

**SAN ANSELMO POLICE DEPARTMENT
STAFF REPORT**

For the Meeting of October 14, 2003

To: San Anselmo Town Council

From: Charles L. Maynard, Chief of Police

Subject: Use of COPS Funds

Date: October 1, 2003

RECOMMENDATION

That Council approve the attached resolution authorizing the use of Citizens Option for Public Safety (COPS) funds for maintaining the Police Traffic Officer and Police Dispatcher positions currently funded under the COPS Program. Additionally, the COPS program provides partial funding for the Lead Police Dispatcher position.

BACKGROUND

In May 1998 a request was made to Council to increase the Police Department staff by two (2) sworn positions. Department staff demonstrated the need and justification for these two positions and Council acknowledged that need. At that time Council authorized the addition of one (1) sworn police officer and cited fiscal constraints for the denial of the second position. Since that time the State of California has substantially increased the amount of funding to the COPS program. This increase in funding has since allowed and will continue to allow for the continuation of the enhanced traffic program including the additional Traffic Officer originally hired with COPS funds.

In past years the State of California has provided (COPS) funds to be available to local law enforcement agencies to be used for first line law enforcement. Funds from this program can be used to fund both sworn and non-sworn positions, purchase and maintain equipment and fund technology programs as long as these expenditures can be shown to assist front line law enforcement. The Town of San Anselmo has been the recipient of these funds for the past several years, and will be receiving funds for FY 2003-04 in the amount of \$100,000.

In FY 2001-02 the department received \$100,000 in COPS funding. These funds were earmarked for an additional Police Traffic Officer position. Funds rolling over from the previous year continue to fund a dispatch position as well as partial funding for the Lead Dispatcher position. As explained in a previous staff reports, any funding shortfall in the funding of the Traffic Officer's position will be more than made up through the increase in revenue to the Town generated by this very same position.

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Senate Bill 736, authored by Senator Charles Poochigian was signed into law making COPS funding a permanent part of the State budget. The Governor signed this legislation to ensure that additional law enforcement employees hired with COPS funds continue to be employed by local police departments. This legislation lifted the sunset clause on the COPS Program and will ensure funding in future years by making this program a permanent part of the State budget.

CONCLUSION

Continuation of the funding of the Police Traffic Officer, Police Dispatcher and the Lead Dispatcher positions will allow the department to continue its comprehensive traffic safety and enforcement programs and to better serve the residents and visitors of our community. These programs will be funded through a combination of COPS funding and increased traffic fine revenue.



CHARLES L. MAYNARD
Chief of Police

**TOWN OF SAN ANSELMO
STAFF REPORT**

LEGAL REVIEW

Town Council meeting date:	October 7, 2003
Subject of Staff Report:	COPS resolution
Prepared by:	Debra Stutsman
Phone:	258-4652
Fax:	459-2477
Date sent:	10/7/03

Reviewed by Town Attorney: *Hadden Rock*
Date: *10.8.03*

RESOLUTION NO. _____

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF SAN ANSELMO
APPROVING THE USE OF FUNDS DISTRIBUTED PURSUANT TO CALIFORNIA
GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 30061 ET AL.

WHEREAS, Assembly Bill 3229 provided for the Citizens Option for Public Safety (COPS) funds to local law enforcement agencies; and

WHEREAS, the Governor signed Senate Bill 736, that extends the COPS program indefinitely and provides local government law enforcement jurisdictions with annual baseline funding in the amount of \$100,000, for frontline law enforcement personnel and other related equipment, and

WHEREAS the Chief of Police has prepared a recommendation on the use of the COPS funds, pursuant to the requirement of AB 3229; and

WHEREAS, the recommendation is that the funds be used to continue to employ a full time Police Traffic Officer, Police Dispatcher, provide partial funding of the Lead Dispatcher position, and to provide support to the department's records management system.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED that the San Anselmo Town Council approves the recommendation of the Police Chief to appropriate the COPS funds as stated above.

I hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was approved by the San Anselmo Town Council on the 14th day of October 2003, by the following vote, to wit:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

PETER KILKUS
Mayor

DEBRA STUTSMAN
Town Clerk