

**REPORT TO MAYOR AND COUNCIL****TO THE HONORABLE MAYOR AND COUNCIL:**

DATE: March 3, 2015

SUBJECT: ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. 15-19 ACCEPTING A GRANT FROM THE BRENDEN MANN FOUNDATION AND APPROPRIATING THE FUNDS FOR DOWNTOWN PATROL PROGRAM SERVICES**Report in Brief**

Staff has applied for and received a grant from the Brenden Mann Foundation to fund a weekend police patrol in the Downtown. Staff is recommending that the City Council approve the receipt of this grant in the amount of \$67,800 from the Brenden Mann Foundation, and authorize appropriation of the funds to the Downtown Patrol Program to enhance security and commercial attractiveness in the downtown. Staff is also recommending adoption of Resolution No. 15-19 amending the budget to reflect the acceptance of the grant and appropriation of the funding and authorizing the City Manager to execute all necessary documents.

Background

The City of Concord has a great deal of pride in its Downtown; an area filled with many successful businesses, restaurants, and nightclubs. It is the social center for the City, hosting regular cultural and entertainment events including Music and Market, National Night Out, the California Symphony, and the July 4th Jubilee and Parade. The businesses and events commonly attract thousands of people to the neighborhood, particularly during summer evenings and weekends, and is a wonderful way to bring families together.

To maintain the quality of life, decrease fear of crime, and respond to crime in our Downtown, the Concord Police Department staffs a "Downtown Police Officer" position. The role of this Officer includes a wide breadth of responsibilities, such as problem identification and resolution, law enforcement and criminal investigation, and liaison with Downtown businesses. The Downtown Officer also fills the citywide role of Homeless Outreach Officer, requiring frequent response outside of the Downtown.

As beneficial as this position is to the quality of life in our Downtown, the City of Concord is currently able to staff only one Downtown Officer. Because the Officer's duties fall mainly on the weekdays, weekends in the Downtown are without direct police presence and enforcement. Beat officers provide limited presence during their daily patrols but they are unable to exercise the rigorous and focused long-term problem solving, law enforcement, and blight management made possible by officers assigned specifically to the Downtown.

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The mission of the Brenden Mann Foundation is to keep alive the legacy established by Ted Mann of making a positive difference in their geographic areas of impact. John Brenden, of Brenden Theatres, is the Co-President of the Foundation, along with his sister, Blythe Brenden. Staff has had ongoing conversations with Foundation staff regarding downtown Concord and how best the Foundation can support the City's efforts in making the downtown a vital and welcoming destination.

Discussion

The Brenden Mann Foundation funded a Downtown Patrol Program in 2012, 2013 and 2014. Staff was awarded a fourth grant from the Foundation to fund similar patrol services through the 2015 calendar year. The amount is \$67,800.

Downtown Patrol Program

Logistics

To best serve the needs of the Downtown, the program will be broken into three phases. Staffing, deployment methods, and hours will be modulated to meet various needs throughout the duration of the program.

Phase 1: Winter Weekend Patrol

Downtown pedestrian traffic during the winter months is generally light, with exception of around the Brenden Theater, the various parking garages, and the nightclubs and bars. The colder weather also causes social events to be held inside businesses instead of focused in the Todos Santos Plaza as they are in summer months. During these winter months, public safety and quality of life problems typically involve alcohol violations at bars, loitering inside and at the entrances of businesses, private property camping, and drug and alcohol violations inside vehicles. To address these needs, the Winter Patrol will be staffed by a solo patrol officer working a combination of foot patrol and vehicle patrol. Bicycle patrol may also be used at the discretion of the officer. The officer will work five-hour shifts on Friday and Saturday evenings with flexed start times fashioned to create the long-term perception that more officers are working in the Downtown than actually are. For example, one Friday shift may start at 1PM while another may start at 5PM. For the duration of the program, there will be no start time before 1PM or after 5PM unless a schedule modification is necessary to accommodate a special event.

