

AGENDA



Thursday, June 21, 2007

**Police
RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION****Item No. 30**

Subject: Approve a resolution authorizing the application for \$40,200 in grant funds from the State of Texas, Governor's Office, Criminal Justice Division, Safe and Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act Grant Program for the operation of the Police Department Gang Prevention Project.

Amount and Source of Funding: Funding is available from the State of Texas, Governor's Office, Criminal Justice Division, Safe and Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act Grant Program for the grant period September 1, 2007 - August 31, 2008. This is the first year of a 5-year grant project. There is no required match.

Prior Council Action: Approved Budget Amendment Ordinance 20070607-022 on June 7, 2007.

Budget Amendment Ordinance Number 20070607-022 was approved by Council on June 7, 2007 regarding this grant. In addition to that Ordinance, the Grantor requires a Resolution certifying that the City is committed to providing for any applicable matching funds; the City has designated an authorized official to negotiate on its behalf; and the City will return funds to the Grantor in the event of a loss or misuse of grant funds. Therefore, this resolution is being brought forward for Council approval in order to complete the grant application process.

The goal of the grant program is to prevent gang-related criminal activity through education. The APD Gang Prevention Project staff will train and mentor juveniles (under 17) to increase their awareness of gang-related issues, to explore positive alternatives to gang membership, to intervene and serve as positive role models, and to prevent youth from engaging in criminal behavior and entering the juvenile and/or criminal justice system. The project will also provide training for parents, guardians, professionals, and in-agency personnel.

The \$40,200 in grant funding will provide for the following: training on gang-related issues for staff in the amount of \$16,200; curriculum development and printing services in the amount of \$15,100; and presentation equipment in the amount of \$8,900.

This grant addresses the Department goal of reducing crime, fear of crime, and improving the quality of life of Austin's residents.