

City of Culver City, California
City Council Agenda Item Report

Meeting Date: 11/14/2005		Item Number: <u>PH-1</u>	
AGENDA ITEM: Public Hearing Regarding the Use of Monies for Front Line Police Services as a Result of Supplemental Law Enforcement Funding Grant Under the Citizen's Option for Public Safety (COPS) Program.			
Contact Person/Dept.: Lt. Ed Baughan		Phone Number: (310) 253-6320	
Fiscal Impact: Yes ☒ No ☐		General Fund: Yes ☐ No ☒	
Public Hearing: ☒		Action Item: ☒ Attachments: ☒	
Public Notification: Publication in the Culver City News on November 10, 2005. Master Notification List on 11/10/05.			
Department Approval: John A. Montanio, Chief of Police		CAO Approval: Jerry Fulwood 11/9/05	
City Controller Approval: Marlee Chang 11/9/05			

RECOMMENDATION:

That the City Council conduct a public hearing on the proposed use of year 2005/2006 Supplemental Law Enforcement Services Fund (SLESF) money available from the State of California, Citizens Option for Public Safety (COPS) anticipated funding. By motion, direct staff to include these funds in the City's 2006/2007 Fiscal Year budget to continue funding a Property Technician position (civilian) in the Property & Forensics Unit. By motion, authorize the use of the remaining funds, approximately \$30,000.00, plus accumulated interest, to establish an overtime funded Task Force to address "quality of life" impacting crimes.

PROCEDURE:

1. Motion to receive and file the affidavit of publication and posting of *Notice of Public Hearing*.
2. Call for a staff report and/or pose questions to staff.
3. Mayor opens Public Hearing, invites public comments.
4. Motion to close the Public Hearing.
5. Mayor calls for staff responses to questions from the public.
6. Discuss the matter and make your decisions.

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BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION:

The 2005/2006 state budget provides funding for the "Supplemental Law Enforcement Funding" program which began during the 1996/1997 state budget years. The City of Culver City has been receiving various annual amounts of Citizens' Option for Public Safety (COPS) Supplemental Law Enforcement Services Fund (SLESF) at the end of the respective calendar years.

The Police Department is eligible once again to receive \$100,000 in SLESF monies for the exclusive purpose of funding "front line law enforcement needs ... and those personnel, equipment, and programs that are necessary to meet those needs." (per Government Code Section 30061). The proportionate shares are based on population estimates determined by the California Department of Finance. Those cities with populations less than 50,000 receive the minimum appropriation amount of \$100,000.

The funds are to be appropriated pursuant to written requests from the Chief of Police. The funding process is subject to a Public Hearing to consider these requests.

Utilizing the Property Technician position with a civilian instead of a sworn officer performing identification services has the immediate and continuing effect of placing one additional officer on the street for uniform crime suppression activity. It also will save approximately \$39,000 in salary differential which will allow additional field officers to be hired back on an overtime basis for field activities. This will have the combined effect of adding 1.25 additional officers to the street for uniform crime suppression activity.

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 last, Chief Montanio is requesting that salary adjusted surplus 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.

The supplemental use of overtime monies to enforce the laws enacted for the improvement of the quality of life should have a long term effect of reducing overall crime in the City. Enforcement will be directed to parks, theaters, and to the downtown business district, where quality of life offenses have a significant impact on the City's appearance and the public's perception of safety. In addition to other City Departments, the Task Force will be working with Elaine Hirohama in the City Attorney's Community Outreach Program to select areas of enforcement.

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SLESF funds cannot be used to supplement an existing budget and must be used for frontline police services.

The grant funded Property Technician will result in an additional police officer on the street performing crime suppression activity. The grant funded overtime positions (funds exceeding the Property Technician's salary and benefit package) will result in an additional .25 officers on the street for a combined beneficial effect of 1.25 field officers per Government Code 30061, which enables funding for the is program. There are no assurances or requirements that would require the City to fund this position beyond grant funding availability. If grant funding ends for this position, the City would be faced with potentially eliminating the position.

FISCAL ANALYSIS:

The Police Department anticipates acceptance and receipt of \$100,000 interest-bearing grant monies to fund front line police services. Estimated with interest to be \$103,005. The Property Technician position will continue to be entirely funded by the grant and the remaining monies used to fund the Task Force costs.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Inter-Departmental Correspondence to the Mayor and City Council stating a preference for the SLESF Program funds.
2. Notice of Public Hearing.

MOTIONS:

That the City Council:

1. Approve the continued use of SLESF program grant monies to fund the Property Technician position and the remaining grant monies to establish overtime funded Task Force to address quality of life crimes.
2. Appropriate Grant Funds in Fiscal Year 2005/2006 budget upon receipt of electronic transfer of funds from Grantor.