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CITY OF SACRAMENTO

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JOHN P. KEARNS
CHIEF OF POLICE

December 8, 1987

City Council
Sacramento, California

Honorable Members in Session

SUBJECT: Park Patrol Status Report

The new Park Enforcement program is scheduled to be operating by April 2, 1988. The program will be staffed by one (1) sergeant and six (6) police officers. Each of the officers will be paired with a full service police dog. The primary assignment for these officers will be the maintenance of social order within the city park system. The following is an update of the status regarding the implementation of this program.

PHASE I

Phase I primarily consisted of the planning and research necessary to identify, locate, assign and procure appropriate personnel, animals and equipment.

To date, officers and temporary vehicles have been selected and assigned. Currently, approximately 50 animals have been located and tested to determine their suitability for police service. As a result of the testing process, one (1) animal has been found acceptable and placed with an officer assigned to the Park Enforcement Unit.

The procurement of permanent Park Enforcement/K-9 vehicles is currently being studied by Fleet Management.

In order to meet the April 2, 1988, program initiation date, five (5) suitable animals must be located and procured no later than January 9, 1988.

To date, every effort is being made to locate, identify and procure the needed animals.

Currently, those officers assigned to the Park Enforcement detail are working as crime suppression officers or doing background investigations on Police/Community Service Officer candidates.

PHASE II

Once all six (6) animals are on board, training for both officers and animals will commence. The training will be extensive and necessary to ensure quality full service K-9s and efficient, professional officer/handlers.

PHASE III

The actual deployment of officers and animals within the city park system is scheduled to take place no later than April 2, 1988. The officers will begin patrolling the parks even if the animals are not fully trained. Should the weather in March, 1988, become warmer than usual and park attendance increase, deployment may be implemented at an earlier date. Normally, full deployment will continue through October. Patrol of the parks during the winter months will be provided as required.

Priority scheduling of the officers within the park system will be established by the Police Department and the Parks & Community Services Department. If deployment does occur before canine training is complete, the officers and dogs will train one to two hours per day until proficient.

Respectfully submitted,

for — ROBERT THOMAS, DIRECTOR
PARKS & COMMUNITY SERVICES

JOHN P. KEARNS
CHIEF OF POLICE

For City Council Information

Walter J. Slipe, City Manager

JPK:lm
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All districts
January 5, 1988