

LRB-FISCAL REVIEW SECTION ANALYSIS

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

ITEM 19, FILE # 041722

APRIL 21, 2005

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File # 041722 is a resolution authorizing the acceptance and expenditure of contributions received by the Milwaukee Police Department from federally forfeited tangible property of cash for increased or enhanced law enforcement efforts.

Background

1. Federal Asset Forfeiture Funds come to the Police Department as a result of department participation in the seizure or forfeiture of tangible property or cash from successful drug trafficking investigations. *The federal government requires the funds only be used for increased or enhanced law enforcement efforts; funds may not be used to supplant existing budgetary efforts.*
2. Common Council File # 920252 requires the Police Department to present an annual Asset Forfeiture Expenditure Plan to the Common Council. The purpose of the plan is to ensure funding decisions provide for the most cost-effective use of these funds. Forfeiture Funds provide a significant level of “discretionary” spending power to the Police Department. A separate resolution is required for the expenditure of Asset Forfeiture funds. Once allocated, the Department can use funds for any approved purpose for a period of up to three years, after which unspent funds revert to the Asset Forfeiture Trust Account and become eligible for re-allocation.

Discussion

1. This resolution will authorize the funding of various items requested by the Milwaukee Police Department. MPD has submitted these items based on needs and priorities within the department.

2. MPD requests that the following items and programs be funded:

- **Canine Unit** **10,000**
Funds will be used to send one detective to attend the U.S. Customs trainer course in order to certify the narcotics detection dogs. MPD will not have to pay a certified trainer for the canines’ annual certification but will be able to provide this in-house.
- **Pole Camera Upgrade** **14,000**
Funds will be used to install a transmitter and receiver for the existing unit
- **Pepper Ball** **15,000**

MPD will purchase 25 pepper ball units. This determination for equipment purchase and deployment is based upon the 2003 pilot project for use of this technology

- **Light Meters** **5,000**
These funds will be used to test window vehicle tint in order to assure compliance with state statutes related to window tint
 - **Employee Assistance *** **100,000**
These funds will be used *as a portion of the total funding* required to purchase the proposed early intervention software for use by MPD. This software will be used to track the performance of MPD personnel and identify possible and potential problem behavior
- Total** **\$** **144,000**

* The estimate for the performance tracking software is approximately \$500,000. The amount appropriated in this resolution will be supplemented by \$225,000 from the Harassment Settlement Account and the balance, approximately \$175,000, to come from the Department of Administration's Technology Initiative capital account.

Fiscal Effect

1. The total amount of this resolution is \$144,000, to be expended entirely from the 2005 MPD Asset Forfeiture Fund. No city operating funds are included in this request total.
2. Upon approval of these items, the Asset Forfeiture Trust Account will have a balance of \$155,000.

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LRB-Fiscal Review Section
April 20, 2005

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