As Chair of the Independent Measure DD Citizen Oversight Committee I am delighted to report to the residents and businesses of Menifee that locally-controlled, voter-approved Measure DD funding has been spent as intended to maintain and enhance local services including neighborhood police patrols and emergency response times, adequate paramedic and firefighting equipment and staffing, and critical road maintenance and infrastructure projects among other services valued by the community. All Measure DD funding remains local in Menifee, and cannot be taken by the state.

Passed by 68% of the citizens of Menifee in 2016, Measure DD provides funding for expanding critical services like police, fire and more. The City of Menifee – and the Measure DD Citizens Oversight Committee is excited to share some of the many ways this funding is enriching the quality of life in our community.

MEASURE DD INCREASES FIRE DEPARTMENT CAPABILITIES

Funding from voter approved, locally controlled Measure DD has played a critical role in transitioning Menifee’s Fire Department from rural to local Menifee staffing, while adding seven new fire captains since 2016 to adequately address fire protection, emergency response needs and preparedness. The Measure has also funded the purchase and staffing of the Medic Patrol 7 unit, an emergency vehicle with full medical, rescue and firefighting capabilities that operates out of Fire Station 7 in Sun City. The unit has helped to improve 9-1-1 emergency response times at one of the busiest fire stations within Riverside County. Measure DD continually provides funds and maintains these public safety enhancements to the Fire Department that residents have grown to expect and rely on to keep emergency response times down.

The Menifee City Council approved the purchase of a new ladder truck for the City’s Fire Department at an August 21, 2019 City Council meeting. The purchase is supported 100% by Measure DD, the City’s voter-approved locally controlled funding, and will replace an existing and outdated truck that had passed its operational expectancy. The new truck will allow the department to respond to large structural and aerial fires.
MEASURE DD BRINGS NECESSARY TOOLS TO INCREASE SAFETY

When the first-ever Menifee Police Department officially begins serving and protecting the City of Menifee on July 1, it will be powered by 77-plus highly trained, experienced and passionate people. But it will also utilize technology to help keep both the community and Menifee officers safe. “There’s so many pieces of technology and tools we’ll be using because of Measure DD, thanks to our local residents,” said Police Chief Pat Walsh.

Here’s a closer look at five major tech innovations and implementations that will help power the Menifee Police Department in Chief Pat Walsh’s bold mission “to be one of the top five police departments in America.”

MORE NEIGHBORHOOD PATROL HOURS: Measure DD enabled the hiring of more patrol officers. This directly increases the amount of hours and officers on the street and enhances public safety. With Measure DD helping to establish the new Police Department, it not only adds patrol hours, but it also saved the City over $7M in law enforcement contracts for the same services.

BODY CAMERAS: Officers will be equipped with high-tech audio-visual body cameras that will serve a wide range of purposes for the department. The recorded audio and video can be utilized in court to help bring justice with reporting, and evidence to help foster a spirit of trust and transparency between Menifee police officers and citizens and assist with training enhancements to ensure Menifee consistently maintains safety measures and protects all citizens. If an officer is in danger or missing, the body camera can also provide GPS data and live streaming video that will allow police personnel to provide on-time, on-location assistance — as well as a closer look at the situation while en route with backup.

SMART TASERS: High tech tasers are another tech tool that every Menifee PD officer will have available thanks to Measure DD. This less-than-lethal tool provides officers with an effective, streamline workflow enhancing officer and suspect safety, that is directly linked to the officer’s body camera- anytime a taser is deployed automatically activating the body camera.

AUTOMATIC LICENSE PLATE READERS: License plate-reader software can scan and search any and all plates that pass by any of its cameras, which will be installed near freeway on- and off-ramps, at high-traffic shopping centers, and other strategic locations. Fast, smart searches can be conducted by partial plate number, make and model, crime timeframe and more. “In addition to helping recover stolen vehicles and apprehend car thieves, this system could go a long way in aiding the recovery of abducted and missing people,” said Captain David Gutierrez.

HIGH-TECH DRONES: When the department officially launches on July 1, it will fly out of the gates with four state-of-the-art drones to assist officers in hard to reach terrain, and enhance public and officer safety in critical situations. The smart drone systems also onboards cameras to assist with missing person searches or fleeing crime suspects, and also assist officers with safe distance investigations related to crime.

AED (AUTOMATED EXTERNAL DEFIBRILLATORS): Traditionally installed and employed in hospitals and certain businesses, AEDs will be installed in Menifee PD’s supervisor vehicles — with at least two AED-equipped vehicles being available during every patrol shift. While every officer is thoroughly trained in CPR, cardiac events/heart attacks often require more than merely CPR to prevent loss of life or severe damage from occurring, and it’s common for police officers to arrive on a distress scene before EMT or fire rescue personnel get there.

Learn more about the new Menifee Police Department at www.menifeepolice.org For more information about Measure DD please visit www.cityofmenifee.us/measuredd