

## COMMUNICATION

**TO: LOS ANGELES CITY COUNCIL**

**File No. 11-0930**

**FROM: COUNCILMEMBER MITCHELL ENGLANDER, CHAIR  
COUNCILMEMBER DENNIS P. ZINE, MEMBER  
PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE**

COMMUNICATION FROM CHAIR and MEMBER, PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE relative to modifying the 2009 Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) Technology Program grant budget, and a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between the City and the County of Los Angeles for the City's use of the County's emergency mass notification system.

Recommendations for Council action, SUBJECT TO THE APPROVAL OF THE MAYOR:

1. AUTHORIZE the Chief of Police or designee to:
  - a. Accept the United States Department of Justice, Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) Office's approval of a budget modification of the 2009 COPS Technology Grant.
  - b. Execute the draft MOA between the City and the County of Los Angeles, for the period March 11, 2011, to March 10, 2012, for a sum not to exceed \$445,000, for the City's use of the County's mass notification system, subject to the approval of the City Attorney approval as to form and legality.
2. AUTHORIZE the Police Department to submit grant reimbursement requests to the grantor and deposit grant receipts in the Police Department Crime Bill/More Fund No. 650, Department 70.
3. AUTHORIZE the Controller to establish a grant receivable in Fund 650 in the amount of \$500,000 and establish an appropriation account, account number to be determined, within Fund 650, Department 70, for the receipt and disbursement of grant funds.
4. AUTHORIZE the Police Department to:
  - a. Spend up to the grant amount of \$500,000 in accordance with the grant award agreement.
  - b. Prepare Controller's instructions for any technical adjustments consistent with this action, subject to the approval of the City Administrative Officer (CAO); and, REQUEST that the Controller implement the instructions.

Fiscal Impact Statement: The CAO reports that this action will not impact the General Fund. Approval of the above recommendations will allow for the expenditure of the 2009 COPS Technology Program Grant award totaling \$500,000. This action complies with City financial policies in that grant funds are sufficient to support grant activities.

Community Impact Statement: None submitted.

Summary:

In a report to Council dated July 28, 2011 (attached to the Council file), the CAO states that the Police Department requests authority to modify the Fiscal Year 2009 COPS Technology grant award budget and to execute an MOA with the County for use of its mass notification system. The CAO states that the COPS grant was awarded specifically for the development of an emergency mass notification system. The COPS Office has approved the Police Department request to use grant funds to access the County's "Alert LA County" emergency notification system and to implement the City's Public Emergency Mass Notification System Community Education Program.

The CAO reports that \$445,000 in grant funds will be used to contract with the County for use of the system. The system is a web-based communication system designed to make mass telephone calls and/or send text messages and emails to City residents and businesses during emergencies, disasters, or as otherwise determined by the City. The City can use up 2 million minutes at \$0.16 per voice message for a total of \$320,000; and up to 2.5 million text message attempts at \$.05 each for a total of \$125,000. According to the CAO, the County will issue an invoice to the City which identifies usage of the system by the City. The City in turn will reimburse the County at the aforementioned rates.

Additional sums are set aside for public education (\$50,000) and a one-time system set-up fee (\$5,000). On May 31, 2011, the Board of Police Commissioners approved the Police Department's request. The CAO concurs with the Board's action.

At the Public Safety Committee meeting held July 25, 2011, Committee Chair and member discussed this matter with representatives of the CAO and the Emergency Management Department. It was stated that payments are made only after the system is used. The use of the County's mass notification system was found to be more economical than bringing such a system in-house. The Public Safety Committee members recommended that Council approve the above recommendations modifying the 2009 COPS Technology Program grant award and authorizing the Police Department to execute an MOA with the County for use of its mass notification system, as recommended by the Board of Police Commissioners and the CAO.

Respectfully submitted,

**- NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL COUNCIL ACTS -**

MITCHELL ENGLANDER, CHAIR  
PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

DENNIS P. ZINE, MEMBER  
PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

MEMBER	VOTE
ENGLANDER:	YES
CÁRDENAS:	ABSENT
PERRY:	ABSENT
REYES:	ABSENT
ZINE:	YES