



CITY of CALABASAS

CITY COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT

DATE: JUNE 21, 2023

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND COUNCILMEMBERS

FROM: KINDON MEIK, CITY MANAGER
MATTHEW SUMMERS, CITY ATTORNEY

SUBJECT: INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCE 2023-403, ADDING CHAPTER 5.22
– PROVISION OF SECURITY BY COMMERCIAL LANDLORDS AND
RETAILERS TO THE CALABASAS MUNICIPAL CODE

MEETING DATE: JUNE 28, 2023

SUMMARY RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends the City Council introduce an ordinance adding a new Chapter 5.22 requiring the provision of security by certain commercial retailers to the Calabasas Municipal Code.

BACKGROUND:

The City has recently experienced an increase in commercial retail thefts and property crimes, particularly at certain larger shopping centers. As part of its multi-pronged response effort, the City has reached out to landlords and retailers regarding security improvements and cooperative crime reduction efforts. Most landlords and larger commercial retailers have been responsive and taken proactive steps to improve retail security. Some, however, have failed to do so, and the staff recommends the Council consider the attached ordinance to impose security requirements on certain larger commercial landlords and retailers.

DISCUSSION/ANALYSIS:

The City Council directed the City Attorney’s Office to draft the attached ordinance to impose stronger retail security requirements. The attached ordinance adds a new Chapter 5.22 to the Calabasas Municipal Code, requiring certain landlords and commercial retailers in the Commercial Mixed Use, Commercial Retail, and Commercial Old Town zones to adopt and implement security plans.

Specifically, the proposed ordinance requires commercial landlords with more than six tenants and commercial retailers operating stores with greater than 5,000 square feet in any Commercial Mixed Use, Commercial Retail, and Commercial Old Town zone of the City to provide adequate security for their tenants and customers, requiring all qualifying commercial landlords and retailers to develop and implement a City approved security plan. Qualifying commercial retailers and landlords who fail to submit or implement the security plan, or who experience three or more calls for service within a month, will be required to pay for extra Sheriffs and City security response costs.

The proposed ordinance requires qualifying commercial retailers and landlords to report all suspected crimes, including thefts, to the Sheriff’s Department and City. The proposed ordinance also prohibits businesses from disciplining or terminating an employee from employment for reporting a suspected crime to law enforcement or the City that occurred at a commercial business in the City.

FISCAL IMPACT/SOURCE OF FUNDING:

The cost of preparing the draft ordinance is accounted for within the budget. Enforcement will entail some additional costs in code enforcement, expected to be offset via cost recovery.

REQUESTED ACTION:

Staff recommends the City Council introduce and conduct a first reading of Ordinance No. 2023-403 and provide direction to staff as deemed appropriate.

ATTACHMENT:

Attachment A: Ordinance No. 2023-403