

Why does the Town not have its own police department? Are other services shared (or could be shared)?

Sharing of police and fire protection services is well-established

The Town shares many functions with other municipalities in Marin County, including sharing police services with Corte Madera and Larkspur, forming the Central Marin Police Authority, and sharing fire services with three other jurisdictions through the Ross Valley Fire Department.

The Central Marin Police Authority was established in 2013, and reduces costs to the Town by about \$1 million annually from administrative and service efficiencies.¹ The Ross Valley Fire Department, formed in 1982, includes Ross, Fairfax, and unincorporated Sleepy Hollow Fire Protection District.

The Town continues to pursue and increase collaboration with other towns for other services

The Town collaborates with Marin's other ten cities and towns and the County on a range of other programs and services through joint powers authorities and other agreements. More information is included in a summary presentation available on the Town's website.²

Exploration and evaluation of additional shared services opportunities is ongoing. For example, the current draft Municipal Services Review proposes expansion of the Ross Valley Fire Department to include additional cities.

¹ See [presentation to Financial Advisory Committee, 8/28/2020](#).

² See [presentation to Financial Advisory Committee, 8/28/2020](#).