

Lompoc City Council Agenda Item



Date of City Council Meeting: July 19, 2011

TO: LAUREL M. BARCELONA, CITY ADMINISTRATOR

FROM: TIMOTHY L. DABNEY, CHIEF OF POLICE
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SUBJECT: JAIL AGREEMENT WITH THE CITY OF GUADALUPE

Recommendation: That the City Council:

Review the Agreement for Use of the Lompoc City Jail Facilities and Provision of Services, and authorize the Mayor, City Administrator and Chief of Police to sign said Agreement, allowing the Guadalupe Police Department the option of booking prisoners in the Lompoc City Jail.

Background:

The current economic crisis has impacted virtually every American in a negative manner. City and county governments across California have experienced some of the most significant impacts. A result of the fiscal challenges facing Santa Barbara County has been the partial closure of the Santa Maria Branch Jail, operated by the Santa Barbara County Sheriff's Department.

On June 27, 2011, the Santa Barbara County Sheriff's Department reduced the hours of the Santa Maria Branch Jail from full-time operation to only 24 hours per week. The Santa Maria Branch Jail is only open for new bookings from 8:00 PM to 4:00 AM on Thursday, Friday and Saturday evenings.

This reduction of hours, places a tremendous burden upon the Guadalupe Police Department. Officers making arrests when the Santa Maria Branch Jail is closed will be forced to transport their prisoners to the main jail located in Goleta. This will take their officers off of the street for three to four hours and create a tremendous financial burden in terms of overtime and vehicle operation costs.

On June 28, 2011, the Guadalupe City Council unanimously approved the attached, Agreement for Use of Lompoc Jail Facilities and Provision of Services. This agreement allows the Guadalupe Police Department the option of booking prisoners in the Lompoc City Jail and provides the City of Lompoc with the requisite legalities and coverage of costs incurred as a result of this agreement.

Discussion:

The City of Lompoc has a pre-existing contractual agreement with the Santa Barbara County Sheriff's Department. This agreement allows deputies to book prisoners into the Lompoc City Jail at a cost of \$115.13 per booking. The fee associated with the booking of prisoners provides for the coverage of cost incurred by the City for the booking and housing of an arrestee. It is anticipated that the number of bookings performed by the Santa Barbara County Sheriff's Department will increase with the partial closure of the Santa Maria Branch Jail.

The proposed agreement between the City of Lompoc and the City of Guadalupe provides that the Lompoc Police Department will receive bookings of arrestees in the Lompoc City Jail from arrests by officers made in the City of Guadalupe. The Agreement has the same legal provisions, insurance coverage requirements, and booking fees as seen in the agreement with the Santa Barbara County Sheriff's Department.

Chief George Mitchell of the Guadalupe Police Department estimates that the Guadalupe Police Department books approximately 125 arrestees per year. Arrests that are made in Guadalupe when the Santa Maria Branch Jail is open for bookings will be delivered to the Sheriff's facility. Therefore, the increase in bookings in the Lompoc City Jail by officers of the Guadalupe Police Department is estimated to increase by approximately two-thirds of the 125 booking estimate, or 82 bookings.

The Lompoc City Jail is a Type I jail facility (96-hours maximum stay – no sentenced prisoners) and has a rated capacity of 23 prisoners at any given time. There are 16 beds and a sobering cell. In 2010, the Lompoc City Jail received 2,522 bookings. The average daily population of the Lompoc City Jail in 2010 was approximately seven prisoners. At capacity, the Lompoc City Jail could house over 5,000 prisoners per year. However, as the jail population increases, it is important to maintain proper staffing ratios to accommodate the safety of our jail staff.

The increase in bookings anticipated from the agreement with the City of Guadalupe is nominal and of itself not likely to create any unsafe conditions. The jail supervisor and administrative staff will monitor the anticipated increased bookings from both Guadalupe and the Santa Barbara County Sheriff's Department and make staffing adjustments as necessary.

Fiscal Impact:

Costs incurred by additional bookings will be compensated at a rate of \$115.13 per booking. This should allow enough flexibility to add extra-help jail staff as needed. No negative impact to the General Fund is anticipated.

Conclusion:

The Lompoc Police Department is compelled to assist Guadalupe Police Department in the interest of preserving cost effective law enforcement services in Northern Santa Barbara County. It is recommended that the City Council approve the Agreement for Use of Lompoc Jail Facilities and Provision of Services.

APPROVED FOR SUBMITTAL TO THE CITY ADMINISTRATOR

TIMOTHY L. DABNEY
Chief of Police

Attachments: [APPROVAL FOR USE OF LOMPOC JAIL FACILITIES AND
PROVISION OF SERVICES](#)

APPROVED FOR SUBMITTAL TO THE CITY COUNCIL/AGENCY BOARD:

LAUREL M. BARCELONA
City Administrator