



# Rapid City Police Department

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An Internationally Accredited Law Enforcement Agency  
Craig Tieszen, Chief of Police      Jim Shaw, Mayor



June 16, 2000

To: Chief Craig Tieszen

cc. Doug Wells

Re: Public Housing Drug Elimination Grant Proposal

From: Dr. Richard A. Talley, Chief of Staff

Based upon our meeting and discussion with Mr. Doug Wells, Director, Pennington County Housing Authority, Monday, June 12<sup>th</sup>, the following is a basic outline of the proposed police services and related costs to be provided by the Rapid City Police Department as part of the Drug Elimination grant strategy.

## Police Services

The Rapid City Police Department is willing to intensify the patrol services to public housing properties and surrounding area. In order to do this an additional police officer will be hired which will equate into an average of 35 hours of directed special patrol effort to public housing. A patrol officer will be assigned as a rover patrol to allow the special patrol unit the latitude to move across police reporting districts to primarily cover public housing areas. The special patrol unit will provide preventative patrol, make extra contacts with residents and coordinate with the Drug Task Force. The officers assigned to patrol public housing will be dispatched to all calls for service in the public housing area whenever reasonably possible.

The public housing patrol personnel will be selected by assigning one specific officer on each shift to carry out the directed special patrol assignment. This will better allow for continual daily service to the area as opposed to just selecting one officer to be totally delegated to this assignment. Also, by assigning one specific officer on each shift those officers will become highly familiar with the people, routine activities and problems in the public housing residential areas.

A directed special public housing patrol plan to deliver the 35 hours per week of preventative patrol services will be developed to make best use of patrol resources being applied. A directed patrol plan and schedule of officer time committed to public housing will be documented for accountability purposes. This information will be forwarded to the Director of the Public Housing Authority on a monthly basis. The Public Housing Authority management will be periodically consulted and have substantial input concerning the scheduled time and locations where directed patrol services are provided.

Other police services will be provided to the public housing areas. When investigations require, surveillance will be activated to collect intelligence about suspected or known

drug trafficking. The Rapid City Police Department is anticipating an enhancement of the organization's surveillance equipment in the very near future. These powerful surveillance equipment capabilities will be an asset to the Drug Elimination strategy for public housing.

The Crime Prevention Unit will provide training to residents about drug/alcohol problems in terms of consequences of such behavior, prevention, detection and appropriate response. The training will be provided onsite at designated public housing locations. Drug education materials will be provided to residents. Residents will be informed about various available community resources. The Crime Prevention Unit is willing to develop and support new Neighborhood Watch Areas in public housing locations when there is a reasonable interest and commitment by residents to initiate one.

### Costs

The following primary cost to provide these extra services are listed:

- |  |                 |
|--|-----------------|
| • Salary, benefits for one full time patrol officer    | \$30,000 ++     |
| • Patrol Car and equipment                             | \$37,045 ++     |
| • Overtime for six months while officer is in training | \$27,300 +++    |
| • Training materials                                   | <u>\$ 2,500</u> |

**Sum Total \$96,845**

+ Obviously there are other costs the police department is willing to incur beyond reimbursement such as gasoline, crime prevention officer time, surveillance, neighborhood watch, etc.

++ The exact estimated cost breakdown for the police officer and fully equipped patrol car are provided in Appendix A. Please note that the .25 cents per hour pay incentive for an Associate Degree, or .50 cents per hour for a Baccalaureate degree is not included in the patrol officer cost. ALL officers hired as of 2000 have at minimum two years of college education and therefore qualify for no less than the .25 cent pay incentive.

+++ This is the cost of providing 35 hours of directed patrol per week while there is an officer in basic and field officer training which lasts 6 months/26 weeks.  $910 \text{ hours} \times \$30 = \$27,300$ .

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The salary and benefits of one full time officer is figured at \$30,000 although the actual cost is closer to \$37,000 during the second year. If an officer is hired in October to add the patrol power to do the extra service, it will take approximately six months before they are ready to independently work as a patrol officer. As such, the police department will not actually have the extra manpower on hand to provide the extra special patrol to public housing until the mid or the end of March.

IF the special extra patrol effort is desired immediately, instead of sometime in late March, the option recommended is to purchase the patrol car in October and pay existing police officers overtime to provide special directed patrol for 35 hours per week. Over six months, this amounts into 910 overtime hours at a rate of \$30 per hour which sum is

\$27,300. The overtime cost during training of the extra patrol officer *would be a one time first year start up cost.*

A patrol vehicle will be dedicated to the special patrol unit. The extra patrol vehicle cost is necessary since the heavy demand on the existing and limited police department's fleet. However, a patrol vehicle allocated to this assignment will *have a service life expectancy of three full years.*

### Conclusion

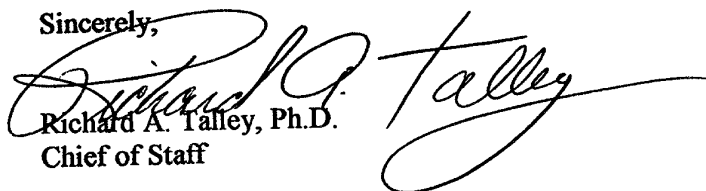
The police strategy recommended in support of the Public Housing Drug Elimination Grant is both reasonable and responsive to the present need for more police services. The Rapid City Police Department for several years has worked closely with the Pennington County Housing Authority and their residents to provide extra patrols, patrol officer walk-throughs and give public housing management information about criminal activity happening within their residential areas. These police activities will continue according to previous agreements. However, the effort to provide a substantial increase in dedicated directed patrol to public housing and other services will in doubt secure the many successes we have already worked so hard to achieve. A friendly and focused increased police presence will certainly be noticeable among residents and those who are, or might be, involved in illegal drugs. The strategy intensifies our Department and the Public Housing Authority partnership to be even more pro-active and responsive to potential drug related, as well as other crime related, problems within the public housing properties throughout our City.

After our discussions with Doug Wells, Director, Pennington County Public Housing Authority, it is anticipated that the grant can be continued for multiple years providing there is no a change in the funding stream for this formula grant. This is an extra encouragement to support the grant strategy to apply additional patrol resources to the public housing areas. The grant promises more than a short-term burst of police and investigative resources, rather it will support a long-term community policing and drug elimination strategy that is far more likely to have a positive sustained impact.

Chief Tieszen, my recommendation is for you to approve the enhanced police service strategy to Pennington County Housing residents and forward the plan to Doug Wells for inclusion within their Drug Elimination Grant. After the Pennington County Housing develops the final grant proposal for submission to HUD, a copy of the grant application should be obtained and distributed to City Council for review and approval for the Police Department to enter into the grant agreement.

If you have any questions, please contact me.

Sincerely,

  
Richard A. Talley, Ph.D.  
Chief of Staff