

Survey Question:

The City of Chula Vista is currently considering contracting out the management of our Downtown parking district. This would involve hiring a contractor to handle all the parking management issues for our City lots; which would include maintenance of the lots, handling complaints, and there is consideration of letting the contractor handle the parking citation program as well. The Vehicle Code allows a municipal agency to contract out the fine/fee collection portion, but it isn't clear whether we could in effect "deputize" a private contractor to handle the enforcement side (just parking violations).

Have any agencies done this? If so, we'd be interested in hearing how you did this, and what restrictions there are.

Survey Results:

Essentially Departments can contract with private vendors for parking enforcement as long as it's for municipal code type violations. Private vendors cannot enforce any Cal. Vehicle Code violations, nor impound cars. For our City that would mean just enforcement of expired meters and other parking specific municipal codes. Expired registration, parking near a fire hydrant, double parking, etc would still need to be done by a member of our Department. I've attached the legal opinion from the State Attorney General's office which addresses the legality of private vendors enforcing Vehicle Code violations.

The Departments that currently contract with private vendors are:

- City of Pasadena
- City of Alhambra
- City of San Gabriel
- City of South Pasadena
- City of LaVerne
- City of Arcadia
- City of Placerville
- City of Livermore
- City of San Bernardino

There were two private contractors mentioned in the responses:

- Diamond Parking (www.diamondparking.com)
- Inter-Con Security (www.icsecurity.com)

Thanks for your help with this!

Edward Chew
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