





City of Carson Report to Mayor and City Council

September 6, 2011
New Business Consent

SUBJECT: CONSIDER APPROVING AN APPROPRIATION TO THE SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT CONTRACT TO INCREASE THE PARK ENFORCEMENT TEAM'S PRESENCE


Submitted by Raymond R. Cruz
Public Services General Manager


Approved by Clifford W. Graves
Interim City Manager

I. SUMMARY

Due to recent shootings at Hemingway Park and Calas Park, the City Council wished to quickly increase the Sheriff's Department's presence at the parks in an effort to deter any further incidents. At the August 2, 2011 City Council meeting, Council approved Acting Captain Rivero's recommendation to immediately augment the Park Enforcement Team to provide immediate visibility and protection to park patrons and staff. Tonight, the City Council is asked to appropriate \$100,000.00 from the Administrative Tow Fee Fund to the Sheriff's Department Contract to fund these additional deputies.

II. RECOMMENDATION

APPROPRIATE \$100,000.00 from the Administrative Tow Fee Fund to account no. 62-90-900-139-6005 to augment the Sheriff's Department's Park Enforcement Team.

III. ALTERNATIVES

TAKE another action the City Council deems appropriate.

IV. BACKGROUND

On July 22, 2011, a park patron was shot while visiting Hemingway Park. Later that month, on July 31, 2011, three park patrons were shot while at Calas Park. Fortunately, the victims' injuries were not life threatening, but the community's sense of safety was severely compromised by these senseless acts of violence. During the August 2, 2011, City Council meeting, Acting Captain Rivero recommended augmenting the Park Enforcement Team in order to increase deputies' presence at the parks and act as deterrent for any further incidents. On August 7, 2011, the recommendation was implemented and has had an immediate impact on park and community safety.

Augmenting the Park Enforcement Team will require increasing the Sheriff's Department's contract by \$100,000.00. Staff originally wanted to delay the official appropriation of these funds as they wanted to pursue potential funding

sources that would not impact the General Fund balance. After much consideration, staff is now recommending that these funds be allocated from the Administrative Tow Fee Fund as the fund balance can accommodate this appropriation. More importantly, the Administrative Tow Fee Fund was established by the City Council to fund short-term emergency public safety-related items, such as this emergency augmentation to the Park Enforcement Team. It should be noted that this report purposely does not indicate the number of Sheriff's personnel that was added, nor the time period this augmentation will cover, as the Sheriff's Department does not want the criminal community to know its exact deployment at any specific period of time.

Sometime in the future, most likely during the budget preparation process, the Sheriff's Department and the City's Public Safety Department will present to the City Council a long-term solution to improve park safety.

V. FISCAL IMPACT

Funds for this item were not included in the adopted FY 2011/12 budget; therefore, if this item is approved, the Administrative Tow Fee Fund budget will need to be increased by \$100,000.00. Funds should be appropriated from the unreserved, undesignated Administrative Tow Fee Fund balance to account no. 62-90-900-139-6005.

VI. EXHIBITS

None.

Prepared by: Raymond R. Cruz—Public Services General Manager

TO:Rev010511

Reviewed by:

City Clerk	<u>City Treasurer</u>
<u>Administrative Services</u>	<u>Development Services</u>
<i>Jacquelyn Acosta</i> <u>Economic/Development Services</u>	<u>Public Services</u>

Action taken by City Council

Date _____ Action _____