safe learning environment for students and school staff. The SRO Agreement states that the City will provide one uniformed, regularly appointed, full-time peace officer for the Escondido Union School Districts at a cost of \$160,000 for the 2023-2024 school year, which will be reimbursed by the school district.

Staff Recommendation: Approval (Police Department: Edward Varso, Chief of Police)

Presenter: Edward Varso, Chief of Police

FISCAL ANALYSIS

This action will have no impact on the General Fund Budget. The Escondido Union School District will be financially responsible for expenses related to the SRO performing the services described in the Agreement and Scope of Work. The cost of a full-time peace officer will be reevaluated each school year.

PREVIOUS ACTION

The Escondido Police Department and the Escondido Union School District entered into an agreement on May 11, 2022 stating that the District would provide financial assistance for a School Resource Officer. The district paid a lump sum payment for the SRO Cost.

BACKGROUND

This Agreement provides an SRO for schools in the Escondido Union School District. The SRO is, and at all times will be, an employee of the City. The SRO will, in addition to typical crime-related issues, have the following responsibilities:

- A. Make presentations to the Schools as requested.



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- B. Be the liaison for subject matter experts in specific fields of law enforcement for presentations.
- C. Be the liaison of information with intelligence systems and intelligence units for the schools.
- D. Be the liaison of information to other police agencies including, but not limited to, school police agencies and agencies with school police officers.
- E. Present information internally at the Escondido Police Department in the form of briefing training as well as individual ongoing information exchange.
- F. Make court appearances on behalf of active cases.
- G. Be a subject matter expert regarding events where students are impacted in any way.

Council approval of Ordinance No. 2023-13 authorizing the Chief of Police authority to execute the School Resource Officer Agreement on behalf of the City will enhance community safety.

ORDINANCES

- A. Ordinance No. 2023-13
- B. Ordinance No. 2023-13 Exhibit "A"