

Request: \$10,000,000 to offset the cost of a \$30,000,000 project to design and construct a new 30,000 to 35,000 square foot police facility in the City of Los Banos, California.

Description: The City of Los Banos Police Department is the largest police agency on the west side of Merced County with a population of approximately 41,898 residents. The Department covers an area of approximately 10 square miles and is authorized 47 Police Officers and 32 non-sworn full time staff. During the 2018 calendar year, the Department handled approximately 43,294 incidents, answered 18,688 9-1-1 calls, and booked 1,239 inmates into our Type-1 jail facility.

The City of Los Banos is in the process of purchasing land along the G Street rail-trail corridor, adjacent to the new Merced County courthouse building, to construct a new police facility. Prior to the new courthouse construction, the main Police Department building and the old courthouse facility were adjacent, sharing a common parking lot. This was beneficial to the community having two law enforcement resources in close proximity. The Police Department hopes a new facility built next to the Merced County courthouse will provide a campus-style criminal justice setting to benefit the community and the City of Los Banos.



Necessity: The Police Department staff currently work out of two facilities. The main facility is located at 945 5th Street and has housed police staff since 1969. The building is very old and lacks space to support growth or provide additional services. In 1999, the City purchased the Police Annex Building, an old bank approximately half a block away from the main facility at 535 J Street. This facility houses police detectives, code enforcement, IT staff, and the Department's crime analyst. Operating out of two police facilities is inefficient and has made operations within the Police Department difficult over the years.

Additionally, both facilities require costly ongoing maintenance to repair leaky roofs, poor plumbing, outdated infrastructure, and challenges to bringing them up to current ADA standards.

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