



APPROVED  
BY THE CITY COUNCIL

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SEP 28 1999

OFFICE OF THE  
CITY CLERK

DEPARTMENT OF  
POLICE

CITY OF SACRAMENTO  
CALIFORNIA

900 - 8TH STREET  
SACRAMENTO, CA  
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ARTURO VENEGAS, JR.  
CHIEF OF POLICE

September 16, 1999

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City Council  
Sacramento, California

Honorable Members in Session:

**SUBJECT:** PROPOSED USE OF FUNDS FROM THE CITIZEN'S OPTION FOR PUBLIC SAFETY PROGRAM

**LOCATION AND COUNCIL DISTRICT:** City-wide.

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION:**

It is recommended that the Sacramento City Council act as a forum for a public hearing to discuss the proposed use of the Citizen's Option for Public Safety (COPS) program's allocation of an estimated \$879,801.

It is also recommended that the City Council adopt the attached Resolution authorizing funding for the Police Department from the COPS appropriation pursuant to AB3229 which established the COPS program.

**CONTACT PERSON:** Captain Rick Braziel, Metro Sector, 264-7380

**FOR COUNCIL MEETING OF:** September 28, 1999

**SUMMARY:**

The State of California has allocated an estimated \$879,801 to the Police Department through the Citizen's Option for Public Safety (COPS) program (established in 1996 by AB3229). The funds will be used to purchase equipment to support various front line law enforcement services. The equipment includes camera systems for the department's helicopters and police vehicles and supplies and equipment for the equestrian unit.

**COMMITTEE/COMMISSION ACTION:**

None.

*The mission of the Sacramento Police Department is to work in partnership with the Community to protect life and property; solve neighborhood problems, and enhance the quality of life in our City.*

**BACKGROUND:**

In 1996, AB3229 established the Citizen's Option for Public Safety (COPS) program. This year, the COPS program has again appropriated a total of \$100 million from the state general fund for use by local government for the purposes of ensuring public safety. The State Controller has allocated funds to each county based on population. The Police Department will receive an estimated \$879,801 and is requesting approval for use of funds at this time.

**Proposed Use of Funds**

The Department proposes that the COPS program funds for fiscal year 1999-00 be used for the following purposes.

- Helicopter unit equipment: The Department's two helicopters have proven themselves to be a valuable asset in the control of vehicle pursuits, foot pursuits, at-risk missing person searches, felony crimes in progress, major incidents involving large crowds, etc. To further enhance the services provided by the helicopter unit, the Department recommends the purchase of the Forward Looking Infra-Red (FLIR) - a visible light camera system equipped with video down-linking capability and the purchase of a moving map display.

The FLIR will provide real time information as major incidents are occurring. Down-linking provides video images from the helicopter camera to be viewed from portable monitors on the grounds. This will enhance Police Commander's abilities to control the response of officers in pursuits and critical incidents.

The moving map display enables flight crews to locate addresses on the ground without diverting their attention from an incident in progress. This technology becomes invaluable during disasters such as floods, when flight crews may need to respond to locations where streets and signs may be submerged.

The total cost for the FLIR/visible light camera system equipped with video down-linking and the moving map display unit is approximately \$550,000.

Purchase of in car cameras: In May 1999, the Department began a pilot program and installed in-car camera systems in patrol vehicles. As a system, in-car cameras have acted as independent witnesses to events ranging from pedestrian and vehicular stops to pursuits. They reduce Internal Affairs investigations and officer time spent in court appearances, as well as aid in the accuracy of police reports and officer training. Although they were developed more than ten years ago, improved technology now allows in-car cameras to be more cost-efficient and user-friendly.

For 30 days, Police Department officers and staff evaluated the systems and provided written feedback which was reviewed and summarized. After evaluating the pilot program, the Department recommends the purchase of in-car cameras to outfit patrol vehicles.

Approximately \$300,000 from the COPS program would be used to purchase and install in-car cameras in patrol vehicles.

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Citizen's Option for Public Safety (COPS) funds  
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- Equestrian unit enhancement: In 1997, the Police Department established a full-time equestrian unit. The unit has proven to be very effective in crowd control, special events, parking lot patrol, and general enforcement. Approximately \$30,000 of the COPS funds would be used to purchase miscellaneous officer and veterinary supplies, feed, and equipment and provide on-going maintenance for the unit.

**FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS:**

The allocated funding available through the COPS program is estimated to be \$879,801. These funds will be allocated by the State and administered by the County of Sacramento. There is no cash match.

**ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS:**

This activity does not constitute a "project" and is therefore exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), CEQA Guidelines Sections 15061 and 15378.

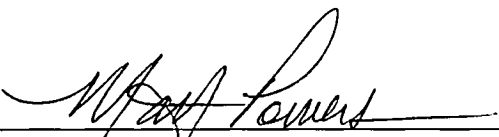
**POLICY CONSIDERATIONS:**

Acceptance of Citizen's Option for Public Safety (COPS) funds is consistent with past practices. This is the fourth year we will receive these funds.

**E/SBD CONSIDERATIONS:**

Materials and services will be procured in accordance with the City's E/SBD policy.

Respectfully submitted:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
ARTURO VENEGAS, JR.  
Chief of Police

RECOMMENDATION APPROVED:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
ROBERT P. THOMAS  
City Manager

AV:tdj  
REF: 9-20  
Attachment

APPROVED  
BY THE CITY COUNCIL

**RESOLUTION NO. 99-553**

SEP 28 1999

ADOPTED BY THE SACRAMENTO CITY COUNCIL

OFFICE OF THE  
CITY CLERK

ON DATE OF \_\_\_\_\_

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE USE OF FUNDING FROM CITIZEN'S OPTION FOR PUBLIC SAFETY (COPS) PROGRAM (ESTABLISHED THROUGH AB3229) TO ENHANCE LAW ENFORCEMENT SERVICES PROVIDED BY THE SACRAMENTO POLICE DEPARTMENT.

WHEREAS the City of Sacramento desires to obtain equipment to enhance services provided by the helicopter unit, provide in-car cameras for patrol cars, and maintain the equestrian unit from funding made available through the COPS program;

NOW THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SACRAMENTO THAT:

1. The City Manager of the City of Sacramento, or his designated representative, is authorized on behalf of the City Council which is the governing body of the City of Sacramento, to accept COPS program funds in the estimated amount of \$879,801;
2. The funds be approved for use in obtaining equipment for the helicopter unit, purchasing in-car cameras for patrol vehicles, and maintaining the equestrian unit;
3. The City of Sacramento's allocation of COPS funds will be deposited into a separate Supplemental Law Enforcement Services Fund.

\_\_\_\_\_  
MAYOR

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
CITY CLERK

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**FOR CITY CLERK USE ONLY**

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

DATE ADOPTED: \_\_\_\_\_