



CITY OF SAN CARLOS

AGENDA CATEGORY:	
BUSINESS SESSION:	_____
CONSENT CALENDAR:	_____
PUBLIC HEARING:	_____
STUDY SESSION:	_____
_____:	_____

COUNCIL/RDA MEETING DATE: March 13, 2010

ITEM TITLE: Overview of Initial San Mateo County Sheriff's Proposal to Provide Police Services in San Carlos.

Background

At the December 14, 2009 City Council meeting, the Council discussed and authorized Staff to contact neighboring police departments to obtain proposals to provide contract Police Services for San Carlos. The San Mateo County Sheriff's Department and the City of Redwood City have both expressed an interest in providing these services to the City of San Carlos. To date, the County is the only agency to have provided a written proposal.

Current Police Services Structure & Costs

The San Carlos Police Department was formed as part of the City's initial creation in 1925. Throughout the years the Police Department has been an important part of this community. Over the past decade structural budget deficits have forced the City to cut 5 sworn personnel (14% Police Officer reduction). Despite these significant service reductions the costs to provide police services have continued to grow faster than all other City services. In 2000, the City spent \$5.3 million on police services (31% of the City's General Fund). The FY 2011 base budget projects the Police Department costs at \$8.9 million (34.8% of the City's General Fund). The Police Department's budget has grown 68% in 10 years or just over 10% per year on average.

Initial Proposal from the San Mateo County Sheriff's Department for Police Services in San Carlos Key features of the proposal are:

- It maintains current public safety levels at or above the City's 2010 levels;
- It maintains existing response times;
- It provides for a San Carlos Chief of Police;
- It maintains the look and feel of the existing City Police Department;
- It utilizes the existing San Carlos police employees in providing police services;
- It provides that personnel assignments will be reviewed with the City of San Carlos for approval;
- It restores permanent full-time traffic enforcement services;
- It restores DARE and school resources officer services to San Carlos schools;
- It provides access to increased number of detectives and investigative resources;
- It provides access to large number of Reserve Officers and public safety volunteers for support of San Carlos special events;
- It ensures that every full-time San Carlos Police Department employee will be offered a full-time position with the Sheriff's Department;
- It provides higher compensation levels for sworn employees;
- It provides for greater officer safety standards;
- The contract offers a transparent and flexible approach to the full array of public safety services offered by the Sheriff's Department;

- It requires that personnel and risk management services are the responsibility of the Sheriff's Department;
- It allows for the purchase or reduction of services in the future;
- It provides for a three year contract with one three year extension clause;
- It provides for vehicles, vehicle maintenance and all equipment costs;
- It for all associated communication and 911 dispatch and communications center costs;
- It provides for additional dedicated personnel in the event of a large scale emergency to assist in managing crisis situations.

The cost of the Sheriff's Department initial proposal is \$5.8. This would provide savings of approximately \$2 to \$3 million per year. These numbers should be used for budget planning purposes. The Sheriff's Department proposes that costs of the agreement would be increased annually in an amount not to exceed 6%.

Benchmarking Outsourcing Police Services – Current Local Agreements

Outsourcing police services to Sheriff's Departments is not a new occurrence. There are currently over 100 cities in the State of California that contract out for police services. This practice has been in place for decades in many communities. In most instances many residents in these communities are unaware of any difference in public safety in their communities.

Agency	Population	Cost	Agency	Population	Cost
Dublin	47,000	\$12.5 M	Woodside	5,000	\$1.3 M
Orinda	18,000	\$3.9 M	Oakley	33,000	\$6 M
Sonoma	10,000	\$3.7 M	Danville	43,000	\$5.6 M
Cupertino	50,000	\$8.4 M	American Canyon	16,000	\$4.2 M
Saratoga	29,000	\$4.3 M	Rancho Cordova	61,000	\$15.6 M
Los Altos Hills	10,000	\$1 M	Yountville	4,000	\$700 K
Portola Valley	4,000	\$800 K	Windsor	25,000	\$5.4 M
And over 100 additional Cities in the State of California					

Next Steps

Since this is an initial proposal, it will require further refinement. Staff will follow-up with any additional proposals that we receive from Redwood City or other surrounding agencies.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeff Maltbie, Administrative Services Director

Approved for submission by:

Mark Weiss, City Manager

Attachments:

- A. San Mateo County Sheriff's Department Police Services Proposal

ATTACHMENT A