

Council Meeting of
May 24, 2011

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 reallocate funds. Expenditure: None.

RECOMMENDATION

Recommendation of the Chief of Police that Council:

1. Conduct a public hearing concerning Assembly Bill 3229, the 2009 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. Reallocate \$15,067.63 of grant funds to the recommended projects.

FUNDING:

2009 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 of Torrance was awarded \$168,512.45 under the 2009 COPS grant. Council appropriated portions of the award on December 15, 2009 (item 13A) and on May 11, 2010 (item 13A). On April 5, 2011 (item 13A), Council appropriated the award's

remaining balance of \$116,375.11 and any interest to various programmatic and equipment projects. Due to savings realized by the City's purchasing staff on items already purchased under this grant, the 2009 COPS grant now has an available balance of \$15,067.63 which must be used by June 30, 2011.

The Police Department recommends that the available funds be reallocated for the acquisition of equipment for field operations and officer training. The specific items to be purchased include ballistic shields and entry rams, digital cameras for field officers, and protective gear for arrest and control training. These items will support front-line law enforcement activities and their acquisition is an appropriate use of COPS grant funds.

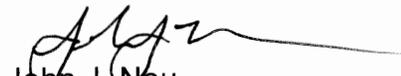
Respectfully submitted,

JOHN J. NEU
Chief of Police



By: Laurie Anderson
Business Manager

CONCUR:



John J. Neu
Chief of Police



LeRoy J. Jackson
City Manager