

# City of Los Alamitos

## Agenda Report Discussion Items

July 21, 2015  
Item No: 9B

**To:** Mayor Richard D. Murphy & Members of the City Council  
**From:** Bret M. Plumlee, City Manager  
**Subject:** Appointment of Interim Police Chief

**Summary:** This report seeks approval to appoint Todd Mattern as the Interim Police Chief upon his retirement on October 17, 2015.

**Recommendation:** Approve the appointment of Todd Mattern as Interim Police Chief and authorize the City Manager to execute the employment agreement for the Interim Police Chief for the City of Los Alamitos.

## Background

Police Chief Todd Mattern is planning to retire October 17, 2015. Staff recommends to bring him back as an Interim Police Chief from October 18, 2015 until approximately June 30, 2016, or until a search for a permanent replacement is completed. This will help maintain continuity in the Police Department following the impending retirements of both the Support Services Manager and Captain, as Chief Mattern can assist with the transition of two new captains as well as the recruitment for a new police chief.

The City's Municipal Code (Section 2.28.070) indicates that the Chief of Police shall be appointed by the City Manager with approval by the City Council. CalPERS annuitant rules (Government Code 21221) require appointment by the governing body when filling a vacant position during recruitment for a permanent appointment. Therefore, City Council approval of the appointment of Todd Mattern as Interim Police Chief is necessary in order to fulfil the requirements of State retirement law and the City's municipal code.

## Discussion

Per the Public Employee Pension Reform Act (PEPRA), all Safety retirees that desire to return to work on a part-time (960 hour per fiscal year) basis are exempt from the 180 day wait period (6 months), which is generally required when hiring a retired annuitant.

While Chief Mattern's retirement date is October 17, 2015, it is Staff's recommendation to bring him back as a part-time employee on October 18, 2015 as an Interim Police Chief for a period not to exceed 960 hours per fiscal year. This will help maintain continuity in the Police Department following the impending retirements of both the

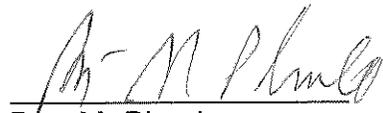
Support Services Manager and Captain, as Chief Mattern can assist with the transition of two new captains as well as the recruitment for a new police chief.

Upon the City Council's approval of the appointment of Todd Mattern as the City's Interim Police Chief, the City Manager will execute the Employment Agreement that sets forth the terms and conditions of employment for the Interim Police Chief. The agreement may be terminated by either party by giving written notice of termination to the other party.

## **Fiscal Impact**

Sufficient funds are available in the General Fund budget to implement the Employment Agreement. In addition, since the Interim Police Chief would be classified as a part-time employee, this classification would not receive benefits which would provide savings. The Fiscal Year 2015/16 Budget included a vacancy savings factor of \$100,000 citywide. The related savings associated with the appointment of Todd Mattern as a non-benefited part-time Interim Police Chief is approximately \$50,000 assuming the recruitment for a permanent Police Chief is not completed until after June 30, 2016.

Submitted and Approved By:



Bret M. Plumlee  
City Manager

Fiscal Impact Reviewed By:



Jason Al-Imam  
Administrative Services Director