



Agenda Item # _____

Staff Report

City of Manhattan Beach

TO: Honorable Mayor Ward and Members of the City Council

THROUGH: Geoff Dolan, City Manager

FROM: Rod Uyeda, Chief of Police
Bruce Moe, Finance Director
Randolph Leaf, Police Captain
John Dye, Police Lieutenant
Robert Cochran, Police Sergeant

DATE: June 6, 2006

SUBJECT: Consideration of a Resolution Accepting Two State Grants Under the "Citizen's Option for Public Safety," State Law Enforcement Supplemental (SLES) Grant Program (\$207,534.42) and Award Contract to L3 Communications/Mobile-Vision Inc. for Expenditures of these Funds and Accrued Interest, for Mobile Digital Video Systems

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that the City Council: a) conduct a public hearing relating to the acceptance and proposed expenditures of Citizen's Option for Public Safety (COPS)/State Law Enforcement Supplemental Grant Funds, b) adopt Resolution No. 6032 to accept and appropriate funds from State Law Enforcement Supplemental (SLES) Grant Funds; c) appropriate \$207,534.42 from the Federal and State Grants Fund; d) waive formal bidding per Municipal Code Section 2.36.140 (Waivers); and e) award a purchase order to L3 Communications/Mobile-Vision Inc. in an amount of \$207,534.42.

FISCAL IMPLICATION:

The total cost of this system is \$207,534.42 which includes the trade in of our current equipment. This is not a budgeted item in FY 2005-2006; however, funds are available for this purchase through SLES Grant Funds. The City receives grant funds through the Citizen's Option for Public Safety/State Law Enforcement Supplemental Grant Program. During FY 2004-2005 and 2005-2006, the City received a total of \$200,000. That amount along with the accrued interest (\$7,534.42) will be fully expended for this purchase. These funds are used to support front-line law enforcement and the purchase of digital video camera systems is a permissible use of these funds.

BACKGROUND:

During the 1997 legislative sessions, the State government adopted legislation to provide block grants for law enforcement purposes. The process adopted by the legislation requires a public hearing to consider the expenditure of the funds and to ensure the opportunity for public input. All

funds received under this grant must be spent to supplement local front line law enforcement activities and cannot be used to supplant funding for such activities.

In 1999 the Manhattan Beach Police Department installed mobile video systems in all of our patrol vehicles. The systems are analog and capture the video onto a VHS tape. Due to the possibility of civil litigation, the tapes must be stored for a period of two years. The tapes must be removed from the patrol vehicle, logged in, and stored in a secure evidence storage area. The current system operates out of the trunk of the vehicle where it is exposed to heat, cold, dirt, and vibrations on a daily basis, sometimes 24 hour a day. Our analog system is six years old, and the costs of repairs are rising, while video quality is declining.

During the past six years, there have been great technological advances in the area of “in car” digital video. This format not only provides a picture with much greater resolution than the VHS format, it provides ease of storage and retrieval. This along with the rising costs of repairs to the current mobile vision system have prompted the Police Department to look into alternative methods of capturing, storing, and managing “in car” video footage.

DISCUSSION:

A committee comprised of representatives from Manhattan Beach, Gardena, Hawthorne, and Hermosa Beach Police Departments, as well as South Bay Regional Public Communications Authority (SBRPCA) and Manhattan Beach Information Systems Division, evaluated various digital mobile video systems. The evaluation process included visiting other departments that currently have digital systems, viewing live demonstrations, and field testing demonstration units from the different vendors.

Initially the committee looked at over 15 different systems, selecting the top four to field test. The systems all have virtually the same capability, costs, and features on the in car systems. However, the Mobile-Vision system stood out due to its ease of operation, efficient video storage and retrieval system that can be used to manage other video sources such as jail video, digital photographs, and digital audio, as well the reputation of the company to stand behind its product. During our evaluation period, we learned that the product offered by Mobile-Vision is the most widely deployed system with law enforcement throughout the United States. Based upon our evaluation and testing, the committee determined that the digital video recorder system made by Mobile-Vision, Inc. is the most viable product to meet the needs of the SBPRCA member cities.

Competitive bidding on this system is not possible since Mobile-Vision Inc. is the manufacturer and direct supplier. However, in order to ensure that we are receiving competitive pricing, staff reviewed recently awarded purchase orders from other municipalities. After review, it is evident that the pricing given to the SBRPCA agencies is consistently lower, in some cases by as much as \$400 per unit. The prices quoted reflect a volume discount since the cities of Hermosa Beach and Gardena are going to purchase the product as well. The product comes with a one year warranty and SBPRCA will have back-up units on hand to lessen down time if repairs are necessary.

Agenda Item #: _____

Based on this information, staff recommends that Council waive formal bidding per Municipal Code Section 2.36.140 (waivers) and award a purchase order to L-3 Communications/Mobile-Vision, Inc. If awarded an order, the system will be rolled out in phases within the next three to five months and mounted on all 22 patrol vehicles, four motorcycles, and four Parking & Animal Control vehicles.

RESOLUTION NO. 6032

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MANHATTAN BEACH, CALIFORNIA, DECLARING ITS INTENT TO ACCEPT A STATE GRANT UNDER THE CITIZEN'S OPTION FOR PUBLIC SAFETY AND THE STATE LAW ENFORCEMENT SUPPLEMENTAL GRANT PROGRAM FOR FISCAL YEARS 2004 AND 2005 AND AUTHORIZE THE EXPENDITURE OF THESE GRANT FUNDS FOR A MOBILE DIGITAL VIDEO RECORDING SYSTEM

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Manhattan Beach, California, has been notified of its eligibility to receive block grant funds provided through the Citizens Option for Public Safety and the State Law Enforcement Supplemental Grant Program; and

WHEREAS, the procedural requirements for acceptance of funds under this program requires that City Council conduct a public hearing and receive public comment regarding the anticipated areas of expenditure for such funds; and

WHEREAS, City Staff has determined that the highest priority for the use of these funds exists in the area of a mobile digital video recording system; and

WHEREAS, the City Council concurs with the recommended expenditures as identified by City Staff.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MANHATTAN BEACH, CALIFORNIA, DOES HEREBY RESOLVE, DECLARE, FIND, DETERMINE AND ORDER AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. The expenditure of grant funds as recommended by City Staff is consistent with the intent of the grant requirements and will enhance the delivery of police services within the City of Manhattan Beach.

SECTION 2. The City Manager and Chief of Police are hereby authorized to execute the necessary documents to accept the grant award and authorize expenditures pertinent thereto.

SECTION 3. The City Clerk shall make this resolution available for public inspection within thirty (30) days of the date this Resolution is adopted.

SECTION 4. The City Clerk shall certify to the adoption of this Resolution and thenceforth and thereafter the same shall be in full force and effect.

PASSED, APPROVED and ADOPTED this 6th day of June, 2006.

Ayes:
Noes:
Absent:
Abstain:

Mayor, City of Manhattan Beach, California

ATTEST:

City Clerk