



# Council Agenda Report

To: Mayor Uhring and the Honorable Members of the City Council

Prepared by: Susan Dueñas, Public Safety Director

Approved by: Steve McClary, City Manager

Date prepared: June 11, 2024 Meeting date: June 24, 2024

Subject: Municipal Law Enforcement Services Agreement with the County of Los Angeles

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**RECOMMENDED ACTION:** Authorize the Mayor to execute a new Municipal Law Enforcement Services Agreement (MLESA) between the City and the County of Los Angeles (County) for law enforcement services provided by the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department (Sheriff's Department) from July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2029.

**FISCAL IMPACT:** No additional appropriation is required. Funding for this agreement is included in the Proposed Budget for FY 2024-25 in Account No. 100-7021-5115 (Public Safety – LA County Sheriff's Services).

The changes to the MLESA do not alter the cost structure of the previous agreement. The cost for law enforcement services is included in the City's annual budget and rates for those services are reviewed annually by the County Auditor-Controller.

**STRATEGIC PRIORITY:** This item supports the Public Safety priority identified in the Adopted FY 2023-24 Strategic Priority Project List.

**DISCUSSION:** The City contracts with the County for the Sheriff's Department to provide law enforcement services. The current MLESA between the City and the County is set to expire on June 30, 2024. A new five-year agreement has been drafted for the City Council's review and approval, with the next term starting on July 1, 2024, and concluding on June 30, 2029.

Over the past year, a subcommittee from the California Contract Cities Association (CCCA), consisting of City Managers, collaborated with the County and the Los Angeles Sheriff's Department (LASD) to negotiate and revise the MLESA. The proposed

agreement (Attachment 1) includes revisions that were mutually agreed upon by the County and the CCCA subcommittee.

The revised MLESA includes several changes based on the contract cities negotiations which are beneficial to the City. The changes include:

- **Performance will be by Service Unit Rather than Overall** – Agreement performance standard changes from one measure overall to several measures at the service unit level. As the MLESA performance is based on service minutes, the number of deputies and civilians procured by a city are translated into available minutes. This allows the County to mix and match minutes to achieve their 98-102% target but can lead to unintended consequences to underperforming in areas like traffic, special assignment, or motor units.
  - Benefit: The change would set the 98-102% performance target for each specific unit – patrol, motor, and special assignment deputies increasing accountability to cities receiving the level of service expected when procuring specific resources. As an example, overages in patrol minutes cannot be made up by reducing service levels of a motor unit or special assignment deputy and vice versa.
- **Retaining Vehicle of Deleted Service Unit** – When a city adds a new resource that requires a vehicle (i.e. new deputy), the city incurs a significant first-year expense for the additional vehicle required for this new deputy. The maintenance and replacement costs of the vehicle are already integrated into the annual charge to the city if the city keeps the new deputy. While the LASD has a practice on this, the language of the MLESA was not explicit to protect a city from losing a deputy temporarily and then paying another new vehicle cost when the city restored the deputy. The MLESA adds language that a city can regain access to a vehicle procured with a new deputy service unit when the unit is deleted and restored within 24 months.
  - Benefit: This codifies the language and extends it from 12 to 24 months, giving more flexibility for a city to avoid incurring a new vehicle cost.
- **Transfer of City Property to County** – The agreement requires separate written agreements managed at the LASD contract city stations to govern items purchased by the City and temporarily transferred to the County. Additionally, the County must maintain a detailed and regularly updated inventory of all non-vehicle City equipment in its possession, including descriptions, serial numbers (if applicable), condition upon receipt, and location.
  - Benefit: This language increases transparency and accountability in the handling of the City's assets where the MLESA was previously silent.

- **Equipment Replacement after Extended Maintenance and Repair** – The agreement requires that the County will make best efforts to provide a temporary replacement if the original equipment takes more than 60 days to be returned.
  - Benefit: The language strengthens the required effort the County must undertake to provide a replacement. A best effort would require the LASD to be more diligent in providing a replacement.
- **Continue Negotiations on Indemnity Agreements** – The agreement includes Section 5.4 which acknowledges indirectly the continued negotiations between the County and contract cities related to concerns that cities bear the full cost of liability for contract activities when the County should share in such liability. A Letter of Understanding between the County and the California Contract Cities Association (Attachment 2) outlines how both parties will work towards addressing concerns in several areas raised by contract cities.
  - Benefit: The language does not guarantee a change, but it recognizes a mutual interest in ensuring the long-term viability of the Liability Trust Fund and controlling the increasing burden placed on cities for activities a city does not control. The County controls aspects of law enforcement operations (i.e. training, supervision, hiring, discipline, etc.) and to some extent should incur some of the liability, such as when there is gross negligence not controllable by a city. Further negotiations are a positive step.

