

 <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Council Communication</b> Office of the City Manager</p>	<b>Date:</b>	May 20, 2013
	<b>Agenda Item No.</b>	<b>35</b>
	<b>Roll Call No.</b>	<b><u>13-805</u></b>
	<b>Communication No.</b>	<b><u>13-242</u></b>
	<b>Submitted by:</b>	<b>Judy A. Bradshaw, Chief of Police</b>

**AGENDA HEADING:**

The Police Department requests Council approval of an application for funding through the Fiscal Year (FY) 2013 Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) Hiring Grant Program.

**SYNOPSIS:**

The Police Department recommends the approval of a grant application to be submitted for the FY2013 COPS Hiring Grant Program requesting funds to support nine (9) newly hired full time law enforcement officers. This grant program carries a new stipulation of mandatory application each year to be eligible to apply for future funding opportunities. Grant awards are expected to be announced this fall at which time the City will better understand our budgetary capacity to fund the match requirement. If a grant award is offered, the City will need to maintain the ability to make future adjustments to authorized strength levels if budgetary challenges persist.

The City of Des Moines accepted the 2009 COPS Hiring grant which will expire in September 2014. No funding has been committed beyond September of 2014 to support the nine (9) positions created in 2009 and as such authorized strength is scheduled to be reduced at that time. Officers would retain employment through attrition. This current grant opportunity may forgo the need to reduce positions.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

This COPS grant program will pay for up to \$41,667 per year per officer for three (3) years with the stipulation that the City pay for the entire cost of the fourth year. Currently, the total annual cost for a new officer is approximately \$90,000.

- Total cost of nine (9) new officers for four (4) years \$3,734,610
- Maximum grant funding \$375,000 annually for three (3) years \$1,125,000
- Minimum City contribution including fourth year \$2,609,609

Amount: \$1,125,000 COPS Hiring Grant Program  
\$2,609,609 City General Fund

Funding Source: The COPS Hiring Grant Program and City funding to be determined during budget process this fall.

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:**

The Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (the COPS Office) is the office of the U.S. Department of Justice that advances the practice of community policing in national law enforcement agencies through sharing information and providing grant opportunities. The community policing philosophy promotes organizational strategies that support the systematic use of partnerships and problem-solving techniques to proactively address the immediate conditions that give rise to public safety issues such as crime, social disorder, and fear of crime.

The City of Des Moines accepted the 2009 COPS Hiring Grant and was able to hire nine (9) new officers. This grant will expire in September of 2014 with no funding source having been identified to permanently support these nine (9) positions. It is the desire of the Police Department to utilize this new grant opportunity to maintain current authorized strength. The nine (9) officers requested in the 2013 COPS Hiring grant application will be scheduled for hire in FY15 allowing the police department to maintain important specialized sections such as the Neighborhood-Based Service Delivery (NBSD) and the Traffic Unit as part of the existing Community Oriented Policing Initiative.

**PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION(S):**

Date: May 23, 2011

Roll Call Number: [11-0902](#)

Action: [Application](#) to Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) for a COPS Hiring Program (CHP) grant for six (6) police officers to support community policing efforts, \$1,826,370. ([Council Communication No. 11-312](#)) Moved by Hensley to approve. Motion Carried 7-0.

Date: September 28, 2009

Roll Call Number: [09-1813](#)

Action: [COPS](#) Hiring Recovery Program (CHRP) grant from the office of Community Orientated Policy services \$2,191,806. ([Council Communication No. 09-677](#)) Moved by Hensley to adopt. Motion Carried 7-0.

Date: April 6, 2009

Roll Call Number: [09-592](#)

Action: [COPS](#) Hiring Recovery Program (CHRP) Grant Application from the Office of Community Oriented Policing Services in the amount of \$2,329,884 from October 1, 2009 through September 12, 2012 for hiring of nine (9) police officers to support our community policing efforts. ([Council Communication No. 09-210](#)) Moved by Kiernan to approve. Motion Carried 7-0.

**BOARD/COMMISSION ACTION(S): NONE**

**ANTICIPATED ACTIONS AND FUTURE COMMITMENTS:**

Should the application receive approval and funding is awarded, Council would be required to approve acceptance or refusal of the funding.

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