

**Council Meeting: March 1, 2011****SUBJECT: Continuation of Supplemental Law Enforcement Services Funding****REPORT IN BRIEF**

Since 1996, Council has approved Supplemental Law Enforcement Services (SLES) Funding to support front-line police services. SLES monies are appropriated annually by the State Legislature to Santa Clara County for distribution to local law enforcement agencies. The distribution mechanism is Citizens' Option for Public Safety (COPS) Grants. The distribution formula provides for a minimum \$100,000 for each law enforcement agency in the county. Additional monies are distributed based on population.

The SLES Funding Program's enabling legislation (1996 AB 3229) requires each municipal law enforcement agency to submit a formal request to its governing body so that SLES monies are formally appropriated.

For FY 2010/2011, the Chief of Public Safety has reviewed the Department of Public Safety's (DPS) outcomes and, as required by law, requests Council approve the continued application of SLES funding distributions to support a full-time Public Safety Officer in Police Field Operations for Traffic Education and Enforcement.

EXISTING POLICY

Policy 4.1A.5: Facilitate the safe movement of pedestrians, bicyclists, and vehicles.

Policy 4.1D.2: Provide effective and efficient management of Public Safety resources in order to meet the needs of: the community, the internal organization, and those mandated by regional, State, and Federal agencies.

DISCUSSION

In the prior two fiscal years, Santa Clara County's appropriation of SLES funding declined because of State budget reductions, which resulted in the City receiving only the minimum level of funding (\$100,000). In FY 2008/2009, the original distribution to Sunnyvale was estimated to be \$219,304; however, only \$100,000 was distributed. In FY 2009/2010, the original estimate was \$215,064; the actual distribution was \$100,000.

FISCAL IMPACT

The original SLES funding estimate for FY 2010/2011 of \$168,897 was based on estimates that assumed resolution of State budget issues. As noted previously, funding estimates are being revised and staff believes actual funding will be reduced to the minimum of \$100,000.

All SLES monies partially fund one Public Safety Officer position assigned to Police Field Operations for Traffic Education and Enforcement. Other financing sources include a Bureau of Justice Assistance Grant, and the General Fund. Grant revenues to pay for the position were approved as part of the Long Term Financial Plan for the Police Augmentation Fund, SLES Sub-fund.

During FY 2010/2011, this position will be fully funded by SLES monies, which differs from previous years when General Fund monies were required to fully fund the position. The FY 2010/2011 funding change is a one-time occurrence resulting from a balance carried forward from the previous fiscal year. The balance resulted from the position being open for a brief time between when the assigned officer was deployed on active duty military service and when another officer was reassigned to that position. Future funding for this position will return to historical levels and sources, including SLES monies, Bureau of Justice grants, and General Fund support. The FY 2010/2011 Adopted Budget states:

The FY 2010/2011 Budget again identifies the grant funds to defray a portion of the cost of a Public Safety Officer position in Traffic Enforcement. The remainder of the position is funded in the General Fund portion of the Department of Public Safety operating budget.

The Long-Term Financial Plan for the Police Services Augmentation Fund reflects revenue only for FY 2010/2011 because the grants are speculative in nature. If the grant funds are eliminated or reduced significantly, it is important to note that this Public Safety Officer position would be vulnerable to reduction. At that time, staff would review priorities within the department to ensure that all critical functions are funded with ongoing resources. (Volume I, page 63)

PUBLIC CONTACT

Public contact was made by posting the Council agenda on the City's official-notice bulletin board outside City Hall, at the Sunnyvale Senior Center, Community Center, and Department of Public Safety; and by making the agenda and report available at the Sunnyvale Public Library, the Office of the City Clerk, and on the City's Web site.

ALTERNATIVES

1. Appropriate the full amount available from SLES into the City's Supplemental Law Enforcement Sub-Fund to assist in funding one Public Safety Officer position in Police Field Operations.
2. Do not approve the appropriation.
3. Other action as directed by Council.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends Alternative 1: Appropriate the full amount available from SLES into the City's Supplemental Law Enforcement Sub-fund to assist in funding one Public Safety Officer position in Police Field Operations.

Reviewed by:

Don Johnson, Director, Public Safety
Prepared by: Ann Durkes, Manager

Reviewed by:

Grace Leung, Director of Finance

Approved by:

Gary M. Luebbbers
City Manager