





Should the City of Crete invest in a Police Service Dog Program?





The Program

<u>End</u>: A sustainable police service dog program with lasting benefits to our Community

<u>Ways:</u>

- Develop and sustain a connection between the Community and the service dog program
- Leverage and develop internal capacity to initiate and carry on the program through time
- Develop funding sources apart from only taxation



The Program

Means:

- A trained and effective police service dog
- A trained and effective handler
- Trained leadership
- A kennel
- A vehicle and durable supplies
- Expendable supplies
- Veterinary services
- General care





<u>Ways</u>

- Develop and sustain a connection between the Community and the service dog program
 - Public interaction
 - High visibility at local events
 - Engagement during Citysponsored activities





Police Service Dog Program Decision Brief



<u>Ways</u>

- Leverage and develop internal capacity to initiate and carry on the program through time
 - Reliance on current expertise
 - Leverage current interest
 - Total participation from the Department
 - Community support





<u>Ways</u>

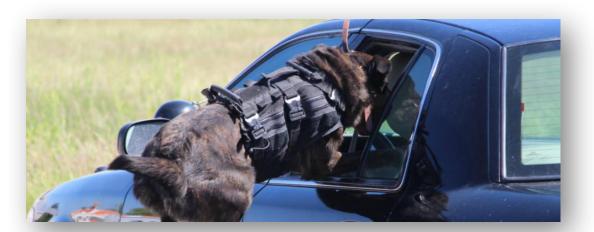
- Develop funding sources apart from only taxation
 - Donations (e.g., direct funding and in-kind)
 - Seizures, as part of a mature and active Program
 - Not a guarantee
 - Part of task force operations







- A trained and effective police service dog
 - Selection (varying levels of training)
 - Post purchase State training and certification
 - In-service training (individual and collective)
 - Experience through success



Discussion Point: How do we select the right dog?

Dog purchase: \$13,000+

Purchase price can vary greatly due to prior training of the animal, market demand, location, breeding, etc Police Service Dog Program Decision Brief



- A trained and effective handler
 - Selection
 - State training
 - Handler/dog
 - Four (4) months NLETC
 - In-service training
 - Available in the area
 - That which we create
 - Relationships with other agencies
 - Experience through success

State training course: Lodging and meal costs NLETC Lodging (Handler: \$2,000 / Service dog: \$160)





Trained leadership

- Presently: Sgt Jon Pucket
 - Trainer/Handler: 1991-1993 Detector Dogs international
 - Handler: 1993-1998
 - Phelps Co Sheriff's Office
 - A resource to other LE agencies
- Must be more than "one-deep"
- State training





- A kennel
 - Local (at residence of handler)
 - Safe and well-constructed
 - Donations sought to cover materials
 - PD built



Discussion Point: Where will the kennel be?

Materials estimate (other than concrete): \$2,500



- Vehicle and durable supplies
 - Ford Explorer (Outfitted for patrol use and dog)
 - Muzzle
 - Leashes
 - Ballistic Vest
- Training supplies
 - Training harness, E-collar, kongs, etc.
 - 'Bite' suit
 - Arm sleeve and cover

Vehicle: \$67,600

+ Dog specific vehicle items: \$6,200

Rear seat animal insert (split dog/prisoner), remote door opening devices, fans, heat alert, mat, LED light etc.

Discussion Point: What's needed in the vehicle?

Durable supplies: \$1,500 Training supplies: \$2,900



- Expendable supplies
 - Food: Nestle Purina has donated food for area service dogs in the past.
 - Water
 - Bowls
 - Toys
 - Treats
 - Waste bags, etc.



Food alone: \$800/yr



- Veterinary services
 - County
 - Crete
 - Anticipated costs
 - Check-ups
 - Shots
 - Illnesses and injuries





\$1,100/yr



General Care

The handler will be allotted ½ hour each shift to the general care of the service dog.

- Grooming
- Feeding
- Exercising







Mutual Aid

- County
 - Two dogs
 - Availability
- Southeast Nebraska
 - Area service dog programs
 - Task force



Discussion Point: What's the local task force?



Added Value

- To the Community
 - Increased capacity to be served
 - A Community/City rallying point
- To the Department
 - Increased capacity to serve
 - Potent and reliable control measure
 - Retention and professional development
 - Job satisfaction
 - Opportunities unavailable elsewhere
- Strengthen existing relationships
- Reservoir of goodwill

Discussion Point: What will make Crete's Program special?

Increased

capacity



A Successful Program through Time

- Entered into with expectation of success
 - Internal capacity now
 - Officers devoted to the Program
 - Training and experienced guaranteed



- Longevity
 - Officers who learn and prove themselves are the handlers of tomorrow
 - Community connection





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