



CITY COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT

MEETING DATE: October 5, 2020

TO: City Council Members

FROM: Turu VanderWiel, Chief of Police

SUBJECT: Accept a donation from Faith Hamilton's Senior Project

RECOMMENDATION

Consideration to accept a donation from Faith Hamilton's Senior Project; and approve associated budget adjustments to the Police Department's budget unit.

DISCUSSION

The Police Department requests consideration to approve the acceptance of a donation in the amount \$7,466.23 and to approve the associated budget adjustment. This donation is being made to purchase load-bearing vests for patrol officers.

Faith Hamilton is a 2020 Graduate of Sonora High School, and for her Senior Project, she chose to organize a fundraising campaign called "Supporting the Blue." Even at such a young age, Faith saw a need to support law enforcement and also understands that city budget limitations don't allow for special equipment or special project funding. The goal of her project is to raise \$50,000 to put toward a K-9 patrol car and load-bearing vests for patrol officers. The project event was initially scheduled for March 20th of 2020 but unfortunately had to be postponed indefinitely due to COVID-19 restrictions. Faith, however, is an extraordinary young woman and stayed determined to fundraise through other means. Recently she presented us with a donation in the amount of \$7,466.23 for the purchase of load-bearing vests.

Studies indicate that load-bearing vests are more effective at evenly distributing the weight of police equipment and put less strain on the hips and lower back compared to the traditional duty belt. Additionally, it can be easily removed for comfort while writing reports, or for cooling measures to mitigate heat exposures. Our current policy allows for load-bearing vests; however, they are very costly.

FISCAL IMPACT

The attached budget adjustment increases the overall budget appropriation of the Police Department by \$7,466.23.