REQUEST FOR COUNCIL ACTION

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER __________
COUNCIL MEETING OF 12-02-2008


MOTION: I move to approve the use of the 2008-2009 Citizens' Option for Public Safety funds as outlined in Exhibit “A” and authorize an additional appropriation in the amount of $114,496.

DISCUSSION:

In fiscal 2000-2001, AB1913 (Schiff-Cardenas Crime Prevention Act of 2000) was enacted as part of the state budget package. The bill modified the Citizens' Option for Public Safety (COPS) AB3229 program. COPS is an on-going program that provides funding for local agencies for the purpose of ensuring public safety.

In October of 2001, SB 736 was passed, guaranteeing the COPS program will be funded into the indefinite future. The State budget act again allocated funds to the Citizens' Option for Public Safety (COPS) program.

The City of Redlands will receive $114,496 as its portion of the 2008-2009 COPS funding. The City must establish a separate Supplemental Law Enforcement Services Fund (SLESF) for deposit of these 2008-2009 funds. The SLESF must be an interest bearing account with monthly transfers to the operating program budget to the extent necessary to facilitate appropriations and expenditures. The funds must be used for front line municipal police services and must supplement and not supplant existing funding for police services. The City Council must consider the written request for the use of the Citizens’ Option for Public Safety funds separate and apart from proposed allocations from the City General Fund. The funds must be expended by June 30, 2010 or be returned to the State Controller for deposit into the General Fund.

These funds shall be appropriated pursuant to a written request. The request shall specify the law enforcement needs of the requesting entity including the personnel, equipment and programs that are necessary to meet those needs. After approval by the governing board of a municipality, the request shall be forwarded to the County Board of Supervisors prior to dispersal of the funds by the County Controller. The 2008-2009 request must be submitted to the Board of Supervisors no later than December 17, 2008.
The requested use of funds are as follows:

**Surveillance Equipment**
Recent surveillance projects have clearly demonstrated how video and camera equipment can leverage human resources. These funds would allow the expanded use of video and camera surveillance equipment to further reduce the impact of rising crime on our limited personnel. The equipment would include stationary and mobile equipment to allow for greater flexibility. The equipment and services will include the video and camera equipment, and enhancements to the infrastructure necessary to provide video and data to the dispatch center and/or mobile units. There may be limited long term costs to the general fund associated with repairs and connectivity, but experience has shown very limited maintenance costs and grants will be used whenever possible. Equipment and services obtained through this grant will supplement and enhance the existing City video projects reducing any General Funds Cost.

**Computing Equipment and Software**
Recent major cases have clearly demonstrated the need for increased portable computing capabilities. The on-scene capacity to write search warrants, take reports, produce digital photographs, prepare suspect drawings and prepare computer generated crime scene diagrams greatly enhances the department’s effectiveness in major cases. Portable computing systems will include notebook computers, Blackberries and GPS devices. The desktop systems will provide more officers with the tools necessary to complete their work. We are currently short of reliable workstations for officers and investigators to obtain information and complete reports in a timely manner. The systems will include computers, data storage, software, printers, and networking equipment. This new equipment will reduce maintenance costs as most of the equipment will be replacing older equipment with high maintenance overhead with equipment that is covered under long term warranties. There is also a need to expand the records computer scanning equipment used to preserve the department’s reports. This additional equipment will lower the amount of time necessary to scan every report written by the department. The time associated with installation by in-house MIS personnel is less than the time spent maintaining older equipment. The purchased equipment will be consistent with the IT strategic plan of the City, and will often serve as the beta test for technology implementation for all City departments. This will save the City money in technology development.

**Applied Technology Specialist**
The Police Department has been very successful in obtaining grant funds for technology that leverages our workforce. The implementation and coordination of this grant funded technology requires a technology specialist to reduce the impact of additional duties on department personnel. The Department currently has an Applied Technology Specialist that is funded through the 2007-2008 Citizens’ Option for Public Safety funds. This is a part-time position that the City has no obligation to maintain after funds have been expended. It is the intent of the Department to continue to fund this important position through non-general fund sources.

