

Council Meeting  
November 2, 2010

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

**Members of the Council:**

**SUBJECT: Police and City Treasurer – Transfer, Appropriation, and Allocation of unclaimed funds in the amount of \$69,678.67 from the Trust and Agency Fund to support the purchase of an additional Animal Control Truck. Expenditure: \$69,678.67**

**RECOMMENDATION**

Recommendation of the City Treasurer and Chief of Police that City Council:

1. Approve the transfer of \$69,678.67 of unclaimed funds from the Trust and Agency Fund; and
2. Appropriate and allocate the funds to purchase an additional Animal Control truck.

**FUNDING**

Funds are available in the City of Torrance Trust and Agency Fund.

**BACKGROUND**

In December 2003, the Torrance Police Department established an in-house Animal Control program to provide animal control services for the residents of the City of Torrance. The program initially consisted of one Animal Control Officer and one Staff Assistant. Today, the program has expanded to include one Animal Control Supervisor and three Animal Control Officers.

**ANALYSIS**

Currently, the Animal Control Supervisor and three Animal Control Officers share three Animal Control trucks. Staff experience has shown that when one of the trucks is out for maintenance, involved in a collision, or otherwise out of service, the four field personnel have limited access to the remaining vehicles which severely restricts their response capabilities. As such, the Department is seeking to add a fourth Animal Control Truck.

The Police Department maintains a Property Room whereby it receives, stores, and disposes of all property the Department takes into custody. One type of property is money that is seized in connection with a criminal investigation or turned over to the Department as found

property. Money that is not immediately released is deposited with the City Treasurer in the Trust and Agency Fund. The Department currently has \$69,678.67 on deposit since January 2006 that has not been claimed.

Government Code section 50050 states, in part:

*"Except as otherwise provided by law, money, excluding restitution to victims, that is not the property of a local agency that remains unclaimed in its treasury or in the official custody of its officers for three years is the property of the local agency after notice if not claimed or if no verified complaint is filed and served. At any time after the expiration of the three-year period the treasurer of the local agency may cause a notice to be published once a week for two successive weeks in a newspaper of general circulation published in the local agency."*

The funds in question have been in the possession of the Department well in excess of three years. Attempts to locate an owner have proven fruitless. Public notices were published in a newspaper of general circulation on September 12 and 19, 2010, and no claim of ownership has been filed. As of October 27, 2010, the money becomes the property of the City. Pursuant to Government Code section 50053, this legislative action is needed to transfer the money to support the project.

The funds will be used for the initial acquisition and outfitting of the Animal Control Truck. Funding for the monthly replacement, ongoing maintenance and fuel is available in the Department's operating budget.

Respectfully submitted,

JOHN J. NEU  
CHIEF OF POLICE



By Lieutenant Ross Bartlett  
Services Division Commander

CONCUR:



John J. Neu  
Chief of Police



LeRoy J. Jackson  
City Manager