

Mounted Unit Budget FY 2014

Cost is based on a 4-horse unit with 2 full time riders, 2 part time riders.

4120 Contractual Services		Total	\$35,586
Stable / Boarding	Alachua Con. Trust		\$16800
Veterinarian/Emergency	Reg. visits every 4 months		\$7000
Farrier	\$225 per horse per shoeing		\$10800
Insurance (Vet. Surgery)	\$246 per horse		\$986
3010 Materials / Supplies		Total	\$18,900
Feed			\$7000
Hay (alfalfa/coastal)			\$3500
Supplements and Medications	As needed		\$2000
Medical Supplies	As needed		\$200
Grooming	As needed		\$360
Horse Tack	4 blankets @ \$60 per horse		\$240
	Easyboots @ \$160 per set		\$160
	Leg wraps @ \$145 2 sets		\$290
	4 halters and lead ropes \$185 each		\$740
Uniforms	2 tall dress boots \$250 each		\$500
	2 short riding boots \$130 each		\$260
	8 riding breeches \$100 each		\$800
Public Relations	Bookmarks, etc		\$350
Miscellaneous	Stable supplies		\$1,000
	Laundry		\$400
	Water		\$300
	Stable Bedding		\$800

4230 Maintenance / Building		\$1500
Maintenance/Repair		\$1500
3210 Training	Total	\$4,200
Outside Schools / Seminars approx \$500 per horse		\$2,000
Travel		\$700
Stable Fee (\$75.00 per horse)		\$300
Lodging		\$1,200
Total Operational Expenses		<u>\$60,186</u>

6040 Capital	Total	\$5,000
Horse replacement cost		\$5,000

Total Proposed FY 2014 **\$65,186.00**

4120 Contractual Services **\$35,586**

The MPU is currently housed at the Alachua Conservation Trust, 7204 SE CR 234. The cost associated with this service is \$350 per horse for an annual expense of \$16,800. This includes the feeding/stabling of the horses and the maintenance of the pastures/barn.

Spring Hill Veterinary continues to offer a special health program which costs approximately \$530 per horse per year for a total of \$2,120. This would include routine checkups with vaccinations, dental work, & blood work for health certificates. Pre-purchase/lease exams, x-ray, and other incidental well-horse requirements would be an additional charge. However, because emergency vet bills can be expensive, the unit maintains an emergency vet buffer of approximately \$5,000.

Farrier services will be paid at \$225 per horse per shoeing. The horses wear traditional horseshoes however they are supplemented with Borium for traction. New “replacement” horses will be wearing Easyboots until their reliability on patrol has been established. The optimal trimming/shoeing schedule would be every six (6) weeks resulting in a maximum of \$10,800 for the fiscal year.

We have obtained Full Equine Mortality Insurance for each horse through Jerry Parks Insurance Group. The insurance premium costs about \$246 per horse/per year totaling \$986. The insurance covers injuries, illness and even death.

3010 Materials / Supplies

\$18,550

Historically, this budget item, one of the larger expenses for the MPU, has been underestimated resulting in deficit spending. Every effort has been made to accurately estimate the actual expenses in this category.

The majority of funding is used for Feed and Supplements. Uniforms and Tack, which even when properly cared for will show signs of wear from everyday use, are also purchased from this fund. Additionally, this budget item is used to maintain the stables and pastures beyond that which is contracted with the Alachua Conservation Trust.

3210 Training

\$4,200

The training of the unit is one of the most fundamental components to keep the horses and riders proficient in our profession. It is desirable to attend outside training seminars to have outside professional critique the partnership of horse and rider. The experience of traveling and training with other local agencies is invaluable. Networking with other individuals allows us to develop new ideas about the utilization of the Mounted Unit. Local agencies usually hold special joint training events, which are free to attend. However, there are travel and lodging costs for both the rider and the horses. With this in mind, \$4,200 has been budgeted to cover Equine related seminars for all members of the Unit.

4230 Maintenance / Building

\$1,500`

The Mounted Patrol Unit is currently being housed at the Alachua Conservation Trust, 7204 SE CR 234. The Alachua Conservation Trust is responsible for all routine maintenance to the stables, pasture mowing, and feeding of the horses on the Mounted Patrol Unit member’s days off. The Mounted Patrol Unit is responsible for repairs to the pasture’s electrical fencing.

6040 Capital

\$5,000

The only item is \$5,000 for a replacement horse. This is requested to be in place in the event of an unexpected injury, death or exigent retirement of one of the current horses.

The Mounted Patrol Unit has been maintaining a compliment of 4 patrol ready mounts. This practice has been established to allow for a serviceable horse being deployed in the event of an injury or sudden retirement of a horse. There have been several instances in the past when at least 2 of the 4 horses have been out of service for several weeks and months due to injury. Had there not been the availability of the additional mounts, the unit would not have been able to deploy and conduct their normal assignments.

The transitional delay is substantially less when additional mounts are available upon a retirement of a horse. One of the trained horses is then pressed into full time service. The pretense is much like that of having pool patrol vehicles.

An added benefit to having the 4 patrol ready horses is that during events such as UF National Championship celebrations, Fest 12, Blue & White and the increased pedestrian traffic that accompanies these events, it allows for the deployment of 2 teams of Mounted Patrol Teams; as we have several department members that could supplement the unit for the event.