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March 6, 2026

The Honorable Jesse Gabriel, Chair
Assembly Committee on Budget
1021 O Street, Suite 8230
Sacramento, CA 95814

The Honorable David Tangipa, Vice Chair
Assembly Committee on Budget
1021 O Street, Suite 8230
Sacramento, CA 95814

The Honorable James Ramos, Chair
Assembly Committee on Budget
Subcommittee No. 6
1021 O Street, Suite 8230
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: FY 2026–27 Budget Request for the Anderson Police Department Facility Replacement Project

Dear Chair Gabriel, Vice Chair Tangipa, and Chair Ramos,

I respectfully request \$5.5 million in one-time funding to support the City of Anderson in acquiring and rehabilitating a new ADA-compliant facility for the Anderson Police Department. This investment will ensure that the department can continue providing critical public safety services while addressing serious health, safety, and accessibility concerns associated with its current facility.

The Anderson Police Department currently operates out of a facility that is deteriorating, overcrowded, and increasingly unsafe for both officers and members of the public. The building suffers from multiple structural and operational deficiencies, including outdated electrical and HVAC systems, inadequate emergency exits, poor indoor air quality, and evidence of mold and other environmental hazards. These conditions create significant risks for staff and community members and limit the department's ability to effectively serve the public.

In addition to the physical safety concerns, the existing facility lacks critical space needed to support modern law enforcement services. Notably, the department currently has no dedicated victim services or wellness areas, making it difficult to provide confidential, trauma-informed support for victims of crime. A new facility would

include private and secure spaces designed to support victims while allowing officers and service providers to deliver appropriate care and assistance.

The proposed project offers a cost-effective solution to these challenges. While earlier assessments estimated that a new police facility could require more than 30,000 square feet and cost in excess of \$10 million, the City of Anderson has identified an existing building that can be acquired and rehabilitated for approximately \$5.5 million—less than half the projected cost of new construction. This adaptive reuse opportunity provides a fiscally responsible path forward while still delivering a modern, accessible public safety facility.

The new facility would be fully ADA-compliant and designed to improve community access to police services. Accessible public counters, meeting rooms, and restrooms will ensure that all residents—including those with disabilities—can interact with the department safely and comfortably. The facility will also support greater community engagement and transparency by providing space for meetings, youth programs, and partnerships with local organizations.

Investing in this project will strengthen public safety infrastructure in a rural community that depends heavily on its local law enforcement agencies. Providing Anderson police officers with a safe and functional workplace will improve operational effectiveness, enhance officer wellness, and ensure the department can continue protecting residents and supporting victims of crime.

Therefore, I respectfully request \$5.5 million in one-time General Fund support in the FY 2026–27 budget to assist the City of Anderson in acquiring and rehabilitating a new ADA-compliant police facility.

Thank you for your consideration of this request. If you require any further information or would like to discuss this request in more detail, please do not hesitate to contact Andrew Nickens in my office at (916) 319-2011.

Sincerely,



HEATHER HADWICK

Assemblymember, District 1