**Directed Overtime Patrols**
There are several crimes that can be directly reduced through the use of directed patrols. These crimes include gang violence, robbery, theft, car burglaries, auto burglaries and auto theft.
nature of these crimes dictates a unique police patrol response. These crimes can best be addressed by the increase in bicycle, motorcycle and foot patrols. The ability of these type of patrols to quietly approach and observe activity increases overall effectiveness. These patrols have also proven very effective in reducing crime in commercial-business districts such as the theater/downtown area. Due to current staffing levels and high calls for service, these patrols cannot be adequately covered by the normal patrol teams. The patrols will be conducted by officers working overtime. Without these funds to pay for the overtime, the department would have to reduce our directed patrols.

**Specialized Training**
Every year the Department is faced with new strategic issues and it is our responsibility to ensure that we keep abreast of these developments. There are many valuable educational opportunities that we utilize to increase the Redlands Police Department's ability to meet the challenges these issues represent. These training opportunities are generally not P.O.S.T. reimbursable.

Any funds not expended in other areas of this proposal, as well as interest allocations required by the COPS program, will be allocated to directed patrols, equipment needs or training.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**
There will be no negative fiscal impact on the general fund. The requested additional appropriation will be entirely offset through grant proceeds. This grant does not require and matching funds and there is no requirement for the City to incur any reoccurring costs.

**Prepared by:**

James R. Bueermann
Chief of Police

**Reviewed by:**

Tina T. Kundig
Finance Director

**Recommended by:**

N. Enrique Martinez
City Manager
Bernardino Police Department's firearms range and authorized the Mayor to execute, and the City Clerk to attest to, the document on behalf of the City.

Funds - Agreement - GPS Tracking Devices - On motion of Councilmember Gilbreath, seconded by Councilmember Gallagher, the City Council unanimously approved a lease agreement with Satellite Tracking of People, LLC for use of individual GPS tracking devices as ordered by the Superior Court of California, County of San Bernardino, for Drug Court clients, authorized the Mayor to execute, and the City Clerk to attest to, the document on behalf of the City and authorized an additional appropriation of $2,000.00 which will be offset by a like amount of reimbursement.

Hand-Held Radios Purchase - On motion of Councilmember Gilbreath, seconded by Councilmember Gallagher, the City Council unanimously authorized the Police Department to purchase 14 Motorola hand-held radios from Motorola, Inc. at a cost of $48,961.08.

Taser Electronic Control Devices Purchase - On motion of Councilmember Gilbreath, seconded by Councilmember Gallagher, the City Council unanimously authorized the Police Department to purchase 51 Taser Model x-26 electronic control devices from ProForce Law Enforcement at a cost of $44,959.12.

COPS Funds - On motion of Councilmember Gilbreath, seconded by Councilmember Gallagher, the City Council unanimously approved the use of the 2008-2009 Citizens' Option for Public Safety funds in the amount of $114,496.00 as described in the staff report and approved an additional appropriation in the same amount.

Fee Waiver - Christmas Parade - On motion of Councilmember Gilbreath, seconded by Councilmember Gallagher, the City Council unanimously approved the request of the Kiwanis Club of Redlands to waive all City-related fees, costs and charges associated with the annual Redlands Christmas Parade to be held on December 6, 2008.

Ordinance No. 2708 - Market Night Curfew - Ordinance No. 2708, an ordinance of the City of Redlands amending Chapter 9.24 of the Redlands Municipal Code relating to a juvenile curfew during the City's sponsored Market Night, was unanimously adopted on motion of Councilmember Gilbreath, seconded by Councilmember Gallagher.

**LATE BREAKING ITEMS**

Support Scoping Plan - AB 32 - Noting the need to take action was immediate, Councilmember Harrison moved to add the following item to the agenda which arose subsequent to the agenda being posted: "Discussion and possible action -