CITY OF OAKLAND

AGENDA REPORT

To: Office of the City Administrator
Attn: Dan Lindheim
From: Police Department
Date: September 14, 2010

Re: *An Informational Report From the Office of Chief of Police Detailing the Functions, Implementation, and Results of the Police Resource Optimization System (PROS) Within the Oakland Police Department*

SUMMARY

Staff has prepared an informational report detailing the functions, implementation, and results of the Police Resource Optimization System (PROS) currently being used by the Oakland Police Department (OPD).

FISCAL IMPACT

This is an informational report. There are no fiscal impacts associated with this report and no Council action is required.

BACKGROUND

On January 19, 2010, Council passed Resolution No. 82500 C.M.S., which authorized the City Administrator to implement the PROS system within the Oakland Police Department. Prior to the implementation of the PROS system, OPD deployed police officers based upon dispatch data from 2005 and intuitive knowledge of the crime prevention needs of the City. Although this deployment model was effective, it did not provide an optimal use of police resources.

Implementation of the PROS system has allowed the Department to determine officer deployment needs for the Patrol Division based on quantitative data. The PROS system will also be able to forecast, allocate, and optimize these diminishing resources, and help to improve response time and crime reduction efforts through beat realignment and scheduling.

KEY ISSUES AND IMPACTS

The PROS system has been used to determine officer deployment needs based upon Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) data. In addition to the CAD data, the system utilized policy decisions in establishing:

- A recommended staffing level;
- A range of pro-activity levels as determined by California Police Officer Standards and Training (POST - 33%)[1];
- A national standard by the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP – 40%); and
- Administrative time and time unavailable due to training, leave time, sick/injury time, etc.

Based on these criteria, PROS calculated OPD staffing would require a range of 420 to 517 officers for the Patrol Division to adequately perform calls for service while also allowing officers time to conduct proactive community policing problem solving on their assigned beats. These staffing levels do not include the supervisory and command rank levels. The range listed is based upon the standards set by California P.O. S.T. and national standards as recommended by the IACP. The IACP states that choosing a more proactive allotment of resources (40-50%) allows more time for crime prevention, problem solving, community relations, and other proactive activities. The IACP management prefers this type of deployment and proactive approach to policing. Reductions in proactive time reduce staffing requirements which may risk public safety.

In contrast to the recommended range of staffing based on the above criteria, the current Patrol Division officer staffing level is 334 officers. Specialized units have been reduced to maintain staffing levels in patrol in response to reductions in workforce. The Department is unable to assign officers (at its current staffing level) to the Patrol Division at levels recommended by California POST and the IACP without significantly impacting follow up and gang investigations as well as, coordinated responses to violent crimes.

Based on current patrol staffing levels, the PROS system calculated officers will have less time to conduct proactive community policing problem solving within their assigned beats, and spend most of their time answering calls for service and associated administrative duties.

The PROS system will also be able to:

- Assist area commanders with personnel deployment as specific crime trends occur within the City of Oakland or a geographical area;
- Provide the best approach to schedule officer start times;
- Provide forecasts (staffing and calls for service) within a short amount of time; and
- Provide verifiable data to realign the patrol beats.

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[1] Percentages represent the recommended officer time used for proactive enforcement efforts.

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Police Resource Optimization System was developed to identify neighborhood needs, problems, and workloads for officers through the evaluation of Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) data, and optimize the deployment of officers for more effective use of resources based upon this data. PROS assists in officer scheduling by day of week, hour, and shift by effectively organizing beat configurations to reduce cross dispatching and response times by deploying officers where the need is greatest through the identification of crime patterns and officer performance levels; PROS also provides the analytic work needed to maximize the delivery of services.

SUSTAINABLE OPPORTUNITIES

Economic: Crime prevention activities funded by this spending plan will have a positive impact on property values and business opportunities.

Environmental: There are no environmental issues associated with this report.

Social Equity: Implementation of the PROS system will result in optimization of police resources and scheduling and positively impact response time to calls for service, thereby increasing the ability for officers to arrive at crime scenes in a timelier manner and improving arrest statistics.

DISABILITY AND SENIOR CITIZEN ACCESS

There are no ADA or senior citizen access issues contained in this report.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends acceptance of this report informational report.

Respectfully submitted,

Anthony W. Batts
Chief of Police

APPROVED AND FORWARDED TO
THE PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE:

Office of the City Administrator

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Item: _____
Public Safety Committee
September 14, 2010