



## **AGENDA MEMO**

**CITY COUNCIL MEETING DATE: JANUARY 16, 2008**

**DEPARTMENT: HUMAN RESOURCES**

**ITEM DESCRIPTION: Discussion and possible action regarding funding of the positions of Deputy City Attorney I(X) and Legal Technician I(X) in conjunction with the implementation the appointment of hearing commissioners relative to Bill No. 2007-77 (\$222,660 - General Fund)**

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### **MEMORANDUM OF NEED AND NECESSITY**

The implementation of a Hearing Commissioner program for traffic matters, as currently proposed, is to hear contested traffic matters through the arraignment and pre-trial court processes. Additionally, as currently proposed, the Hearing Commissioner program for traffic matters is to operate a schedule of five (5) days per week; requiring a Deputy City Attorney to be present during the scheduled proceedings.

As currently staffed, the Office of the City Attorney-Criminal Division has a Deputy City Attorney and a Legal Technician dedicated to each criminal department handling all court appearances and case management of approximately 5,500-6,000 cases per month/per department, respectively. The implementation of a Hearing Commissioner program, in essence, creates an additional full-time court requiring a dedicated Deputy City Attorney and a Legal Technician to support the essential functions of the Hearing Commissioner program.