

## **Proposal for a City Council Public Safety Package 11/1/06 Budget Committee of the Whole**

### **I. Develop a multi-year plan for police staffing and requesting recommendations from the Mayor on police staffing.**

Council proposed a resolution requesting that the Mayor present a recommendation on the appropriate number of sworn officers in the Police Department in the next several years; that he explain the recommendation in terms of the outcomes to be achieved; that the Executive survey Seattle residents' opinions on police and public safety; and that the Mayor present a multi-year funding plan for achieving the recommended number of officers and a 2008 proposed budget that is consistent with this plan. The Council will use this information to develop its own position on desired public safety outcomes, the number of officers appropriate to pursuing these, and the plan for funding these officers.

The net budget impact of this proposed legislation is \$0.

### **II. Maintenance**

#### **1. Police patrol staffing options**

- a. Add a total of **twenty Patrol Officers over the biennium**. After five years, the cost of twenty Patrol Officers would be approximately \$2.2 million. The net budget impact is increased costs of \$636,000 in 2007 and \$1,382,000 in 2008.

*OR*

- b. Add a total of **thirty Patrol Officers over the biennium**. After five years, the cost of thirty Patrol Officers would be approximately \$3.3 million. The net budget impact is increased costs of \$953,000 in 2007 and \$2,073,000 in 2008.

*OR*

- c. Add a total of **forty Patrol Officers over the biennium**. After five years, the cost of forty Patrol Officers would be approximately \$4.4 million. The net budget impact is increased costs of \$1,271,000 in 2007 and \$2,765,000 in 2008.

*Please note: i) The Department states that hiring more recruits in 2007 than the 70 planned in the proposed budget to replace leaving officers is unrealistic because it does not believe it can find and hire additional qualified candidates. ii) For each options i, ii, and iii, the total dollar amounts include salaries, benefits, training costs, equipment and vehicles. iii) Also, the additional hiring under each scenario would be phased over the two years, so the officers would emerge from training between the middle of 2007 and the middle of 2009.*

2. Gang Unit staffing

- a. Transfer funding for 7 positions in Violent Crimes Investigations and 7 from the Precincts into a **new Gang Investigations** Budget Control Level to ensure that the Police Department provides sufficient attention to preventing and interdicting gang violence. The gang unit once included 22 officers and 4 sergeants. 4 positions were abrogated and 15 were distributed among the Precincts and other specialized units. 7 remained in a centralized gang unit in Violent Crimes Investigations. The net budget impact is \$0.

3. OPA Staffing

- a. **Add a Sergeant-Detective position to the Office of Professional Accountability** (OPA) to reduce the time required to complete complaint investigations. The net budget impact is an increased expenditure of \$120,407 in 2007 and \$115,867 in 2008, including one-time equipment costs and salary, benefits and ongoing equipment costs.

Or

- c. **Add a Sergeant-Detective to OPA** by promoting an existing officer position. The net budget impact is an increased expenditure of \$21,212 in 2007 and \$18,331 in 2008, including one-time costs for office equipment.

4. Law Department Staffing

- a. **Attorney to investigate and prosecute graffiti** “taggers” to partially restore capacity for this work in the Law Department cut during in 2002. Prior to 2002, the Law Department had 1 FTE dedicated to investigating, prosecuting and tracking “taggers.” After this position was eliminated, the department no longer had staff to track and build solid cases to prosecute the most prolific offenders, suggesting that this may have contributed to an increase in graffiti.

**III. Intervention**

1. Add \$270,000 for 9 half-time **Legal Advocates for Victims of Domestic Violence** to resolve legal issues which are the greatest barriers to domestic violence victims achieving safety and self-determination. This would serve approximately 450 more families per year to assist low-income women, the majority of whom are minority. 88% of low income women involved with the civil legal system have no legal representation.
2. Add \$51,597 in 2007 and \$54,380 in 2008 in funding for .5 FTE Assistant City Attorney, **Precinct Liaison position** to support the Precinct Liaison Program in the

South and Southwest precincts to address public safety and neighborhood livability problems with community oriented solutions rather than just case-by-case prosecution. Precinct Liaisons identify public safety and community livability problems in their precinct, build problem solving partnerships to address these problems, litigate code and criminal violations, and facilitate community and intergovernmental communication and cooperation. Each precinct has a dedicated liaison except in the South and Southwest Precincts where they share one liaison.

