



# City Council Report

**Date:** September 21, 2020  
**To:** City Council  
**Through:** John Pombier, Assistant City Manager  
**From:** Ken Cost, Police Chief  
Michael Beaton, Commander  
**Subject:** Task Force Agreements with Drug Enforcement Administration  
(Citywide)

## Purpose and Recommendation

The City of Mesa Police Department is respectfully requesting that the Mesa City Council approve and authorize the City Manager to enter into Agreements with the U.S. Department of Justice, Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), to assign two Mesa Police officers to the DEA Phoenix Task Force and to receive up to \$38,361 in reimbursement from the DEA for the officers' overtime.

## Background

There is evidence that trafficking narcotics and dangerous drugs exists, and that such illegal activity has a substantial and detrimental effect on the health and general welfare of the people.

## Discussion

Under the Task Force Agreements, the Mesa Police Department will provide two detectives to the Task Force. Task Force duties include:

- Disrupt the illicit drug traffic in the State of Arizona by immobilizing targeted violators and trafficking organizations.
- Gather and report intelligence data relating to trafficking in narcotics and dangerous drugs.
- Conduct undercover operations where appropriate and engage in other traditional methods of investigation in order that the Task Force's activities will result in effective prosecution before the course of the United States and the State of Arizona.

## **Alternatives**

If these Local Task Force Agreements are declined, the detectives assigned to the Drug Enforcement Administration Task Force will return to duty at the Mesa Police Department. Task Force participation will be terminated and there will be no overtime reimbursement.

## **Fiscal Impact**

The Agreements provide up to \$38,361 for overtime. The DEA will not reimburse for fringe benefits. The maximum fringe benefit cost will be \$25,046. Funding for this expense will be absorbed by the Police Department's operating budget.

Mesa Police Department personnel will be responsible for submitting invoices to the Drug Enforcement Administration. The Drug Enforcement Administration will remit monies due upon receipt of the invoices.

## **Coordinated With**

The City of Mesa Police Department recommends the approval of accepting the Local Task Force Agreements with the U.S. Department of Justice, Drug Enforcement Administration.