


COUNCIL COMMUNICATION

	Number: 23-441	Meeting: October 2, 2023
	Agenda Item: 52	Roll Call: 23-1342
	Submitted by: Dana Wingert, Chief of Police	

AGENDA HEADING:

Requesting approval and acceptance of a Memorandum of Understanding between Polk County, the City of Des Moines and the Downtown Des Moines Self-Supported Municipal Improvement District (“Operation Downtown”) for shared cost of security expenses.

SYNOPSIS:

The Court District in the downtown area includes several commercial businesses, residences, and entertainment venues which draws a high volume of pedestrians and vehicle traffic. The City along with Polk County and Operation Downtown have reached a mutual agreement through this Memorandum of Understand to provide adequate security for the Court District. Each party will contribute a set amount towards the cost of off-duty Officers (estimated \$260,000) as well as security camera costs (estimated \$20,000.) The City will provide \$160,000 annually and assume the expenses of off-duty officers overtime exceeding the estimated amount. Polk County will contribute \$50,000 and Operation Downtown will contribute \$70,000 per fiscal year beginning in Fiscal Year 2024. Should there be a surplus of funds at the end of the fiscal year, the remaining funds will carry to the next fiscal year provided the agreement is still active. Should the agreement expire or be terminated early, any remaining funds would be returned to the contributing parties based on the percentage of initial support. The agreement has a term of one (1) year with two (2) additional one (1) year renewals.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Amount: \$160,000

Funding Source: Funds are available in the City Manager’s Administration Budget (CM001000), Adopted Operating Budget, Page 30

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

The Memorandum of Understanding sets the terms and understanding between Polk County, the City, and Operation Downtown in respect to security in the Court district and the surrounding entertainment district. The agreement specifies the amount of financial support each party will contribute each fiscal year in support of security measures which include off-duty police officers and security cameras. The City and the Police Department will determine and govern the number of off-duty officers to provide law enforcement services in the Court District during predetermined days and special events. If the cost of the off-duty officers exceeds the \$260,000 estimate, the City will be responsible for the cost.

The security cameras will be purchased and maintained by Operation Downtown with the cost paid from the funds contributed by the three (3) parties. Operation Downtown will provide information related to these costs to the parties annually. If costs related to the cameras exceed the \$20,000 estimated annual cost, each party would be required to provide written pre-approval of the expenditure and pay 1/3 of the overage.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION(S): NONE

BOARD/COMMISSION ACTION(S): NONE

ANTICIPATED ACTIONS AND FUTURE COMMITMENTS: NONE

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