The new Agreement is scheduled to be approved by the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors at its regular meeting on June 25, 2024. All contract cities have been requested to approve the new agreement before June 30, 2024. Staff recommends approving this revised MLESA. The changes to the MLESA strengthen the LASD's accountability to the City.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

- 1) Municipal Law Enforcement Services Agreement
- 2) Letter of Understanding Between County of Los Angeles and Contract Cities Association Regarding Contract Cities Liability Trust Fund

**MUNICIPAL LAW ENFORCEMENT SERVICES AGREEMENT  
BY AND BETWEEN  
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES  
AND CITY OF \_\_\_\_\_**

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**MUNICIPAL LAW ENFORCEMENT SERVICES AGREEMENT  
BY AND BETWEEN  
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES  
AND CITY OF \_\_\_\_\_**

This Municipal Law Enforcement Services Agreement ("Agreement") is made and entered into this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2024 by and between the County of Los Angeles ("County") and the City of \_\_\_\_\_ ("City").

**RECITALS**

- A. Whereas, the City is desirous of contracting with the County for the performance of municipal law enforcement services by the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department ("Sheriff's Department"); and
- B. Whereas, the County is agreeable to rendering such municipal law enforcement services on the terms and conditions set forth in this Agreement; and
- C. Whereas, this Agreement is authorized by Sections 56½ and 56¾ of the County Charter and California Government Code Section 51301.

NOW THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual covenants contained herein, and for good and valuable consideration, the parties mutually agree as follows:

**1.0 SCOPE OF SERVICES**

- 1.1 The County, by and through the Sheriff's Department, agrees to provide general law enforcement services within the corporate limits of the City to the extent and in the manner hereinafter set forth in this Agreement.
- 1.2 Except as otherwise specifically set forth in this Agreement, such services shall only encompass duties and functions of the type coming within the jurisdiction of and customarily rendered by the Sheriff's Department under the County Charter, State of California statutes, and the City municipal codes.
- 1.3 General law enforcement services performed hereunder may include, if requested by the City, supplemental security support, supplemental sworn officer support, and supplemental professional civilian support staff.

## **2.0 ADMINISTRATION OF PERSONNEL**

- 2.1 During the term of this Agreement, the Sheriff or his designee shall serve as the Chief of Police of the City and shall perform the functions of the Chief of Police at the direction of the City.
- 2.2 The rendition of the services performed by the Sheriff's Department, the standards of performance, the discipline of officers, and other matters incident to the performance of such services and the control of personnel so employed shall remain with the County. The City understands and agrees that, at the Sheriff's Department's sole discretion, the Sheriff's Department may redeploy personnel for mutual aid purposes pursuant to the California Emergency Services Act, codified at California Government Code Sections 8550-8668. Absent exigent circumstances, any sustained deployment of more than fifty percent (50%) of the City's contracted items, with the calculation determined by service unit type, requires consultation with the City manager or his/her designee. For the purpose of this section, exigent circumstances are defined as such cases where the immediacy of deployment is of such nature where prior consultation is materially detrimental to public safety and the length of such deployment does not exceed 24 hours.
- 2.3 In the event of a dispute between the parties to this Agreement as to the extent of the duties and functions to be rendered hereunder, or the minimum level or manner of performance of such service, the City shall be consulted and a mutual determination thereof shall be made by both the Sheriff's Department and the City. The City shall first consult with the Station Captain, Division Commander, and Division Chief, in an effort to reach a mutual determination. If a mutual determination cannot be realized at a subordinate level, then the matter will be elevated to a Sheriff's Department Assistant Sheriff or the Sheriff.
- 2.4 With regard to Paragraphs 2.2 and 2.3 above, the Sheriff's Department, in an unresolved dispute, shall have final and conclusive determination as between the parties hereto.
- 2.5 All City employees who work in conjunction with the Sheriff's Department pursuant to this Agreement shall remain employees of the City and shall not have

any claim or right to employment, civil service protection, salary, or benefits or claims of any kind from the County based on this Agreement. No City employees as such shall become employees of the County unless by specific additional agreement in the form of a merger agreement which must be concurrently adopted by the City and the County. The Sheriff's Department will provide approved City employees with the required training necessary to access authorized County programs (i.e. CAD, MDC, etc.), so such City employees can perform the functions of their positions.

