TO: Public Health & Safety Committee

FROM: Ken Driver, Acting Deputy Chief

DATE: March 10, 2026

SUBJECT: Memorandum of Understanding with the Tumwater School District regarding Temporary Reduction of School Resource Officer (SRO) Staffing

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1) Recommended Action:

Place the Memorandum of Understanding between the Tumwater School District and the City of Tumwater on the March 17, 2026, City Council consent calendar with a recommendation to approve and authorize the Mayor to sign.

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2) Background:

On February19th, 2026, the Tumwater Police Department was forced to take the drastic step of removing one of the two School Resource Officer's from the Tumwater School District. The move was necessary due to the department experiencing approximately thirty percent of its sworn officer positions being unavailable due to vacancies, officers awaiting academy placement, personnel in training, or members assigned to limited duty status because of medical conditions. To maintain minimum patrol staffing levels necessary to provide timely emergency response, the department made this difficult decision. This decision followed the reassignment of all other specialty positions within the department and was made only after careful consideration of available alternatives.

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3) Policy Support:

Mission, Vision & Values - Partnership
We work in partnership with residents, businesses, community organizations, and governments to address challenges and advance shared goals.

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4) Alternatives:

- ❑ Place the Memorandum of Understanding between the Tumwater School District and the City of Tumwater be placed on the March 17th 2026 City Council consideration calendar.
- ❑ Don't sign the Memorandum of Understanding between the Tumwater School District and the City of Tumwater

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5) Fiscal Notes:

The District's reimbursement to the City for the 2025-2026 school year shall be prorated to reflect the reduction to one SRO position for the duration of this emergency shortage. The district agrees to pay half of the monthly salary for the one SRO on site for a total of $8,068.00 per month.

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6) Attachments:

A. Memorandum of Understanding between the Tumwater School District and the City of Tumwater regarding temporary reduction of School Resource Officer (SRO) staffing
B. 2026 School Resource Officer schedule