



# CITY MANAGER COMMUNITY REPORT

August 2017

## **Banning Police Department Parking Lot is a Safe Exchange Space**

While online sites like Craigslist and Nextdoor give residents an opportunity to post and sell goods to one another, it is not uncommon to hear of these types of transactions resulting in theft, armed robbery, or physical injury. That is why the Banning PD has made its parking lot a “Safe Exchange Space.”

The Banning PD’s parking lot is well lit, monitored by video cameras 24 hours a day, and the adjacent main building is staffed with police personnel at all times. These factors should help deter potential scammers and criminal activity during transactions, as well as help make child custody exchanges go more smoothly.

The parking lot is located on the north side of the Police Department at 125 E. Ramsey Street. Anyone with questions regarding Banning Police Department’s “Safe Exchange Space” is encouraged to contact Chief Alex Diaz at (951) 849-1003.

## **City Council Meetings Report**

The Banning City Council met on July 11th and took action on several items including:

- Approved Ordinance 1511 which will allow the Joshua Palmer Realignment Project to move forward. This project will help relieve traffic along Highland Springs Avenue by relocating Joshua Palmer Way north of the existing businesses, which will help reduce traffic backup on the freeway interchanges.
- Appointed David Ellis to serve on the Planning Commission. We thank him for his service.

## **Banning May Offer CCW Permits**

Banning Police Department is looking at the feasibility of offering residents the opportunity to apply for Concealed Carry Weapon (CCW) permits.

While the Riverside County Sheriff Department typically issues CCW licenses, they receive a significant amount of requests per month and can take nearly two years to complete. By offering the service to Banning residents at the PD, permits could be issued within six months.

Banning PD is currently reviewing similar programs run by Beaumont and Murrieta Police Departments and will provide updates as they become available.



## **City Employee Stands Out During Fire**

Community Services Manager Max Calder was in the right place at the right time during the fire at the Quality Inn late last month. Max, a member of the City’s safety committee, was at the hotel when the fire began and was instrumental in helping evacuate hotel guests and staff. On behalf of the City, we thank Max for his quick-thinking and for helping keep everyone calm during an emergency situation. Way to go, Max!