



City of Arts & Innovation

Date: 5-14-19

Item No. 26a

City Council Memorandum

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL **DATE: May 14, 2019**
FROM: POLICE DEPARTMENT **WARDS: ALL**
SUBJECT: POLICE SERVICE DOG RETIREMENT AND DONATION OF POLICE SERVICE DOG TO HANDLER

ISSUES:

Declare Police Service Dog, Rocco, as retired and approve the donation of Police Service Dog, Rocco, to his current handler, K-9 Officer Kevin Feimer.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

That the City Council:

1. Declare Police Service Dog, Rocco, as retired and surplus property to the needs of the Police Department; and
2. Approve the donation of Police Service Dog, Rocco, to his current handler, K-9 Officer Kevin Feimer, at no cost to the City.

BACKGROUND:

The mission of the Riverside Police Department (RPD) K-9 Unit is to support all divisions within the department to search for felony suspects, suspects known or believed to be armed, lost and missing persons, and to search for discarded evidence. Deploying a Police Service Dog reduces staffing and time required to search scenes to locate a concealed suspect or suspects. This invaluable tool increases the safety of police personnel and the community. Since the inception of the Police Department's Canine Program, the handler responsible for the canine at the time of its retirement has been given the opportunity to take the sole responsibility, ownership and care of the retired dog, if they so desire.

DISCUSSION:

Police Service Dog, Rocco, has served the City of Riverside with distinction in resolving countless critical incidents by locating violent and dangerous suspects. Rocco is over six (6) years old and nearing the end of his police service life.

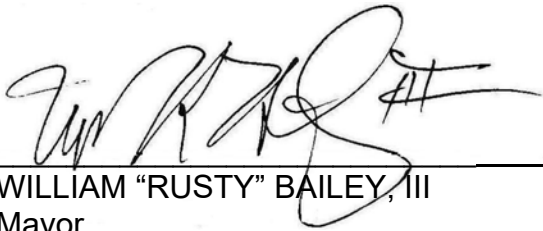
Officer Kevin Feimer has been the handler and partner for Rocco for his entire service life. Officer Feimer is leaving his assignment in the K-9 unit and wishes to assume ownership of Rocco, which includes Rocco's care, maintenance, food costs and veterinary expenses.

FISCAL IMPACT:


There is no fiscal impact to the General Fund associated with this item.

Prepared by: Sergio G. Diaz, Chief of Police
Certified as to
availability of funds: Edward Enriquez, Chief Financial Officer/City Treasurer
Approved by: Lea Deesing, Assistant City Manager
Approved as to form: Gary G. Geuss, City Attorney

Concurs with:



WILLIAM "RUSTY" BAILEY, III
Mayor



MIKE SOUBIROUS
Mayor Pro Tem