



**TOWN OF LOS GATOS
COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT**

MEETING DATE: 11/04/2025

ITEM NO: 9

DATE: October 23, 2025
TO: Mayor and Town Council
FROM: Chris Constantin, Town Manager
SUBJECT: Accept Grant Funding from the Town's Citizens Option for Public Safety/Supplemental Law Enforcement Services Fund (COPS/SLESF) and Authorize Revenue and Expenditure Adjustments in the Amount of \$11,850 to Reflect a Decrease in FY 2025-26 COPS SLESF Grant Program funding Revenue Received from the City of Monte Sereno

RECOMMENDATION: Accept grant funding from the Town's Citizens Option for Public Safety/Supplemental Law Enforcement Services Fund (COPS/SLESF) and authorize revenue and expenditure budget adjustments in the amount of \$11,850 to reflect a decrease in FY 2025-26 COPS SLESF Grant Program funding revenue received from the City of Monte Sereno.

FISCAL IMPACT:

If Council approves the proposed recommendation, the Town will continue to receive the Citizen Option for Police Safety Supplemental Law Enforcement Services grant funding. The allocation of all SLESF funds received and expensed will be maintained in the FY 2025-26 Police Department Operating Budget COPS SLESF Grant Program "1114818," with a corresponding revenue and expenditure line to manage the funds. Per contract stipulation with the City of Monte Sereno, a portion (\$71,850) of the \$100,000 of SLESF funds was used by Monte Sereno as a one-time payment for the installation and implementation of Flock Safety cameras in FY 2025-26. At the time of preparing the FY 2025-26 Budget, staff anticipated receiving \$40,000 SLESF funds from the City of Monte Sereno; the actual amount received will be \$28,150, a variance of \$11,850. The remaining balance (\$28,150) of Monte Sereno's total annual SLESF funds will be directed to the Town of Los Gatos. The Town will also receive a separate allocation of \$100,000 in SLESF funding.

PREPARED BY: Clint Tada
Police Captain

Reviewed by: Town Manager, Assistant Town Manager, Town Attorney, and Finance Director

SUBJECT: Accept grant funding from the Town's Citizens Option for Public Safety/Supplemental Law Enforcement Services Fund (COPS/SLESF) and authorize revenue and expenditure adjustments and allocations for Fiscal Year 2025-26

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In addition, staff will make appropriate transfers within the FY 2025-26 Police Department Operating Budget to reflect the proposed allocation of SLESF funding during this fiscal year.

STRATEGIC PRIORITY:

This item aligns with the Town's core goal of fiscal stability to identify and utilize additional funding opportunities to continue core services by leveraging the COPS SLESF Grant Program to supplement front-line personnel with training and equipment. The focus of the COPS SLESF grant is to focus on the continual support of front-line services, which aligns with the Town's core goal of public safety.

BACKGROUND:

In 1996, California legislation (Assembly Bill 3229) created the Citizens Options for Public Safety (COPS) program, allocating \$100,000,000 to local governments yearly for front-line law enforcement. These funds are to be distributed through an established local Supplemental Law Enforcement Services Fund (SLESF).

State General Fund distribution to local law enforcement agencies is specifically intended for "front-line municipal police services." COPS funds must be spent on personnel, equipment, or supplies and are not approved for public safety capital improvement or construction projects.

Other COPS funds requirements and restrictions include:

- COPS funds shall be used to supplement, not supplant existing funding for law enforcement services.
- COPS funds will be accounted for separately from other department funding.
- The Town Council shall approve the appropriation of COPS funds, which authorizes that such funds can be expended by staff.

The current grant program allocates a recurring annual amount of \$100,000 for front-line law enforcement operations and equipment for the Town of Los Gatos. After the initial disbursement of funds to participating jurisdictions, any additional growth funds are distributed by the County of Santa Clara to participating jurisdictions.

In addition, pursuant to AB 3229, the City of Monte Sereno also receives a share of the state SLESF funds (\$100,000). Pursuant to the 5-Year Monte Sereno Police Services Agreement approved by the Town Council on April 15, 2025 (Effective July 1, 2025), a portion of the 2025 distribution of Monte Sereno COPS SLESF funding will be retained by the City of Monte Sereno for the initial implementation and installation of Flock Safety cameras. The remaining balance of FY 2025-26 SLESF funds for the City of Monte Sereno will be redistributed to the Town of Los Gatos for frontline law enforcement services.

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On January 21, 2025, the Monte Sereno City Council approved the use of \$71,850 of COPS SLESF funding to be used for one-time installation and implementation of Flock Safety cameras, in accordance with the renegotiation of the Monte Sereno Police Services Agreement.

DISCUSSION:

This report recommends the use of SLESF funds continue in the spirit of the COPS program. Staff recommends FY 2025-26 acceptance approval and allocation of SLESF funds to Grant Program "1114818." With the anticipated integration and implementation of advanced technology systems, such as Axon ISLE 10+ Ecosystem, the Police Department proposes utilizing FY 2025-26 SLESF funding for the following purposes:

- Town of Los Gatos FY 2025-26 SLESF Funds (\$100,000):
 - Staff will allocate approximately 50% (\$50,000) of the Town's portion of FY 2025-26 SLESF grant funding to provide supplemental training, implementation, and deployment of Axon ISLE 10+ Ecosystem, Axon Fusus, and the Police Department's Drone-First Responder Program.
 - Funds remaining in FY 2025-26 (\$50,000) will be directed to purchase equipment for technology integration specific to crime prevention, real-time crime center operations, and investigation management. This includes hardware, software, applications, and possibly subscription services that enhance operational efficiency, improve communication, and incorporate data analysis.
- City of Monte Sereno FY 2025-26 SLESF Funds (\$100,000)
 - Per the 2025 Monte Sereno Police Services Agreement, effective July 1, 2025, the City of Monte Sereno will redirect \$71,850 of the \$100,000 COPS SLESF Grant disbursement to Flock Safety for a one-time initial installation and implementation payment.
 - The Police Department will allocate approximately \$25,000 of the remaining FY 2025-26 SLESF funds (\$28,150) from the City of Monte Sereno to supplement the annual increase to Year 1 of the Axon Enterprises, Inc., 10-year services agreement.

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT:

This is not a project defined under CEQA, and no further action is required.