

At the request of Alder Lauren Cnare, below is some background information regarding two amendments affecting Safe Communities 2011 funding, introduced by Supervisor Dave de Felice at the Personnel and Finance Committee last week.

1. Amendment #: P & F – 14

Motion: This amendment takes funds allocated to Safe Communities for suicide prevention and provides funds to Hopes (Helping Others Prevent and Educate about Suicide) as it is in the current budget.

- In the justification for moving dollars from Safe Communities to HOPES, it states that HOPES trained over 2,500 individuals. According to reports from January through September 30, 2010, HOPES trained a total of 955 individuals.
- HOPES trained 54% or 516 individuals from Dane County (46% were not Dane county residents), whereas 100% or 768 individuals Safe Communities trained were from Dane County. Safe Communities only works in Dane County.

2. Amendment #: P & F – 15

Motion: This amendment eliminates the balance of funding for Safe Communities after the transfer of suicide prevention funding from Safe Communities to Hopes. A companion amendment applies these funds to increase the budget for overtime expenses in the sheriff's Office Security division.

- This Dane County money is located in the Public Health budget and has been provided to Safe Communities since 2001 for a variety of collaborative, community-wide injury prevention work, such as traffic safety, falls and suicide. Safe Communities is uniquely positioned to do this work.

These amendments are scheduled for consideration at the Personnel and Finance Committee meeting on Thursday evening (11/11).