

**City of Culver City, California
Agenda Item Report**

Meeting Date: September 26, 2011		Item Number: <u>PH-1</u>	
CITY COUNCIL AGENDA ITEM: PUBLIC HEARING –Approval of the Use of Monies for Front Line Police Services as a Result of the Supplemental Law Enforcement Services Fund Grant Under the Citizen’s Option for Public Safety (COPS) Program, Including Continued Funding of a Property Technician Position (Non-Sworn) in the Property and Forensic Unit and Continuation of an Overtime-Funded Officer Task Force to Address Community Crime Prevention.			
Contact Person/Dept.: Carmen Zarate		Phone Number: (310) 253-6133	
Fiscal Impact: Yes ☒ No ☐		General Fund: Yes ☐ No ☒	
Public Hearing: ☒		Action Item: ☐ Attachments: ☒	
Commission Action Required: Yes ☐ No ☒ Date: _____			
Public Notification: Meetings and Agendas – City Council (09/21/11); Publication in the Culver City News .			
Department Approval: Donald Pedersen (09/06/11)		City Attorney Approval: Carol Schwab (by H. Baker) (09/19/11)	
Chief Financial Officer Approval: Jeff Muir (by M. Noller) (09/20/11)		City Manager Approval: John M. Nachbar (09/20/11)	
<u>RECOMMENDATION:</u> Staff recommends that the City Council (1) hold a public hearing on the use of Fiscal Year 2010/2011 Supplemental Law Enforcement Services Fund (SLESF) money available from the State of California, Citizens Option for Public Safety (COPS) funding and (2) approve the use of the SLESF grant to continue funding a Property Technician position (non-sworn) in the Forensic and Evidence Unit and authorize the use of the remaining funds, plus accumulated interest, to establish an overtime-funded task force to address community crime prevention. <u>PROCEDURE:</u> 1. Mayor seeks a motion from the City Council to receive and file the affidavits of publication and posting of notices, and correspondence received in response to the public hearing notices; and, 2. Mayor calls for a staff report and the City Council Members may pose questions to staff as desired; and, 3. Mayor seeks a motion to open the public hearing; and, 4. Mayor seeks motion to close the public hearing after all public testimony has been presented; and, 5. City Council discusses the item and arrives at its decision			

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BACKGROUND:

Since Fiscal Year 1996/1997, the California State budget has been funding the "Supplemental Law Enforcement Funding" program. The City of Culver City has been receiving various annual amounts of COPS funds toward the end of the respective calendar years. This funding is a "pass through" grant from the State of California with the money received from the County of Los Angeles.

The City is eligible once again to receive \$100,000 in SLESF monies for the exclusive purpose of funding "front line municipal police services" and in fact all of the funds were received in 2010-2011. Grant funding amounts are determined based on population estimates developed by the California Department of Finance. Cities with populations less than 50,000 receive the minimum appropriation amount of \$100,000. The funds are to be appropriated pursuant to a written request from the Chief of Police and the funding process is subject to a public hearing to consider these requests.

This is the fifteenth (15th) year of funding for this grant. The grant requires that the funds be spent on front-line police services. At this time, the intended project for this grant is to continue the funding of one Property Technician position as has been done for the previous seven (7) fiscal years. The Property Technician position has proven effective at reducing the work backlog in the forensics unit and eliminated the need to fund officers on an overtime basis to work in that section. This year, as in the last seven (7) years, the Chief of Police is requesting that any remaining grant funds (and accrued interest) above the costs of the Property Technician position be used for the establishment of an overtime funded task force to address quality of life crimes.

Changing the planned expenditure for the funds is allowed at the discretion of the Police Chief. SLESF funds cannot be used to supplant an existing budget and must be used for frontline police services. There are no requirements for matching funds.

Retaining the grant funded Property Technician results in an additional police officer on the street performing front line municipal police services. The grant funded overtime positions will place more officers in the field performing community crime prevention.

FISCAL ANALYSIS:

The City has received \$100,000.00 for Fiscal Year 2010/2011 in grant funds and the Property Technician position, as proposed, will continue to be entirely funded by the grant. Any remaining monies will be used to fund the officer task force costs. The

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grant has already been included in the City Council Adopted Budget for Fiscal Year 2010/2011 budget in Business Unit 41441700.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Inter-Departmental Correspondence from the Chief of Police to the Mayor and City Council stating the preference for the SLESF Program funds.

MOTION:

That the City Council:

Approve the continued use of SLESF program grant monies to fund one Property Technician position and with any remaining grant monies, an overtime-funded task force to address community crime prevention.