



AGENDA REPORT

City Attorney's Office

DATE:	July 26, 2022
TO:	Members of the City Council
FROM:	Mayor Tom Butt and Councilmember Nathaniel Bates
Subject:	Ballot Measure Regarding Richmond Police Department Minimum Staffing Levels
FINANCIAL IMPACT:	The cost of placing the ballot measure on the ballot is determined by the number of pages to be printed in the sample ballot booklet – between \$4,000 and \$10,000
PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION:	None
STATEMENT OF THE ISSUE:	Richmond Police Department management has communicated that a minimum staffing of 165 sworn officers, 20 more than the current funded level of 145, would create a healthy work force with minimal overtime.
RECOMMENDED ACTION:	ADOPT a resolution to submit to the City of Richmond electorate at the General Municipal Election to be held on November 8, 2022, an Advisory Question to restore staffing levels in the Police Department to 165 sworn police officers to create a healthy workforce with minimum overtime – Mayor's Office (Mayor Tom Butt 510-620-6503) and Councilmember Nathaniel Bates (510-620-6547).

DISCUSSION:

Richmond Police Department (RPD) management has communicated that a minimum staffing of 165 sworn officers, 20 more than the current funded level of 145, would create a healthy work force with minimal overtime.

This staffing crisis is simply unsustainable, and we must work to retain and recruit quality sworn officers. We must also support minimum RPD staffing to alleviate overtime (OT), thereby promoting better safety as well as the mental and physical well-being of our officers and community.

Our community and RPD deserve the City Council's understanding and support to ensure we have a safe community for all.

DOCUMENTS ATTACHED:

Attachment 1 – Resolution to submit an advisory question to voters