

CITY OF OAKLAND
AGENDA REPORT

To: Office of the City Administrator
Attn: Deborah Edgerly
From: Police Department
Date: June 13, 2006

Re: A Report from the Chief of Police on Identification and Assignment of Walking Officers to Neighborhood Commercial Districts

SUMMARY

This informational report outlines the current status of the Police Department's Foot Patrol Unit (FPU) and recommendations for staffing the City's commercial retail areas with dedicated foot patrol officers. In preparation of this report careful consideration was given to the following areas:

- Current and future staffing levels of the Department
- Identification of additional Commercial Districts
- Number of assignments necessary to provide effective coverage
- Method of prioritizing assignments
- Subsequent costs associated with adding officers to the Walking Unit

FISCAL IMPACT

The FPU is currently staffed with two sergeants and 14 officers who work day and swing shifts, and are deployed in 14 commercial retail districts located in Downtown, North, and East Oakland.

There are a total of 33 commercial districts (attachment 1) identified in the City of Oakland that could benefit from the assignment of a dedicated walking officer. For maximum effectiveness, a number of the identified locations require the assignment of two officers to provide coverage during daytime and evening hours, as well as on weekends. To provide optimal coverage in each commercial retail district the Department would require staffing of an additional 53 FPU police officers, and six sergeants of police.

The current cost for one police officer (excluding allowances and premiums) is \$133,768 (average); the cost for 53 additional officers is \$7,089,704. The cost for one sergeant is \$165,863; the cost for six additional sergeants is \$995,178. The total annual cost to increase current staffing of walking officers to full staffing of all 33 commercial districts is approximately \$8,084,882.

In addition, collateral support for the new officers and sergeants would be required for full deployment of walking officers in the commercial districts. Overhead costs such as training,

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equipment, communications support, information technology needs, and administrative support would have to be evaluated before moving forward with this plan. At a minimum, it would be necessary to add vehicles to the existing fleet. The cost of providing vehicles for every two officers, and the sergeants (46) would require an additional \$966,000 in one time setup costs, and \$993,600 in annual use costs. The total first year cost of the program is approximately \$9,050,822.

BACKGROUND

Current staffing levels have challenged the Department's efforts to provide basic police services. The basic core functions of municipal police are:

- Responding to emergency and non-emergency calls for service
- Investigating crimes
- Providing for traffic safety through enforcement and investigation of collisions

Recently, the Department re-deployed staff in an effort to improve its response time to calls for service. As a result, some units responsible for the completion of tasks related to the core functions have numerous vacant positions. In January of 2006 the Foot Patrol Unit was reduced from 26 to 14 officers to improve the Department's ability to carry out its core responsibilities.

KEY ISSUES AND IMPACTS

In addition to providing the basic police services, the Department is committed to continuing its efforts toward the full implementation of community based, problem-oriented policing. A significant element of this program is meeting and fulfilling the Measure Y mandates. These include timelines and deployment ratios for staffing Problem Solving, Crime Reduction Team, and School Resource officer positions throughout the City.

Currently, in the Patrol Division, 120 shifts per week are filled by officers working mandatory overtime assignments. The Department also has contractual and legislative requirements to provide police services to the Port of Oakland and the Community Economic and Development Agency (CEDA.) The reassignment of existing staff to foot patrol duty would result in a further degradation of basic police services.

The Department has an ambitious schedule to fill its authorized, Measure Y inclusive, level of 803 sworn positions by the end of January 2007. This staffing plan does not include proposed staff positions necessary to assign foot patrol officers to the City's 33 commercial retail districts. Full implementation of this plan would require increasing the Department's sworn compliment from 803 to 862.

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Department has identified 33 commercial retail districts that would benefit from the assignment of a dedicated foot patrol officer. It is recommended that a *stressor* matrix be developed to prioritize the 33 retail districts for assignment of a dedicated foot patrol officer. The stressor list should consider such tangibles as crime rate, unemployment, the number of liquor establishments, etc. Like Measure Y, the list could then be used to ensure the best placement of the officers within a given timeframe and assign them accordingly.

In specified commercial retail districts, two officers should be assigned to work a single district. This would provide adequate police coverage across the days of the week, and hours during which retail businesses operate. It would also improve the continuity of service during periods of leave due to vacation, training, injury, illness, etc.

SUSTAINABLE OPPORTUNITIES

Economic

The assignment of dedicated foot patrol officers to the City's 33 commercial retail districts could serve to reduce the perception and reality of crime. Improved safety would result in increased consumer activity and an unknown increase in sales tax revenue.

Environmental

There are no environmental opportunities associated with this report.

Social Equity

The assignment of foot patrol officers without consideration of current staffing and actual crime rates would result in gaps in basic police services and other commitments of the City. The use of a stressor list for future assignments would ensure the fair application of police resources to those with the greatest need.

