RESOLUTION NO. 2009-04-18

STATE OF GEORGIA
COUNTY OF FULTON

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF SANDY SPRINGS, GEORGIA
IN SUPPORT OF ITS APPLICATION FOR FUNDING OF ELEVEN FULL-TIME OFFICERS
UNDER THE OFFICE OF COMMUNITY ORIENTED POLICING SERVICES’
C.O.P.S. HIRING RECOVERY PROGRAM

BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council for the City of Sandy Springs, Georgia while in regular session on April 7, 2009 at 6:00 p.m. as follows:

WHEREAS, the City of Sandy Springs, Georgia was incorporated on December 1, 2005; and

WHEREAS, the City of Sandy Springs formed its Police Department and took over responsibility for law enforcement within the City on July 1, 2006; and

WHEREAS, the City of Sandy Springs Police Department obtained its certification from the State of Georgia as an accredited police agency on September 20, 2008; and

WHEREAS, the City of Sandy Springs Police Department is pursuing its certification from the Commission on Accreditation of Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA) and expects to obtain such certification in the near term; and

WHEREAS, since formation of the Police Department, there as been a nine percent (9%) across the board decrease in crime within the City; and

WHEREAS, in February 2008, the Police Department started a Gang Unit to focus on issues that were arising from gang activity within the City. Since its inception, the Gang Unit has made 45 felony arrests (93 percent of which were gang-related), 68 misdemeanor arrests and 56 City arrests. The Gang Unit has further been responsible for the deportation of 26 illegal aliens involved in gang activity; and

WHEREAS, the Georgia Office of Highway Safety (GOHS) renewed the Police Department’s Highway Enforcement of Aggressive Traffic (HEAT) grant, which is a major public safety partnership. In 2008, two officers averaged 34 DUI arrests per month. Funded by the grant, the officers have 410 DUI arrests, 1,296 speeding tickets, and 619 other tickets, which resulted in 496 physical arrests.

WHEREAS, the Police Department is currently implementing a geographic policing model which will enhance law enforcement responsiveness and community accountability for public safety within the City; and

WHEREAS, the Police Department is currently involved with, and developing, multi-jurisdictional and multi-agency initiatives to leverage its public safety impact within the City and the Region; and

WHEREAS, the City is making an application for funding of eleven full-time officers under the Office of Community Oriented Policing Services’ C.O.P.S. Hiring Recovery Program; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council fully support this application for the hiring of officers under the C.O.P.S. Hiring Recovery Program and believe that the additional positions will further enhance the
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Police Department's ability to continue with the innovative policing programs which it has implemented and carry on its record of success and accomplishment as the Police Department moves forward;

NOW, THEREFORE, the Mayor and Council of the City of Sandy Springs, Georgia, pursuant to their authority do hereby adopt by Resolution as follows:

RESOLVED, the Mayor and Council of the City of Sandy Springs, Georgia fully support the application of the City for funding of eleven full-time officers under the Office of Community Oriented Policing Services' C.O.P.S. Hiring Recovery Program; and

RESOLVED, the Mayor and Council of the City of Sandy Springs, Georgia believe that the additional positions will further enhance the Police Department's ability to continue with the innovative policing programs which it has implemented and carry on its record of success and accomplishment as the Police Department moves forward.

APPROVED AND ADOPTED this 7th day of April, 2009.

Approved:

[Signature]

Eva Galambos, Mayor

Attest:

[Signature]
Michael D. Casey, Interim City Clerk
(Seal)