Denton Independent School District Interlocal Cooperation Contract Between Denton ISD and City of Denton for School Resource Officer Program

January 14, 2025

SUMMARY:

This item requests approval of the Interlocal Cooperation Contract in the form of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the City of Denton and the Denton Independent School District, for reimbursement to the City in the estimated amount of \$832,231 for compensation and benefits of the Student Resource Officers assigned at Denton ISD for the Period of February 3, 2025 through June 30, 2025.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

The MOU is reviewed and approved annually, which outlines the mission, goals and financial aspects of the SRO program. On July 30, 2024, the Board of Trustees approved an Interlocal Cooperation Contract in the form of an MOU (hereafter referred to as the "2024 MOU"), providing that for the 2024-2025 academic year, DISD agreed to reimburse the City for the annual salary and fringe benefits of the nine (9) Student Resource Officers at a rate of fifty (50) percent and the one Lieutenant at the rate of one-hundred (100) percent. The 2024 MOU is effective July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025. The amount of reimbursement by DISD to the City for the 2024-2025 academic year is \$913,149.

Representatives of DISD and the City met on December 17, 2024, and discussed changes to the 2024 MOU that would be beneficial to both parties. Changes to the 2024 MOU triggers Section VII of the MOU (Termination), which allows either party to terminate the MOU by providing thirty (30) days' written notice to the other party. On December 18, 2024, the City provided DISD with written notice of termination of the 2024 MOU effective February 3, 2025, as well as a copy of the proposed new MOU (hereafter referred to as the "2025 MOU"). The 2025 MOU, if approved, is effective February 3, 2025, through June 30, 2025.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES:

Approval of a new Interlocal Cooperation Contract, in the form of a new MOU, requires the approval of the DISD Board of Trustees and the City Council. Should the DISD Board of Trustees not approve the 2025 MOU, the 2024 MOU will remain in effect until its expiration date of June 30, 2025.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS:

The change agreed upon by the City and DISD representatives is the Denton Police Department will no longer assign a Lieutenant to DISD, nor perform the duties assigned to the Lieutenant. A Denton Police Department Sergeant will continue to be assigned to DISD in charge of the SROs. This change will result in a cost savings to DISD of \$80,917, with the total reimbursement from DISD to the City in the amount of \$832,231.

BENEFIT OF ACTION:

The Student Resource Officer (SRO) Program is a cooperative partnership between the City of Denton and DISD which assigns police officers to designated middle and high schools within city limits. Student Resources Officers work their assigned campus on a full-time basis with the purpose of providing a "student centric" approach towards building a positive relationship between police officers and students.

SUPERINTENDENT'S RECOMMENDATION:

The Superintendent recommends approval of the Interlocal Cooperation Contract for the SRO Program with the City of Denton, in the form of the 2025 Memorandum of Understanding.

ATTACHMENT:

Exhibit A – City of Denton Agenda Information

Exhibit B – MOU for 2024-2025 SRO Program

Exhibit C – Red-lined MOU for 2024-2025 SRO Program