- 2.6 While performing law enforcement services and functions under this Agreement, every Sheriff's Department employee shall be authorized to enforce all City laws and regulations, including all City codes and ordinances.
- 2.7 The City shall not be called upon to assume any liability for the direct payment of any Sheriff's Department salaries, wages, or other compensation to any County personnel performing services hereunder for the City. Except as herein otherwise specified, the City shall not be liable for compensation or indemnity to any County employee or agent of the County for injury or sickness arising out of the performance of services under this Agreement.
- 2.8 As part of its compliance with all applicable laws and regulations relating to employee hiring, the County agrees that the County Civil Service Rules to which it is subject and which prohibit discrimination on the basis of non-merit factors, shall for purposes of this Agreement be read and understood to prohibit discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation.

### **3.0 DEPLOYMENT OF PERSONNEL**

- 3.1 Services performed hereunder and specifically requested by the City shall be developed in conjunction with the Sheriff's Department and indicated on Attachment A, Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department Service Level Authorization (SH-AD 575) Form, of this Agreement.
- 3.2 The City, or its designated representative, shall meet with its respective Sheriff's Department Station Captain when requesting law enforcement services to be performed in the City, and provide direction to the Sheriff's Department Station Captain regarding the method of deployment for such services. The City and the

Sheriff's Department shall also determine a minimum daily standard of staffing needs for services rendered to ensure an adequate personnel presence during station operation and patrol. The City and the Station Captain shall meet to discuss the minimum daily standard which is documented in Attachment A, Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department Service Level Authorization (SH-AD 575) Form, of this Agreement. The Station Captain shall endeavor to meet this standard without increased cost to the City. The Sheriff's Department shall ensure that all services are delivered in a manner consistent with the priorities, annual performance objectives, and goals established by the City.

- 3.3 The Sheriff's Department shall make every attempt to avoid deployment deficiencies (i.e., "busting" of cars) by following the daily minimum standard of staffing, as stipulated in Attachment A, Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department Service Level Authorization (SH-AD 575) Form, of this Agreement. Should deployment deficiencies occur, the Sheriff's Department should make every effort to reallocate those resources to the shift where the deficiencies occurred. Should the Sheriff's Department determine that a temporary increase, decrease, and/or realignment in the deployment methodologies is necessary, the Sheriff's Department shall promptly notify the City of this change in advance. In the event that prior notice is not possible, the City shall be notified of the change within two (2) City business days. If monthly service compliance falls below ninety-eight percent (98%) for each service unit type, then the Sheriff's Department Station Captain shall meet with the City to discuss compliance and identify a plan for resolution. If the quarterly and/or year-to-date (September 30th, December 31st, March 31st, and June 30th) service compliance falls below ninety-eight percent (98%) for each service unit type, then the respective Sheriff's Department Division Chief shall meet with the Sheriff's Department Station Captain and the City to discuss compliance and identify a plan for resolution. If the City is dissatisfied with the outcome of either resolution process, the matter will be elevated to a Sheriff's Department Assistant Sheriff or the Sheriff until all City concerns are fully resolved. Resolution may include, but is not limited to, the use of overtime, staffing adjustments, and/or City-initiated service suspensions, at no additional cost to the



City. If the City determines it is unnecessary, the City may waive either dispute resolution process discussed above.

3.3.1 The Sheriff's Department shall monitor and make every attempt to backfill vacant and impaired (to include loaned) sworn supervisorial overhead positions by the beginning of the following quarter.

3.3.2 The Sheriff's Department will work with the City to provide an appropriate tool and/or reports to demonstrate adequate service level compliance under this Agreement. Such service level compliance reports include, but not limited to, daily staffing levels, service levels, deployment of service units, daily deputy activity, or similar type data that is reasonably available.

