

AGENDA



Thursday, June 7, 2007

**Police
RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION****Item No. 19**

Subject: Authorize application for \$407,691 in grant funding from the U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Assistance, Justice Assistance Program (JAG), to be equally shared by the City and Travis County. The City will use its JAG funds to pay for community policing operations by the Austin Police Department.

Amount and Source of Funding: Funding is available from the U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Assistance, Justice Assistance Program, for the grant period October 1, 2007 to September 30, 2008. A cash match is not required. (Related to item #20)

Fiscal Note: There is no unanticipated fiscal impact. A fiscal note is not required.

For More Information: Cathy Ellison, Chief of Police (Acting)/974-5030

Prior Council Action: March 2, 2006 acceptance of 2006 JAG funds.

This action authorizes the City to apply for \$407,691 in grant funding from the U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA), Justice Assistance Grant (JAG). The City and Travis County will equally share all JAG funds received under this grant program pursuant to an Interlocal Agreement. The City will use its JAG funds to pay for police officer overtime for community policing in crime hotspot areas.

The federal legislation authorizing this grant program includes a provision whereby cities and counties must submit a joint funding application if the state's Attorney General certifies that a funding disparity exists in a county's allocation when compared with that of a single municipality (at least a 150 percent disparity must exist), and the county bears more than 50 percent of prosecution or incarceration costs arising from Uniform Crime Report Part 1 violent crimes reported by the municipality to the FBI. Once certified, jurisdictions then decide if funds will be shared, and if so, how the funding will be allocated. There is no requirement as to how funds should be shared. Since FY 2000-2001, the City and County have shared the funding on a 50/50 basis and this arrangement will continue. Under the arrangement, City and County will each receive an allocation of \$203,845. The City of Austin and Travis County will enter into an Interlocal Agreement so the City can serve as the fiscal agent responsible for distributing the grant funds.