



Staff Report

City of Manhattan Beach

TO: Honorable Mayor Aldinger and Members of the City Council

THROUGH: Geoff Dolan, City Manager

FROM: Rod Uyeda, Chief of Police
Bruce Moe, Finance Director
Randolph Leaf, Police Captain
Tony DiGenova, Police Lieutenant
Julie Dahlgren, Management Analyst

DATE: May 6, 2008

SUBJECT: Consideration of Resolution No. 6134 Accepting the Citizen's Option for Public Safety Program Supplemental Law Enforcement Services Fund (SLESF) Grant; Authorize and Appropriate SLESF Grant Funds to Purchase Message Board/Radar Trailers from Kustom Signals, Inc. in the Amount of \$36,500, Mobile Data Computers/Radio Equipment from South Bay Regional Public Communications in the amount of \$31,000, and Law Enforcement Equipment in the Amount of \$40,000.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that the City Council: a) conduct a public hearing relating to the acceptance and proposed expenditures of the Citizen's Option for Public Safety (COPS) Supplemental Law Enforcement Services Fund (SLESF); b) adopt Resolution No. 6134 to accept grant monies from SLESF; c) appropriate SLESF grant funds and accrued interest for proposed expenditures; d) waive formal bidding per Municipal Code Section 2.36.140 (waivers) and award purchase orders to Kustom Signals, Inc for Message Board/Radar Trailers in the amount of \$36,500 and to South Bay Regional Public Communications Authority for the purchase of Mobile Data Computers and Portable Radios in the amount of \$31,000; e) authorize the City Manager to execute the purchase of the other listed items within this staff report in an amount not to exceed the remaining SLESF grant funds and accrued interest (approximately \$40,000).

FISCAL IMPLICATION:

During FY 2006-2007, the City received an allocation of \$100,000 from SLESF. The funds are placed in an interest bearing account, and as of March 10, 2008, the account had reached \$107,500. Grant funds and accrued interest must be encumbered by the end of this fiscal year. The requested items will be funded entirely out of the aforementioned SLESF allocation; therefore, there is no impact on the general fund. The total cost of the proposed expenditures is approximately \$107,500, and we anticipate fully expending FY 2006-2007 SLESF grant funds and accrued interest on these requested purchases.

BACKGROUND:

During the 1996-1997 legislative sessions, the State adopted legislation to provide block grants to individual cities to support front-line law enforcement needs. The program is called the Supplemental Law Enforcement Services Fund (SLESF), created through Assembly Bill 3229, the Citizen's Option for Public Safety (COPS) Program. Since the inception of this program, Manhattan Beach has received an annual allocation of up to \$100,000. Last year, City Council approved the Police Department to use two years worth of SLESF funds (FY 2004-2005 and FY 2005-2006) to purchase new digital recording systems for our police cars. This staff report is a request to accept and spend FY 2006-2007 SLESF funds. The Police Department has not yet made a request to spend the allocation for FY 2007-2008 of \$100,000.

All funds received under this grant must be used to supplement local front-line law enforcement needs and cannot be used to supplant funding for such activities.

Based upon current and projected Police Department funding needs, as well as funding needs for other City Departments, Staff believes that these funds would best be utilized to purchase needed equipment to better serve the community in the areas of Traffic Enforcement/Education, Communication, Investigations, Crime Prevention, Graffiti Investigations, and Active Shooter Response. All of the proposed purchases are permissible expenditures.

DISCUSSION:

The Police Department proposes the following spending plan for FY 2006-2007 SLESF funds:

Message Board/Radar Trailer

In our community's resident satisfaction surveys, traffic remains the number one public safety concern of residents. The Traffic Safety Bureau utilizes a variety of tools to address these concerns. Some of the tools that are regularly used are radar speed indicator trailers, along with electronic message signs. Staff requests the purchase of a new Message Board/Radar Trailer and an additional standalone Radar Speed Indicator Trailer.

