

# **Sutter Creek Financial ad hoc Committee**

## **Maximizing our Police Spending**

The purpose of the Financial ad hoc Committee (FAC) is to perform a thorough and in-depth study of the annual police budget to answer some of the questions listed below. The committee includes Dan Riordan (City Council), Tom DuBois (City Manager), Jim O'Connell (Chief of Police), and Jim Swift (City Council). Tom DuBois will provide the agenda for our first public meeting to be held May 20, 2025 from 10-11 AM at the Community Center.

### **GOALS**

Recognizing the need to work in good faith within the confines/constraints and any/all other legal obligations of the City with its POA contract we want to explore the following.

- A. Develop baseline data to help determine the efficacy/sustainability of our Police Dept. For instance listed below are a couple of examples;
  - 1. As a percentage of the General Fund how does police spending in Sutter Creek (SC) compare to other similar sized cities in California.
  - 2. What are the the total cost per citizen / cost per call/ cost per arrest? These are only examples) Answering these types of question will help determine the need to seek out and analyze potential alternative models. What are some other viable baseline data that would be important to study?
- B. If it is determined that alternative solutions should be explored we will seek them out. What have others in a similar environments explored and/or utilized to improve not only financial performance but overall community safety?
- C. Are there opportunities to get more bang for our buck by making changes to the City's level of service expectations? Analyzing service levels based on community priorities seems essential in helping determine if the City is actually receiving the services it values most.

- D. Identify existing tools, resources, processes and/or consultants that can lead us through this effort and/or help facilitate the effort? (Lets not reinvent the wheel if we don't have to.)

### What this is NOT

To be clear, this is not an effort to defund the SC Police department. It is, however, a due-diligence effort on behalf of the SCCC to assure that the dollars being spent on public safety are in line with the needs and expectations of the folks who live here and that the budget requirements are sustainable. In this light, if it is determined that the SCPD is under-funded we will address that issue as well.