

Agenda Report

To: City Council June 5 , 2000

From: City Manager

Subject: Recognition of Funds Received from CLETEP Grant, Approval of a Journal Voucher Appropriating Those Funds, and Approval for the Purchase of a Thermal Imaging Device

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the City Council:

1. Approve a journal voucher recognizing grant funds received from the California Law Enforcement Technology Equipment Purchase Program in the amount of \$200,000,
2. Approve a Journal Voucher appropriating \$200,000 to the Helicopter Section Account 402400 for the purchase of a Thermal Imaging Device and funding for the Los Angeles County Regional Crime Information System, and
3. Approve a Purchase Order in the amount of \$168,092.50 to the Office of Criminal Justice Planning, State of California Department of Justice, for the purchase of a FLIR Systems Mark III Dual Sensor Forward Looking Infrared System.

The proposed purchase order is exempt from competitive bidding pursuant to City Charter Section 1002(H), contracts with other governmental entities or their contractors for labor, material, supplies or services, as well as the Affirmative Action in Contracting Ordinance, pursuant to Section 4.09.060A3, Contracts with Other Governmental Entities.

BACKGROUND

On March 8, 2000, the City submitted an application to the Office of Criminal Justice Planning for a grant under the California Law Enforcement Technology Equipment Purchase Program (CLETEP). The purpose of the grant program is to enhance local law enforcement technology to address problems relating to crime suppression and crime prevention. The proposal requested funding for:

- The purchase of a new thermal imaging device for the Police Department Helicopter Section, and
- Funding for countywide purchases of computers, software, site servers, and data conversion for participation in the Los Angeles County Regional Crime Information System (LARCIS).

The City was successful in receiving a grant in the amount of \$200,000 for these proposals.

Thermal Imaging Device

The FLIR Systems Incorporated Mark III thermal imaging device allows the helicopter observer to see at night by heat radiated by people, cars, objects, etc. This current generation machine has greater sensitivity and resolution than the current equipment. It is also equipped with:

- Compact Airborne Automatic Tracking System (CAATS), which uses video tracking technology with automatic lock-on capability,
- Searchlight Automatic Slaving System (SLASS), a system that links the infrared camera with the spotlight, so that visual targets are automatically illuminated for the ground crews.

These two items (CAATS and SLASS) greatly increase the effectiveness of the device and reduce the operator workload. The suitable LCD screen and related equipment complete this package.

The primary tracking technology currently employed by the Police Department has become inadequate. Specifically, the current thermal imaging device is a 10-year old prototype that has a limited, and degrading, capability. This represents a problem because the current device requires increased downtime for maintenance. The downtime and cost of repairs represents a drain both on the Police Department budget and a limitation on the ability to track and locate criminals. The new technology thermal imaging device is more accurate, has greater sensitivity, better resolution, reduced maintenance, and is simpler to operate.

LARCIS

Forty-seven municipal Police Departments and the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department provide Law Enforcement Services in the Los Angeles County major metropolitan area. Each of these agencies collects a great deal of criminal justice data in the routine course of their business. Only a small fraction of this data is currently reported outside of the collecting agency. This data is used for Crime Analysis (i.e., analyzing and interpreting crime data for the most effective deployment of resources) and for information to solve particular criminal investigations. Criminal activity occurs without regard to jurisdictional boundaries. Without access to regional level data, law enforcement's ability to conduct meaningful Crime Analysis is compromised. This limited access to information compromises law enforcement's ability to fully investigate individual crimes, and represents a resource limitation.

The Los Angeles Regional Crime Information System (LARCIS) provides the platform to accomplish both issues to all law enforcement agencies in Los Angeles County. Specifically, LARCIS is a countywide system incorporating data storage facilities, crime analysis software, and on-site computer servers. In brief, LARCIS records all of the significant data fields contained in police reports and provides a comprehensive search capability on given fields or combinations of data fields in a centralized network. Transfer of \$20,000 of the CLETEP funds to LARCIS will support the City's share of a

Reimbursement of Funds Received from CLEETP Grant, Approval of a Journal Voucher Appropriating Those Funds, and Approval for the Purchase of a Thermal Imaging Device

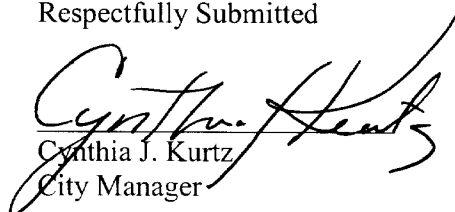
countywide purchase coordinated by the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department for regional crime analysis.

The remainder of the grant funds will be used to purchase video monitors and related hardware for the thermal imaging device.

FISCAL IMPACT

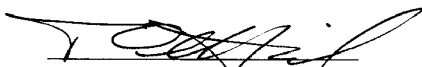
Approval of this recommendation will increase the fiscal year 2000 operating budget in the Police Department by \$200,000.

Respectfully Submitted



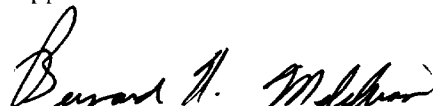
Cynthia J. Kurtz
City Manager

Prepared by:



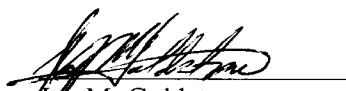
Tom Oldfield, Lieutenant
Helicopter Section

Approved:



Bernard K. Melekian
Chief of Police

Reviewed by:



Jay M. Goldstone
Director of Finance