



EL CERRITO POLICE DEPARTMENT

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December 5, 2019

Mr. Anthony Constantouros, General Manager
Kensington Police Protection and Community Services District
217 Arlington Avenue
Kensington, CA 94707

Dear Mr. Constantouros,

The City of El Cerrito has carefully considered the Request for Proposal issued by the Kensington Police Protection and Community Services District. City Staff held a community meeting to collect feedback, developed a framework for a potential proposal, and presented the proposal concept to the El Cerrito City Council. The El Cerrito City Council reviewed the RFP, considered a possible proposal, and decided on a course of action.

I was present for the meeting, presented the proposal concept and fielded questions from the City Council. It was clear that the Council was concerned about the apparent division in the Community of Kensington over the idea of contracting out police services. This division was of particular concern to the City Council due to the existence of an ordinance that requires voter approval before executing a contract for police protection services.

The City of El Cerrito is reluctant to present a proposal for police services while the ordinance creates uncertainty about the Board's ability to approve an agreement. The City understands that a proposal would require a close, collaborative partnership between the communities of El Cerrito and Kensington. The current ordinance stands in the way of open, good faith bargaining efforts.

If you have questions or would like to discuss the matter in more detail, please feel free to contact me at (510) 215-4425 or by email at pkeith@ci.el-cerrito.ca.us. I look forward to working together, in the future, on matters that involve cooperation between our communities.

Sincerely,

Paul Keith
Chief of Police