



*City of Arts & Innovation*

# City Council Memorandum

**TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL      DATE: JUNE 13, 2017**

**FROM: CITY ATTORNEY      WARDS: ALL**

**SUBJECT: RECLASSIFY AND REPURPOSE AN EXISTING POSITION OF SENIOR DEPUTY CITY ATTORNEY TO ASSISTANT CITY ATTORNEY TO MANAGE AND DIRECT A NEWLY CREATED PUBLIC SAFETY DIVISION IN THE CITY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE**

## **ISSUE:**

Authorize the reclassification and repurposing an existing position of Senior Deputy City Attorney to Assistant City Attorney to manage and direct a newly created Public Safety Division in the City Attorney's Office.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS:**

That the City Council reclassify and repurpose an existing position of Senior Deputy City Attorney to Assistant City Attorney to manage and direct a newly created Public Safety Division in the City Attorney's Office.

## **BACKGROUND:**

The City Attorney's Office has a Municipal Services Division and a Litigation Services Division, each supervised by an Assistant City Attorney. The City Attorney's Office now seeks to add a Public Safety Division within the office. This Division will perform both advisory and litigation functions:

- **Advisory Functions:** The Division will advise the Riverside Police Department, Riverside Fire Department, and the City's Ward Action Teams. This work will include providing legal advice to the Police Department Command Staff and supervisors and Fire Administration on administrative and operational issues; providing advice on quality of life issues; drafting police-related ordinances; providing legal counsel for officer involved shootings and in-custody deaths; updating and advising on law enforcement case law and statutes; advising on labor and employment law issues involving the Public Safety Officers Procedural Bill of Rights Act and the California Firefighters Procedural Bill of Rights Act; provide legal counsel to the Riverside Urban Areas Security Initiative and the California Urban Search & Rescue Task Force 6; and interacting with legal representatives with other agencies on regional public safety issues.

- **Litigation Functions:** The Division will be primarily responsible for the representation and defense of Riverside police officers in civil lawsuits in state and federal court. The Division will also initiate nuisance abatement litigation to protect the quality of life of Riverside residents.

In order to properly manage this new division, the City Attorney proposes to reclassify and repurpose an existing position of Senior Deputy City Attorney to Assistant City Attorney. This individual will oversee the division.

### **FISCAL IMPACT:**

The existing Senior Deputy City Attorney position currently exists and will be repurposed to an Assistant City Attorney position. Funds are available and will be absorbed within the existing department budget for Fiscal Year 2017-18.

The City's current salary range for the position of Senior Deputy City Attorney is \$110,748 to \$170,676. The City's current salary range for the position of Assistant City Attorney is \$136,944 to \$201,000. Therefore, the difference at the top of each salary range is \$30,324. While the person selected for this position will not earn a salary within this \$30,324 range for the immediate future, this Council Action has the possible potential effect of paying a higher salary to the selected candidate in the future. However, should that occur, any such costs will be included as part of a future budget process.

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