




BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
AGENDA LETTER

Agenda Number:

Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
105 E. Anapamu Street, Suite 407
Santa Barbara, CA 93101
(805) 568-2240

Department Name: Sheriff-Coroner
Department No.: 032
For Agenda Of: September 10, 2024
Placement: Administrative
Estimated Time:
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from:
Vote Required: Majority

TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: Sheriff's Office Bill Brown, Sheriff-Coroner, 805-681-4290
Contact Info: Lieutenant Jeff Greene, 805-686-5029
SUBJECT: License Agreement with the Montecito Water District to Store Search & Rescue Vehicle(s) in Montecito



County Counsel Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Other Concurrence: Risk Management

As to form: Yes

Auditor-Controller Concurrence

As to form: N/A

Recommended Actions:

That the Board of Supervisors:

- A) Approve and authorize the Chair to execute the License Agreement with the Montecito Water District to allow necessary Santa Barbara County Search & Rescue vehicle(s) to be stored/staged at the secured parking area in Montecito; and
- B) Determine that the recommended action is not a "Project" within the meaning of California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), pursuant to CEQA Guideline Section 15378(b)(4), since the recommended action is a government fiscal activity which does not involve commitment to any specific project which may result in potentially significant physical impact on the environment.

Summary Text:

This item is before your Board to approve the License Agreement with the Montecito Water District (Attachment A) to allow for necessary Santa Barbara County Search and Rescue Team ("SAR") vehicles and equipment to be stored/staged inside the district's secured parking lot in Montecito. The Montecito Water District will allow SAR to store vehicles and associated equipment at the site for no cost but desires the arrangement to be formally documented.

Staging SAR vehicles and equipment inside the secured parking area of the Montecito Water District is essential in saving precious minutes in response time to those many calls for service in the Montecito area

and provide secured protection of the SAR equipment. If approved, this will ensure quicker responses to those in need and provide a safe pre-staging location for the SAR Team to conduct its various missions that serve the community.

Background:

Since the early 1960s, SAR has provided search and rescue services to the citizens and visitors of Santa Barbara County. As a volunteer, non-profit, public charity these services have been provided free of charge to those in need. There are numerous callouts each year requiring SAR members to traverse the vast trails, back country, and wilderness areas of our county. Many calls are for the trails in the Montecito area, which are more than 16 miles from the SAR headquarters building, and critical time is lost while responding to the incident from the Goleta area.

Recently, SAR has temporarily stored/staged a vehicle outside of the secure parking lot of the Montecito Water District, which has improved response time to calls for service in Montecito. This is partly due to the fact that some SAR members live in or near Montecito, thus response time is more rapid without the need to travel Highway 101 to retrieve a SAR vehicle then travel back, especially when the highway is congested. Time is a critical element when responding to a hiker in need of medical treatment.

Although storing/staging the SAR vehicle has proven worthwhile, the vehicle is exposed to vandalism or theft when left in an unsecured parking lot. The Montecito Water District is amenable to allowing SAR members access and to store the vehicle in their secured parking area, at no cost. The Montecito Water District is asking for the attached agreement between the County of Santa Barbara, due to SAR being an auxiliary unit of the Sheriff's Office and requiring insurance coverage for mishaps caused to SAR equipment or any other equipment damage due to a SAR member or SAR equipment located at the site.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

Budgeted: N/A

Fiscal Analysis:

Narrative: There is no fiscal impact on the General Fund. Insurance coverage is already procured by the County, and no new coverage is required for this agreement.

Special Instructions:

Clerk of the Board: Please forward a certified, stamped Minute Order approving the recommendation, and a signed copy of the executed MOU between the Montecito Water District and the County of Santa Barbara, to:

Jeff Greene, Lieutenant – Santa Barbara Sheriff's Office,
4434 Calle Real,
Santa Barbara, CA 93110

Attachments:

Attachment A: Montecito Water District License Agreement

Authored by:

Lieutenant Jeff Greene - Santa Barbara Sheriff's Office