

Recommendation for Council Action

Austin City Council Item ID 19804 Agenda Number 13.

Meeting Date: 11/1/2012 Department: Austin Police Department

Subject

Approve an ordinance accepting \$1,000,000 in grant funds from the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Bureau of Justice Assistance; and amending the Fiscal Year 2012-2013 Police Department Operating Budget Special Revenue Fund (Ordinance No. 20120910-001) to appropriate \$1,000,000 for the Austin Police Department project entitled City of Austin Byrne Criminal Justice Innovation Program.

Amount and Source of Funding

Funding in the amount of \$1,000,000 is available in a grant from the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Bureau of Justice Assistance FY 12 Byrne Criminal Justice Innovation Program: Planning and Implementation. A match is not required.

Fiscal Note A fiscal note is attached. Purchasing Language: Prior Council Action: For More Information: Brian Manley, Assistant Chief | 974-5030 Boards and Commission Action: MBE / WBE: Related Items:

Additional Backup Information

- The Byrne Criminal Justice Innovation Program (BCJI) is a part of the Obama Administration's larger Neighborhood Revitalization Initiative that helps communities develop place-based, community-oriented strategies with coordinated federal support to change neighborhoods of distress into neighborhoods of opportunity
- The geographic boundaries of Austin's program are:
- o Research Boulevard/Anderson Lane to the south;
- o railroad tracks (just west of Metric) and Lamar to the west;
- o Interstate 35 and Cameron Road to the east; and,
- o Rutland Drive, Braker Lane, Floradale Drive, and Applegate Drive to the north
- The target area was chosen based on:

- o high levels of poverty, disinvestment, unemployment, and criminal activity all of which are indicative of the deep-rooted criminal element, discouraging redevelopment and stifling economic growth; and
- o visibility of open-air drug markets, prostitution, nuisance property, and loitering on street corners, in parking lots, and around homes and businesses.
- The goals of the City of Austin BCJI Program are:
- o to improve public safety;
- o to address social impacts (such as physical disorder, social economic status and resources, and collective efficacy); and,
- o to ensure the long-term planning and implementation of revitalization strategies within the Rundberg neighborhood.
- Over the three year grant period, APD will work closely with other city departments, residents and community leaders, the University of Texas at Austin Department of Sociology and Population Research Center, and the Housing Authority of the City of Austin to accomplish the goals of this new APD program.
- The budget includes funding for APD officer, dispatch and crime analyst overtime (\$454,628); confidential funds (\$10,000); research and evaluation through the University of Texas (\$300,000); social service programming (\$200,000); pre and post-implementation surveys (\$20,000); and consultant services (\$15,372).