

MUSCATINE POLICE DEPARTMENT

MEMORANDUM

TO: Gregg Mandsager, City Administrator

FROM: Brett Talkington, Chief of Police

SUBJECT: City Council Agenda Item
U.S. Department of Justice COPS Grant

DATE: 10-17-2011

INTRODUCTION:

The Muscatine Police Department applied for the U.S. Department of Justice Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) Grant in May of 2011.

BACKGROUND:

The Muscatine Police Department was awarded the COPS grant on September 1, 2011. This COPS Hiring Program (CHP) grant will fund 2 police officers for three years and totals \$448,996. The City is required to pay for wages and benefits for the 2 officer positions for the remaining fourth year under the terms of grant. The 2 officers have to remain in their assignments for four years. One of the positions will be a Street Crimes Unit (SCU) assignment and the other position will be a School Resource Officer (SRO) assignment. We currently have the Muscatine Community School District agreeing to fund 75% of the SRO position for the fourth and final year of the grant. The two officers will be hired within the next few months to backfill the positions that we fill for the SCU and SRO positions.

RECOMMENDATION/RATIONALE:

It is my recommendation that the city council approve the agreement to accept the COPS grant for the Muscatine Police Department. With the approval of the grant the police department can establish our Street Crimes Unit again as well as have a School Resource Officer in the Middle Schools.

It has been recommended by the City Administrator and Finance Director that funding be formally committed in each of the upcoming three fiscal year budgets so sufficient funds are available to fund the cost of these officers in the fourth year. The fourth year cost for each officer is estimated at \$88,200. With the School agreeing to fund 75% of one of the officers in the fourth year, the City's share for 1.25 officers is estimated at \$110,250. That would require a funding commitment of \$36,750 in each of the next three fiscal year budgets.