

Resolution No. 2003-162

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF VISALIA ADOPTING A
COMPREHENSIVE PUBLIC SAFETY IMPROVEMENT PLAN AND COORESPONDING
POLICY GUIDELINES.**

WHEREAS, the Visalia City Council understands that police and fire services are the number one priority for the majority of the citizens of Visalia; and

WHEREAS, an independent survey confirmed that the citizens of Visalia want to see a higher level of police and fire services to address specific concerns including emergency response times, gangs, drugs, traffic enforcement and putting more officers on the streets; and

WHEREAS, the Council had previously sought and received authorization from the California Legislature to seek a ¼ cent sales tax increase which, if approved by a two-thirds vote of the qualified voters of the City who vote on the issue in an election, can only be spent to improve public safety services; and,

WHEREAS, the Visalia City Council asked the Fire and Police Chiefs to develop a comprehensive public safety improvement plan that could be implemented if a ¼ cent sales tax measure is approved; and

WHEREAS, the Police and Fire Chiefs developed a plan based on additional community input from a citizen's task force, comments from more than 1,000 people who responded to a citizen survey, and comments from people at the more than 25 public presentations made over the past two months, as well as public safety professional and industry standards; and,

WHEREAS, the plan provides for additional sworn staff, as well as the necessary equipment and facilities needed for larger public safety departments; and,

WHEREAS, the plan guidelines include detailed program guidelines that address fiscal accountability protections, a dedicated accounting structure, an economic uncertainty fund should revenues not meet expectations, how priorities will be established should revenues exceed projections, that the plan be reauthorized by at least four-fifths of the City Council every eight years, and how the plan will be concluded if not reauthorized by the City Council; and,

WHEREAS, the Public Safety Improvement Plan spending designations are for the first 20 years and are based upon conservative sales tax revenue increases of 2% a year and a rise in costs of 3% a year;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Visalia City Council hereby adopts the Public Safety Improvement Plan and corresponding Visalia Public Safety Sales Tax Measure Program Guidelines with the understanding that full implementation of the plan is contingent upon a ¼ cent increase in the City's sales tax rate.

PASSED AND ADOPTED: 12/15/03

STEVEN M. SALOMON, CITY CLERK

STATE OF CALIFORNIA)
COUNTY OF TULARE) ss.
CITY OF VISALIA)

I, Steven M. Salomon, City Clerk of the City of Visalia, certify the foregoing is the full and true Resolution No. 2003-162 passed and adopted by the Council of the City of Visalia at a regular meeting held on December 15, 2003.

DATED: 12/16/2003

STEVEN M. SALOMON, CITY CLERK

BY: Roxanne Yoder, Chief Deputy