- 3.4 A new Attachment A, Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department Service Level Authorization (SH-AD 575) Form, of this Agreement shall be authorized and signed annually by the City and the Sheriff or his designee effective each July 1, and attached hereto as an Amendment to this Agreement.
- 3.5 Should the City request a change in the level of service other than pursuant to the annual July 1 readjustment, a revised Attachment A, Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department Service Level Authorization (SH-AD 575) Form, of this Agreement shall be signed and authorized by the City and the Sheriff or his designee and attached hereto as an Amendment to this Agreement.
- 3.6 The most recent dated and signed Attachment A, Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department Service Level Authorization (SH-AD 575) Form, of this Agreement shall be the staffing level in effect between the County and the City.
- 3.7 The City is not limited to the services indicated in Attachment A, Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department Service Level Authorization (SH-AD 575) Form, of this Agreement. The City may also request any other service or equipment in the field of public safety, law, or related fields within the legal power of the Sheriff's Department to provide. Such other services and equipment shall be reflected in a revised Attachment A, Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department Service Level Authorization (SH-AD 575) Form, of this Agreement under the procedures set forth

in Paragraphs 3.4 and 3.5 above.

- 3.8 With regard to any public safety equipment requested by the City and set forth on Attachment A, Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department Service Level Authorization (SH-AD 575) Form, of this Agreement, the City shall adhere to the terms and conditions set forth in Attachment C, Public Safety Equipment Use Requirements, of this Agreement.
- 3.9 When a contracted service unit, requiring the procurement of a vehicle at the onset of service, is deleted from the Service Level Authorization (SH-AD-575) , and the City reinstates said service unit within a 24-month period, the City will not be required to procure a vehicle.

#### **4.0 PERFORMANCE OF AGREEMENT**

- 4.1 For the purpose of performing general law enforcement services under this Agreement, the County shall furnish and supply all necessary labor, supervision, equipment, technology, communication facilities, and supplies necessary to maintain the agreed level of service to be rendered hereunder.
- 4.2 Notwithstanding the foregoing, the City may provide additional resources for the County to utilize in performance of the services.

4.2.1 All bailments require a separate Bailment Agreement governing the County's use of the bailed equipment. Such Bailment Agreements shall be administered at the station level. A bailment is a legal arrangement where one party (City) temporarily transfers possession of specific property or assets to another party (County) to facilitate the provision of certain services.

4.2.2 All donations made by a City to the County will be governed by the most current Sheriff's Department donation procedures.

4.2.3 The County, through the Sheriff's Department, acknowledges its obligation to maintain an inventory of all non-vehicle equipment owned by the City ("City Equipment") provided to the County for its use. The inventory shall include, but not limited to, a detailed description of each item of City Equipment, its serial number (if applicable), its condition upon receipt, and its location. The County shall be responsible for regularly updating and maintaining the inventory of City Equipment, including documenting any changes in the status, condition, or location

of equipment. The inventory shall be kept current and accurate at all times during the term of this Agreement. Upon request by the City, the County shall provide access to the inventory records and facilitate any necessary inspections or audit of the City Equipment. The County shall cooperate fully with the City in verifying the accuracy and completeness of the inventory. In the event of loss, damage, or theft of any City Equipment while under the custody or control of the County, the County shall promptly notify the City in writing and provide a detailed explanation of the circumstances surrounding the incident. All inventory records shall be completed and maintained at the station level.

- 4.3 When and if both parties to this Agreement concur as to the necessity of maintaining a law enforcement headquarters or Sheriff's Department substation within the City which would not normally be provided by the Sheriff's Department, the City shall furnish at its own cost and expense all necessary office space, and the Sheriff's Department shall have authority to negotiate with the City regarding which entity shall pay for furniture and furnishings, office supplies, janitor service, telephone, light, water, and other utilities.
- 4.4 It is expressly further understood that in the event a local office or building is maintained in the City, such local office or building may be used by the Sheriff's Department in connection with the performance of its duties in territory outside of the City, provided, however, that the performance of such outside duties shall not be at any additional cost to the City.
- 4.5 Notwithstanding the foregoing, it is mutually agreed that in all instances where special supplies, stationery, notices, forms, and the like must be issued in the name of the City, the same shall be supplied by the City at its own cost and expense.

## **5.0 INDEMNIFICATION**

- 5.1 The parties hereto have executed an Assumption of Liability Agreement approved by the County Board of Supervisors on December 27, 1977, and/or a Joint Indemnity Agreement approved by the County Board of Supervisors on October 8, 1991. Whichever of these documents the City has signed later in time is currently in effect and hereby made a part of and incorporated into this Agreement as if set out in full herein.

