



Rohnert Park

DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SAFETY



THE COMMUNITY

The City of Rohnert Park, proudly known throughout the region as "The Friendly City," is centrally located in the North Bay, just 45 miles north of San Francisco. Covering seven square miles with a population of 44,000, the City is surrounded by unparalleled natural beauty including the Russian River Valley, the Sonoma Mountains, the scenic Pacific Coast, and Bodega Bay. As home to Sonoma State University, Rohnert Park enjoys the vitality of a college town while offering a wide variety of family-friendly outdoor recreation, cultural events, upscale dining, craft breweries, and more.

The City features superb entertainment venues, including Graton Resort & Casino, Rohnert Park's Spreckels Theatre Company and the renowned Green Music Center on Sonoma State University's campus. The Green Music Center is home to the Sonoma State University Music Department, the Santa Rosa Symphony, and Sonoma Bach. In summer, Rohnert Park offers two special concert venues: the 1,400-seat Weill Concert Hall which opens to the lawn to become an amphitheater, and the environmentally friendly, solar-powered SOMO Village, accommodating 3,000 concertgoers.

Rohnert Park offers a park and other outdoor activities in every neighborhood, three public pools, and golfers enjoy challenging holes and manicured greens on Foxtail Golf Club's 36-hole course. The City is surrounded by farms, and grazing land where nationally sought-after organic and boutique vegetables and fruits are grown, and award-winning cheeses are produced.

Rohnert Park continues to evolve, embracing a future defined by connection, community, and sustainability. The City is currently partnering with a private developer to create a new central downtown - a vibrant destination conveniently located next to the Rohnert Park SMART Train station featuring a retail and commercial center energized by shops, restaurants, and year-round events, in addition to new housing units.

The Cotati-Rohnert Park School District provides academic excellence for K-12 students. It boasts two outstanding high schools: Rancho Cotate High School, home of the new \$52 million, 75,000-square-foot collegiate-level facility Theater/Academic/Gymnasium Building; and Technology High School, rated number one in Sonoma County and the recipient of the 2022 National Blue-Ribbon award.



The district also supports alternative and charter education options and is nationally recognized for its work in closing the achievement gap and increasing access to advanced curricula for all students. Nearby, Sonoma State University provides distinguished higher education with Bachelor's and Masters' degree programs and teaching certificates. Along with our neighboring City of Cotati, Rohnert Park has been honored to partner with Sonoma State University in our shared commitment to foster learning, create opportunity, and strengthen our community.

Warm days and cool nights characterize Sonoma County's climate. Cool, moist marine air from the ocean's moderate temperatures and the low range of western coastal hills protect from Pacific storms. Rohnert Park is a unique and special city. From the cultural hub of San Francisco to the sweeping vistas of Sonoma and the Taylor Mountains, the City's intelligent urban planning and a City Council committed to public and private partnerships make Rohnert Park an ideal place to live, work, and play. To learn more about the City, please visit:

<https://www.rpcity.org>

CITY GOVERNMENT

Rohnert Park is governed by an elected council of five members, each serving in staggered, four-year terms.

Council appoints the Mayor and Vice Mayor from among its ranks to a one-year rotating term. The Council hires the City Manager and City Attorney and appoints members of city commissions, committees, and boards. Under the Council-City Manager form of government, the Council establishes



city policies, and the City Manager ensures their implementation. Rohnert Park provides traditional municipal services such as public works, community services, public safety, finance, human resources, and development services and services unique to Rohnert Park, such as the Spreckels Performing Arts Center and the animal shelter. The General Fund budget for the current fiscal year is \$56 million. The City utilizes a financial forecasting to develop the City budget, identifying future resources, financial trends, and capital projects. It also administers a Financial Crisis Response Plan to identify quantified economic triggers in order to provide responses to any fiscal crisis.



THE POSITION

Reporting to the City Manager, the Director of Public Safety provides executive leadership and strategic direction for all public safety services, ensuring the protection of life and property while strengthening community trust and organizational excellence. The Director oversees a comprehensive public safety portfolio that includes law enforcement, fire suppression and prevention, emergency and disaster preparedness, investigations, animal control, and related services.