3. Add \$269,000 in 2007 and \$412,000 in 2008 to fund **4 new positions to provide civilian assistance to Patrol** to provide staffing within SPD to address important non-enforcement activities while helping SPD in officer recruitment efforts by enabling them to offer non-enforcement entry level position to individuals as cadets. Activities of such positions could include emergency assistance to the mentally ill, crime victims, elderly, and developmentally disabled persons; outreach support to the homeless, indigents and transients by providing access to emergency food, shelter, clothing, and transportation, requiring landlords to return personal property of tenants when unlawfully taken or requiring landlords to restore tenants access to their rental unit when their landlord has locked them out without a court eviction, mediation for other non-violent disputes, investigation of juvenile runaway cases and searching for missing persons.
4. Add \$240,000 in 2007 funding and \$480,000 to support **Get Off The Street/GOTS and Clean Dreams** through 2008, pending 2007 full year evaluation.

#### **IV. Prevention**

1. Add \$124,000 in 2007 and \$75,000 in 2008 to expand services provided by the **TechNet program at the Rainier Beach and South Park Community Centers** and to purchase additional equipment and technical support to enable graphics and multi-media education at the Rainier Beach Community Center. This will increase positive youth development and academic success for low-income, minority and immigrant youth in Seattle's core urban neighborhoods and reduce youth gang violence and criminal activity.
2. Add \$268,687 in 2008 to fund the **Crossing Guard Program**. The 2004, Families and Education Levy funding ends in mid-2008. The Program was started in 1948. In 2004 there were 114 adult crossing guards serving at 45 elementary schools at 57 designated posts. In 2003 funding was reduced almost in half. In 2004 the Mayor again reduced the Program almost in half to \$259,000. In 2004 the Council restored \$258,567 in funding to bring the Program funding level up to the 2004 levels.
3. Add \$58,000 in 2007 and \$77,000 in 2008 to fund the **Reinvesting in Youth Phase II** Project to develop strategies to reconnect youth who have dropped out or are at high risk of dropping out of school.

4. Add \$420,000 to the **Seattle Youth Employment Program (SYEP)** in 2007 and 2008 to nearly restore funding to 2005/6 program levels, and partially offset \$400,000 in cuts in federal funding. SYEP helps low-income, at-risk youth, 15-21, with little or no work experience to graduate from high school while providing skills to find and maintain employment and has been recognized as a best practices model by the National Youth Employment Coalition, serving 300 youth in 2005, less than 12% of applicants. Funding is used for year-round case management, stipends, tutors, financial literacy and math classes, the CWEST (skilled trades) program, summertime work-based education projects and summer school.
5. Add \$43,420 in the 2008 budget for a **Central House** sponsored drop-in center in the Rainier Valley for low-income, at-risk youth.
6. Add \$40,000 in 2007 for the **JustServe AmeriCorps Violence Prevention Program** to prevent youth violence, domestic violence, hate crimes and other frontline incidence of violence throughout Seattle, supporting grassroots organizations such as the API Women and Family Safety Center, Consejo Domestic Violence Program, Village of Hope, El Centro de la Raza, Hate Free Zone other community-based anti-violence efforts that might otherwise not survive.
7. Add \$50,000 for Crime Prevention and Public Safety Education in 2007 and in 2008 to restore the funding **Seattle Neighborhood Group (SNG)** is losing \$105,000 from the Seattle Housing Authority (SHA) for Crime Prevention Services.
8. Add \$201,356 in 2007 and \$207,020 in 2008 to restore three nights of **Late Night Recreation** programming at High Point, and two nights from 7PM to midnight at Southwest and Rainier Beach Community Centers.

