



# LATHROP POLICE DEPARTMENT – DECEMBER UPDATE

The [City of Lathrop](#) continues to make significant progress in the stand-up of its first Police Department, half a year before it is due to begin full operations. Over the last several months, Chief Raymond Bechler and the Police Transition Support Team members have combed over dozens of applications for the available Commander, Sergeant, and Officer positions. Many in-person interviews have been held at the new Police Department Headquarters, and background and reference checks are underway for some candidates and being scheduled for other candidates. Once background checks are complete, Chief Bechler will introduce the newly-hired and duly-sworn members of his team to the public for the first time. In the New Year, each of them will be busy helping with the various tasks needed to build out the rest of the department.



# DECEMBER UPDATE CONTINUED

Additionally, this month the City authorized the requisition of a state-of-the-art portable communication system to meet the latest standards put into place for all Law Enforcement agencies by the California Department of Justice in October of 2020. The radio units and their supportive peripherals will ensure that sensitive personally identifiable information transmitted over-the-air will be encrypted to protect the privacy of the parties involved and prevent unauthorized monitoring of sensitive communications. The cost associated with purchasing this equipment was included in the original start-up budget. Finalizing this transaction helps to ensure that the mobile radios will be installed and operational months before the July 1, 2022 department stand-up date.

