

## Community Focus Statement F: Improve the delivery of essential services to the community.

### **Action Statement F.1: Advocate for increased police patrols.**

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**Benchmark:** Increased opportunities for community engagement with the Sheriff's Department to collaborate on a safer community.

**Champion:** Volunteer group or person or can be identified by the community

**Estimated Cost:** Variable depending on amount of increased patrols



The Joshua Tree community receives police services from the San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department at the Morongo Basin Station with a dedicated deputy in Joshua Tree. Sheriff's deputies are very engaged in the Joshua Tree community at the Farmer's Market every week where community members can talk directly to them. Deputies also hold Neighborhood Watch trainings four times a year and log illegal dumping for Code Enforcement. Although the Sheriff's Department does not currently have the resources for more patrols, the community could coordinate with the Sheriff's Department to advocate for increased police patrols in Joshua Tree, as increased patrols can help enforce laws and deter potential crimes.

The community could request "Coffee with a Cop" meetings – a casual meeting of deputy sheriffs and community members to share concerns over a cup of coffee – which currently occur in a number of communities across the country. The nature of these events (normally held at a coffee shop or restaurant) allows honest conversation and offers the opportunity for citizens to get to know local law enforcement officers. A Coffee with a Cop event is easy to plan and could be held on a regular basis. It could be a forum for Joshua Tree community members to advocate for increased police patrols and discuss with the Sheriff's Department opportunities to increase their resources for additional community patrols. Coordination between a champion in Joshua Tree and the San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department would be required to schedule the event. These forums could also improve communication between the San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department and community members, with both groups working together to enhance public safety.



Action	Action Leader	Timeline	Resources
1. Create a Safety Taskforce	Champion	Month 1	<p>San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department, Morongo Basin  <a href="http://cms.sbcounty.gov/sheriff/patrolstations/morongobasin.aspx">http://cms.sbcounty.gov/sheriff/patrolstations/morongobasin.aspx</a></p> <p>San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department, Citizen Volunteer  <a href="http://cms.sbcounty.gov/sheriff/Divisions/VolunteerForces/CitizenonPatrol.aspx">http://cms.sbcounty.gov/sheriff/Divisions/VolunteerForces/CitizenonPatrol.aspx</a></p> <p>Coffee with a Cop  <a href="http://coffeewithacop.com/">http://coffeewithacop.com/</a></p>
2. Schedule regular check-in meetings with the Sheriff's Department Morongo Basin Station to express concerns, receive updates, and advocate for increased patrols.	Safety Taskforce	Years 1 – 3	
3. Host regular Coffee with a Cop events where community members can express concerns to the Sheriff's Department and community relationships can be built.	Safety Taskforce	Years 1 – 3	
4. Encourage communication between the Sheriff's Department, neighborhood watch groups, and citizen patrol.	Safety Taskforce with Neighborhood watch groups, citizen patrol	Years 1 – 3	