- 5.2 The parties hereto have also executed a County-City Special Indemnity Agreement approved by the County Board of Supervisors on August 25, 2009. This document is made a part of and incorporated into this Agreement as if set out in full herein.
- 5.3 In the event the County Board of Supervisors later approves a revised Joint Indemnity Agreement and the City executes the revised agreement, the subsequent agreement as of its effective date shall supersede the agreement previously in effect between the parties hereto.
- 5.4 Notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained in the Agreement, the indemnification term under this section shall be in effect for a period of nine (9) months, through and including March 31, 2025, with an automatic six-month (6) renewal thereafter, through and including September 30, 2025 (“Indemnification Extension”), unless: (a) this section is amended at any time prior to September 30, 2025; or (b) the entire Agreement is terminated earlier, pursuant to Section 7.0 of this Agreement. If the parties continue to perform under the Agreement after the expiration of the Indemnification Extension without any amendment to this section in accordance with Section 11.0, then the indemnification term under this section will be automatically renewed and incorporated herein for the entire duration of this Agreement.

## **6.0 TERM OF AGREEMENT**

- 6.1 The term of this Agreement shall be from July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2029, unless sooner terminated or extended as provided for herein.
- 6.2 At the option of the County Board of Supervisors and with the consent of the City Council, this Agreement may be renewed or extended for successive periods not to exceed five (5) years each.
- 6.3 Nine (9) months prior to the expiration of this Agreement, the parties shall meet and confer in good faith to discuss the possible renewal or extension of this Agreement pursuant to Paragraph 6.2 above. The parties shall reach an agreement as to the terms of any renewal or extension period no later than six (6) months prior to the expiration of this Agreement. Absent mutual agreement by the parties within that time frame, this Agreement shall expire at the conclusion of the then-existing term.

## **7.0 RIGHT OF TERMINATION**

- 7.1 Either party may terminate this Agreement as of the first day of July of any year upon notice in writing to the other party of not less than one hundred eighty (180) calendar days prior thereto.
- 7.2 Notwithstanding any provision herein to the contrary, the City may terminate this Agreement upon notice in writing to the County given within sixty (60) calendar days of receipt of written notice from the County of any increase in the rate for any service to be performed hereunder, and in such an event this Agreement shall terminate sixty (60) calendar days from the date of the City's notice to the County.
- 7.3 This Agreement may be terminated at any time, with or without cause, by either party upon written notice given to the other party at least one hundred eighty (180) calendar days before the date specified for such termination.
- 7.4 In the event of a termination, each party shall fully discharge all obligations owed to the other party accruing prior to the date of such termination, and, except as otherwise provided herein, each party shall be released from all obligations which would otherwise accrue subsequent to the date of termination.
- 7.5 In the case of termination of this Agreement, the Sheriff will provide only such duties as are required by law.

## **8.0 BILLING RATES**

- 8.1 The City shall pay the County for the services and equipment provided under the terms of this Agreement at the billing rates set forth on Attachment B, Contract City Law Enforcement Services and Equipment Master Rate Sheet, of this Agreement, as established by the County Auditor-Controller.
- 8.2 The billing rates set forth on Attachment B, Contract City Law Enforcement Services and Equipment Master Rate Sheet, of this Agreement shall be readjusted by the County Auditor-Controller annually effective July 1 of each year, published by the County, and attached hereto as an Amendment to this Agreement, to reflect the cost of such service in accordance with the policies and procedures for the determination of such rates as adopted by the County Board of Supervisors.
- 8.3 The City shall be billed at the current fiscal year's billing rates based on the service level provided within the parameters of Attachment A, Los Angeles County

Sheriff's Department Service Level Authorization (SH-AD 575) Form, of this Agreement.

- 8.4 The billing rates for other services and equipment requested pursuant to Paragraph 3.7 of this Agreement and not set forth on Attachment B, Contract City Law Enforcement Services and Equipment Master Rate Sheet, of this Agreement shall be determined by the County Auditor-Controller in accordance with the policies and procedures established by the County Board of Supervisors and then set forth and published on a revised Attachment B, Contract City Law Enforcement Services and Equipment Master Rate Sheet, of this Agreement.

