



THE PORT
OF LOS ANGELES
Executive Director's
Report to the

Board of Harbor Commissioners

DATE: OCTOBER 6, 2020

FROM: PORT POLICE

SUBJECT: RESOLUTION NO. _____ - MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE LOS ANGELES HARBOR DEPARTMENT ON BEHALF OF THE LOS ANGELES PORT POLICE AND THE LOS ANGELES POLICE DEPARTMENT FORMALIZING JOINT AGENCY PRACTICES AND AGENCY RESPONSIBILITIES WITH REGARDS TO LAW ENFORCEMENT RESPONSE OPERATIONS AND INVESTIGATIONS

SUMMARY:

Staff requests approval of a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between the City of Los Angeles Harbor Department (Harbor Department), on behalf of the Los Angeles Port Police (LAPP), and the Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD), to formalize joint agency practices and agency responsibilities with regard to law enforcement response operations and investigations in the Harbor District.

This proposed MOA is for a five-year term and will establish the various duties and responsibilities of each agency, in fulfilling their respective public safety, law enforcement, emergency management and joint operations. The approval of this proposed MOA will have no financial impact on the Harbor Department, as there are no costs and or revenues associated with this action.

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the Board of Harbor Commissioners (Board):

1. Find that the Director of Environmental Management has determined that the proposed action is administratively exempt from the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) under Article II, Section 2(f) of the Los Angeles City CEQA Guidelines;
2. Approve the Memorandum of Agreement between the City of Los Angeles Harbor Department and the Los Angeles Police Department to formalize the understanding between the Los Angeles Port Police and the Los Angeles Police Department formalizing joint agency practices and agency responsibilities with regard to law enforcement response operations and investigations in the Harbor District for a term of five-years;
3. Authorize the Executive Director to execute, and the Board Secretary to attest to, the proposed Memorandum of Agreement for and on behalf of the Board; and
4. Adopt Resolution No. _____.

SUBJECT: MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE LOS ANGELES HARBOR DEPARTMENT AND LAPD FORMALIZING JOINT AGENCY PRACTICES AND AGENCY RESPONSIBILITIES WITH REGARDS TO RESPONSE OPERATIONS AND INVESTIGATIONS

DISCUSSION:

Background/Context – The Los Angeles Port Police is the primary provider of port security, maritime policing, police patrol and response within the lands and waters of the Harbor District; however, LAPD has concurrent responsibility for conducting criminal investigations in, or related to, the City of Los Angeles in general.

On June 13, 2019 the Harbor Department and LAPD entered in to a one-year MOA to establish and formalize responsibilities related to response and investigations.

This proposed MOA is for a five-year term and documents a number of joint agency practices and responsibilities with regards to law enforcement response operations and investigations. The MOA establishes responsibility for conducting criminal investigations in, or related to, the City of Los Angeles in general, establishes responsibility for public notifications and alerts, and responsibilities of the two agency's dispatch centers.

As the City Charter recognizes the general powers of LAPD and LAPP separately, the two agencies have established certain working practices in the interest of creating clarity of responsibility when responding to an investigation or incident. The intent of this agreement is not to create any powers that conflict with any law, regulation, Los Angeles City Charter, Administrative or Municipal Code provisions, or formally approved policies or procedures but to help establish a guide to ensure both parties are able to facilitate both their individual mission sets.

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT:

The proposed action is the approval of an MOA with the LAPP and LAPD to formalize joint agency practices and agency responsibilities with regard to law enforcement response operations and investigations in the Harbor District, which is an administrative activity. Therefore, the Director of Environmental Management has determined that the proposed action is administratively exempt from the requirements of CEQA in accordance with Article II Section 2(f) of the Los Angeles City CEQA Guidelines.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

Approval of this MOA will have no financial impact on the Harbor Department, as it is administrative in nature, formalizing the understanding between LAPP and LAPD, regarding the exchange of information necessary to facilitate both agency's mission sets.

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CITY ATTORNEY:

The Office of the City Attorney has reviewed and approved the Memorandum of Agreement as to form and legality.

TRANSMITTALS:

1. MOA between the Harbor Department and LAPD

CA Approval: 
FIS Approval: 



MICHAEL HYAMS
Deputy Chief of Police



THOMAS E. GAZSI
Chief of Public Safety and
Emergency Management

APPROVED:



EUGENE D. SEROKA
Executive Director

TEG:MH:GPC:MEO:arl
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