

**STAFF REPORT**

**F-6**



**THE CITY OF  
NOVATO  
CALIFORNIA**

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**MEETING**

**DATE:** July 8, 2014

**TO:** City Council

**FROM:** James Berg, Chief of Police  
Oliver Collins, Lieutenant, Patrol Bureau

**PRESENTER:** Oliver Collins, Lieutenant, Patrol Bureau

**SUBJECT: FISCAL YEAR 2014/15 STATE HOMELAND SECURITY GRANT-  
AUTOMATIC LICENSE PLATE READER TRAILER**

**REQUEST**

Consider adopting resolution to authorize the City Manager to accept the Fiscal Year 2014/15 SHSGP (State Homeland Security Grant Program) funding for the purpose of purchasing an Automatic License Plate reader/speed feedback trailer.

**RECOMMENDATION**

Adopt resolution.

**DISCUSSION**

On June 10, 2014, the police department submitted a grant application to the Marin County OES (Office of Emergency Services) for monies distributed by Cal OES. A funding decision by the FY 14/15 SHSGP Approval Authority Board is not expected until August or September 2014.

The police department currently has six vehicles equipped with ALPR systems (2-4 camera system and 4-2 camera systems) but no portable trailer with the same capabilities. We are seeking the ALPR trailer system to enhance the capabilities of the police department in detecting wanted vehicles, deterring crime and to increasing our ability to solve crimes after they occur. To date there are no such ALPR trailers in Marin County and this type of equipment will be able to assist all agencies in the law enforcement community by way of collected data. Since the police department already has software for the ALPR systems mounted on the patrol vehicles no additional software purchases will be needed. Additionally, the police department already contracts with a vendor for data storage and retrieval so no new contracts will be necessary.

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Since the installment and subsequent deployment of this technology mounted on the patrol vehicles the results have been very positive. The following is a synopsis of the stolen vehicles and stolen license plate recoveries since the inception of the program:

- 12 recovered stolen vehicles (parked, no suspect information)
- 1 stolen vehicle hit that led to the arrest of (2) suspects for vehicle theft
- 1 stolen license plate hit that led to arrest of (2) suspects on narcotics charges
- 1 stolen license plate hit that led to the correction of a data entry error by another agency
- 1 stolen vehicle hit that led to the arrest of (2) suspects for vehicle theft, narcotics charges, and warrants
- 1 stolen license plate hit on a parked vehicle at a used car dealership

The number of both occupied and unoccupied stolen vehicle recoveries has increased over the past year. Additionally, the number of stolen vehicle arrests is up 40% YTD.

The proposed funding is in an amount not to exceed \$36,583.75. This will provide the necessary funding to purchase one, ALPR trailer with speed feedback capabilities. As was the case in past State Homeland Security Grant Program funding, the police department is required to make the purchase with existing City funds. Once the purchase conditions are met and the equipment is received, the City of Novato is then reimbursed for the funds expended. The police department will use funds from existing State COPS funds to initiate the purchase. Once reimbursement is received it will be re-deposited into the COPS fund account. The City has received the reimbursement check for the previous ALPR purchase from the FY13/14 State Homeland Security Grant Program.

### **FISCAL IMPACT**

There is no fiscal impact to the City, as the funds will be reimbursed upon all conditions being met.

### **ALTERNATIVES**

Don't adopt resolution

### **ATTACHMENTS**

1. Resolution

CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NOVATO

RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_

1.

RESOLUTION TO APPLY AND ACCEPT A \$36,583.75 GRANT FROM THE STATE HOMELAND SECURITY GRANT PROGRAM TO PURCHASE A MOBILE AUTOMATED LICENSE PLATE RECOGNITION (ALPR) SYSTEM AND AMEND THE BUDGET RESOLUTION 61-14 TO ACCEPT THE GRANT AND REVISE POLICE DEPARTMENT REVENUE AND APPROPRIATIONS ACCORDINGLY

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Novato has adopted a budget for fiscal year 14/15; and

WHEREAS, the California State Homeland Security Grant Program is providing funding through federal grants from the Department of Homeland Security to enhance the capabilities of state and local first responders and non-governmental agencies by allowing the purchase of advanced types of equipment, as well as addressing other critical homeland security needs; and

WHEREAS, the Police Department has been awarded a \$36,583.75 grant from the California State Homeland Security Grant Program; and

WHEREAS, the funding of the grant provides for the purchase of a Automated License Plate Recognition (ALPR) and speed feedback trailer; and

WHEREAS, the Novato Police Department is currently utilizing ALPR technology on six patrol vehicles, which has resulted in the discovery of multiple felony crimes and apprehension of felony suspects; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary to amend the FY 14/15 budget resolution to increase Police department grant revenues and overtime appropriations by \$36,583.75.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Novato does hereby authorize the City Manager to accept the State Homeland Security Grant and approve the amendment to the final budget to increase Police department grant revenue and equipment appropriations by \$36,583.75.

\* \* \* \* \*

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing resolution was duly and regularly adopted by the City Council of the City of Novato, Marin County, California, at a meeting thereof, held on the \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, by the following vote, to wit:

AYES: Councilmembers  
NOES: Councilmembers  
ABSTAIN: Councilmembers  
ABSENT: Councilmembers

\_\_\_\_\_  
Sheri Hartz, City Clerk

Approved as to form:

\_\_\_\_\_  
City Attorney of the City of Novato