

MEMORANDUM

April 15, 2009

TO: Public Safety Committee

FROM: Linda McMillan, Senior Legislative Analyst 

SUBJECT: **Worksession: FY10 Operating Budget
 M-NCPPC Park Police**

Expected for this worksession:

Darien Manley, Chief, M-NCPPC Montgomery County Park Police
 Mary Bradford, Director of Parks
 Chris Mullin, Office of Management and Budget

Overview

Narrative from the Park and Planning budget for Park Police is attached at © 1-2

For FY10, Park and Planning is requesting funding of \$12.980 million and 117.1 net workyears for the Park Police. The request is a 7.4% increase in dollars and 2.1% increase in workyears from the approved FY09 budget.

M-NCPPC Park Police						
in \$000s	FY06	FY07	FY08	FY09	FY10	%Change
	Actual	Actual	Actual	Budget	Proposed	FY09-10
Personnel	8,643	9,576	10,487	10,957	12,038	9.9%
Operating	726	783	839	942	942	0.0%
Capital	35	171	66	148	-	-100.0%
(Enterprise Fund)	25	-	-	37	-	-100.0%
(other)	-	-				
TOTAL	9,429	10,530	11,392	12,084	12,980	7.4%
Workyears	111.2	117.5	112.9	114.7	117.1	2.1%

Council staff understands that some of the increase in personnel cost is from a general wage adjustment of 3.75% per the collective bargaining agreement with the Park Police FOP. This issue will be discussed by the MFP Committee as a part of their review of the collective bargaining agreements.

Update – Park Police Crime Statistics

The 2008 Annual Crime Report from the Park Police is attached at © 3-4.

- Total Part 1 Offenses increase by 30 or 13.6% from 2007 to 2008. The increase was seen in two areas, robbery and theft.
- Total Part 2 Offenses also increased by 30 or 13.6% from 2007 to 2008. While there was a significant decrease in crimes of destruction, there was a significant increase in narcotics/drug offenses. Please note that the Park Police have specifically added “warrants served” to their Part 2 Offense totals. There was an increase of 194 or 28.4% in this category.

Chief Manley has noted that there is a column in the report for “officer initiated” incidents, which captures those crimes which are reported as a result of an officer’s actions. This includes: “crimes in progress” arrests and those “occurred earlier” crimes discovered through the proactive patrols of our officers. He also notes that the increase of reported vehicular collisions now includes a large number of Commission vehicle collisions which do not occur on Park property, but now fall under our reporting responsibility as a result of the new MOU/MAA. Of the collisions reported, 61 did occur on Park roadways or property.

Chief Manley also highlights that the Park Police Investigative Services Section executed 28 search and seizure warrants in 2008, the majority being for gang related vandalism and credit card related crimes which yielded: criminal proceeds, evidence, recovered stolen property and drugs.

Sworn Complement/Recruit Class/Vacancies

The budget document shows that there is continuation of 122 authorized positions for FY10. Total workyears are shown to increase because two positions authorized in FY09 were partially lapse and are now full-workyears. In addition for FY10 lapse in the entire Parks Department has decreased from 7.5% to 6.0% because of the retirement incentive in FY09. For FY10 Park Police will continue to carry one frozen position (1 WY) as a result of the retirement incentive and a decrease of .89 WYs from FY09 decreased in the Managed Open Space, Third Party Support, and Horticultural Services programs.

Council staff inquired about the number of vacancies in the Park Police. Park Police has responded that currently there are 17 vacancies in the Montgomery County Division, of which 10 are currently maintained to operate within the FY09 budget. The seven additional vacancies are

the result of a large number of recent promotions and a few retirements. The Park Police are actively working with candidates in the background process with the intention of hiring six officer candidates and one communications technician as soon as possible. With the prospect of limited access to the Montgomery County PTSA, the Montgomery County Park Police are closely monitoring the Prince George's County Police Academy class, which may be laid-off at the completion of their training. Should the lay-offs occur, the Park Police will actively pursue officer candidates that have completed their academy training, in lieu of pre-academy candidates.

