



# City of Maricopa

## Legislation Text

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The Mayor and City Council shall discuss and possibly take action to enter into a subgrantee agreement with the Maricopa Unified School District for the U.S. Department of Justice, Community Oriented Policing, Secure Our Schools Grant Award. Discussion and Action.

In April 2009, the Mayor and City Council approved submission of a grant application to the U.S. Department of Justice, Community Oriented Policing, Secure Our Schools. The Community Oriented Policing (COPS) office was created through the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994. As a component of the Justice Department, the mission of the COPS office is to advance the practice of community policing as an effective strategy to improve public safety. Moving from a reactive to proactive role, community policing represents a shift from more traditional law enforcement practices. By addressing the root causes of criminal and disorderly behavior, rather than simply responding to crimes once they have been committed, community policing concentrates on preventing both crime and the atmosphere of fear it creates. Additionally, community policing encourages the use of crime-fighting technology and operational strategies and the development of mutually beneficial relationships between law enforcement and the community.

Secure Our Schools (SOS) grant provides funding to local governments to assist with the development of school safety resources. The funding will allow recipients to enhance a variety of school safety equipment and/or programs to encourage the continuation and enhancement of school safety efforts within their communities. In September 2009 the grant was awarded to allow for the purchase of security cameras to be placed at Maricopa Wells Middle School and Desert Wind Middle School. Security and surveillance camera systems are one option to improve the security on school and university campuses. School Administrators are constrained in seeking ways to curb the menace of theft, vandalism, fights or disorderly conduct on their campuses. A security camera is the most cost effective device for curbing deviant behavior on a school campus.

The subgrant agreement places the same conditions and requirements for Maricopa Unified School District that the City of Maricopa must follow to remain in compliance with the Federal grant award.

Staff recommends entering into a subgrant agreement with the Maricopa Unified School District for the U.S. Department of Justice, Community Oriented Policing, Secure Our Schools Grant Award.