



Memorandum

Date: April 10, 2024

To: Honorable Mayor and Councilmembers

From: Kathie Brooks
Interim City Manager

Department: Edwin Lopez
Chief of Police

Subject: **Mutual Aid Agreement- City of Virginia Gardens and the City of Doral**

Introduction

The City of Doral Police Department respectfully requests the Mayor and City Council authorize the Police Department to enter the Mutual Aid Agreement between the City of Virginia Gardens and the City of Doral.

Background

Mutual Aid Agreements are vital components necessary to provide effective public safety services. The agreements provide specific guidelines for interdepartmental cooperation between participating cities and their police departments. By detailing ground rules for operational assistance, command and supervisory responsibilities, the handling of complaints resulting from cooperative efforts, liability, police powers, privileges, immunities, costs, and insurances, the agreements form the foundation for mutual cooperation in times of exigent circumstances. Mutual Aid Agreements ensure adequate levels of police services for anticipated major events, unplanned emergencies, or in the event of a natural or manmade disaster.

Mutual Aid Agreements are renewed periodically. The prior agreement with the City of Virginia Gardens took effect in 2019 and expired on April 1, 2024. The agreement currently under consideration extends mutual aid between the City of Doral and the City of Virginia Gardens until 2029.

Strategic Plan Alignment

This item is aligned with the Public Safety Strategic Goal, as it will assist in continuing to ensure the well-being and security of residents, maintain social order, support economic growth, foster community engagement, and improve the overall quality of life for residents.

Recommendation

The City Manager's Office respectfully requests that the Mayor and City Councilmembers authorize the Resolution authorizing the Police Department to enter into a Mutual Aid Agreement with the City of Virginia Gardens. Authorizing a Mutual Aid Agreement enhances the ability of subscribing cities and law enforcement agencies to provide the highest level of police services to their respective communities in an effective and fiscally responsible manner.

EL/ld