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CITY OF SACRAMENTO

DEPARTMENT OF POLICE
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JOHN P. KEARNS
CHIEF OF POLICE

March 30, 1987

Budget & Finance Committee
Sacramento, California

Honorable Members in Session:

SUBJECT: NORTH SACRAMENTO - FOOTBEAT PROPOSAL

SUMMARY

The City Council asked the Police Department to comment on the proposal of Mr. Ray Ryker to increase police protection in the North Sacramento area with emphasis on footbeats.

The Police Department recently added one patrol district to the North Sacramento area and does not recommend any further units for this area at this time. The Police Department believes that footbeat patrol along Del Paso Boulevard would not be appropriate or cost efficient.

BACKGROUND

Every two to three years, the Sacramento Police Department re-structures its patrol deployment plan. The objectives of our deployment plan are to:

1. Appropriately deploy the officers by time of day and day of week, based upon "calls for service".
2. Design beats that will equalize the work load of the Patrol Officers.
3. Design patrol beats that will equitably distribute the man power of the Patrol Division throughout the City, based upon "calls for service".

In February 1987, the Police Department did implement a new patrol plan. This realignment resulted in a better distribution of resources and added one additional patrol district to the North Sacramento area.

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The calls for service and the crime rate for the North Sacramento area are similar to other parts of the City with the same economic background. The problems along Del Paso Boulevard are no different than police problems along other commercial strips of the City, such as Broadway, Stockton Boulevard, Franklin Boulevard and Freeport Boulevard. The Department recognizes that the presence of foot patrol officers adds to the citizen's perception of safety. However, footbeats are an inefficient method of delivering police service. Footbeats are effective in those areas that have a high volume of pedestrian traffic. Unlike the downtown business district, Del Paso Boulevard does not have a high volume of pedestrian traffic.

The Police Department believes that its present deployment system is a fair and equitable way of distributing the resources of our patrol division. I do not believe there is justification for the establishment of additional patrol officers or footbeats in the North Sacramento area.

RECOMMENDATION

None. Submitted for City Council information.

Respectfully submitted,


JOHN P. KEARNS
CHIEF OF POLICE

APPROVAL FOR COMMITTEE INFORMATION:


JACK CRIST
DEPUTY CITY MANAGER

JPK:dj
Ref: 3-92

April 14, 1987
District 2