



CITY OF COSTA MESA

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FROM THE OFFICE OF THE INTERIM DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS

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City sets Nov. 19 as new date for first potential outsourcing layoffs

COSTA MESA, CALIF.—City Chief Executive Officer Tom Hatch has set Nov. 19 as the new date that the first outsourcing layoffs in the City of Costa Mesa could occur.

The previous date had been Sept. 17, a half-year after the first of 213 city employees received six-month warning notices that their jobs had been targeted for potential outsourcing. The warning was required in the employees' association contract with the City.

Of the 213 employees, about 90 were firefighters, whose association had previously asked the city to consider having the Orange County Fire Authority (OCFA) provide services to Costa Mesa. Those firefighters would be hired by the OCFA if the City Council voted to outsource fire operations to that agency.

City staff and employee association representatives are currently exploring the viability of outsourcing 18 services, along with other cost-cutting options. The first of their findings is expected to be presented at the Sept. 20 City Council meeting.

In July, an Orange County Superior Court judge issued a preliminary injunction preventing the City from outsourcing to private companies until a lawsuit brought by the employees' association is heard. The City this week filed a notice of appeal. In the meantime, the City could still outsource to public agencies.