



CITY OF SALINAS COUNCIL STAFF REPORT

DATE: OCTOBER 10, 2017

DEPARTMENT: POLICE DEPARTMENT

FROM: HENRY GOMEZ, COMMANDER

TITLE: MOU WITH SANTA RITA UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT FOR
SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICERS

RECOMMENDED MOTION:

A motion to approve a Resolution regarding the proposed Memorandum of Understanding with the Santa Rita Union School District for the implementation of School Resource Officers (SROs).

RECOMMENDATION:

Currently, the Salinas Police Department does not have school resource officers assigned to any school in the City of Salinas. Adoption of the MOU will satisfy a requirement of the 2014 COPS Hiring Program grant and enable the Police Department to assign two full-time SROs to the Santa Rita Union School District.

BACKGROUND:

In September of 2014, the Salinas Police Department was awarded a \$3.4 million federal grant to hire eight School Resource Officers for three years. These funds were to restore the SRO program, which the Department disbanded in 2009 due to severe staffing shortages. Since 2014, the Police Department has delayed implementation of the grant until the number of patrol officers could increase.

The three-year grant required the SROs to be assigned and working at their respective schools by August 30, 2017. Another condition of the grant was that a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) be signed between the City of Salinas and the school district. On August 8, 2017, the Salinas Union High School District rejected the MOU, effectively ending negotiations for SROs. On August 9, 2017, the Alisal Union School board of trustees rejected the same proposal.

On August 30, 2017, the Santa Rita Union School District voted to seek an agreement with the City of Salinas for SROs at their schools. Although the original deadline has passed, the City was able to secure a three-year extension to the grant. Since the District is considerably smaller in size, the grant will be modified to fund two SROs. The SROs will be assigned to District schools within the City of Salinas.

CEQA CONSIDERATION:

Not a Project. The City of Salinas has determined that the proposed action is not a project as defined by the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) (CEQA Guidelines Section 15378).

STRATEGIC PLAN INITIATIVE:

1. Economic Diversity and Prosperity: This item does not specifically relate to one of the Council's Strategic Plan or Goal.
2. Safe, Livable Community: Relates specifically under the strategy to "Recruit, hire, and retain public safety officers reflective of the community served."
3. Effective, Sustainable Government: This item does not specifically relate to one of the Council's Strategic Plan or Goal.
4. Well Planned City and Excellent Infrastructure: This item does not specifically relate to one of the Council's Strategic Plan or Goal.
5. Quality of Life: This item does not specifically relate to one of the Council's Strategic Plan or Goal.

FISCAL AND SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT:

Approval of this MOU will have no fiscal impact on the General Fund or other funds.

ATTACHMENTS:

Resolution
Memorandum of Understanding