



OFFICE OF THE SHERIFF

Sheriff Curtis L. Landers

225 W. Olive Street
Newport, Oregon 97365
(541) 265-4277
Fax (541) 265-4926

M E M O R A N D U M

DATE: April 22, 2024
TO: Lincoln County Board of County Commissioners
County Administrator Tim Johnson

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "C. Landers".

FROM: Curtis L. Landers, Sheriff

RE: YACHATS/WALDPORT/COUNTY-PUBLIC SAFETY PARTNERSHIP

SUMMARY:

I have been in recent discussions with the Cities of Waldport and Yachats regarding law enforcement coverage in their cities. The estimate for the City of Waldport increased 9% to \$399,526 and they are concerned with the cost as it relates to their budget. The City of Yachats is desiring an increase in Sheriff's Office patrol coverage in the city.

As a result of the discussions, both cities are interested in a joint partnership between the Cities of Waldport and Yachats and the Sheriff's Office through the County. This would reduce the cost to the City of Waldport and add a deputy for coverage in Yachats. The cities would share the three deputies, along with additional coverage for the general South County area.

The first-year cost for Waldport would be \$300,000.

The first-year cost for Yachats would be \$150,000 + an additional \$64,000 startup cost for vehicle, computer and all necessary equipment.

The first-year cost for the County would be estimated at \$72,000.

DETAILS:

Since 1997, the Sheriff's Office through the County has fulfilled a law enforcement agreement for 2 FTE Patrol Deputies assigned to the City of Waldport. The Waldport City Council does not want to completely eliminate law enforcement coverage in the city but is considering cost efficient options to reduce cost. City Manager Cutter provided 4

options for the city to consider. These options ranged from keeping the same service, reducing service, or eliminating service. On April 11, the council chose option 4 described below:

- In partnership with the city of Yachats, the cities would offer to add an additional deputy for Yachats. In addition, in recognition of value already provided, and as a fixed price contract, the two municipalities would offer this contract for acceptance by the LCSO reflecting a 25% discount (as identified in unrecovered time) and with the understanding that the contributions by both citizens towards patrol are included in this valuation. This would add three deputies to SOUTH COUNTY.

The total offer of the contract would be \$600,000x75% or \$450,000, with Waldport paying \$300,000 and Yachats paying \$150,000. Both Councils would need to agree.

Two deputies would work staggered shifts to provide 7-day coverage, with a night shift deputy stationed in Waldport but available for coverage in the community as needed based on calls. Records of calls taken, and time spent in the different communities would be tracked for discussion over the next year.

The City of Yachats is interested in adding law enforcement coverage for the city and after discussions with the City Council on April 17, the Council voted to move the partnership option forward for further consideration with the City of Waldport and Sheriff's Office through the County.

RECOMMENDATION:

It is my recommendation to discuss this further at the May 1, 2024, Board of Commissioners meeting. I support this partnership as it has several advantages:

- It would provide an additional 1 FTE Patrol Deputy for the Waldport/Yachats area at a cost sharing of \$72,000 for the County. This includes all costs including salary/benefits, vehicle, and materials and services.
- Additional city coverage reduces calls for service in these areas for general funded deputies when they are on-duty. The Sheriff's Office is responsible for providing law enforcement coverage in these areas regardless of if they have agreements with us.
- Assigning patrol deputies to provide enhanced law enforcement in areas with agreements provides improved community policing and partnerships with the cities due to the deputy's ability to address the challenges of the city.
- This partnership provides a collaborative approach to resource optimization by sharing deputies in these areas.

- Additional deputies will reduce response times in these areas due to the geographic nature of the two cities.
- Improves flexibility and scalability to adapt to needs by the cities and county for special events and responding to natural disasters.
- Supports our Strategic Plan-Goal: Improve Safety and Quality of Life for our Community and Visitors and Goal: Achieve Organizational Excellence, Earn Public Trust, and Provide Superior Service.

NEXT STEPS:

1. Meet with the Board of Commissioners on May 1, 2024. The City Managers from Waldport and Yachats will be available to answer further questions.
2. If the Commissioners approve to consider this further, The Sheriff's Office and Cities, along with legal counsel, will draft on an Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) for Law Enforcement between the Cities of Waldport and Yachats, Sheriff's Office and County for further consideration by the Board of Commissioners and City Councils.
3. Consider budget implementations of the County.