

Council Meeting of  
February 7, 2012

PUBLIC HEARING

Honorable Mayor and Members  
of the City Council  
City Hall  
Torrance, California

**Members of the Council:**

**SUBJECT: Police – Conduct public hearing concerning Assembly Bill 3229, Citizens Options for Public Safety grant funding and appropriate and allocate funds. Expenditure: \$176,283.60.**

**RECOMMENDATION**

Recommendation of the Chief of Police that Council:

1. Conduct a public hearing concerning Assembly Bill 3229, the 2010 and 2011 Citizens Options for Public Safety (COPS) grant funding;
2. Receive input from staff on programs of interest to the Chief of Police and Council as well as the public on the use of the grant funds; and
3. Appropriate and allocate \$176,283.60 and any interest to the recommended projects.

**FUNDING:**

2010 and 2011 Citizens Options for Public Safety (COPS) Grant funds.

**BACKGROUND**

In the July 1996-97 State budget, then-Governor Wilson signed a provision for law enforcement funding. AB 3229 established the Citizens Options for Public Safety (COPS) program, which is supplemental funding for local law enforcement for the purpose of insuring public safety. The legislation requires that the funds be used for the support of frontline municipal police services and must supplement funding for existing law enforcement services. This grant program is ongoing and it requires a budget appropriation each fiscal year to continue funding.

**ANALYSIS**

**2010 COPS Grant**

The City of Torrance received a total of \$174,479.05 under the 2010 COPS grant. Council appropriated part of the award on April 5, 2011 (item 13A). The 2010 COPS grant has a remaining unappropriated balance of \$124,783.60, including interest through December

2011, which must be expended by June 30, 2012. The Department recommends that the funds be appropriated and allocated as follows:

Cadet Program	\$36,000.00
Public Safety Information System Server	\$88,783.60
Expenditure	\$124,783.60

### Cadet Program

The Cadet Program prepares and develops qualified individuals to enter the field of law enforcement with the Torrance Police Department. The program currently consists of eight Police Cadets who will each participate in a variety of assignments as part of their career development. The Department recommends allocating \$36,000 to the Cadet Program.

### Spillman Server

In November 2005, Council approved the acquisition of a Public Safety Information System from Spillman Technologies to support the consolidation of Police and Fire dispatch operations. The system includes Computer Aided Dispatch, Records Management, and Mobile Data Computer modules.

Spillman has released a major software upgrade that will require an upgrade of the Department's computer server. Staff is in the process of identifying an appropriate replacement server for the Spillman system, with an estimated cost of \$155,000. The Police Department recommends allocating \$88,783.60 from the 2010 COPS grant for this purchase. Staff will bring forward a separate agenda item at a later date to request approval of a purchase order and appropriation of additional funds.

The above expenditures are approximate, and there will be additional interest earned on this grant. The Police Department requests that Council authorize the reallocation of up to ten percent (10%) of the total grant award, including future interest, to the above projects as needed to fully expend the 2010 award.

### 2011 COPS Grant

Torrance was allocated a total of \$235,810 under the 2011 COPS grant, payable in quarterly installments. To date, the City has received \$88,800.81. The Police Department recommends the sum of \$51,500 be appropriated and allocated as follows:

2011 Victim Assistance	\$35,000
2011 Dispute Resolution	\$16,500
Expenditure	\$51,500

Victim Assistance Program

In November 1996, Council appropriated and allocated \$100,000 in COPS grant funding to develop and support a Victim Assistance program. Program funding was approved by Council in each subsequent year. The Victim Assistance program has proven to be very successful in meeting the needs of the community. The Police Department recommends allocating \$35,000 from the 2011 COPS grant to support the Victim Assistance program for the 2012-13 fiscal year.

Dispute Resolution

The City's Dispute Resolution program brings community members together to resolve conflicts that might otherwise escalate. The Department recommends that \$16,500 be allocated to the Dispute Resolution program for the 2012-13 fiscal year.

The City will receive two more payments from the State for the 2011 COPS grant. Staff will return to Council at a later date to request appropriation of the additional funds.

Respectfully submitted,

JOHN J. NEU  
Chief of Police



By: Laurie Anderson  
Business Manager

CONCUR:



John J. Neu  
Chief of Police



LeRoy J. Jackson  
City Manager