



City of La Quinta

CITY / SA/ HA/ FA MEETING DATE: May 20, 2014

ITEM TITLE: APPROVE AGREEMENT FOR FUNDING OF SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICERS

AGENDA CATEGORY:

BUSINESS SESSION:

CONSENT CALENDAR: 7

STUDY SESSION:

PUBLIC HEARING:

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Approve agreement with Desert Sands Unified School District for the funding of three School Resource Officers and authorize the City Manager to execute.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

- The City partners with Desert Sands Unified School District (DSUSD) for funding School Resource Officers (SROs) in La Quinta schools. DSUSD then contracts with the County of Riverside for SRO services, which are provided by the Riverside County Sheriff's Department.
- Currently, the City utilizes three SROs who provide security and crime prevention services in schools.
- The agreement documents the City's and DSUSD's financial commitment to each pay 50 percent of the cost of two SROs for Fiscal Years 2014-2015 through 2016-2017. DSUSD will fund 25 percent of the other SRO next fiscal year and begin paying 50 percent of the cost in 2015-2016.
- In order for DSUSD to retain the SROs, the agreement (Attachment 1) requires approval by the City Council. Only SROs who have been serving in this capacity will be retained.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The City's cost is approximately \$255,000 for Fiscal Year 2014-2015. Next fiscal year, it will reduce to \$218,000 annually. Funds will be included in the fiscal year budget.

BACKGROUND/ANALYSIS:

Beginning in 1993, the City utilized SROs to enhance police services. The officers are a part of the City's community-oriented policing and they work closely with school administrators in an effort to create a safer environment for both students and staff. In addition, they provide direct and on-site police services when a call for service is made involving a school, which lessens the need to deploy additional police resources patrolling other areas of the City. The City's partnership with DSUSD for SROs has existed since 2003.

SROs work in La Quinta schools during the school year and serve as regular deputy sheriffs when school is not in session. They are assigned to La Quinta and Summit High Schools, Colonel Mitchel Paige Middle School, and serve all elementary schools.

Prior to this agreement, the City funded 100 percent of one SRO and split the cost of the other two SROs with DSUSD. Now, through DSUSD's agreement to share in the cost of all three SROs, the City has been able to reduce the cost of the agreement and still maintain service levels.

ALTERNATIVES

As this agreement maintains existing service levels while reducing financial costs to the City, staff does not recommend an alternative.

Report prepared by: Chris Escobedo, Assistant to City Manager

Report approved for submission by: Frank J. Spevacek, City Manager

Attachment: 1. Agreement

AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE DESERT SANDS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT AND
THE CITY OF LA QUINTA FOR THE FUNDING AND PLACEMENT OF THREE
SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICERS

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is entered into for Fiscal Year 2014/2015 through 2016/2017 by and between Desert Sands Unified School District, hereafter referred to as DISTRICT and the City of La Quinta, hereafter referred to as CITY.

The purpose of this MOU is to document the parties' understanding of the financial commitment for each agency to share the cost of three School Resource Officers.

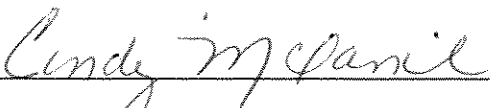
The CITY and DISTRICT each agree to pay 50% of the cost of two School Resource Officers for the term of the agreement. The DISTRICT agrees to pay 25% of the cost of the third School Resource Officer beginning Fiscal Year 2014/2015, 50% of the cost of the officer in Fiscal Year 2015/2016, and 50% of the cost of the officer in 2016/2017. The parties agree to explore partnership opportunities through grants and available resources throughout the term of this agreement.

One School Resource Officer will be assigned to La Quinta High School throughout the term of this MOU.


One School Resource Officer will be assigned to Summit High School and Colonel Mitchell Paige throughout the term of this MOU.

One School Resource Officer will be assigned to La Quinta Middle School and all La Quinta elementary schools throughout the term of this MOU.

By signing this MOU, the DISTRICT and CITY agree to financially contribute matching portions of the funds. All rates are estimates. The DISTRICT will submit an invoice to the CITY using the percent of actual costs received from the Riverside County Sheriff's Department as the basis for invoicing.



Cindy McDaniel, Assistant Superintendent



Date

Frank J. Spevacek, City Manager

Date

