



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

City of Hayden, Idaho
September 23, 2026

City of Hayden Enhanced Law Enforcement Position

Hayden, Idaho - The City of Hayden has completed its evaluation of the proposed Enhanced Law Enforcement Services contract with the Kootenai County Sheriff's Office (KCSO). While the City is not prepared to approve the agreement in its current form, we want to assure residents that public safety remains our highest priority and that our partnership with the Sheriff's Office continues as we work toward terms that meet the needs of both agencies.

This decision follows a detailed review of the contract's costs, structure, and performance expectations, with a focus on responsible stewardship of taxpayer resources. The city is committed to ensuring that any enhanced service agreement provides clear value, transparency, and accountability. As part of this process, the Council is seeking a more complete understanding of how the countywide Justice Fund supports baseline law enforcement services and how those services compare to any additional enhanced services funded directly by Hayden.

We appreciate the work KCSO has undertaken to improve reporting clarity and to better define the duties performed by deputies assigned to the city. As we move forward, we simply must ensure that expectations outlined in any future agreement are measurable, trackable, and aligned with community needs.

The City of Hayden will continue to work closely with KCSO as we negotiate a revised enhanced services contract with Kootenai County. Residents can expect continued transparency throughout this process and a firm commitment to both strong public safety and the responsible management of public funds.

For additional information or press inquiries, please contact the City Administrator's Office.

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