Thursday, May 8, 2008

Police RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION

Item No. 24

Subject: Approve a resolution authorizing the application of grant renewal funding from the State of Texas, Governor's Office, Criminal Justice Division, Victims of Crime Act in the amount of \$134,604 for three existing full-time equivalent (FTE) Victim Counselors for a Comprehensive Victim Services Program.

Amount and Source of Funding: Funding is available in the grant period of September 1, 2008 - June 30, 2009 from the State of Texas, Governor's Office, Criminal Justice Division. The required 20% match of \$33,653 is available in the Fiscal Year 2007-2008 Operating Budget of the Austin Police Department Victim Services Program.

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

For More Information: APD Chief of Staff David Carter/974-5030

Prior Council Action: June 7, 2007

This action approves a resolution authorizing the application for \$134,604 in grant renewal funding from the State of Texas, Governor's Office, Criminal Justice Division, Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) for the Austin Police Department project entitled "On-Scene Crisis Response."

The goal of the grant program is to increase counseling, referral and follow-up services to adult and child primary and secondary crime victims who have witnessed or experienced family, school or community violence. The grant period runs from September 1, 2008 – June 30, 2009.

The grant program goals will be achieved by addressing the APD Victim Services Program goals of improving the quality of life for Austin residents through responding to the psychological and emotional needs of victims, families and neighbors who have experienced crime and/or trauma so that they can more quickly and completely recover from the effects of victimization. The three (3) grant-funded FTE Victim Counselors will deliver these services by providing on-scene crisis stabilization (Crisis Team) and investigative support and follow-up counseling services(Centralized Investigations and Family Violence).