



CITY COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT

MEETING DATE: September 7, 2010

ITEM NUMBER: Item Number

SUBJECT: RECOMMENDED ALLOCATION OF FY 2010-2011 CITIZENS' OPTIONS FOR PUBLIC SAFETY / SUPPLEMENTAL LAW ENFORCEMENT SERVICES FUND

DATE: AUGUST 18, 2010

FROM: POLICE DEPARTMENT

PRESENTATION BY: CHRISTOPHER SHAWKEY, CHIEF OF POLICE

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: BRYAN GLASS, LIEUTENANT 714.754.5603

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve staff's recommendation to allocate the FY 2010-2011 Citizens' Options for Public Safety / Supplemental Law Enforcement Services Fund (COPS / SLESF) to the Police Department's operating budget.

BACKGROUND:

Assembly Bill (AB 3229) Citizens' Option for Public Safety was passed in FY 1996-1997 to provide local government supplemental funds for front-line law enforcement service. The City of Costa Mesa has participated in the program since that time and has received over \$2.2 million from SLESF allocations. Through written requests from the Chief of Police, SLESF has enabled the Police Department to fund needed officer positions, equipment, and/or technology.

AB 3229 also requires the recipient agency to conduct a public hearing regarding allocation of the SLESF fund.

ANALYSIS:

In FY 2002-2003, SLESF changed its format to require a General Description of Planned Expenditures before appropriating funds to the recipient agencies. The annual allocation to the City of Costa Mesa can not be predetermined due to the State's fiscal constraints; however, there is a minimal annual allocation of \$100,000 to recipients. Staff from the Police Department and Finance have considered various options for the use of these funds and evaluated alternatives in conjunction with short-term and long-term needs of the Department.

The grant funds are designated for three areas: personnel, equipment, and technology. Additionally, the grant specifies the funds are specifically for front-line law enforcement use and funds cannot supplant existing equipment or programs. Based on these facts, the Police Department recommends the City Council consider and approve the allocation be designated toward funding one (1) Police Sergeant Position.

Since 1998, the City has designated its annual SLESF allocation toward funding an additional police sergeant position in the Field Operations Division. This position was required to provide additional field supervision to meet the factors of performance expectation, liability potential, and proximity supervision to subordinates. To continue this supervision requirement, staff recommends that the police sergeant position initially funded in FY 1998-1999 again be funded from the SLESF fund.

The continued funding of personnel is in compliance with the legislative intent of SLESF, which is to expend these funds for additional personnel and/or overtime.

ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED:

Not required on this item.

FISCAL REVIEW:

The adopted budget for FY 2010-2011 anticipated receiving approximately \$141,750 from the state for the SLESF fund plus approximately \$100,000 transfer from the General Fund. Based on these estimates, \$211,312 has been appropriated to fund a police sergeant position, including overtime cost.

LEGAL REVIEW:

Not required on this item.

CONCLUSION:

Based upon the criteria outlined in COPS / SLESF, staff recommends that the FY 2010-2011 allocation of funds be used for the purpose presented.

CHRISTOPHER SHAWKEY
Chief of Police

COLLEEN O'DONOGHUE
Assistant Finance Director

LES GOGERTY
Field Operations Captain