## **9.0 PAYMENT PROCEDURES**

- 9.1 The County, through the Sheriff's Department, shall render to the City, after the close of each calendar month, a summarized invoice which covers all services performed during said month, and the City shall pay the County for all undisputed amounts within sixty (60) calendar days after date of the invoice.
- 9.2 If such payment is not delivered to the County office which is described on the invoice within sixty (60) calendar days after the date of the invoice, the County is entitled to recover interest thereon. For all disputed amounts, the City shall provide the County with written notice of the dispute including the invoice date, amount, and reasons for dispute within ten (10) calendar days after receipt of the invoice. The parties shall memorialize the resolution of the dispute in writing. For any disputed amounts, interest shall accrue if payment is not received within sixty (60) calendar days after the dispute resolution is memorialized.
- 9.3 Interest shall be at the rate of ten percent (10%) per annum or any portion thereof, calculated from the invoice due date, or in the case of disputed amounts, calculated from the date the resolution is memorialized.
- 9.4 Notwithstanding the provisions of California Government Code Section 907, if such payment is not delivered to the County office which is described on said invoice within sixty (60) calendar days after the date of the invoice, or in the case of disputed amounts, from the date the resolution is memorialized, the County may satisfy such indebtedness, including interest thereon, from any funds of the City on deposit with the County without giving further notice to the City of the County's

intention to do so.

## **10.0 NOTICES**

10.1 Unless otherwise specified herein, all notices or demands required or permitted to be given or made under this Agreement shall be in writing and shall be hand delivered with signed receipt or mailed by first class registered or certified mail, postage prepaid, addressed to the parties at the following addresses and to the attention of the person named. Addresses and persons to be notified may be changed by either party by giving ten (10) calendar days prior written notice thereof to the other party.

10.2 Notices to the County shall be addressed as follows:

Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department  
Contract Law Enforcement Bureau  
Attn: Unit Commander  
211 W. Temple Street. 7<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Los Angeles, California 90012  
Phone #: 213-229-1647

10.3 Notices to the City of shall be addressed as follows:

City of \_\_\_\_\_  
Attn:  
Address:  
Phone #:

## **11.0 AMENDMENTS**

11.1 Except for changes pursuant to Paragraphs 8.2 and 8.4 of this Agreement, all changes, modifications, or amendments to this Agreement must be in the form of a written Amendment duly executed by the County Board of Supervisors and an authorized representative of the City.

11.2 Notwithstanding Paragraph 11.1 above, the Sheriff or his designee is hereby authorized to execute, on behalf of the County, any Amendments and/or supplemental agreements referenced in Sections 3.0, 4.0, and 9.0 of this Agreement.

11.3 In accordance with Paragraphs 8.2 and 8.4 of this Agreement, the Sheriff or his designee is hereby authorized to publish, on behalf of the County, the annual revised Attachment B, Contract City Law Enforcement Services and Equipment

Master Rate Sheet, of this Agreement. The revised Attachment B, Contract City Law Enforcement Services and Equipment Master Rate Sheet, of this Agreement shall serve as an Amendment to this Agreement, but shall not require the signature of either party.

## **12.0 AUTHORIZATION WARRANTY**

12.1 The City represents and warrants that the person executing this Agreement for the City is an authorized agent who has actual authority to bind the City to each and every term, condition, and obligation of this Agreement and that all requirements of the City have been fulfilled to provide such actual authority.

12.2 The County represents and warrants that the person executing this Agreement for the County is an authorized agent who has actual authority to bind the County to each and every term, condition, and obligation of this Agreement and that all requirements of the County have been fulfilled to provide such actual authority.

## **13.0 ENTIRE AGREEMENT**

This Agreement, including Attachment A, Attachment B, and Attachment C, and any Amendments hereto constitute the complete and exclusive statement of understanding of the parties which supersedes all previous agreements, written or oral, and all communications between the parties relating to the subject matter of this Agreement. No change to this Agreement shall be valid unless prepared pursuant to Section 11.0, Amendments, of this Agreement.



**MUNICIPAL LAW ENFORCEMENT SERVICES AGREEMENT**  
**BY AND BETWEEN**  
**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES**  
**AND CITY OF \_\_\_\_\_**

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the County of Los Angeles, by order of its Board of Supervisors, has caused this Agreement to be executed by the Sheriff of Los Angeles County, and the City has caused this Agreement to be executed by its duly authorized representative, on the dates written below.

