

landscape irrigation, electrical costs for irrigation and decorative street lights, repair, maintenance, replacement as needed).

DISCUSSION:

Members of the Uptown Association, the elected body representing the PBID Districts (three members from District #1 – California St., four members from District #2 – Yucaipa Blvd.) and several Uptown business owners have expressed concern over increased vandalism, homeless activity, and criminal behavior in the Uptown. Staff believes that changes in State law as a result of Proposition 47, AB 109, and now Proposition 57, have resulted in property crimes throughout the community and the entire state increasing over the past year. These legislative and voter actions have resulted in more and more crimes being downgraded from a felony to a misdemeanor, including burglary in an amount less than \$950, drug use, certain types of sexual assaults, and discharging a firearm into a vehicle for example. Consequently, more and more incarcerates are released on to the community's streets with little or no rehabilitative or other service efforts. As a result, law enforcement efforts that are necessarily spread over the entire City are less likely to result in the arrest of individuals for drug use or property crimes, or even now some forms of sexual abuse. This also limits the amount of resources that can be focused on the Uptown.

With the pending addition of brew pubs, wine tasting rooms, and the Yucaipa Performing Arts Center to the existing number of restaurants, the Uptown is beginning to transition into an extended day environment. With increased pedestrian activity anticipated, especially during the evening hours, Uptown security will become critically important.

In addition, homeless activities in Uptown are oftentimes detrimental to businesses and can lead to a general perception that the Uptown environment is unsafe. In response to the increased numbers of homeless individuals in the community recently, City staff, law enforcement, and the other members of the Homeless Coalition have developed a program designed to facilitate shelter for the homeless in Yucaipa. The Yucaipa Outreach Program, hosted by Redlands Family Services Association, became operational in August, 2016, and has been providing assistance to the community's homeless as well as the needy. As the program gains attention and use, combined with the efforts of the community to direct giving to these types of programs, it is anticipated that homeless activity in Yucaipa can be decreased. To encourage successful transitions to permanent housing, the City has created a Workforce Development Program for homeless individuals, offering an opportunity at consistent income to assist in affording permanent housing. To address security concerns, the City has created a "Quality of Life" Deputy position to help mitigate the effects of the criminal law changes and also established two Park Ranger/Ambassador positions to enhance safety in the parks, streets, and the Historic Uptown.

However, in addition to the efforts described above, Uptown businesses and the Association support more direct security efforts to further enhance Uptown safety. At the Uptown Association board meeting of November 17, 2016, Association members approved an investment of \$9,100 to retain the services of a private security company for one year. In anticipation of this action by the Association, City Council approved a Service Level Option in the FY 2016/17