The Department currently has two standalone Message Boards (not radar equipped) and two standalone Radar Speed Indicator Trailers. The message boards were purchased approximately ten years ago and are still functional; however, their age and need for frequent servicing leaves them out of service for long periods of time. The requested Message Board/Radar Trailer is a versatile tool which can be deployed to communicate traffic advisements, speed advisories, road closures, special events, etc. It would be new to our department, as we do not currently have a combination Message Board/Radar Speed Indicator Trailer. In addition to the combination Message Board/Radar Speed Indicator Trailer, staff requests to purchase a second, stand alone, Radar Speed Indicator Trailer. Currently the Police Department has two of these small radar trailers which are deployed on almost a daily basis. Both of these trailers are approximately 15 years old, and due to weather and the salt air, have incurred significant rust. One is irreparably damaged and needs to be replaced.

The requested vendor, Kustom Signals, Inc. is a city-approved vendor with whom the Police Department has done business for more than fifteen years. Over the years, we have purchased message boards, stand-alone radar trailers, and other traffic monitoring

and radar equipment from Kustom Signals, Inc. Staff requests the formal bid process be waived per Municipal Code Section 2.36.140 (waivers) and that the award be made to Kustom Signals, Inc. in the amount of \$36,500. Price includes statistical gathering software and solar panels.

Motorecycle and Vehicle Transport Trailer

The Police Department does not currently have a transport trailer for its small vehicles (patrol all-terrain vehicles (ATV), electric GEM, and Go-4 Parking Enforcement vehicles) and motorcycles. When these vehicles are inoperable or we have to transport these vehicles for training, we rely on a towing vendor to transport these vehicles at a significant fee to the City (\$150 - \$300 per trip depending on mileage). The requested transport trailer is specifically designed to transport these kinds of vehicles, which will reduce down time and improve crime prevention and enforcement services to the City (\$3,500).

Mobile Data Computers/Radio Equipment

Mobile Data Computers (MDCs) are rugged computers attached to radio modems that provide data communications between our patrol units and the South Bay Regional Public Communications Authority (also known as RCC). Most patrol units were outfitted with MDCs in 2002, and some of these units are reaching the end of their useful life.

Portable radios are a critical communication tool for first responders. The Police Department is in need of new radios and accessories to replace aging and damaged radios. The requested radios are rugged, lightweight models recommended by RCC.

RCC also outfits emergency vehicles with emergency equipment and radios. As a member agency of RCC, we receive a labor rate that is lower than outside vendors and parts can be purchased at dealer cost. Another benefit to using RCC is that their staff stays current with new innovations in the industry and they field tests new products before a recommendation is made. The standard installation of components that RCC performs benefits our officers and maintenance staff since all of our police cars are uniform in their equipment placement. Finally, RCC staff maintains and repairs this equipment until it is retired, performs on-site service, and keeps back-up components, which lessens vehicle downtime.

As a result, Staff requests the formal bid process be waived per Municipal Code Section 2.36.140 (waivers) and that the award be made to RCC in the amount of \$31,000 to purchase three MDCs and nine portable radios.

Computer Voice Stress Analyzer

The Computer Voice Stress Analyzer (CVSA) is a truth verification system similar to a polygraph and can be used by trained members of our department for investigations. CVSA systems are in use by over 1,700 local, state and federal law enforcement agencies throughout the country as well as the United States military. Truth verification systems can be used quickly to develop leads or ensure investigations are on the right track. Staff believes this tool will ultimately reduce crime and improve the solvability of crimes. The Information Systems (IS) Team supports this request. Price includes software, hardware, and training (\$11,500).

Vandalism / Graffiti Deterrent System

In the past year, there has been an increased level of graffiti activity, particularly in the area of the beach where extensive vandalism occurred to both public and private property, including lifeguard towers & stations, the pier and roundhouse, beach bathrooms, walkways, and light poles. These acts of vandalism have caused thousands of dollars in clean-up costs, and are a source of fear and concern in the community. Vandalism / graffiti deterrent systems have been successfully used in hundreds of cities across the country, including some of our neighboring South Bay Cities and other Cities throughout the county. The system is a motion activated camera, delivering a voice message and "flash" to deter vandals while capturing their image. The system is portable and can be moved from place to place to address specific crime trends. The Information Systems (IS) Team supports this request. Price includes laptop (\$15,500).

