



City of Arts & Innovation

City Council Memorandum

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL **DATE: JUNE 28, 2016**

FROM: RIVERSIDE POLICE DEPARTMENT **WARDS: 1 - 5**

SUBJECT: APPROVAL OF THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH RIVERSIDE COUNTY PROBATION DEPARTMENT FOR THE YOUTH ACCOUNTABILITY TEAM – INCREASING ELIGIBLE REIMBURSEMENT AMOUNT TO \$135,000 FOR FY 2015/16

ISSUE:

Approval of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Riverside County Probation Department for the Youth Accountability Team (YAT) for schools within the Riverside Unified School District (RUSD), increasing the eligible reimbursement amount to \$135,000 for fiscal year 2015/16.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

That the City Council:

1. Approve the MOU with the Riverside County Probation Department for the Youth Accountability Team for schools within the Riverside Unified School District, increasing the eligible reimbursement amount to \$135,000 for fiscal year 2015/16 ; and
2. Authorize the City Manager, or his designee, to execute necessary documents.

BACKGROUND:

On January 28, 2014, the City Council approved the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Riverside County Probation Department for the creation of a Youth Accountability Team (YAT) for schools within the Riverside Unified School District (RUSD). On June 9, 2015, the City Council approved the First Amendment to the MOU for FY 2014/15. In FY2015/16, the Riverside County Probation Department has proposed the attached MOU that will increase the eligible reimbursement amount to the City from \$130,000 to \$135,000.

The YAT is a collaborative intervention program that consists of a Riverside Police Officer, a Deputy District Attorney, a Riverside County Sheriff's Department Deputy, a Deputy Probation Officer and a Youth Outreach Counselor. The team reviews felony, misdemeanor and infractions involving juveniles and collaboratively evaluates each individual case. YAT then implements the most appropriate disposition for the delinquent behavior. The team also accepts referrals for at-risk youth who have not been arrested or charged with a crime.

YAT participants must be between the ages of 12-17 and exhibit one or more of the following forms of delinquency: substance abuse, school discipline problems, family conflict, gang association or habitual truancy and curfew violations. An assessment of individual needs is made by the team, followed by appropriate referrals for services. The goal of the YAT is to:

- Reduce delinquent incidents on campus
- Reduce delinquent activity in the community
- Reduce the number of juvenile petitions filed
- Reduce the number of juveniles placed into custody
- Reduce truancy

YAT is an extension of the community oriented policing philosophy whereby police officers are assigned to public schools to provide a direct public safety resource to the various public schools within a school district. The model has proven to be an effective way to prevent crime from occurring within the school environment and to handle investigations when a crime does occur. Furthermore, anti-crime and anti-drug awareness education programs are supported by the law enforcement officers directly assigned to the schools; communication between students and police officers also helps to increase respect for law enforcement.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The Youth Accountability Team (YAT) consists of one Riverside police officer. Funding for this officer is shared between the City and the Riverside County Probation Department at an estimated annual cost of approximately \$160,000. Per the terms of the MOU, the Riverside County Probation Department will fund \$135,000 of the total costs of one Riverside police officer for FY 2015/16, with the City covering the remaining \$25,000 per year for benefits and operating expenses.

The Riverside Police Department will be utilizing one of its funded officer positions to fulfill this role. No appropriation is necessary.

Prepared by:	Sergio G. Diaz, Chief of Police
Certified as to	
availability of funds:	Scott G. Miller, Interim Finance Director/Treasurer
Approved by:	Alexander T. Nguyen, Assistant City Manager
Approved as to form:	Gary G. Geuss, City Attorney

Attachment: Memorandum of Understanding