

OPERATIONS COMMITTEE MAY 15, 2008

SUBJECT:

METRO FREEWAY SERVICE PATROL

ACTION:

EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT WITH THE CALIFORNIA HIGHWAY

PATROL TO SUPPORT THE METRO FREEWAY SERVICE PATROL

PROGRAM

RECOMMENDATION

Authorize the Chief Executive Officer to execute an agreement with the California Highway Patrol (CHP) to provide field officer and dispatch support to the Los Angeles County Metro Freeway Service Patrol (FSP) during FY09 in an amount not to exceed \$851,000.

RATIONALE

In partnership with CHP and the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), we operate and manage the largest FSP program in the nation. CHP's role in this partnership is to provide dispatch, field enforcement and operator training services. CHP receives an initial annual funding allocation from the State in support of these duties; however, as it has been historically, state funding is not sufficient to effectively meet the needs of our FSP program. Therefore, we have had to use our own funding to augment the state funding to CHP.

While the statewide CHP funding allocation for FSP services has remained the same; our FY09 allocation has increased by \$51,000 or 6.4% compared to the FY08 allocation. The increase is attributed to increases in salary and benefit costs negotiated by CHP's bargaining units. As a result of the consistent allocation, statewide funding is unable to fully support CHP FY09 staffing levels or absorb the cost of the negotiated salary and benefit increases. Therefore, in order to maintain the current level of CHP support it is necessary for us to absorb the additional costs.

Continued CHP support is important to maintaining the overall effectiveness of the FSP program. CHP's role in field supervision, dispatching and training helps to ensure the overall quality of our FSP program and the services the program provides to the motoring public. Listed below are a few of the activities, performed by CHP staff dedicated to the FSP program in calendar year 2007:

Activity	Quantity
Cursory Vehicle Inspections	1,691
Staging Area Inspections	864
Annual Contract Compliance Vehicle Inspections	261
Operator Contacts	7,565

FINANCIAL IMPACT

Funding of \$851,000 for this service is included in the proposed FY09 budget under cost center 3352, Freeway Service Patrol, Project 300070, Freeway Service Patrol and line 50320, Contract Services. The total budget for CHP support in FY08 was \$800,000.

ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED

The Board may decide to not approve the execution of this agreement. This alternative is not recommended as it would decrease the amount of resources provided by the CHP in support of FSP, which would negatively impact the operation and effectiveness of the FSP program.

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FY09 CHP Agreement 2

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