

CRETE
NEBRASKA



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



The Program

End: A sustainable police service dog program with lasting benefits to our Community

Ways:

- 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



Ways

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



Ways

- 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



Ways

- 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



Means

- 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

Means

- 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



Discussion
Point:
How do we
select the right
handler?

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

Means

- 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



Means

- 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

Means

- Vehicle and durable supplies

- Ford Explorer (Outfitted for patrol use and dog)

- Muzzle

Vehicle: \$67,600

- Leashes

+ Dog specific vehicle items: \$6,200

- Ballistic Vest

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

- Training supplies

- Training harness, E-collar, kongs, etc.

- 'Bite' suit

- Arm sleeve and cover

Discussion
Point:

What's needed
in the vehicle?

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

Means

- 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

Means

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



\$1,100/yr

Means

▫ 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



Increased
capacity

- 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?

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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