Update - Park Aides (Park Rangers)

As a part of the FY07 budget, the Council approved six seasonal positions to assist the park Police with monitoring the use of ballfields and compliance with park regulations. The positions have been referred to as "rangers" however they were seasonal park employees more accurately titled "park aides." The "Rangers" serve as park ambassadors, checking ball fields, reporting unsafe conditions, verifying permits, and participating in community outreach programs. They do not have enforcement authority and are not expected to handle confrontational situations (requesting Park Police respond to these types of incidents.) Rangers can also provide in assistance with other types of incidents such as assisting with reports of a missing child, compliance with leash law violations, alcohol violations, vandalism, and after hours use of parks. An evaluation conducted after first year found that the Ranger program increased the park visit to parks with high numbers of complaints and that call had been reduced regarding these parks.

The update provided to the Committee last spring is attached at © 5-6. Parks will provide the Committee with an update at this session.

Mobile Computers

This issue will be discussed at the April 21 MFP Committee meeting. A few years ago when some one-time funding was available, the Council asked agencies for suggested uses of the funding. At that time, Park and Planning requested funds to replace aging mobile computers used by Park Police Officers. Rather than funding this separate request, the Council asked that the Department of Technology Services include Park Police in the overall replacement schedule for mobile computers as the source of funding would be the same and this would help ensure consistency with the equipment being purchased for other county-funded law enforcement officers. To date, the Park Police computers have not been replaced. Park Police have 29 mobile computers that are eight years old (purchased 2001). Council staff understands that there is no other county-funded law enforcement agency that is using computers this old.

Dr. Toregas of Council staff has asked the Department of Technology Services to provide a response to the MFP Committee at the April 21st worksession.

PARK POLICE



- Procurement
- Operating Budget Development and Oversight



- Horse Mounted Patrols
- Motorcycle Patrols
- Marine Patrols



- Automobile Patrols
- Canine Patrols
- Bicycle Patrols
- Volunteer Patrols
- Community Involvement (Problem-Oriented Policing)
- Court Liaison
- Park Rangers



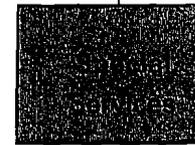
- Applicant Background Investigations
- Person and Property Crime Investigations
- Evidence Collection and Preparation
- Interviews and Interrogations
- Crime Scene Security
- Undercover Investigations
- Special Investigations
- Selective Enforcement Assignments
- Applicant Recruitment



- Communications
- Training
- Property Management
- Accreditation Program
- Facility Management
- Evidence and Property Management
- Records Unit
- Crime Statistics Analysis and Interpretation



- Computer Aided Dispatching (CAD)
- "Keystone" Records Management System
- Grant Development
- Mobile Data Information System



- County Government Liaison Function
- Special Events Analysis/Coordination
- Public Safety Education and Park Facility Assessments
- Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED)
- Media Relations