Instant Armor First Responder Tactical Blanket

This Tactical Blanket System gives high ballistic protection in a lightweight and portable design. This tactical blanket system is manufactured from high strength, lightweight ballistic fabric which is designed to provide a protective barrier against gun fire. This highly portable tactical blanket system is specifically designed to be deployed for high risk situations such as an "active shooter" and is especially useful for quickly armoring a vehicle or a team of officers for rescues/extractions. The blanket, weighing in at only sixty pounds, provides forty square feet of bullet resistant protection. The SWAT team currently has one ballistic shield which is very heavy to carry and offers only partial protection for a single officer (\$9,500).

If Council approves these recommendations, Staff anticipates purchasing the Message Board Radar Trailer (\$36,500) and the Mobile Data Computers/Radio Equipment (\$31,000) by the end of the 2007-2008 fiscal year. The anticipated cost of the remaining equipment is below \$20,000 a piece; therefore, Staff will obtain quotes and award the purchase orders administratively.

ATTACHMENT:

Exhibit A - Resolution No. 6134

RESOLUTION NO. 6134

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MANHATTAN BEACH, CALIFORNIA, DECLARING ITS INTENT TO ACCEPT A STATE GRANT UNDER THE CITIZEN'S OPTION FOR PUBLIC SAFETY AND THE STATE LAW ENFORCEMENT SUPPLEMENTAL GRANT PROGRAM FOR FISCAL YEARS 2006 AND 2007 AND AUTHORIZE THE EXPENDITURE OF THESE GRANT FUNDS FOR THE FOLLOWING EQUIPMENT: MESSAGE BOARD/RADAR TRAILER, MOBILE DATA COMPUTERS/RADIO EQUIPMENT, COMPUTER VOICE STRESS ANALYZER, VANDALISM DETERRENT SYSTEM, RADAR TRAILER, INSTANT ARMOR FIRST RESPONDER TACTICAL BLANKET AND TRANSPORT TRAILER

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Manhattan Beach, California, has been notified of its eligibility to receive block grant funds provided through the Citizens Option for Public Safety and the State Law Enforcement Supplemental Grant Program; and

WHEREAS, the procedural requirements for acceptance of funds under this program requires that City Council conduct a public hearing and receive public comment regarding the anticipated areas of expenditure for such funds; and

WHEREAS, City Staff has determined that the highest priority for the use of these funds exists in the area of a message board/radar trailer, mobile data computers/radio equipment, a computer voice stress analyzer, a vandalism deterrent system, a radar trailer, a first responder tactical blanket and a transport trailer.

WHEREAS, the City Council concurs with the recommended expenditures as identified by City Staff.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MANHATTAN BEACH, CALIFORNIA, DOES HEREBY RESOLVE, DECLARE, FIND, DETERMINE AND ORDER AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. The expenditure of grant funds as recommended by City Staff is consistent with the intent of the grant requirements and will enhance the delivery of police services within the City of Manhattan Beach.

SECTION 2. The City Manager and Chief of Police are hereby authorized to execute the necessary documents to accept the grant award and authorize expenditures pertinent thereto.

SECTION 3. The City Clerk shall make this resolution available for public inspection within thirty (30) days of the date this Resolution is adopted.

SECTION 4. The City Clerk shall certify to the adoption of this Resolution and thenceforth and thereafter the same shall be in full force and effect.

PASSED, APPROVED and ADOPTED this 6th day of May, 2008.

Ayes:
Noes:
Absent:
Abstain:
:

Mayor, City of Manhattan Beach, California

ATTEST:

City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

By 
City Attorney