

## **Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)**

### **What is the status with the transfer of police services from the Brea Police Department to the Orange County Sheriff's Department?**

At the July 17th, 2012 Council meeting, Council awarded the contract for police services to the Orange County Sheriff's Department. The current contract with the Brea Police Department expires on May 3, 2013. City staff and the Orange County Sheriff's Department are currently working on addressing the major components of the contract which includes staffing, equipment, office space and parking to ensure a smooth transition. Staff will present several proposals to the Traffic Commission, Parks & Recreation Commission and Planning Commission for recommendations and public input. At each meeting, the public will have the opportunity to make comments. Staff will then bring the final proposal along with public input and commission recommendations to the City Council for final approval.

The Sheriff's Department has assigned Lt. Bob Wren, future Chief of Police Services, and Mark Alders, Assistant to the City Manager, as the city's transition coordinators.

### **What are some of the issues in the transition?**

As you can imagine, there are numerous details, large and small, that need to be considered, however, some of the major issues include staffing, equipment, office space and parking.

### **Will the Sheriff hire former Brea PD officers to work in Yorba Linda?**

At the April 2012 Council meeting, Sheriff Hutchens stated that the department would hire displaced Brea officers. At this time the selection process for sworn officers and staff is in process.

### **What equipment does the city need to purchase?**

The city will need to provide office furniture, equipment and supplies as well as police vehicles. Some of this can be taken from existing city supplies and some items will need to be purchased. The city has already purchased much of the necessary equipment and the police vehicles required for the transition.

### **Where will the Sheriff's base of operations be located?**

Currently, Brea PD officers report to the main police station at the Brea Civic Center and use the Arroyo Park annex building for a substation. When the city transitions to the Sheriff deputies and administrative staff will report directly to the Arroyo Park annex building which will be renovated and have and expanded. The renovations should have minimal impact on park usage and neighboring residences.

One of the attractive elements of the Sheriff's proposal was the opportunity to have all police services within the city limits at a known location by residents of the community, the Arroyo Park Annex is a centralized, city-owned location and is cost effective for permanent, long term use.. This office is strictly administrative and operational and it will **not** include any form of booking or incarceration.

### **What other options were considered?**

If the city leased commercial office space for police services, estimates ranged from \$8,000 to \$10,000 per month which equates to \$480,000 to \$500,000 over a five year contract. The city would not own

the site, and therefore rents would go up at regular intervals. Whereas the one-time cost of expanding the existing structure is approximately \$450,000 and provides for a long-term, lower cost, city owned facility.

### **What modifications would be required at the existing Police Services building?**

At this point in time, City staff is proposing a number of different parking options and gathering public input at the Traffic and Parks and Recreation Commission meetings before bringing a final proposal to the City Council.

The building design for the addition will be proposed to the Planning Commission. Staff proposals and designs will most likely evolve at each meeting reflecting changes made in response to the concerns of the public and commission recommendations made at the prior meeting.. The final options and designs will be presented to the City Council for final approval.

### **Below are answers to many of the general public comments or concerns on the designated Yorba Linda police services building.**

- There will be no retaining wall, barbed wire, communications towers or other intimidating structures or accompaniments.
- There will be minimal net loss of parking for Arroyo Park
- Police will not test sirens or leave the facility with sirens on.
- Any modifications to the structure will be made with consideration to the surrounding neighborhood aesthetics.
- Public notification regarding Arroyo Park modifications – The first notification of the September 27<sup>th</sup> Traffic Commission review, while in compliance with notification requirements, was insufficient, hence staff expanded notification area and sent letters directly to affected residences.
- The parking lot will not be closed off nor will a portion of the parking lot be blocked off to public access, but a certain number of parking stalls will be reserved for police services.
- Use of City Hall or the parking lot for Yorba Linda Police services is not feasible because City Hall has insufficient space already and the surrounding property is owned by the Placentia Yorba Linda Unified School District.
- An alternate parking site was researched, but it is not feasible because of the Sheriff's scheduling, shift or operational requirements.
- There will be no booking, interrogation, detention or jail, or the ability to post bail at the future Sheriff's police services building.
- No floodlights will be built for night time sports or events at Arroyo Park nor are there any plans to expand sports activities to include nights.
- More handicap accessible stalls will be added as part of the modification to the existing parking lot.
- To reduce costs, "Community Service" crews will be used for one day on the renovation of the existing structure. These are non-violent offenders (DUIs, misdemeanors, etc.) who are required by court order to perform community service. There will be no maintenance, car washes, fueling or underground tank installations at the facility. Maintenance will be provided by an offsite contractor and the City Yard is the refueling point as it has been for the Brea Police Department.