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LEMOORE POLICE DISPATCH CENTER TAKES MAJOR STEP FORWARD



By Francisco Ramirez

March 31, 2025

LEMOORE, CA – The Lemoore Police Department marked a significant milestone this month in its journey toward an independent dispatch center, successfully transitioning daytime dispatching duties from Hanford Police Department. As of mid-March, the department has been testing its new radio equipment, handling calls from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, Chief Mike Kendall reported at the [City Council meeting](#) on March 31, 2025.

The move follows over a week and a half of live operations, with only minor hiccups—such as initial low volume issues—quickly resolved. “So far, so good,” Kendall noted, emphasizing the smooth integration of the system. During off-hours, Hanford PD resumes full duties, ensuring continuous coverage as Lemoore ramps up its capabilities.

This progress stems from ongoing efforts to establish a fully staffed dispatch center, a goal delayed from the current fiscal year but now on track for 2026. The department has cleared five dispatcher candidates through background checks and is actively recruiting for additional positions, including a senior dispatcher role. Challenges remain, including finalizing 911 equipment installation with NGA and securing an additional phone line from



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AT&T, but the [city is moving steadily forward](#).

The transition not only boosts [local control over emergency services](#) but also serves as a training ground for new dispatchers while testing critical infrastructure. Residents can expect enhanced response times and self-reliance once the center is fully operational. But with hiring and technical hurdles still ahead, one question lingers: How soon can Lemoore achieve round-the-clock dispatch independence?