



# CITY OF SAN JUAN BAUTISTA CITY COUNCIL REPORT

**AGENDA TITLE:**                    **A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF SAN JUAN BAUTISTA  
AWARDING THE CONTRACT FOR PRIVATE SECURITY  
SERVICES TO KYSMET SECURITY AND PATROL**

**MEETING DATE:**                    May 24, 2022

**DEPARTMENT HEAD:**            Don Reynolds, City Manager

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**RECOMMENDED ACTION(S):**

That the City Council, after receiving a recommendation from the Council’s Public Safety Sub Committee to award the private security agreement to Kysmet Security and Patrol, and authorize the City Manager to negotiate and execute the Agreement.

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION:**

In the past two decades, the City has shifted entirely to contract services for its public safety services, except for a part-time code enforcement officer. The City contracts with the County Sheriff for law enforcement, City of Hollister Fire Department, Four-Leaf for the Building Official, and to Pet Friends who assist with feral cats. AMR provides emergency medical care, and County of Santa Cruz provides 911-call dispatch services (both serve the whole of San Benito County). Following a rash of burglaries downtown in 2016, the City added private security services to observe and report to the City and law enforcement focused on downtown.

This 2016 contract was limited to “observe and report” due to the concerns from the City’s liability carrier. The use of weapons and force was not allowed. This first contract did include parking enforcement.

On July 19, 2019, the City executed a new contract for private security services. A public bidding process occurred, and the Council interviewed the prospective service providers. The scope of work was limited to observe and report, did not include parking or municipal code administrative citation enforcement. It did not specify a geographic boundary, and therefore, the expectation was for patrol services to cover the whole city. It expires June 30, 2022.

During the term of the contract, the current service provider requested several contract amendments. One would provide additional reimbursement for adding the new developments to

the patrol service area. A second request suggested adding a second security officer for an estimated cost of \$45,000 per year. Monthly reporting became an issue, and the City and contractor agreed to those provisions within the agreement, submitting monthly reports by the 10<sup>th</sup> of each month. As the price of fuel escalated quickly, the City Manager recently agreed to increase the contract by 10% to help cover these unanticipated costs. The cost of private security is estimated to be \$120,000 in FY 21/22.

The City only has parking and administrative citation enforcement enforced by part-time code enforcement, when not dedicated to other matters. Citations have increased from 5 in 2019 to 65 in 2021. They are processed by a company called “Data Ticket.” If Data Ticket cannot collect through letters, it attaches payment to the vehicle registration renewal. In December, the City added a component to this contract to assure the collection of administrative citations as well. This was a major issue after issuing fines during the 4<sup>th</sup> of July, with no tools to collect them.

### **DISCUSSION:**

In July, the City Council appointed the “Public Safety Ad-Hoc Committee,” consisting of the Council’s Public Safety Subcommittee Members Council Member Freels and Mayor Jordon, Planning Commission Chair Delgado, Historic Resources Board Chair Medeiros, and “at-large community member” Rachel Ponce. In August this committee began meeting once per month first evaluating each of the many public safety contracts. In November the Committee recommended to the City Council that the City request by Resolution that the Sheriff change its methodology from a random patrol and response to service calls, to appointing a dedicated Deputy. This Deputy would serve in the City 40-hours per week, and be the same person every week as long as possible. The new Deputy would start in March 2022.

As the end of the current contract approached, the need for a new amended scope of work appeared to be necessary. A scope that would consider the additional dedicated Sheriff Deputy, the expansion of the geographic boundary, and adding back parking and administrative citations. Perhaps the private security methodology can be less intense with the support of the dedicated deputy, as they both work similar hours. The question of needing two private security officers can be exhausted through the development of a new scope of work. The scope needs to add-back parking enforcement, and the associated adjudication prices into the private security contract if it wants to have a downtown parking district. Lastly, the City needs help writing administrative citations including fines for fireworks, loud parties, and COVID health and safety violations.

The City wrote a new scope of work and issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) April 6<sup>th</sup>. The details of which are provided for in the attached proposed Resolution and award of contract. The current contractor decided not to apply. Three responsive proposals were received. The proposals were reviewed by professionals. Interviewed by the City Manager, who then checked their references. After this thorough review, interviews were held Friday May 20<sup>th</sup>, with the Council’s Public Safety Subcommittee, and they recommend awarding the contract to Kysmet Security and Patrol.

This firm is a medium size firm that can conform to the City's needs, as well as add additional staff for special enforcement tasks. Reporting technology is live, on camera on-line for the Sheriff to access, and for the dedicated Deputy to use for follow-up investigations. They use License Plate Reading cameras for citation writing, and deal with inebriated citizens day-in and day-out. This company helped design the security system used at Northridge Mall in Salinas, and help design and implement the City's proposed security camera system. Their reference from the Relay for Life really speaks to their community commitment. It is with confidence that the staff and Subcommittee recommend Kysmet Security and Patrol for City of San Juan Bautista.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

The City's draft budget for security services is sufficient to pay for the cost proposed by the new contractor.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

Proposed Resolution with attachment as follows:

- Request for Proposals
- Prospective bidder's list
- Questions and Replies during bidding
- Recommended Proposal