



CITY OF COSTA MESA

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FROM THE OFFICE OF THE INTERIM DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS

PRESS RELEASE

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Costa Mesa sends out its first Request for Proposal for potential outsourcing of city services

COSTA MESA, CALIF.—The City of Costa Mesa this week released a [Request for Proposal](#) (RFP) to outsource City's jail operations, the first of 17 RFPs and bids that will be sent out to test the viability of shifting delivery of some City services to other government agencies and/or private companies.

The Costa Mesa City Council voted in March to explore outsourcing as a way to provide similar services to residents while reducing long-term pension costs, among other benefits to taxpayers. Contracts with employee associations required six-month notices to any worker whose job will be outsourced, and in March, the City gave 213 employees layoff warnings—more than 40% of its workforce.

More than 90 of the 213 affected employees are firefighters, who have been promised jobs if the Fire Department is outsourced to the Orange County Fire Authority. In the RFPs, the City has asked potential vendors to give interview and hiring preferences to affected City employees. The City also has asked vendors to disclose any personal or business relationships with city staff and elected and appointed officials.

The City Council has said it will use the half-year notice period to determine which services, if any, would be viable for outsourcing.