



Agenda Item #: \_\_\_\_\_

# Staff Report

## City of Manhattan Beach

**TO:** Honorable Mayor Ward and Members of the City Council

**THROUGH:** Richard Thompson, Interim City Manager

**FROM:** Rod Uyeda, Police Chief  
Bruce Moe, Finance Director  
Gwen Eng, General Services Manager  
Tony DiGenova, Police Lieutenant  
Julie Dahlgren, Management Analyst

**DATE:** June 15, 2010

**SUBJECT:** Consideration of a Resolution Accepting the Citizen's Option for Public Safety Program Supplemental Law Enforcement Services Funds (SLESF) Grant; Authorize and Appropriate SLESF Grant Funds to Purchase Radio Communication Equipment from South Bay Regional Public Communications Authority in the Amount of \$94,000, and Law Enforcement Equipment in the amount of \$9,000.

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### **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. 6257 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 order to the South Bay Regional Public Communications Authority for Radio Communication Equipment in the Amount of \$94,000; e) authorize the City Manager to execute the purchase of the remaining equipment within this staff report to fully expend the remaining SLESF grant funds and accrued interest (approximately \$9,000).

### **FISCAL IMPLICATION:**

During FY 2008-2009, the City received an allocation of \$100,000 from SLESF. The funds are placed in an interest bearing account that has reached approximately \$103,000. Grant funds and accrued interest must be encumbered by the end of this fiscal year. The requested items will be purchased with the aforementioned SLESF allocation; therefore, there is no impact on the General Fund. The total cost of the proposed expenditures is approximately \$103,000, and we anticipate fully expending the 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 \$100,000. Last fiscal year, City Council approved the Police Department to use the 2007-2008 SLESF funds to purchase handheld automated citation writers for field personnel. This staff report is a request to accept and spend FY 2008-2009 SLESF funds.

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 equipment needs, staff believes that these funds would best be utilized to purchase needed equipment to better serve the community in the areas of Police Radio Communication and Emergency Response. All of the proposed purchases are permissible expenditures.

**DISCUSSION:**

The Police Department proposes the following spending plan for FY 2008-2009 SLESF funds:

**Portable Handheld & Mobile In-Car Radio Equipment for Patrol Officers (\$94,000)**

Radios are essential communication tools for first responders. Properly functioning portable radios and in-car radios ensure rapid response to calls for service and are a critical necessity for officer safety. They also allow officers to immediately share information and intelligence during routine operations and emergencies.

Many of the Department's portable and in-car radios are around ten years or older and replacement parts are no longer available to make repairs.

Additionally, regulations from the FCC mandate private Land Mobile Radio (LMR) system licensees (including public safety agencies and state and local governments) to convert from what has been known as "wideband" (25 KHz) operation to "narrowband" (12.5 KHz or equivalent) by January 1, 2013. Agencies that do not meet the mandated deadline face the loss of communication capabilities and fines of up to \$10,000 per day.

The Manhattan Beach Police Department, with the help of South Bay Regional Public Communications Authority (RCC), has developed a radio replacement schedule which will help us to achieve our goal of enhanced interoperability and compliance with federal mandates by January 1, 2013.

The Police Department is in need of new radios and accessories to replace aging and damaged radios, as well as to meet the federal mandates which take effect in 2013. Our proposed expenditure includes the purchase of 54 handheld radios for patrol officers, 15 in-car radios for patrol cars, and 7 mobile radios for our police motorcycles, as well as the software, parts, and accessories needed for installation and deployment.

The requested portable handheld radios are rugged, lightweight models that meet upcoming FCC mandates, as well as future compatibility standards with the Los Angeles Regional Interoperable Communications System (LA-RICS), and are recommended by RCC. RCC staff stays current with new innovations in the communication industry and they field test products before a recommendation is made.

As a member agency of RCC, we receive free labor, and the radio parts can be purchased at dealer cost. RCC staff maintains and repairs this equipment until it is retired, performs on-site service, and keeps back-up components, which lessens radio/vehicle downtime. Finally, RCC can obtain prices for equipment that are consistently at or below pricing available from other vendors. For this recommended purchase, staff collected informal bids from two other companies and RCC is able to provide the equipment and installation for the lowest cost.

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 \$94,000 to purchase 54 handheld radios for patrol officers, 15 mobile in-car radios for patrol cars, 7 mobile radios for our police motorcycles, and necessary software, parts, and accessories to make the communication equipment field-ready for law enforcement operations.

**Portable Generator for Emergency/Disaster Response (\$9,000)**

The Police Department also proposes the purchase of a portable generator with light tower, for deployment at DUI Checkpoints, major traffic accidents, major crime scenes, disasters, command posts for incidents/special events, and SWAT training/deployments. The generator will also be available to other City Departments for deployment at large-scale/nighttime emergency operations where a light tower and portable generator would be a valued resource (e.g. structure fires, sink holes, water main breaks, etc.) The proposed generator is mounted to a trailer and includes a powerful four-light tower which can illuminate a large area; it can also power other emergency equipment. The Police Department's current portable generator is estimated to be around thirty years old and was obtained from a military surplus venue; it is extremely loud and has failed at recent deployments. The proposed generator will provide a reliable and easily deployable source of light and power for emergencies and large-scale nighttime operations. The anticipated cost of the portable generator is below \$20,000; therefore, staff will obtain quotes and award the purchase order administratively.

**CONCLUSION:**

If City Council approves these recommendations, staff anticipates purchasing the radio communication equipment (\$94,000) and the portable generator (\$9,000) in the next three to six months.

**ATTACHMENT:** Exhibit A – Resolution No. 6257

RESOLUTION NO. 6257

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 SUPPLEMENTAL LAW ENFORCEMENT SERVICES FUND FOR FISCAL YEAR 2008/2009 AND AUTHORIZE THE EXPENDITURE OF THESE GRANT FUNDS FOR THE FOLLOWING EQUIPMENT: HANDHELD PORTABLE RADIOS, MOBILE IN-CAR RADIOS, AND PORTABLE GENERATOR.

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Manhattan Beach, California, has been notified of its eligibility to receive grant money provided through the State of California Citizens Option for Public Safety Supplemental Law Enforcement Services Fund; 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 is for new radio communication technology, including portable handheld radios for patrol officers and in-car radios for patrol cars, and a portable generator to aid in our emergency response and preparedness.

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 15th day of June, 2010.

Ayes:  
Noes:  
Absent:  
Abstain:  
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Mayor, City of Manhattan Beach, California

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

By   
City Attorney