

REPORT FROM

OFFICE OF THE CITY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

Date: November 20, 2013

CAO File No. 0130-02005-0001

Council File No. 13-0689

Council District: --

To: Public Safety Committee

From: Miguel A. Santana, City Administrative Officer



Reference: Transmittal from the Board of Police Commissioners dated June 4, 2013; additional information received through November 8, 2013

Subject: **2012 PORT SECURITY GRANT PROGRAM - POLICE DEPARTMENT**

SUMMARY

The Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD) is seeking retroactive approval to apply for and accept a \$784,119 grant award for the 2012 Port Security Grant (PSG) Program, and to execute a grant award agreement between the City and the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), for the period September 1, 2012 through August 31, 2014. Grant funds will allow the LAPD to purchase a microwave downlink system for Air Support Division (ASD) aircraft and LAPD vehicles; fixed receivers at the Port of Los Angeles; and upgraded antenna systems at Mount Lee. The grant award requires a 25 percent match, which will be satisfied using \$261,373 from a portion of the sale of two surplus military helicopters in 2008. As such, the combined total cost for the microwave downlink system project is \$1,045,492. Our office recommends approval of the grant.

The PSG Program provides financial assistance to state and local agencies, as well as private sector partners to support increased port-wide risk management; enhanced domain awareness; training and exercises; expansion of port recovery and resiliency capabilities; and further capabilities to prevent, detect, respond to, and recover from attacks involving improvised explosive devices and other non-conventional weapons.

ASD will use the microwave downlink system to transmit encrypted images from the Department's aircraft, which can then be received from several portable and vehicle-mounted receivers that are deployed as needed. The Department states that, after the upgrades at Mount Lee are completed, the system will be able to transmit these same images to the Department's Command Post in City Hall East on P-4, the Police Administration Building, and the Emergency Operations Center. The microwave downlink system will be used in concert with media quality high-definition camera systems and thermal imaging cameras to provide visual images as requested to enhance situational awareness at command posts during an unusual occurrence or major incident. The system will be interoperable and compatible with LAPD, the Port of Los Angeles, Los Angeles Fire Department,

Long Beach Police Department, Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, and the United States Coast Guard. The project will make the video downlink available to each of these entities through the use of stationery and mobile receivers.

LAPD states that the visual and thermal images, from an airborne perspective, give ASD the unique ability to patrol very large areas of the City that are difficult and time consuming to inspect using other means. Patrols can be completed by flying at low altitude for high visibility to create a deterrent or from a high altitude wherein the Department can complete the same assessment while remaining covert.

Although the Department's grant proposal indicated the LAPD intended to request authority to enter into a sole source contract with Helinet Technologies (Helinet) for \$79,600, the LAPD has subsequently informed this Office that they will release a Request for Bids for this project. As such, the Department states that they will not be entering into a sole source agreement with Helinet as part of the 2012 Port Security Grant Program.

As noted above, the grant award requires a 25 percent match. The LAPD will satisfy this grant requirement by using \$261,373 from a portion of the sale of two surplus Bell UH-1H military helicopters from the United States Department of Defense that were donated to the LAPD's fleet as part of the Surplus Military Acquisition Program in the late 1990s (C.F. 96-2087). In December 2008, \$340,000 was deposited into the Police Department Trust Fund (Fund 885) after the helicopters were sold at auction. The Department will use a portion of these funds (\$261,373) for the required match. As such, we are recommending appropriating these funds from the Police Department Trust Fund to the Department's Grant Trust Fund in order to purchase the microwave downlink system funded by the PSG.

Further details on the grant and the microwave downlink system are provided in the correspondence from the Board of Police Commissioners dated June 4, 2013.

RECOMMENDATIONS

That the City Council, subject to the approval of the Mayor:

1. Authorize the Chief of Police, or his designee, to retroactively apply for and accept the 2012 Port Security Grant Program award in the amount of \$784,119 from the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), for the period of September 1, 2012 through August 31, 2014;
2. Authorize the Chief of Police, or his designee, to negotiate and execute the Cooperation Agreement (Agreement) on behalf of the City and submit all necessary documents relative to the grant award and to negotiate, execute and submit any other necessary agreements and documents relative to the grant, subject to City Attorney approval as to form and legality;
3. Authorize the Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD) to submit grant reimbursement

requests to the grantor and deposit grant receipts in the Police Department Grant Trust Fund No. 339, Department 70;

4. Authorize the LAPD to spend up to the grant amount of \$1,045,492 in accordance with the grant award agreement;
5. Authorize the Controller to:
 - a. Establish a grant receivable in Fund 339 in the amount of \$784,119 and establish an appropriation account, account number to be determined, within Fund 339, Department 70, for the receipt and disbursement of grant funds;
 - b. Appropriate \$261,373 from receipts from the 2008 disposal of surplus helicopters within Fund 885, Department 70, and transfer therefrom to Fund 339, Department 70, appropriation account to be determined, for the 25 percent matching fund requirement for the 2012 Port Security Grant Program; and
6. Authorize the LAPD to prepare Controller instructions for any technical adjustments, subject to the approval of the City Administrative Officer, and authorize the Controller to implement the instructions.

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

Approval of the recommendations within this report will allow for the expenditure of the 2012 Port Security Grant (PSG) Program award totaling \$784,119 from the Department of Homeland Security. There is no impact to the General Fund as a result of these actions. The PSG requires a 25 percent match, which will be satisfied using \$261,373 from a portion of the sale of two surplus helicopters in 2008. The funding for the match is available from the Police Department Trust Fund. These actions are in compliance with the City's Financial Policies in that grant funds and special designated funds are sufficient to support the grant activities.