Thursday, June 21, 2007

Police RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION

Item No. 31

Subject: Approve a resolution authorizing the application of \$24,886 in grant funds from the State of Texas, Office of the Governor, Criminal Justice Division, Juvenile Accountability Block Grant Program (JABG) for technology resources for the City of Austin's Eastside Story Program.

Amount and Source of Funding: Funding is available from the State of Texas, Office of the Governor, Criminal Justice Division, JABG for the grant period of August 1, 2007 through July 31, 2008. A cash match of \$2,765 is required and is contingent upon available funding in future budgets. Total funding for the JABG project is \$27,651.

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

Prior Council Action: Council approved Budget Amendment Ordinance 20070524-009 on May 24, 2007.

Budget Amendment Ordinance Number 20070524-009 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 City of Austin Eastside Story is an after school tutoring and enrichment and summer camp program. Through collaborations with local school districts and charter schools, we are able to provide homework assistance, tutoring, and cultural/recreational activities to students after school and in the summer. The program goal is to provide a safe environment for children after school while promoting academic achievement.

The program employs qualified school teachers and teacher's aides to work with a student ratio of 1:18. Eastside Story has 11 after school sites spread throughout the East Austin area. Grade reports are collected on each participant so that we are able to monitor academic progress throughout the school year. A student tracking program developed using this grant fund would allow staff to efficiently review and analyze the performance data and effectively center program services based on identified need.