Decoy Car Program

11.11.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The Decoy Car Program is designed as a tool to enhance traffic safety and deter unsafe driving by strategically placing an unoccupied marked police car in areas where traffic problems have been reported or are anticipated. A decoy car may be used in lieu of, or in conjunction with, enforcement efforts.

PART I - Responsibilities and Procedures for All Personnel

A. Location selection
B. Deployment criteria
C. Deployment procedures

PART II – Responsibilities and procedures for Supervisors and Command Personnel Prevention/Community Services

A. Traffic Enforcement Unit Supervisors

11.11.2 RESPONSIBILITIES AND PROCEDURES FOR ALL PERSONNEL

A. Location selection

1. Requests for use of a decoy car may come directly from members of the community, from other City departments, or from persons inside the department.

2. Priority will be given to deploying the car in areas where traffic complaints have been received or areas where the car's presence may help to reduce hazards (e.g., school zones, construction zones, residential neighborhoods, high-collision areas).

3. The Traffic Enforcement Unit (TEU) Supervisor or designee will oversee scheduling the car(s), and will forward a list of locations for deployment, along with contact information, via e-mail to *Eugene Police Decoy Car*.

4. The designated Senior Patrol lead volunteer(s) will schedule the car(s)

to be deployed at locations selected by the TEU Supervisor. If a car is available, and there are not specifically identified needs, it may be deployed at one of the alternate locations selected by the TEU Supervisor.

B.   Deployment criteria

1.   The car will normally be deployed only during daylight hours, unless the identified problem is occurring during hours of darkness.

2.   The car will not be left deployed overnight without supervisory approval.

C.   Deployment procedures

1.   Senior Patrol members will be responsible to deploy and retrieve the decoy car.

2.   When parking the vehicle:

a.   Ensure that the vehicle is legally and safely parked.

b.   Lock the vehicle, remove the keys and disable the vehicle.

c.   If feasible, contact a nearby neighbor or other person (e.g. construction site supervisor) and ask him or her to report any attempts to tamper with or damage the vehicle by calling 911 or the department's non-emergency number, as appropriate.

d.   Notify Communications of the vehicle's location and note its location in the Patrol Briefing Room.

3.   If any damage to the vehicle is reported or noted, contact the Senior Patrol supervisor or a patrol supervisor for further instructions.

4.   At the scheduled time, the assigned person should retrieve the vehicle and check it for damage.

a.   The vehicle should be fueled if its fuel level is below 3/4 of a tank.

b.   Return the vehicle to its assigned parking place, and the keys to their assigned location.

c.   Notify Communications that the vehicle has been removed from the location where it was deployed and delete the location from the notice in the Patrol Briefing Room.

5.   If a person assigned to retrieve the vehicle cannot do so, notify the Senior Patrol supervisor or, if he or she is not available, the Watch

Commander so that alternative arrangements can be made.

11.11.3 RESPONSIBILITIES AND PROCEDURES FOR SUPERVISORS AND COMMAND PERSONNEL

A. Traffic Enforcement Unit Supervisor

1. Evaluate traffic-related complaints to determine where a decoy car can be effectively used.

2. Forward a list of locations for deployment and contact persons to *Eugene Police Decoy Car*.

3. Periodically review the decoy car deployment schedule to ensure that the car is being used effectively.

4. Periodically update the list of alternate locations where the car may be deployed, based on the assessment of on-going traffic-related issues.