

MEETING DATE March 13, 2006

AGENDA ITEM Resolution Authorizing an Application for the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program to Improve Public Safety in the Downtown Business District

ATTACHMENTS

		<u>Pages</u>
1	Proposed Resolution	1
2	Program Narrative	2-3

RESOLUTION NO 2006-R00_

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF
CULVER CITY, CALIFORNIA, AUTHORIZING THE FILING OF
AN APPLICATION FOR THE EDWARD BYRNE MEMORIAL
JUSTICE ASSISTANCE GRANT PROGRAM FOR FY 2006-2007**

WHEREAS, the City of Culver City, a municipal corporation within the State of California, operating under a Charter filed in the office of the Secretary of State in January 21, 1947, possess legal authority to apply for Federal Assistance under the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program and

WHEREAS, the procedures established by the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program require the approval of application to be certified by resolution

NOW THEREFORE, the City Council of the City of Culver City, California, DOES HEREBY RESOLVE, as follows

1 Authorizes the filing of an application for Federal Assistance under the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program for Fiscal Year 2006-2007

2 Designates the Chief Administrative Officer of the City of Culver City or his designee, as the authorized representative of the City of Culver City to act in connection with the application to execute documents and to provide such additional information as may be required

APPROVED and ADOPTED this _____ day _____ 2006

ALBERT VERA, Mayor
City of Culver City, California

ATTEST

APPROVED AS TO FORM

CHRISTOPHER ARMENTA
City Clerk

CAROL A SCHWAB
City Attorney

PROGRAM NARRATIVE AND BACKGROUND

Crime Suppression in Downtown Business District

The City recently completed a redevelopment project in its downtown area which includes a 1500 seat movie theater complex, 300 seat live theater, several new restaurants serving alcoholic beverages and a new supermarket with a specialized section devoted to exotic beers and wines as well as the traditional hard liquors. These businesses are all within a short walking distance to a park with a history of homeless and alcohol related problems. This park, Culver Media Park, was leased from the City of Los Angeles by Culver City in an effort to clean up the area. This lease was entered into with the specific intent of cleaning up the dilapidated park and eliminating a major homeless problem, many of whom have alcohol related problems. For decades this park served as a gathering place of illegal consumption of alcohol and drug use. Because the park was actually in the city of Los Angeles but for all practical purposes appeared to be in the City of Culver City, it was considered a safe haven for illegal activities. The new theater complex is less than one block from Culver Media Park and the illegal activities present for many years have proven difficult to stop.

The area around the theater complex contains a high concentration of businesses serving alcoholic beverages. There are fourteen on-sale liquor establishments, and one liquor store within one block of the downtown. Due to the close proximity of these establishments to the park, there is heavy foot traffic between the bars, the city operated parking structures and Media Park. It has also become a gathering spot for teen and preteen youths to loiter.

In response to the overload of calls for service from the downtown area, in 2003 the police department assigned two uniformed police officers to focus patrol in the downtown area on Tuesdays, the day a Farmer's Street market is present. This day represented the largest increase in calls for police services in the area and the officers are very effective at preventing crimes. These officers, called the "downtown officer patrol unit," have the primary responsibility of the downtown business area for four hours on Tuesday evenings. The officers conduct routine foot patrol and Segway patrol of the downtown area. Due to budgetary constraints, Tuesdays, are the only evenings uniform patrol officers are specifically assigned to the Downtown Business District.

The primary objective of the Culver City Police Department is to identify weekend dates (Friday or Saturday) and times that represent the highest crime rate in the Downtown Business district. The Police Department is eligible to receive \$10,529 in grant funds from the U.S. Department of Justice Office of Justice Programs, Bureau of Justice Assistance, Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG). The \$10,529 would fund approximately 175.5 hours of overtime for a Police Officer. To implement the intended program for one year requires an additional 32.5 hours or \$1,951. With a total of 208 hours of overtime funding, one uniform officer working with a uniform reserve officer would be assigned to the Downtown Business District to patrol and

suppress developing crime problems The weekend days and hours will be determined based on crime pattern analysis

The Department is requested the additional \$1,951 in funds from the Redevelopment Agency, as the officers would be assigned exclusively to the area of downtown within the Redevelopment Areas boundaries The Redevelopment Agency approved the additional funding for the program on February 27, 2006

GEOGRAPHICAL AREA AFFECTED BY THE PROJECT

The project will primarily take place in the immediate Culver City Downtown area This is an approximately one square mile area and is bordered by the City of Los Angeles on the north

ANTICIPATE START DATE FOR PROJECT

The project will begin almost immediately upon announcement of funding approval and continue for one year The Operations Bureau and the Reserve Section of the Department will schedule officers for the uniform patrol assignments