359



PARK POLICE DIVISION

Summary of Annual Comparisons by Major Object	Actual FY07	Actual FY08	Budget FY09	Estimated FY09	Proposed FY10					
Personnel Services	\$9,576,972	\$10,487,280	\$10,956,600	\$10,956,600	\$12,037,500					
Supplies & Materials	\$532,674	\$551,817	\$630,800	\$630,800	\$630,800					
Other Services & Charges	\$250,558	\$286,765	\$311,400	\$311,400	\$311,400					
Capital Outlay	\$171,186	\$65,596	\$147,900	\$147,900	\$0					
Sub Total	\$10,531,390	\$11,391,458	\$12,046,700	\$12,046,700	\$12,979,700					
Chargebacks	\$0	\$0	\$37,500	\$37,500	\$0					
Total	\$10,531,390	\$11,391,458	\$12,084,200	\$12,084,200	\$12,979,700					
Positions/Workyears Full Time Career	116.00	116.00	120.00	116.60	122.00	119.32	122.00	119.32	122.00	120.11
Positions/Workyears Part-Time Career	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Positions/Workyears Total Career	116.00	116.00	120.00	116.60	122.00	119.32	122.00	119.32	122.00	120.11
Positions/Workyears Term Contract	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Seasonal/Intermittent	5.50	4.95	4.50	4.50	4.50	4.50	4.50	4.50	4.50	4.50
Chargebacks	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Less Normal Lapse	(4.00)	(8.70)	(9.10)	(9.10)	(9.10)	(9.10)	(9.10)	(9.10)	(7.50)	(7.50)
Workyears Total	117.50	112.85	114.72	114.72	114.72	114.72	114.72	114.72	117.11	117.11

DIVISION GOAL

To protect the properties, resources and activities of within the Montgomery County park system.

DIVISION OVERVIEW

The Division is committed to providing professional public safety services with a focus on community interaction, active park patrols, and comprehensive officer training, which provides a crime prevention and detection approach that ensures a safe park system.

The Park Police Division is divided into two branches: **The Support Services branch**, which includes the Investigative Services, Special Services, and Management and Technology programs, and **The Patrol Operations branch**, which includes Patrol Services and Special Operations functions.

The use of police bicycles, all terrain vehicles, and marine, K-9, and horse-mounted officers demonstrates the unique resources the Park Police deploy to ensure that populated as well as isolated areas of the park system are patrolled. The Division anticipates a staffing compliment of 97 sworn officers, 25 civilians, 7 seasonal personnel (4.5 WYs) and approximately 28 volunteers for FY10.

FY10 MAJOR CHANGES

- Workyear total reflect an increase for the annualization of the FY09 Operating Budget impact (OBI) for new parks.

**MARYLAND-NATIONAL CAPITAL PARK POLICE
MONTGOMERY COUNTY DIVISION
2008 ANNUAL CRIME REPORT
JANUARY - DECEMBER
CRIME STATISTICS**

PART I OFFENSES						
CRIME	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	CHANGE
MURDER	0	1	1	6	1	-5
RAPE	1	2	2	0	2	2
ROBBERY	8	7	8	8	13	5
1ST DEGREE ASSAULTS	10	5	13	5	6	1
Gun	4	3	4	3	3	0
Knife	3	0	3	2	1	-1
Other	3	2	6	0	2	-2
BURGLARY	18	16	13	13	15	2
Force	14	11	12	9	14	-5
No Force	2	4	1	4	6	-4
Attempts	2	1	0	0	1	1
THEFTS	154	159	173	180	205	25
AUTO THEFTS	6	5	2	8	8	0
PART I TOTALS	197	195	212	220	250	30

PART II OFFENSES						
OFFENSE	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	CHANGE
DESTRUCTION	200	238	337	290	239	-51
Vandalism	87	75	75	47	61	14
Hate/Violence	11	16	8	12	4	-8
Graffiti	102	147	254	231	174	-57
SEX OFFENSES	10	9	11	20	19	-1
NARCOTIC DRUG LAWS	111	110	163	104	209	105
LITTERING/DUMPING	31	35	32	39	42	3
2ND DEGREE ASSAULTS	48	45	43	25	62	37
OTHER PART II	228	188	249	204	141	-63
WARRANTS SERVED	-	-	-	-	164	164
PART II TOTAL	628	625	835	682	876	194
TOTAL OFFENSES	825	820	1047	902	1126	224

ARRESTS	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	CHANGE
Adult Physical Arrests	242	170	181	141	244	103
Juvenile Physical Arrests	53	61	58	46	76	30
Adult Criminal Citations	162	166	220	144	275	131
Juvenile Criminal Citations	142	194	244	163	270	107
Outstanding Warrant Arrests	99	79	106	148	176	28
TOTAL ARRESTS	698	670	809	642	1041	399

CITATIONS	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	CHANGE
Civil	1354	824	1050	899	1051	152

Parking	1280	1526	1166	949	1550	601
State	6359	5156	3535	3153	5469	2,316
DNR	91	125	48	49	46	-3
Warnings	3715	4259	2558	2639	4198	1559
SERO	436	529	339	280	542	262
TOTAL CITATIONS	13,235	12,419	8,696	7,969	12,856	4,887

ACCIDENTS	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	CHANGE
Fatal	0	0	0	0	0	0
Injury	21	24	28	8	30	22
Property Damage	60	47	46	58	72	14
Hit and Run	-	-	6	6	6	0
TOTAL ACCIDENTS	81	71	80	72	108	36

POLICE ACTIVITIES	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	CHANGE
Self Initiated Calls	66,414	74,572	79,655	66,926	72,858	5,932
Total Calls for Service	71,454	79,732	85,100	72,502	86,416	13,914
REPORTS WRITTEN	1795	1725	1875	1619	2072	453

MARY R. BRADFORD, DIRECTOR OF PARKS
STATEMENT TO THE PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

APRIL 18, 2008

I appreciate this Committee's continued support of the annual operating budget for the Park Police Division of the Montgomery County Department of Parks. I believe even in these tough fiscal times, a program that is highly regarded, successful, and protects the life and safety of our residents must be fully funded. I realize that difficult choices will need to be made, and the Park Police are willing to do their part, so I urge you to make a choice that allows us to continue the safe reputation of the County's Park System.

In particular today, I want to make a few comments about the Park Ranger program. By any measure, it has been extraordinarily successful. I urge this Committee's continued support of it as we move into FY 2009.

During the late spring of 2006, the Maryland-National Capital Park Police created and implemented a pilot "Park Ranger Program" as a way to broaden its accountability in an increasingly diverse Montgomery County. Originally, I was concerned that because of its directed focus on ballfields, rather than resource protection, but I have been delighted with how the program has evolved in this short time. It has been particularly effective at cultural interfacing with our vibrant and changing demography. It has emerged as a fiscally sound, pragmatic and effective complement to public-safety coverage in the parks, and addresses the call for increased field deployment of staff we received from the Office of Legislative Oversight.

It enhances public safety responsiveness in the parks, especially on busy weekends, through auxiliary patrols with tailored non-sworn authority. The ranger program is educational, because it enforces compliance with park rules through teaching, whether in the form of a friendly, one-on-one encounter with a citizen or an outreach program.

The rangers are in radio communication with the park police and lend assistance to park visitors, freeing sworn patrol officers from certain routine tasks, such as food-vendor violations, ballfield permit violations and the like, resulting in more concentrated efforts in areas requiring police officers, such as anti-gang, anti-theft, and "hot spot" emphasis. The Park Rangers serve as "Ambassadors" to the park system by providing information, customer service, education, interpretive, and conservation efforts to our many park patrons. They do not have law enforcement authority and are not authorized to engage in confrontational situations. As such, uniformed Police Officers are dispatched when Rangers encounter park users who refuse to adhere to Commission Rules and Regulations.

Finally, these rangers we have hired enable us to have true diversity and to communicate with user groups that normally do have easy communication with police officers. See the attached chart for the list of 2007-08 rangers.

Thank you for your continued support of the Montgomery County Park Police.

Name	Tenure	Total Hours	Park-Check Activity	Other Activity¹
Julie Lubin	March 25-September 1	40 Hours Per Week (1, 200)	491	7
Carrick Robertson	March 25-September 1	40 hours Per Week (1, 200)	922	18
Haleh Mirabrishami	March 25-Present	32 Hours Per Week (1, 472)	1225	14
Mirna Sanchez-Martinez	March 25-Present	40 Hours Per Week (1, 840)	2117	10