Thursday, May 8, 2008

Police RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION

Item No. 27

Subject: Approve a resolution authorizing the application for \$75,000 in grant funds from the State of Texas, Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission, for the Austin/Travis County Enforcement of Underage Drinking Laws Program.

Amount and Source of Funding: Funding is available from the State of Texas, Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission, for the grant period June 1, 2008 to May 31, 2009. A 25% cash match is required and will be met using the existing salary of the Alcohol Control Team Sergeant.

Fiscal Note: A fiscal note is not required.

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

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This grant funding will enable APD officers to enforce underage drinking prevention laws through education of minors, education of retailers, and undercover stings that target the purchase of alcohol by residents under 21 years of age within the city limits of Austin. This is a one-year grant with the opportunity to apply for future funds, should they become available.

The grant allows funding for officer overtime to conduct enforcement stings and compensation for youth posing as decoys during stings. This grant addresses the Department goal of improving traffic safety by reducing the incidents of underage drinking and Driving While Intoxicated. It also addresses the APD Program Objective for Neighborhood Policing: The purpose of the Neighborhood Policing Program is to provide immediate police service, criminal investigations, and collaborative problem solving initiatives to the community so it can feel safe and be safe.

Program effectiveness is measured by examining the number of locations targeted for alcohol sales to minors, the number of education efforts targeting retailers, and the number of arrests of retailers who sell alcohol to minors.