DISABILITY AND SENIOR CITIZEN ACCESS

Foot patrol officers have been one of the Department's key resources in equal access enforcement. Foot patrol officers account for a significant portion of the Department's citations issued for violations related to the misuse of handicapped parking placards.

RECOMMENDATION

When the Department reaches the staffing level of 803 sworn offers and has fulfilled its projections in patrol, traffic, investigations, and community policing, the ability to increase the level of FPU beyond the authorized strength may become attainable. It is not recommended that additional foot patrol officers be assigned prior to reaching the Department's goal of 803 sworn staff.

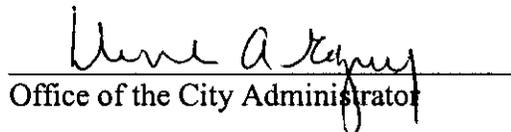
Staff recommends acceptance of this report.

Respectfully submitted,


Wayne G. Tucker
Chief of Police

Prepared by:
David Kozicki
Captain of Police
Strategic Area Command

APPROVED AND FORWARDED TO
THE PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE:


Office of the City Administrator

Attachment:

1. Foot Patrol Deployment Detail

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Current Deployment

The Foot Patrol Unit has a current authorized strength of 14 officers Citywide, deployed as follows:

- District 1: 8 Officers [(4) 2nd Watch, (4) 3rd Watch]
- District 2: 4 Officers [(3) 2nd Watch, (1) 3rd Watch]
- District 3: 1 Officer [(1) 3rd Watch]
- District 4: 1 Officer [(1) 2nd Watch]
- District 6: 0

Two sergeants supervise the officers in the following manner:

- 2nd Watch Foot Patrol: Area 1, 2 & 3
- 3rd Watch Foot Patrol: Area 1, 2 & 3

Hours:

- 2nd Watch: 0730-1530
- 3rd Watch: 1300-2100

Proposed Deployment Plan (should staffing reach 862)

Location	Notes
<i>District 1</i>	
14th St / Broadway	2 Officers 2 nd Watch, 2 Officers 3 rd Watch
Chinatown	1 Officer 2 nd Watch, 1 Officer 3 rd Watch
City Center	1 Officer 2 nd Watch
City Hall	1 Officer 2 nd Watch, 1 Officer 3 rd Watch (includes City Council Meetings)
Downtown – Lower 11th-14th / Broadway - Harrison	1 Officer 2 nd Watch
Downtown – Middle 14th - 20th / Broadway - Harrison	1 Officer 2 nd Watch
Downtown – Upper 20th - Grand / Broadway - Harrison	1 Officer 2 nd Watch
Financial Center Banking District 20 th St Broadway – Lakeside	1 Officer 2 nd Watch
Frank Ogawa Plaza	1 Officer 2 nd Watch
Jack London Square	Supplemented by Port Funds (7days) Should be 2 officers 3 rd Watch
Korea Town Upper WGrand-27 th St Telegraph	2 Officers 2 nd Watch, 2 Officers 3 rd Watch

Korea Town Lower 13th – 14th / Webster – Alice	1 Officer 2 nd Watch, 1 Officer 3 rd Watch
Old Oakland 12 th -7 th St Broadway –MLK	1 Officer 2 nd Watch, 1 Officer 3 rd Watch
San Pablo 15th – 19th / Broadway - MLK	1 Officer 2 nd Watch
Uptown 19th – Grand / Broadway – MLK	1 Officer 2 nd Watch
District 2	
Broadway Auto Row	1 Officer 2 nd Watch
College Ave	1 Officer 2 nd Watch, 1 Officer 3 rd Watch
Montclair	1 Officer 2 nd Watch, 1 Officer 3 rd Watch
Piedmont	1 Officer 2 nd Watch, 1 Officer 3 rd Watch
Temescal W Mac – 51st / Telegraph	2 Officers 2 nd Watch, 2 Officers 3 rd Watch
District 3	
Eastlake One	1 Officer 2 nd Watch
Eastlake Two	1 Officer 2 nd Watch
Lakeshore	1 Officer 2 nd Watch, 1 Officer 3 rd Watch
Grand	1 Officer 2 nd Watch, 1 Officer 3 rd Watch
San Antonio	1 Officer 2 nd Watch, 2 Officer 3 rd Watch
District 4	
Diamond District	1 Officer 2 nd Watch
Fruitvale lower International	1 Officer 2 nd Watch, 2 Officer 3 rd Watch
Fruitvale upper /Foothill	1 Officer 2 nd Watch
Laurel District	1 Officer 2 nd Watch
District 5	
35 th –Seminary/ International	1 Officer 2 nd Watch, 2 Officer 3 rd Watch
Seminary-73 rd on International	2 Officers 2 nd Watch, 2 Officers 3 rd Watch
District 6	
73 rd - 85 th International	2 Officers 2 nd Watch, 2 Officers 3 rd Watch
85 th - 106 International	2 Officers 2 nd Watch, 2 Officers 3 rd Watch