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

By \_\_\_\_\_  
ROBERT G. LUNA  
Sheriff

Date \_\_\_\_\_

CITY OF \_\_\_\_\_

By \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

ATTEST:

By \_\_\_\_\_  
City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:  
DAWYN R. HARRISON  
County Counsel

By \_\_\_\_\_  
Principal Deputy County Counsel

APPROVED AS TO FORM:  
CITY ATTORNEY

THIS DOCUMENT HAS BEEN REVIEWED  
BY THE CITY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE  
By \_\_\_\_\_

**LETTER OF UNDERSTANDING  
BETWEEN  
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES  
AND CONTRACT CITIES ASSOCIATION  
REGARDING CONTRACT CITIES LIABILITY TRUST FUND**

The Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department (LASD) provides law enforcement services to 42 cities in Los Angeles County (Contract Cities) through the Municipal Law Enforcement Services Agreement (MLESA). The MLESA is negotiated every five years, and we are pleased to have reached agreement with the Contract Cities on a five-year MLESA renewal, effective July 1, 2024. We value our mutual goal and partnership to keep our communities safe.

During the negotiation of the renewed MLESA, both Contract Cities and the County of Los Angeles (County) agreed that continued discussions around the MLESA's indemnification provisions are warranted. The increasing value of legal settlements and jury verdicts, escalating insurance costs, and other factors have raised concerns about the potential for exposure to liability at severe or unanticipated levels.

This Letter of Understanding (LOU) sets forth the framework within which the County and Contract Cities intend to continue discussions around the MLESA's indemnification provisions. It is not intended, nor shall it be construed, to impose any monetary or legal duty upon either party.

**I. PURPOSE**

The purpose of this LOU is to memorialize the County's and Contract Cities' mutual intent to continue to discuss potential changes to the indemnification provisions contained in Section 5.0 (Indemnification) of the MLESA, and to discuss funding models and practices with respect to liability costs.

In the renewed MLESA, the parties agreed to maintain the indemnification language from the prior MLESA for a period of nine (9) months, with an automatic extension for an additional six (6) months, to allow these continued discussions to take place. Neither the County nor Contract Cities are committing to any particular resolution or agreement resulting from these discussions, and this LOU is not enforceable against either the County or Contract Cities.

## **II. TOPICS FOR DISCUSSIONS**

The County and Contract Cities intend to discuss the specific topic areas identified below. These topic areas are described generally so as not to be unduly prescriptive or limiting. However, the County and Contract Cities do not intend by this LOU to discuss topic areas outside the reasonable scope of the Assumption of Liability Agreement, Indemnity Agreement, Special Indemnity Agreement and those items listed below, and agree that limiting discussion to these topic areas will ensure that discussions proceed in a focused, orderly, and timely manner.

1. Acts or omissions by LASD employees that will not be considered "Contract City business" for the purposes of determining whether the LTF shall pay for resulting litigation costs and liability.
2. Loss control measures to reduce liabilities paid for by the LTF.
3. A formal process to resolve disputes between the County and Contract Cities over responsibility for certain costs of litigation or liability.
4. Responsibility for the costs to defend LASD employees and punitive damages awards under certain circumstances, including but not limited to, when employees are engaged in conduct outside the course and scope of their employment, illegal or sexual activity or with willful disregard for the safety of others.
5. Participation by Contract Cities in the selection of attorneys for Priority 1 & 2 cases, as well as discussions of which firms should be on the panel..
6. Defining what constitutes timely notice by the County to Contract Cities' claims and the ramification of a failure to do so.
7. Litigation cost reduction measures.
8. Addressing the solvency of the LTF.
9. Discuss other fee-for-service models that reflect the County's desire to fully recover its cost of providing MLESA services in Contract Cities, including any liability costs, and the Contract Cities' desire to reduce liability costs associated with the existing MLESA structure.

## **III. MEETING SCHEDULE AND FORMAT**

Within 15 days of the execution of this LOU by all parties, the parties will mutually agree on a meeting schedule. Meetings will take place no less than monthly, either in person or virtually. To foster meaningful and productive discussions, the County and Contract Cities intend to limit their respective number of participants at each meeting to no more than six (6) representatives each. County representatives will include, at a minimum, the Chief Executive Office, LASD, and County Counsel. Contract Cities' representatives will include, at a minimum, Contract Cities Executive Director, the California Joint Powers Insurance Authority, and a representative from the City Managers workgroup. This does not restrict the use of external professionals to assist in any technical analysis beneficial to the discussions.

**IV.**

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

LOS ANGELES SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

CONTRACT CITIES ASSOCIATION

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_