



## MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor and Council Members

FROM: Rey Arellano, Assistant City Manager

DATE: August 24, 2020

SUBJECT: Austin Police Department Grants

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Resolution No. [20200611-096](#) directs the City Manager to “...review all grants received by the Austin Police Department to determine if those funds and initiatives align with and advance Council’s affirmed vision for department policies and practices.” The purpose of this memorandum is to inform Council that the Austin Police Department (APD) grants offered for Council consideration on the August 27, 2020 meeting agenda meet the direction of the Resolution.

APD Grants Manager Kyran Fitzgerald and I have adjusted our review process to ensure compliance with the Resolution. In addition, a memo documenting our review of all APD grants will be issued shortly. Note that grants may be managed outside APD as the grants are issued to the City of Austin.

For your convenience, the attached table provides a summary listing of the proposed grant items moving forward for your consideration on August 27<sup>th</sup>. For additional information, please contact Kyran Fitzgerald, APD Grant Manager ([Kyran.Fitzgerald@austintexas.gov](mailto:Kyran.Fitzgerald@austintexas.gov), (512) 974-5033) or me.

cc: Spencer Cronk, City Manager  
Nuria Rivera-Vandermyde, Deputy City Manager  
Mark Dombroski, Interim Chief Financial Officer  
Ed Van Eenoo, Deputy Chief Financial Officer  
Chief Brian Manley, Austin Police Chief  
Chief of Staff Troy Gay, Austin Police Chief of Staff  
Alice Thomas, APD Assistant Director  
Michelle Schmidt, APD Chief Administrative Officer  
Kyran Fitzgerald, APD Grant Manager

Attachment: APD Grants Summary

# APD Grants Summary

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The item numbers refer to their listing in City Council [Regular Meeting Agenda of August 27, 2020](#).

| Item  | Description of what funds could be used towards  | Remarks   |
|---|--|---|
| <p><a href="#">#32</a>. Approve a resolution authorizing the application for and acceptance of grant <b>funding in the amount of \$662,339</b> from the State of Texas, Office of the Governor, Criminal Justice Division to implement the Austin Police Department project entitled <b>APD Victim Crisis Intervention Project</b>.</p> | <p>Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) funding will allow the City to fund the salaries and benefits of eight full-time victim counselor positions. Funds will provide mental health and practical intervention for victims of crime as close to the time of an incident as possible (e.g., crisis counseling and stabilization, justice support, personal advocacy, emergency placement in shelter, safety planning, and information and referrals to other helpful service providers).</p> | <p>A City funding match is not required.</p>  |
| <p><a href="#">#33</a>. Approve a resolution authorizing the application for and acceptance of grant <b>funding in the amount of \$259,804</b> from the State of Texas, Office of the Governor, Criminal Justice Division, to implement the Austin Police Department project entitled <b>First Responder Mental Health Program</b>.</p> | <p>Funding will allow the City to continue services that will improve the well-being of officers, first responders and their families by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continuing the salary of a VOCA-funded licensed professional counselor.</li> <li>• Extending existing contracts with several professional clinicians.</li> <li>• Extending existing contract of the program's Principal Investigator.</li> </ul>  | <p>The City funding match of \$64,951 is required and will be met by accounting for the salaries of an existing City-funded sergeant assigned to training and wellness.</p> |

| Item  | Description of what funds could be used towards  | Remarks   |
|---|--|---|
| <p><a href="#">#34</a>. Approve a resolution authorizing the application for and acceptance of grant <b>funding in the amount of \$128,019</b> from the State of Texas, Office of the Governor, Criminal Justice Division to implement the Austin Police Department program titled <b>Project Safe Neighborhoods</b>.</p>                         | <p>Funding will be used to implement APD’s Project Safe Neighborhoods, which aims to reduce violent crime. The Project focuses in the Downtown and Riverside areas based on violent crime levels in these areas.</p> <p>Project objectives are to implement evidence-based strategies aimed at reducing violent crime; developing evidence-based and data-driven intervention and prevention initiatives; and collecting data on outcomes achieved through programming, to include effects on the violent crime rate, incarceration rate, and recidivism rate in Austin.</p>   | <p>A City funding match is not required.</p> <p>Year 1 activities include targeted enforcement (overtime operations) and crime prevention (education/awareness). Staff is planning to complete a series of Public Service Announcements to post online by the end of this calendar year with Year 1 funds. Year 2 funds will be modified to include a strong education and awareness component.</p> |
| <p><a href="#">#35</a>. Approve a resolution authorizing the application for and acceptance of grant <b>funding in the amount of \$168,670</b> from the State of Texas, Office of the Governor, Criminal Justice Division to implement the Austin Police Department project entitled <b>APD Violence Against Women Investigative Project</b>.</p> | <p>Funding will allow the City to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hire two full-time temporary Violent Crime Apprehension Program (ViCAP) assistants to support the entry and investigation of sexual assault cases entered into the FBI’s ViCAP database; and</li> <li>• Hire a part time temporary status to work with key personnel to implement more effective police, court, and prosecution policies, protocols, orders, and services specifically devoted to preventing, identifying, and responding to violent crimes against women, and develop and promote local policies that enhance best practices for responding to sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking.</li> </ul> | <p>The City funding match of \$72,288 is required and will be met by accounting for the salary of an existing City-funded sworn supervisor.</p> <p>This is Year 3 of the Project.</p>   |

