



AGENCY: City of Fort Bragg
MEETING DATE: July 22, 2024
DEPARTMENT: Police
PRESENTED BY: Chief Neil Cervenka
EMAIL ADDRESS: ncervenka@fortbragg.com

AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

TITLE:

RESOLUTION OF THE FORT BRAGG CITY COUNCIL APPROVING AND AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE A CONTRACT WITH FORT BRAGG UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT, FOR THE ASSIGNMENT AND REIMBURSEMENT FOR ONE SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER.

ISSUE:

Fort Bragg Police Department (FBPD) and the Fort Bragg Unified School District (FBUSD) mutually desire the assignment of a police officer in the District as a School Resource Officer (SRO). FBUSD has agreed to reimburse the City for 70% of a police officer's salary and benefit cost, while the SRO is assigned to FBUSD during the regular school year.

ANALYSIS:

The staffing of FBPD has significantly improved and stabilized this year, which allows for one officer to be assigned as an SRO with only minimal impact to patrol. The advantages of an officer assigned to the schools during the school year offset the impacts due to increased intervention prior to becoming a call for service. The SRO will also investigate all calls relating in any way to the school, again reducing burden to Patrol. When school is not in session, the SRO will be assigned to Patrol to offset vacation overtime coverage and provide additional staffing during peak tourism months.

FBUSD has asked for an SRO to be officially assigned for several years, but due to past staffing deficiencies, it was not possible. FBUSD offered to offset the cost of an SRO by reimbursing the City for the time the SRO is assigned to the school.

After submitting a memo of interest, interviews with school administration, a former SRO, and FBPD Administration, a police officer was selected for the assignment and is prepared to begin on the first day of regular school, August 14, 2024. The SRO will complete specialized training in regards to SRO operations, gang identification/intervention, crisis intervention, adolescent mental health, and active shooter response to provide a high level of service to the school community.

An MOU with FBUSD is necessary to establish expected schedule, reimbursement, equipment, and duties.

FISCAL IMPACT:

FBUSD will reimburse City for up to 70% of a police officer's salary and benefit cost per year.

IMPLEMENTATION/TIMEFRAMES:

First day of school is August 14, 2024.

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Accept and authorize City Manager, by motion, to execute a contract with the Fort Bragg Unified School District for the assignment of one School Resource Officer.

ALTERNATIVE ACTION(S):

1. No action.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Agreement Between the City of Fort Bragg and the Fort Bragg Unified School District for School Resource Officer Services