

LRB – RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS SECTION

**PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE
#110333**

JULY 14, 2011

ITEM 8, FILE

File Number 110333 is a resolution authorizing the Milwaukee Police Department to transfer \$1,953,500 from the Federal Forfeiture Trust Fund and to expend these monies on items listed in the resolution.

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. Common Council File Number 920252 requires the Police Department to present an annual Asset Forfeiture Plan with spending priorities to the Common Council. The 2011 Asset Forfeiture Plan was provided in Communication File Number 100985.
2. Because forfeiture funds provide a significant level of “discretionary” spending power to the Police Department, a separate resolution is required for the release of these monies, which are held in a trust fund. Once allocated, the Police Department can use funds for any approved purpose for a period of up to 3 years, after which unspent funds revert to the Federal Forfeiture Trust Fund and become eligible for re-allocation.

DISCUSSION

1. The resolution in File Number 110333 includes several significant changes to the 2011 Asset Forfeiture Plan reflected in the table below. These include an increase of \$307,000 in planned expenditures for digital radio communications equipment and 2 new planned expenditures:
 - \$374,000 for District Station and Police Administration Building improvements.
 - \$15,000 for training equipment.
2. The current Asset Forfeiture account balance is \$1,962,000 with additional wire transfer deposits in the Federally Forfeited Property Fund 0678 anticipated in the near future.
3. The table on page 2 provides a comparison of the itemized amounts initially described in Communication File Number 100985 and the amounts now requested for transfer and expenditure authority.

Table: Asset Forfeiture Plan and Request Comparison

<u>2011 Asset Forfeiture Plan</u>	<u>Expenditure Authority Requested</u>
Administrative Fees \$10,000 These fees and costs are required to be paid to permit continued participation in the Federal Asset Forfeiture Program	No Change
Bicycle Patrol \$10,000 Covers costs of replacement equipment	No Change
Canine Unit \$5,000 Covers food, medical care and boarding for 3 drug-interdiction canines	No Change
Cellular Phones \$25,000 Supports payment of costs of field officer phones	No Change
Digital Radio Communications Equipment \$800,000 Includes costs for portable (hand-held) radios and mobile (vehicle console) radios, system infrastructure facilities and equipment	Change \$1,107,000 (+ \$307,000) Increase will contribute to total acquisition of 240 portable and 50 mobile radios
[District Station and Police Administration Building (PAB) Improvements] No Amount in Plan	Change – New Item \$374,000 Includes security enhancements and paving projects
In-Car Video Cameras \$150,000	Change – No Amount Requested
Technology Services \$150,000 Cover additional costs of technology equipment and technical needs	Change \$181,500 (+ \$31,500) Information Technology Equipment & Services
Tactical Equipment \$120,000 Supports costs of supplies and equipment related to high-risk operations including service of warrants, barricade and hostage situations	Change \$110,000 (- \$10,000)
Training \$100,000 Supports officer effectiveness and preparation for new assignments	Change \$116,000 (+ \$16,000)
[Training Equipment] No amount in Plan	Change – New Item \$15,000 Covers the cost of training pistols, training rifles and protective gear used in training

FISCAL IMPACT

1. Expenditures authorized by this resolution total up to \$1,953,500 from the Police Department's Federal Forfeiture Trust Fund.
2. No City operating funds are included in this expenditure request, and this resolution has no impact on the tax levy.

cc: W. Martin Morics
Mark Nicolini
Joel Plant
John Ledvina
Jim Carroll
Jeff Osterman

Prepared by:
Richard L. Withers
Legislative Fiscal Analyst
286-8532
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