The Director is responsible for planning, organizing, and managing all departmental operations, programs, personnel, and resources. This includes leading patrol and emergency response functions; overseeing major and complex incidents; and ensuring effective, timely responses to community public safety needs. A central focus of the position is building and sustaining a high-performing, ethical, and accountable organization. The Director applies sound principles of leadership and employee supervision, including work planning, performance evaluation, training, and discipline, while ensuring compliance with professional standards, legal requirements, and best practices. The role also advances crime prevention, juvenile and gang intervention, and community-oriented public safety strategies in partnership with residents, local businesses, and community organizations.

The Director oversees the department's budget, contracts, staffing, equipment, and long-term resource planning, applying public-sector financial, administrative, and risk-management practices to ensure operational

readiness and fiscal sustainability. The position maintains a strong working knowledge of applicable federal, state, and local laws, court decisions, recordkeeping requirements, and prosecution standards affecting public safety operations.

As a trusted advisor to the City Manager and City Council, the Director provides clear analysis, policy recommendations, and briefings on public safety issues. The role collaborates with regional partners and mutual aid agencies, represents the department to elected officials and the public, and communicates priorities, initiatives, and outcomes with clarity and professionalism. In a dynamic and evolving environment, the Director leverages modern technology, data systems, and communication tools to lead organizational change, enhance service delivery, and achieve positive community outcomes.

THE IDEAL CANDIDATE



The City is seeking a collaborative, motivated, and forward-thinking professional to serve as its next Director of Public Safety. The ideal candidate will bring a comprehensive understanding of public safety operations, along with strong knowledge of fire suppression and law enforcement principles, investigative methods, rules of evidence, and the equipment, technology, and systems used in modern public safety organizations.

Success in this role requires a leader who values and actively fosters a respectful, inclusive, and collaborative work environment.

The incoming Director should demonstrate genuine care for the organization, its employees, and the community it serves, while encouraging initiative and innovation to continuously improve operations. The City seeks a candidate who communicates transparently and consistently acts in an ethical, lawful, and fiscally responsible manner.

Providing outstanding, friendly customer service while delivering work of the highest quality is essential. The ideal candidate will be approachable, team-oriented, and skilled at building strong relationships within the organization and throughout the community. The City values an authentic, engaged leader with the ability to develop comprehensive plans to meet future service needs, address conflict constructively, implement effective solutions, and develop policies that positively impact division operations and procedures.

EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE

Any combination of training and experience that would provide the required knowledge, skills, and abilities is qualifying. A typical way to obtain the required qualifications would be:

Equivalent to a bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university in police science, criminal justice, fire science, or a related field, and five (5) years of progressively responsible experience in public safety enforcement and service work, including two (2) years as a Commander, Captain or similar management rank within a public safety organization. A master's degree in business or public administration or a related field is preferred.

LICENSES AND CERTIFICATIONS

- Possession of, or ability to obtain, a valid California Driver's License by time of appointment and a satisfactory driving record.
- Possession of a Management Certificate issued by the California State Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training (P.O.S.T.).



COMPENSATION

The annual salary range for the Director of Public Safety is \$210,332.65 - \$255,661.05; placement within this range is dependent on experience and qualifications. The City also offers an excellent benefits package which can be found here:

www.rpcity.org/294/Employees

TO APPLY

If you are interested in this outstanding opportunity, please apply online at:

www.bobmurrayassoc.com

**Filing Deadline:
March 15, 2026**

Following the closing date, resumes will be screened according to the qualifications outlined above. The most qualified candidates will be invited to personal interviews with Bob Murray & Associates. A select group of candidates will be asked to provide references once it is anticipated that they may be recommended as finalists. References will be contacted only following candidate approval. Finalist interviews will be held with the City of Rohnert Park. Candidates will be advised of the status of the recruitment following selection of the Director of Public Safety.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call Mr. Jon Lewis at:

(916) 784-9080

