

DATE ISSUED: March 9, 2005

REPORT NO. 05-066

ATTENTION: Public Safety and Neighborhood Services Committee
Agenda of March 16, 2005

SUBJECT: Police Department Grant Process Report

SUMMARY

THIS IS AN INFORMATION ITEM ONLY. NO ACTION IS REQUIRED ON THE PART OF THE COMMITTEE OR THE CITY COUNCIL.

BACKGROUND

This report is a follow-up from the January 12, 2005, PS&NS Committee meeting concerning the San Diego Police Department 2005 Forecast Report (CMR 05-008).

The San Diego Police Department has enjoyed a high level of success in obtaining State and Federal grants for various purposes. This report provides information about the types of grants the Department seeks out, how they identify and determine which grants to seek, if there is collaboration with community organizations, and whether they apply for grants to address gang-related issues.

DISCUSSION

- 1) What types of grants are currently available?

Based on legislation, State and Federal agencies determine the types of programs for which grant funds will be available from year to year. There is usually a wide range of potential programs; however, priorities do change. For example, during the past two decades, priorities have generally evolved chronologically from street-level drug enforcement; to community policing and problem solving; to protection of children, elders and intimate partners; to technology. Most recently, the priority for grant funding

is homeland security, terrorism prevention, and disaster preparedness. Examples of other types of grant programs presently in operation within the Department are:

- Technology grants, which fund the Department’s Automated Field Reporting and Criminal Records Management Systems, and interagency communications interoperability.
- Innovative Program grants, including:
 - The Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force (ICAC) grant provides funds for the detection, arrest and prosecution of child predators who employ the Internet in their crimes.
 - The Homeless Outreach Team (HOT) grant partners SDPD officers with the San Diego Psychiatric Emergency Response Team (PERT) to proactively contact and assess homeless persons, and provide support and encouragement to them in accessing needed services.
 - The Financial Crime-Free Communities grant funds resources to support investigations and prosecutions targeting money laundering operations and the “predicate” crimes that generate them (such as narcotic manufacturing and white collar crime).
- The Refugee Resettlement grant supports collaboration among social service agencies to assist refugees with employment, housing, education, language, family services and acculturation.
- California Office of Traffic Safety grants primarily fund staff overtime and expenses for youth safe driving education; DUI and speed enforcement operations (including aerial surveillance); seatbelt and child safety seat education and enforcement.
- Alcoholic Beverage Control grants support partnerships between SDPD, UCSD and SDSU in operations to reduce/prevent minors’ access to alcohol.
- Crime Lab grants provide funding for advanced equipment and education, especially focusing on DNA analysis and identification, and resolving “Cold Case” homicides and sex crimes.
- State and Federal block grants assist in purchasing vehicles, overtime, equipment and supplies.

Grant availability is in a period of uncertainty with the newly proposed federal budget. It is anticipated that SDPD will no longer receive many of the large hiring, technology and block grants upon which we have relied for the past decade. Additionally, local grants for homeland security are likely to receive reduced funding. The other noticeable trend in this administration is that few grants are given directly to cities; rather, federal funds

are routed through state agencies and then through counties, giving those agencies a strong voice in how grant funding will be distributed to local agencies.

2) How does SDPD determine which grants to seek?

The Department actively seeks grant funding and has staff assigned to identify and apply for all possible grants. The assigned Grants Analyst constantly reviews all grant announcements posted by numerous agencies on their Web sites, as well as in mailings and through personal contacts. All potential grants that have relevance to the Department's goals are carefully reviewed with the following considerations:

- Is the City of San Diego and/or the San Diego Police Department eligible to apply?
- Does the grant provide sufficient resources to achieve the desired goals and objectives?
- Does the grant require matching funds or resources that will excessively burden the City/Department?
- Will the grant require on-going commitments after funding has ended, and if so, will the Department be able to meet these commitments?
- Are the grant requirements and commitments realistic and achievable by SDPD?
- Is the grant program compatible with the City and Department's mission and priorities?

After these preliminary determinations, the Grants Analyst prepares a detailed document for the Department's Executive Committee so that the members can make the decision whether to apply for the grant, and on actual design of the program that will be submitted. For example, a specific grant solicitation may require the applicant to develop a program to prevent youth access to alcohol. However, this might be achieved through a school/community educational plan; a parental awareness campaign; enforcement targeting youth who purchase alcohol or adults who assist them; training and enforcement of merchants who sell alcohol to minors; or any combination of strategies.

3) Does SDPD collaborate with Community Based Organizations (CBOs) on identifying grant needs, and if so, which ones?

SDPD is very proactive in seeking community grant collaborations to identify, apply for, and operate grant programs whenever possible. Presently we are in grant-funded collaborations with the Psychiatric Emergency Response Team (PERT), Union of Pan-Asian Communities (UPAC), Somali Family Services, Pacific Safety Council and the Horn of Africa.

We have participated in collaborative grant programs with numerous other agencies, including the San Diego Organizing Project, San Diego County Safety Council, Buckle-Up San Diego, Greater San Diego Citizens' Patrol, San Diego Domestic Violence Council, San Diego Battered Women's Services, San Diego Chapter of the Anti-Defamation League, Social Advocates for Youth, San Diego Mediation and Restitution Services, Partners in Prevention, Education and Rehabilitation, the YWCA, San Diego

County Law Enforcement Foundation, The Palavra Tree, San Diego Hospitality Council, Victim-Offender Restitution, Wakeland Housing and Development Corporation, the Children's Initiative, and the La Jolla Playhouse.

The Department also has, or has had, collaborative grant programs with San Diego State University, the University of California San Diego, California State University - San Marcos, and the University of San Diego; SANDAG; the San Diego County Sheriff, District Attorney and Courts; the San Diego Port Authority; San Diego and Southbay School Districts; San Diego Housing Commission; most of the cities within the County; the California Highway Patrol; the FBI and the U.S. Treasury Department.

4) Does the SDPD submit grants to address gang-related issues?

The Department submits applications to address gang-related issues whenever possible. There are presently very few grants available for funding anti-gang operations. However, gang intervention and suppression remains a very high priority within the Department, and other grant programs that improve staffing, equipment, training and automation assist in combating gang problems are actively pursued when available.

Respectfully submitted,

Approved by,

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City Manager

[EWELL/ LANSDOWNE/DJW]