

Ring Subsidy for Unincorporated Communities

With the recent surge in break-ins within the County and the increasing need for law enforcement patrol, some cities such as Arcadia, Duarte, Monterey Park, Commerce, La Canada Flintridge, and Temple City have created innovative partnerships to increase the use of security technology. From these partnerships, Ring Home Security Systems (Ring) has developed a “Neighbors by Ring” Program to offer subsidies to customers within specific jurisdictions who purchase their video doorbell product. These video doorbells link to the customer’s smart device and an automatic alert is sent each time the motion sensors are activated.

This is a true public-private partnership with all funds put up by the local jurisdictions being matched by Ring. According to Temple City, this partnership and the use of Ring technology since 2016 has “been shown to reduce residential burglaries by more than 50 percent.” Similarly, Captain Vito Palazzolo with the Los Angeles Police Department stated that their partnership with Ring resulted in a “55 percent drop in burglaries in the second half of 2015.”

MOTION

SOLIS	_____
RIDLEY-THOMAS	_____
KUEHL	_____
BARGER	_____
HAHN	_____

The Board of Supervisors (Board) has committed resources to assisting the Sheriff's Department (Department) in filling their significant number of vacancies. With streamlined processes and increases in the frequency of academy classes, the Department is estimating that these vacancies will largely be filled by the end of 2020. In the meantime, our residents in the unincorporated areas continue to express concerns regarding proactive patrol and response times for service calls in these regions.

Following the precedent set by the cities, it would serve the unincorporated areas well to have a similar program implemented. Not only does this security technology offer some peace of mind to the residents but it also serves as a potential means for investigations in the event of any criminal activity that might be caught by the cameras. The safety of our public is a County priority and the residents expect the Board to continue to improve upon this foundation as opportunities are presented.

WE, THEREFORE, MOVE that the Board of Supervisors direct the Chief Executive Officer to:

1. In in coordination with the Sheriff and the Department of Consumer and Business Affairs, engage affected local municipalities and Ring Smart Home Security, or any other similar system provider, for the purposes of understanding the context and scope of this public/private partnership and how it may benefit residents in the county's unincorporated areas; and
2. Report back to the Board in 90 days with their findings, including an analysis of the financial and operational costs associated with such a public-private partnership endeavor along with recommendations.

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