The Winter Patrol will be open for participation by full-time sworn officers and Level-1 Reserve Officers. The Winter Patrol will begin with the award and acceptance of the grant in March 2015 and will conclude April 25th, 2015, excluding holidays.

Phase 2: Summer Weekend Patrol

Summer brings a significant increase in social activity and pedestrian traffic in the Concord Downtown. Weekend family events in Todos Santos Plaza are commonplace, and the many outdoor restaurant patios are frequently filled to capacity. With this increase in activity, the Police Department sees a sizable increase in outdoor panhandling and loitering, public intoxication, and related nuisance behavior.

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Because bicycle patrol has historically proven to be a very effective response to these issues, the Summer Patrol will be deployed primarily in this manner. The Summer Patrol will deploy as two-person bicycle teams to provide officer-safety cover and diminish the need for beat officer involvement. Each team will work for five-hour shifts, with flexed start times fashioned to create the long-term perception that more officers are working in the Downtown than actually are. For the duration of the program, there will be no start time before 1PM or after 6PM unless a schedule modification is necessary to accommodate a special event.

The Summer Patrol will be open for participation by full-time sworn officers and Level I or Level II Reserve Officers. The Summer Bicycle Patrol will begin May 1st, 2015 and conclude September 26th, 2015, excluding holidays.

Phase 3: Fall Weekend Patrol

Similar to the winter months described above, Downtown pedestrian traffic during the fall months is generally light, with exception of around the Brenden Theater, the various parking garages, and the nightclubs and bars. The public safety and quality of life issues are also much the same. To address these needs, the Fall Patrol will be staffed by a solo patrol officer working a combination of foot patrol and vehicle patrol. Bicycle patrol may also be used at the discretion of the officer. The officer will work five-hour shifts on Friday and Saturday evenings with flexed start times fashioned to create the long-term perception that more officers are working in the Downtown than actually are. For the duration of the program, there will be no start time before 1PM or after 5PM unless a schedule modification is necessary to accommodate a special event.

The Fall Patrol will be open for participation by full-time sworn officers and Level-1 Reserve Officers. The Fall Patrol will begin October 2nd, 2015 and will conclude December 19th, 2015, excluding holidays.

Fiscal Impact

Grant funds received from the Brenden Mann Foundation will fund the recommended downtown patrol program on an overtime basis for sworn personnel and a prorated salary schedule for police reserves. No general funds will be committed as part of this recommendation. Funds will be placed in a separate City account for tracking purposes.

Public Contact

The Brenden Mann Foundation has been notified. The agenda has been posted.

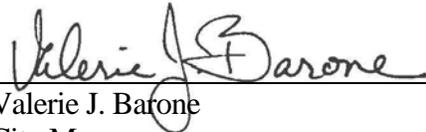
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Recommendation for Action

Staff recommends that City Council approve the receipt of grant funds in the amount of \$67,800 from the Brenden Mann Foundation, appropriate the funds for downtown patrol services, adopt Resolution No. 15-19 amending the Fiscal Year 2014-2015 budget; and authorize the City Manager to execute all required documents.



Valerie J. Barone
City Manager

Valerie.Barone@cityofconcord.org

Prepared by: Mark Robison
Sergeant – District Command
Mark.Robison@cityofconcord.org

Reviewed by: Guy Swanger
Chief of Police
Guy.Swanger@cityofconcord.org

Attachment 1: Resolution No.15-19

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PASSED AND ADOPTED by the City Council of the City of Concord on March 24, 2015,
by the following vote:

AYES: Councilmembers -

NOES: Councilmembers -

ABSTAIN: Councilmembers -

ABSENT: Councilmembers -

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing Resolution No. 15-19 was duly and regularly
adopted at a regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Concord on March 14, 2015.

Joelle Fockler, CMC
City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Mark S. Coon
City Attorney