



**Grant
CITY OF AUSTIN
RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION**

**AGENDA ITEM NO.: 15
AGENDA DATE: Thu 03/09/2006
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SUBJECT: Approve a resolution authorizing the application for renewal grant funding from the State of Texas, Governor's Office, Criminal Justice Division, Victims of Crime Act in the amount of \$411,366 for eight full-time equivalent (FTE) Victim Counselors for a "Comprehensive Victim Services Program."

AMOUNT & SOURCE OF FUNDING: Funding in the amount of \$411,366 is available in the grant period of July 1, 2006 - June 30, 2007 from the State of Texas, Governor's Office, Criminal Justice Division. A match of \$198,082 will be met by 2 FTE positions and in-kind volunteers Victim Service counselor hours. The match can be found in the approved Fiscal Year 2006 Operating Budget of the Austin Police Department Victim Services Program.

FISCAL NOTE: There is no unanticipated fiscal impact. A fiscal note is not required.

**REQUESTING Police
DEPARTMENT:**

**DIRECTOR'S
AUTHORIZATION: Robert Dahlstrom**

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT: Stanley Knee, Chief/974-5030

PRIOR COUNCIL ACTION: August 18, 2005

BOARD AND COMMISSION ACTION: N/A

PURCHASING: N/A

MBE / WBE: N/A

This action approves a resolution authorizing the City to apply for \$411,366 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. A match of \$198,082 includes 2 FTE positions and in-kind volunteer Victim Service counselor hours. The grant funds a total of eight (8) FTEs to provide services for approximately 6,000 victims of crime. The goal of the grant program is to increase the number of primary and secondary crime victims receiving counseling and referral services during the initial stages of crisis, in following-up with adult crime victims, and in working with children witnessing or experiencing family, school and/or community violence. The grant period runs from July 1, 2006 – June 30, 2007.

The APD Victim Services Program positively impacts the quality of life for the citizens of Austin by assisting victims/survivors and their families who have experienced crime. These services will help them recover more quickly and completely from the effects of victimization. The eight (8) grant-funded FTE Victim Counselors provide on-scene crisis stabilization (Crisis Team) and investigative support and follow-up (Centralized Investigations and Family Violence) services.

This grant addresses the Department goal of reducing crime, fear of crime, and improving the quality of life of Austin's residents. It also addresses the following APD Program Objective: The purpose of the Victim Services Program is to respond to the psychological and emotional needs of victims/families, neighbors and community members experiencing crime and/or trauma so that they can recover more quickly and completely from the effects of victimization.

RESOLUTION NO. 20060309-

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AUSTIN:

WHEREAS, the City Council finds it in the best interest of the citizens of the City of Austin, to authorize the application for \$411,366 in grant funding from the State of Texas, Office of the Governor, Criminal Justice Division, Victims of Crime Act, for eight (8) full-time equivalent (FTE) Victim Counselors for a "Comprehensive Victim Services Program"; and

WHEREAS, the City Council has considered the proposed application for State grant funds for said project, in the amount of \$411,366 in grant funding from the State of Texas, Office of the Governor, Criminal Justice Division, for eight (8) full-time equivalent (FTE) Victim Counselors; and

WHEREAS, the City Council is committed to providing for the applicable matching funds as required; and

WHEREAS, the City Council designates the Assistant City Manager for public safety as the authorized official who has the power to apply for, accept, reject, agree or terminate this grant; and

WHEREAS, the City Council has agreed that in the event of loss or misuse of the Criminal Justice Division funds, the City Council assures that the

funds will be returned to the Criminal Justice Division in full; **NOW, THEREFORE,**

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AUSTIN:

The City Council approves the application for grant funding from the State of Texas, Office of the Governor, Criminal Justice Division in the amount of \$411,366.

ADOPTED: March 9, 2006

ATTEST: _____
Shirley A. Gentry
City Clerk