



MEMORANDUM

City of Venice

Police Department

TO: Ed Lavallee, City Manager

FROM: Tom Mattmuller, Police Chief

DATE: May 21, 2020

COUNCIL APPROVAL: Yes

MEETING DATE: June 9, 2020

STRATEGIC PLAN GOAL: Provide Efficient, Responsive Government with High Quality Services

SUBJECT: Request to expend funds from Law Enforcement Trust Fund to purchase single purpose passive alert narcotics K9, vehicle, training and related equipment

Background: In 2019, the Venice Police Department's Special Investigations and Traffic Enforcement, (SITE) Unit conducted six residential search warrants. SITE issued 25 felony arrest warrants. Through investigations, SITE accumulated 60 felony charges. SITE confiscated and seized: 251 grams of methamphetamine, 11 grams of rock cocaine, 40 pounds of cannabis, 1 gram of heroin, 193 grams of psilocybin mushrooms, 493 grams of MDMA (Ecstasy), 1.7 grams LSD, 22 grams of ketamine, and 4,257 grams of codeine syrup.

Today's law enforcement officers face a number of challenges when it comes to conducting narcotic investigations, specifically obtaining consent to search a vehicle. There are numerous incidents where SITE had intel or confidential informants provide information that known individuals were traveling with large amounts of narcotics. A police canine trained in narcotics detection will potentially eliminate the required consent to search for a legal search and seizure.

Requested Action: Request City Council approval to expend funds from the Law Enforcement Trust Fund as permitted by Florida Statute to purchase a canine, vehicle, and training for amount not to exceed \$40,000.

City Attorney Review/Approved: Yes

Risk Management Review: Yes

Finance Department Review/Approved: Yes

Funds Availability (account number): 1006-1001-521.52-00

ORIGINAL(S) ATTACHED:

Cc: