

Resolution No. 2628

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF SALISBURY, MARYLAND AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH THE GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF CRIME CONTROL AND PREVENTION FOR THE PURPOSE OF EXPENDING GRANT FUNDS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$88,458.

WHEREAS, the City of Salisbury applied for funds through the Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention's Safe Streets Grant Program (MDSS-2016-1506); and

WHEREAS, the Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention has awarded the City of Salisbury funds in the amount of \$88,458.00; and

WHEREAS, these funds are to be used to purchase (5) ELSAG Automatic License Plate Reader (ALPR) Systems with Maintenance Agreements; and

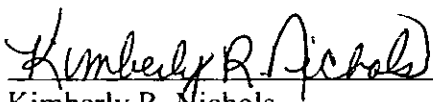
WHEREAS, the City of Salisbury must enter into a grant agreement with Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention defining how these funds must be expended; and

WHEREAS, § 7-29 of the Salisbury City Charter forbids the Mayor from entering into a contract that requires an expenditure not authorized by the City Council;

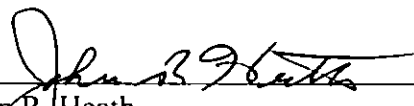
NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the Council of the City of Salisbury, Maryland does hereby authorize Mayor Jacob R. Day to enter into a grant agreement with Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention, budget the requisite funds, and expend the awarded funds accordingly.

THE ABOVE RESOLUTION was introduced and duly passed at a meeting of the Council of the City of Salisbury, Maryland held on April 25, 2016, and is to become effective immediately.

ATTEST:

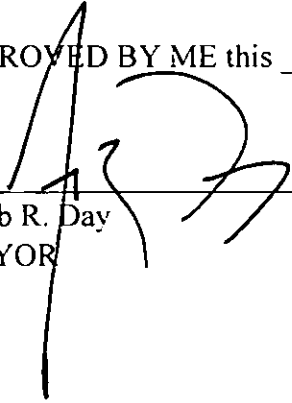


Kimberly R. Nichols
CITY CLERK



John R. Heath
CITY COUNCIL PRESIDENT

APPROVED BY ME this 27th day of APRIL, 2016.



Jacob R. Day
MAYOR

**City of Salisbury Maryland
Maryland Safe Streets Initiative - Equipment Program
White Paper Proposal**

Overview of City of Salisbury:

Salisbury is the County Seat for Wicomico County, Maryland, encompassing about 12 square miles within Wicomico County. We have two major highways (Route 50 & 13) intersecting in the center of town. Both are well documented corridors for the vehicular trafficking of illegal drugs, guns, and money to and from the New York, District of Columbia, Baltimore and Richmond, VA metropolitan areas. Salisbury is the metropolitan hub of the Eastern Shore and in fact the next closest city offering a comparable level and diversity of services is Dover, Delaware, which is over an hour's drive north. We are home base to a regional hospital with numerous satellite medical support facilities, a growing state university, two community colleges, public transportation systems, food banks, shelters, mental and behavioral service facilities, and robust commercial districts anchoring both the north and south ends of the city.

According to the national census estimate of 2014 the City of Salisbury's full time, residential population is 32,563. According to the Chamber of Commerce the daytime population is estimated to be approximately 120,000. The median household income in Salisbury is \$37,153.00 compared to the State median income of \$73,538.00. 28.4% of Salisbury's population is below the poverty level compared to the State average of 9.8%. Salisbury has experienced a decline in property values and the closure of several manufacturing companies and retail stores which has led to increased unemployment and a shrinking job market especially for those wage earners who are at or below the poverty level. As of January 2016, the unemployment rate in Salisbury was 10.0% compared to the Maryland average of 5.9% and the national average of 5.7%. In fact, the unemployment rate hit a 10 year high in 2013 at 11.2% and has been nearly twice the state and national average during the same time period and these trends highlight an at risk population.

Problem Statement:

During the period of January - February 2016 compared to January - February 2015 Part I Offences have spiked 23% from 234 to 288 total offences. Armed Robbery has increased 69% from 29 offences in 2014 to 49 offences in 2015. All other Gun Related Offences increased 31% from 55 offences in 2014 to 72 offences in 2015. The City of Salisbury continues to address incidents of gun violence. Since July 1, 2015 SPD officers have seized 35 guns, made 14 gun related arrests. Three of these arrests were connected to our most recent homicide of a 17 year old on August 2, 2015. SPD has also assisted the Wicomico County States Attorney's Office in the prosecution of 22 gun related offenses.

The Thunderguards Motorcycle Gang is known to frequent, hang out, and operate at local bars in the capacity of bouncers, guest bar tenders and bar keeps which effectively converts the bar into a club house for the Outlaw Motorcycle Gangs. We now have verified intelligence indicating that the Pagans OMG out of Delaware are forming an alliance with the Thunderguards here in Salisbury. This alliance formation is due to increased enforcement pressure targeting Pagan and related OMG activities in Delaware so the illegal activity is now being displaced into Salisbury. Zoe Pound is a documented Haitian Gang with a history of violent behavior. To date the Zoe Pound gang has remained under the law enforcement radar in Salisbury. What is known is that Zoe Pound gang sets are becoming more prevalent in Salisbury. Gang intelligence on various Blood gang sets include; G-Shine, 9 Tre, and TTP (Tree Top Piru).

It is not uncommon for these different gang sets to collaborate for the purposes of furthering their illicit drug enterprise. These different gang sets will also clash with each other when they are not collaborating and this usually results in violent confrontations and serious assaults that often involve gun play. There are several feeder type gangs which are being focused on by law enforcement. The intelligence on the active gangs in Salisbury has shown that the feeder style gangs consist of elementary and middle school aged juveniles. These juveniles are mentored and directed by older gang members and eventually they are assimilated into the one of the operational Blood sets as the juveniles make their way to adulthood. Some of these younger feeder gangs have been identified as ABM or All Bout Money and TOP or Thugs on Point.

Project Narrative:

Since 2009 The Salisbury Police Department has received Grant funding through GOCCP for The Safe Streets initiative and has adopted the security integration model of multi-agency collaboration with federal, state, local law enforcement, DJS, Parole and Probation and community partners. The City of Salisbury's community policing strategy will provide for a safe community and improve the quality of life for all of its citizens and enforce the law with equity and impartiality. SPD conducts thorough investigations of all crimes, assist in reducing crime through strategic deployment. Presently, SPD Officers participate on monthly "Top 25" offender reviews with the States Attorney's Office, allied police Departments, and other partners. Officers also twice per month attend Heat Team and attend meetings and discuss crime trends and offender contacts, with the Division of Parole and Probation and the Department of Juvenile Service.

Although our philosophy is that the Safe Streets and Community Policing initiative is everyone's responsibility we have four (4) police officers specifically assigned to address concerns that may require more time to focus in on more in depth problems that an officer assigned to other areas of the department may not have the ability to resolve. A critical component to this process is ensuring that our officers have the most up to date and effective gear and equipment possible in order to maximize their effectiveness.

It is well known among the criminal justice community that those that commit serious offences, traffic guns, and deal in illicit activity drugs are nearly always in violation of the law in many other ways such as operating stolen vehicles, switched license plates, suspended vehicle registration, suspended operator driver's license, just to name a few. We are requesting funding for this technology to assist us in identifying and enforcing these underlying issues that will assist in our efforts to apprehend offenders who utilize vehicles to further their criminal enterprise.

SPD requests that funding be awarded so that we may be able to purchase four (4) Digital Automatic License Plate Reader Technology (ALPR) systems. ALPR system's cutting-edge capabilities include reading plates at a rate of up to 1,800 per minute using two cameras mounted to the exterior of a patrol vehicle, aimed license-plate high. The reads are at least 96% accurate, but reading is only one of the benefits of ALPR. The system instantaneously compares each plate number to a database of suspect plates, immediately alerting the patrolling officer if there is a match and presenting a photo of the suspect vehicle on the in-car computer.

Summary:

The Salisbury Police Department wishes to purchase (4) ELSAG Automatic License Plate Reader (ALPR) Systems from Selex ES (or one of their vendors). ALPR Systems have proven to be a valuable tool for Law Enforcement with the system's ability to constantly scan a large number of license plates and compare them to multiple databases at a high rate of speed. The systems have the ability to identify stolen/wanted vehicles, vehicles involved in Missing Persons cases, suspended registrations, suspended/revoked drivers, etc.

The Salisbury Police Department had (2) ALPR Systems from a different company and the Department was impressed with the capabilities of an ALPR System; however, the actual ALPR Systems on the Department's vehicles were problematic and have now reached their "end of life". The Salisbury Police Department would like to purchase these (4) new systems from Selex ES based on the fact that they are a proven company that is used by the majority of Agencies in Maryland to include the Maryland State Police. Additionally, the ELSAG ALPR Systems have the ability to automatically obtain the "HotLists" and to automatically upload the Department's license plate reads to the Maryland Coordination and Analysis Center (MCAC). This is a huge benefit to not only the Salisbury Police Department but to the entire State of Maryland in that the information obtained from the ELSAG ALPR Systems will be available to all Law Enforcement Agencies in Maryland.

Priority 1.

The Total cost for four (4) ELSAG Plate Hunter M5-2 Units = \$68,850.00 to be purchased prior to June 30, 2016.

Priority 2.

Warranty for (4) Units for (4) years = \$19,608.00 to be purchased prior to June 30, 2016.

INTER

OFFICE

MEMO

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

To: The Mayor & Tom Stevenson
From: Theo Williams
Subject: Council Authorization of Grant Expenditures for Safe Streets
Date: 4/20/16

The SPD applied for supplemental funding through the MD Safe Streets program for, originally, 4 automated license plat readers. The SPD received those funds, but as they are supplemental to the normal FY16 allotment, they must be spent or obligated by the end of the fiscal year, 6/30/16. The SPD has received a new estimate for these readers that allows them to purchase 5 as opposed to 4. They will begin the process for this purchase/acquisition once council passes this resolution. Thank you.