



Snohomish County Council

Committee: LJHS

ECAF: 2021-0816

Proposal: Motion 21-371

Analyst: Heidi Beazizo

Date: Oct. 7, 2021

Consideration:

The Sheriff's office is requesting Council's consideration of an agreement transferring retired K-9 Rex to a Sheriff's Office employee for the remainder of his life.

Background

The Snohomish County Sheriff's Office has trained police canines that are used to assist them in their work. When these K-9's reach the end of their useful life as a police K-9 they are retired and sometimes adopted. Police K-9's go through special training and upon retirement require care by someone who knows how to appropriately handle the K-9.

Rex has reached his useful time as a police K-9, retired from service, and a Snohomish County Sheriff's Office employee would like to adopt Rex for the remainder of his life. Sheriff Office K-9's are considered personal property of the County and County Code does not provide direction on the sale or transfer of a K-9 or the transfer of personal property to a County employee.¹ Because of this a contract, or agreement, is used for the transfer of the dog and must be approved by Council.

The agreement outlines the risk that comes with adopting a trained police canine and states that the 'Buyer' is aware of the risk and assumes liability for anything that happens in relation to Rex from the date of his transfer and thereafter. The agreement also specifically states that the 'Buyer' waives any claims of liability against the County should they arise out of owning Rex. The agreement states that the transfer of ownership will take place on October 15, 2021.

Current Proposal

Scope: Motion 21-371 approves the release and indemnity agreement and the associated transfer for Sheriff's Office K-9 Rex.

Duration: Transfer is set in the agreement for October 15, 2021

Fiscal Implications: None. There is no revenue from this transfer as the K-9 is a trained police dog, requiring special handling.

2021 Budget: N/A

Future Budget Impacts: N/A

Handling: Normal

Approved-as-to-form: YES

Risk Management: APPROVE.

¹[SCC 4.46.141\(8\)](#) – Personal Property – Disposition of Surplus Property

Executive Recommendation: APPROVE.

Analysis: Consistent with code and prior actions

Attachments: NONE

Amendments: NONE

Request: Assign to COW and place on the COW agenda at GLS on October 13, 2021 for Council to consider taking action.