

Council Meeting of
July 7, 2009

PUBLIC HEARING

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

Members of the Council:

**SUBJECT: Police - Convene a public hearing concerning Assembly Bill 3229,
Citizens Options for Public Safety (COPS) grant funding. Expenditure:
\$118,762.50**

RECOMMENDATION

Recommendation of the Chief of Police that Council:

1. Convene a public hearing concerning Assembly Bill 3229, the 2008 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. At the close of the hearing, appropriate and allocate \$118,762.50 and any interest to the recommended projects.

FUNDING:

Funding is available in the 2008 Citizens Options for Public Safety (COPS) Grant.

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

The City is eligible for \$147,199 in 2008 COPS funding. Initially, the City was allotted \$237,184 in grant funding, but the award was subsequently reduced in the State's budget revision. To date, the City has received two payments totaling \$118,762.50. A balance of \$28,436.50 remains, but staff does not anticipate receiving any additional payments due to

the State's ongoing budget constraints. Staff will return for a further appropriation if the balance of the grant award is received at a later date.

The Police Department recommends that the 2008 COPS grant be appropriated and allocated to the following projects:

<u>Project</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Enhance Police Scheduling & Timekeeping Systems	\$ 49,000.00
Victim Assistance Program	30,000.00
Dispute Resolution Program	17,000.00
Police Duty Weapons and Accessories	17,762.50
Uninterrupted Power Supply (UPS) System Maintenance	<u>5,000.00</u>
	\$118,762.50

Enhance Police Scheduling & Timekeeping Systems

The Police Department will adopt new work schedules with the implementation of Team Policing on January 1, 2010. In order to facilitate shift scheduling and timekeeping for frontline operations, existing systems need to be enhanced. Possible alternatives include funding overtime for existing programming staff, contracting with an outside consultant, or purchasing packaged software such as Kronos. The Department recommends that \$49,000 and any interest on the 2008 COPS grant be allocated for this purpose.

Victim Assistance Program

In November 1996, Council appropriated and allocated COPS grant funding to develop and support a Victim Assistance program. Additional grant 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 Department recognizes the value of the Victim Assistance program and recommends that \$30,000 be allocated to support its continued operation.

Dispute Resolution Program

The City's Dispute Resolution Program provides an effective means of community conflict resolution by making available the services of a professional mediator. The Department recommends that \$17,000 be allocated and directed to the Dispute Resolution program in order to maintain funding for this important community program.

Police Duty Weapons

The Police Department maintains a supply of Glock firearms which are issued to all sworn personnel as standard duty weapons. The Department's supply of duty weapons and spare parts is near depletion. The Department recommends that \$17,762.50 of 2008 COPS grant funds be allocated for the purchase of Glock duty weapons and parts.

UPS Maintenance Contract

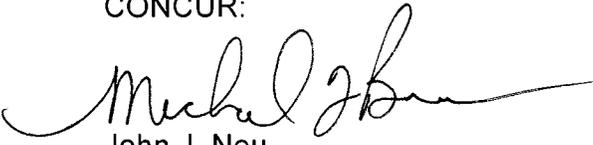
The Police Department recently installed a new, Uninterrupted Power Supply (UPS) system. The UPS system provides continuous power in case of power outages or surges in the electrical service to the Police Department facility; including the Computer-Aided Dispatch (CAD) system and Information Technology (IT) network. Based on the complexity of the equipment, the need for routine, scheduled maintenance, and the recommendation of General Services staff, the Department recommends the company who sold and installed the equipment also perform equipment maintenance. The Department requests allocation of \$5,000 from the 2008 COPS grant for UPS maintenance services.

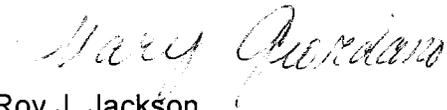
Respectfully submitted,

JOHN J. NEU
Chief of Police


By: Kent Sentinella
Administrative Analyst

CONCUR:


John J. Neu
Chief of Police


for LeRoy J. Jackson
City Manager