



**OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER/EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
65 Civic Avenue
Pittsburg, CA 94565**

TO: Chair and Board Members

FROM: Garrett Evans, Executive Director

SUBJECT: Adoption of a Pittsburg Power Company Resolution Approving Funding for a Gun Buyback Program to be Hosted by the Pittsburg Police

MEETING DATE: August 15, 2022

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The overall goal of a gun buyback program is to reduce the number of guns sold illegally in the community and to reduce the number of associated injuries and deaths.

FISCAL IMPACT

There is no impact to the General Fund. The resolution will allocate \$100,000 from the Pittsburg Power fund balance to finance the Gun Buyback Program

RECOMMENDATION

Pittsburg Power Company Board of Directors adopt the attached resolution allocating \$100,000 from the Pittsburg Power fund balance to finance the 2022 Gun Buyback Program.

BACKGROUND

On June 1, 2022, the Pittsburg Police Department began a 90-day campaign that is focusing on reducing violent crime and gun violence throughout the city. Keeping our community safe is always the highest priority for the police department.

During this campaign Pittsburg Police Officers have conducted large scale patrol enforcement, special operations, and prohibited person compliance enforcement. The Pittsburg Police Department also partnered with local, state, and federal agencies.

At this point, the campaign has been largely successful removing guns from the street. To date over 60 guns have been taken from the hands of criminals. A reduction in crime and violent gun related incidents has also been noted. The ability to host a gun buyback program would further enhance these efforts and remove additional unwanted guns from the community.

The key objectives of this gun buyback program will be:

1. Provide an opportunity for safe disposal of firearms
2. Reduce the availability of guns in Pittsburg and surrounding communities.
3. Raise awareness of the risks of firearms
4. Reduce crime and gun violence.

The gun buyback program will be fully managed by the Pittsburg Police Department, including advertising, staffing the event, and destroying the firearms. The program will pay \$50 for non-operable guns, \$100 for handguns/rifles/shotguns, and \$200 for assault rifles and ghost guns. The funding all located by the City Council will be used to purchase gift cards from local businesses that will be provided to residents during the event.

Residents will be able to safely bring guns to the event secured in the trunk of their car, and the Pittsburg Police Department will take possession the gun(s) at that point. All firearms collected will be destroyed.

Any excess funds not utilized at the event will be rolled over to a future firearm and violent crime reduction programs.

SUBCOMMITTEE FINDINGS

This item was presented to the Public Safety Subcommittee on August 9, 2022.

STAFF ANALYSIS

In 2013 and again in 2016, the Pittsburg Police Department hosted gun buybacks programs. The previous programs were extremely successful with more participation than initially anticipated. During the previous gun buybacks, over 300 firearms were turned in at each event. Citizens were incentivized to turn in the unwanted firearms, receiving gift cards to local retail businesses.

The previous programs provided members of the community a safe and simple process of disposing unwanted firearms. It also allowed for this process to be handled safely, effectively, and anonymously.

Staff recommends approval of the resolution authorizing \$100,000 be allocated from the Pittsburg Power fund balance to finance the 2022 Gun Buyback Program.

ATTACHMENTS:
Resolution

Report Prepared By:
Steve Albanese, Chief of Police