



## COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT

AGENDA ITEM NO.

**C18**

For the meeting of: May 22, 2018

Date: May 1, 2018  
To: Board of Supervisors  
From: William F. Honsal, Sheriff  
Subject: FY 2017-18 Supplemental Budget Adjustment Request for Humboldt County Sheriff's Operations Budget Unit 221 for Purchase of Police Services Canine (4/5 vote required)

### RECOMMENDATION(S):

That the Board of Supervisors:

1. Approve FY 2017-18 supplemental budget adjustment request for Humboldt County Sheriff's Operations Budget Unit 221 for purchase of one police services dog (4/5 vote required).

Revenue	1100-265-705800	Transfer from Trust	\$20,000
Expense	1100-265-8861	Sheriffs Equipment	\$20,000

### SOURCE OF FUNDING:

Asset Forfeiture Funds Trust 3642

Prepared by Norma S. Lorenzo  
Norma S. Lorenzo, Deputy Director Sheriff Admin

CAO Approval [Signature]

REVIEW: Auditor CD County Counsel nmv Human Resources \_\_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_

TYPE OF ITEM:  
☒ Consent  
☐ Departmental  
☐ Public Hearing  
☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

### PREVIOUS ACTION/REFERRAL:

Board Order No. \_\_\_\_\_

Meeting of: \_\_\_\_\_

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT  
Upon motion of Supervisor Bass  
Seconded by Supervisor Fennell

Ayes Bass, Fennell, Sundberg, Bohn, Wilson  
Nays \_\_\_\_\_  
Abstain \_\_\_\_\_  
Absent \_\_\_\_\_  
And carried by those members present, the Board hereby approves the recommended action contained in this report.

Dated: 5/22/18

By: [Signature]  
Kathy Hayes, Clerk of the Board

## DISCUSSION:

The Humboldt County Sheriff's Office (HCSO) is requesting a supplemental budget fixed asset approval for the purchase of a narcotics detection/protection canine. Police have utilized canines in their ranks for over a hundred years and, in recent years, canine officer roles and duties have evolved over time to meet the changing needs within the communities they serve. Canines and handlers used in law enforcement K-9 teams are trained to be more approachable and less threatening than in the past. Support from the public aids law enforcement in forming and maintaining canine units within their agencies.

Deputies are often times required to respond alone to calls where the closest back up officer is 30 or more minutes away. Canines have been proven to enhance officer safety in these situations. A well trained canine often acts as a deterrent to a dangerous subject. Besides handler protection, this canine would be mainly used for narcotic detection. Humboldt County is suffering from a methamphetamine and opioid crisis. A certified narcotics detection canine would be a very effective tool at removing dangerous drugs from the streets of our county.

It is said that a canine is as effective as 10 patrol officers and when conducting searches can cover the same ground in a fraction of the time. For this reason alone a canine team can reduce costs and increase safety and efficiency when attempting to locate narcotics or dangerous suspects. A reduction in liability is achieved by having the ability to show that every possible resource (K-9 Team) is being used to deter crime and gain compliance. Additionally today's canine teams require a stricter set of guidelines and training to ensure that they are being lawfully used and in the right situations. Canines often act as a catalyst and break the sometimes awkward barrier between law enforcement and the public. The K-9 Team will attend public events and visit local schools to educate the public.

Once a canine is purchased, the canine and a deputy selected as handler will attend a 5-week basic Narcotics/Patrol K-9 handler course at the Myers Training facility. At the completion of the basic course the canine will be dual-certified for narcotics and patrol, and meet California Peace Officers Standards and Training (POST) standards. To maintain certification, canines and handlers are required to qualify for recertification annually. Additional bi-monthly maintenance trainings and daily skill enhancement trainings follow.

The HCSO feels that the addition of a narcotics detection/protection canine would be a huge benefit in the fight against drug crimes in the rural communities of Humboldt County.

## FINANCIAL IMPACT:

A supplemental budget adjustment in the amount of \$20,000 is requested to establish fixed asset 8861 Sheriffs Equipment in the approved FY2017-18 budget for the Humboldt County Sheriff's Operations budget unit 1100-221 for the purchase of a narcotics detection/protection canine.

Sheriffs Asset Forfeiture funds will be used for this purchase. The unspent portion of the Sheriff's State Asset Forfeiture trust 3642 is currently \$218,867. Funds in the amount of \$20,000 will be transferred from the trust to 1100-221-705800 to cover all expenses for the purchase and training of a new canine. No contribution from the General Fund is required.

The budget adjustment meets the Board of Supervisors Strategic Framework Plan goal of providing community-appropriate levels of service by investing in infrastructure to benefit the community.

OF OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT:

None

ALTERNATIVES TO STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS:

The Board could deny this request for a budget adjustment to establish a fixed asset that will facilitate the purchase of a police canine, however, this is not recommended as it could leave the Sheriff's Office jeopardize the introduction of a highly effective tool to drug enforcement.

ATTACHMENTS:

None