



STAFF REPORT

Resolution of the City Council of the City of Belmont accepting \$100,000 from the State of California Citizens Option for Public Safety (COPS)

Honorable Mayor and Council Members:

Summary

Sections 30061, 30062, 30063 and 30064 of the California Government Code appropriated funds for the Citizens Option for Public Safety (COPS) Program for 2003-04 budget year. These funds are also known as Supplemental Law Enforcement Funding or SLESF. The share allocated to the City of Belmont is \$100,000. The Council is being requested to accept the \$100,000.

As in previous years, the funds received from the Citizens Option for Public Safety Program in fiscal year 2003-04 may only be utilized to supplement existing services and shall not be used to supplant any existing funding for law enforcement services provided by that entity. To comply with the program, each City Council is requested to act upon the written request from the Chief of Police. The request shall specify the front line law enforcement needs of the department, and those personnel, equipment, and programs that are necessary to meet those needs.

The City Council is required to hold a public hearing and consider whether the recommendation submitted by the Chief of Police complies with the requirements of Government Codes 30061, 30062, 30063, and 30064.

Background and Discussion

In fiscal year 1996-97, the first year of the Citizens Option for Public Safety Program, the City of Belmont received \$57,385, in 1997-98 the City of Belmont received \$57,959.76, in 1998-99 the City of Belmont received \$58,417.01. In May 1998, the Supplemental Oversight Committee of San Mateo County, a committee in charge of determining whether the cities have expended the monies in compliance with this program, approved utilizing the funds toward the matching fund portion of the Cops More 96 Grant. On July 14, 1998, the City Council passed Resolution #8294 approving the COPS More 96 Grant Award. The total received in the COPS More Grant was \$454,169 and the City of Belmont provided matching funds of \$151,390 made up from the three (3) years of Citizens Options Program (COPS) Funds. The Citizens Option for Public Safety

Program also provided enough funds in 1998-99 to purchase a vehicle specifically designed for parking enforcement.

The Citizens Option for Public Safety Program funding for 1999-00 approved a fourth Community Service Officer position to the existing three positions and additional funding for technology equipment for the purchase and installation of the mobile data system in the patrol vehicles and in 2000-01 continued the fourth Community Service Officer, increased Belmont Police staffing for one sworn police officer, paid for the overtime for both positions and purchased one police dog. In 2001-02 & 2002-03, the funding continued the fourth Community Service Officer and one sworn police officer.

Last year, Governor Davis supported continued funding for the Citizens Options for Public Safety Program if the Chiefs of Police committed to the hiring of additional officers. Negotiations with the Governor's Office and various State Legislators resulted in an approval for a minimum of \$100,000 for each police department. At that time, it was anticipated that funding would continue for five years. This year, 2003-04, would be the third of the five years to be funded; however, this will need to be approved each year by the legislature.

I recommend that the \$100,000 be allocated as follows:

- 1) Continue with the increased Belmont Police Staffing for one Sworn Police Officer for fiscal year 03-04.
- 2) Continue with the fourth Community Service Officer position for fiscal year 03-04.

The Police Department worked with Human Resources to develop a letter to provide the Community Service Officer that was hired as the fourth Community Service Officer and the Police Officer with important information detailing the funding of the position. This practice continues as both the Community Service Officer and Police Officer position are authorized from year to year depending on the funding and recommendation of the Police Chief. Normally the Department has a turnover rate every year where the employees hired under the Citizens for Public Safety Program will move up in seniority to permanent positions. This year, there is now currently one Police Officer vacancy and one Community Service Officer vacancy.

During 2002-03, both positions were funded by the Citizens for Public Safety Program. This year, 2003-04, it is anticipated that one full year of one Police Officer will be funded. The Community Service Officer position was vacated October 1, 2002, with the promotion of one of the Community Service Officers to Police Officer. We filled that position in July, 2003 with a contract CSO.

Fiscal Impact

City of Belmont share received for the Citizens Option for Public Safety Program is \$100,000.

Cost: One Sworn Police Officer (Basic/Step 1) for FY 03-04:	Salary	\$60,085
	Benefits	\$16,825
	Uniform	\$ 725
	TOTAL	\$77,635

Cost of One Community Service Officer (Step 1) for FY03-04:	Salary	\$39,192
	Benefits	\$ 6,663
	Uniform	\$ 625
	TOTAL	\$46,480

GRAND TOTAL: \$124,115

COPS FUNDS: \$100,000

Difference -\$ 24,115

A transfer from the General Fund will supplement funding for this program. Typically, there is sufficient salary savings from vacant positions or unused overtime in the General Fund to offset the difference between the Grant funds received and actual expenditures. Adequate funding was included in FY04 budget for this purpose.

Recommendation

It is the recommendation of the Chief of Police to direct \$100,000 from the Citizens Option for Public Safety Program 2003-2004 towards one sworn police officer position and the fourth full time Community Service Officer position.

Alternatives

1. Deny the acceptance of the COPS funding.
2. Suggest other ideas for Police Chief's consideration.

Attachments

1. Resolution

Respectfully submitted,

Donald J. Mattei, Captain
Acting Police Chief

Jere Kersnar
City Manager

RESOLUTION NO. _____

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BELMONT ACCEPTING \$100,000 FROM THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA CITIZENS OPTION FOR PUBLIC SAFETY (COPS) PROGRAM

WHEREAS, Government Code Sections 30061, 30062, 30063 and 30064, provided supplemental funds for front line municipal police services after the City adopted its 2003-04 budget; and

WHEREAS, it is proposed that the Chief of Police be given discretion to use these funds during the grant period for other purposes authorized by the grant in the event of a change in department priorities; and

WHEREAS, the required public hearing has been held.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Belmont hereby authorizes the expenditure of those funds in accordance with Government Code Sections 30061, 30062, 30063 and 30064 for one Police Officer and one Community Service Officer for FY 2003-04.

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was duly and regularly passed and adopted by the City Council of the City of Belmont at a regular meeting thereof held on January 13, 2004 by the following vote:

AYES, COUNCIL MEMBERS: _____

NOES, COUNCIL MEMBERS: _____

ABSTAIN, COUNCIL MEMBERS: _____

ABSENT, COUNCIL MEMBERS: _____

CLERK of the City of Belmont

APPROVED:

MAYOR of the City of Belmont