| Item   | Description of what funds could be used towards  | Remarks                                      |
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| <p><a href="#">#36</a>. Approve a resolution authorizing the application for and acceptance of grant <b>funding in the amount of \$241,800</b> from the State of Texas, Office of the Governor, Criminal Justice Division to implement the Austin Police Department project entitled <b>Sexual Assault Evidence Testing Project</b>.</p>                                     | <p>Funding for the Project will allow the City to enter into multiple contracts with DNA laboratories for evidence testing, technical review and Combined DNA Index System (CODIS) processing. Evidence will consist of non-SAK (sexual assault kit) DNA evidence, including suspect reference samples for comparison purposes. This is the first year of this project.</p> <p>This Item is related to Item #37.</p>   | <p>A City funding match is not required.</p> |
| <p><a href="#">#37</a>. Approve an ordinance amending the Fiscal Year 2019-2020 Austin Police Department Operating Budget Special Revenue Fund (Ordinance No. 20190910-001) to accept and <b>appropriate \$241,800</b> in grant funds from the State of Texas, Office of the Governor, Criminal Justice Division for the <b>Sexual Assault Evidence Testing Project</b>.</p> | <p>Ordinance amending APD's Operating Budget to accept \$241,800 available from the State of Texas, Office of the Governor, Criminal Justice Division, for the Sexual Assault Evidence Testing Project.</p> <p>Funding for the Project will allow the City to enter into multiple contracts with DNA laboratories for evidence testing, technical review and CODIS processing. Evidence will consist of non-SAK (sexual assault kit) DNA evidence, including suspect reference samples for comparison purposes.</p> <p>This item is related to Item #36.</p> | <p>A City funding match is not required.</p> |

| Item  | Description of what funds could be used towards  | Remarks  |
|---|--|--|
| <p><a href="#">#39</a>. Authorize negotiation and execution of an <b>interlocal agreement with Travis County for the City to administer the 2019 Justice Assistance Grant Program</b> on behalf of the City and the Travis County Sheriff's Office.</p> | <p>Funding in the amount of \$322,612 is available. The project period, October 1, 2018 – September 30, 2022, may be extended by the City with permission from the Department of Justice.</p> <p>This action authorizes the negotiation and execution of an Interlocal Agreement with Travis County for City to act as fiscal agent and to determine grant allocation between City and County. The funding allocation will be determined during negotiation. The City will use its portion of grant funds primarily for training.</p>              | <p>There is no fiscal impact regarding this item to authorize negotiation/execution of an Interlocal Agreement. Once executed, a City funding match is not required.</p>   |
| <p><a href="#">#65</a>. Authorize negotiation and execution of a contract with Remotec Inc., for <b>Power Hawk Assembly remote devices, in an amount not to exceed \$71,644</b>.</p>  | <p>Funding is in the amount of \$71,644, is available in the Fiscal Year 2019-2020 Budget of the State of Texas, Office of the Governor, Criminal Justice Division, Justice Assistance Grant Program, Special Operations Explosive Ordinance Device Project.</p> <p>The contract is for the purchase of two Power Hawk P-16 Assembly remote devices. The P-16 device is a versatile claw designed for the exclusive use with the Andros FX explosive disposal unmanned robotic vehicles used by the Austin Police Department (APD) Bomb Squad.</p> | <p>A City funding match is not required. This is a purchase using a grant that ends 9/30/2020.</p> <p>The Power Hawk Assembly enhances the ability to remotely disable and dispose of suspicious objects, explosive devices, and other dangerous threats from a safe distance, thereby reducing danger to APD officers and the community. APD maintains two Andros FX robotic vehicles and associated equipment strategically located for quick response times within the CAPCOG ten-county region. The APD Bomb Squad is the only explosive ordinance disposal resource in the CAPCOG area.</p> |

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|--|--|---|
| <p><a href="#">#66</a>. Authorize award of a contract with NTT Enterprises, Inc. D/B/A Tyler Camera Systems, to provide a <b>multifunctional seating platform and rappel attachment for an Austin Police Department helicopter, in an amount not to exceed \$88,750.</b></p> | <p>The contract is for the purchase of a multifunctional seating platform and rappel attachment for the Austin Police Department's (APD) Air Support Unit to expand the role of the AS350 B3 helicopter to cover the entire Austin and Travis County area for emergencies.</p>   | <p>A City funding match is not required. This is a purchase using a grant that ends 9/30/2020.</p> <p>The seating platform and rappel attachment can be used for essential missions including delivering first responders from APD, Austin Fire Department, and Emergency Medical Services to locations a helicopter cannot land, and which are not accessible by vehicle or on foot. APD's helicopter is a City/County resource for routine traffic operations, searches, special events, and other emergency scenarios.</p>   |
| <p><a href="#">#67</a>. Authorize negotiation and execution of a contract with Waters Technologies Corporation, for the purchase of an <b>ultra-performance liquid chromatograph-mass spectrometer, in an amount not to exceed \$214,582.</b></p>                            | <p>Funding will be used for the one-time purchase of an ultra-performance liquid chromatograph-mass spectrometer (UPLC-MS). This instrument is used by the APD's Forensic Science Bureau for chemical analysis in the identification of unknown substances to detect the presence of illicit drugs or controlled substances. It will not be used to analyze for THC.</p> | <p>A City funding match is not required. This is a purchase using a grant that ends 9/30/2020; a one-month extension has been granted due to the long lead procurement time.</p> <p>The new UPLC-MS will eventually replace the existing UPLC-MS. It will also be used to support backlog reduction (currently at ~400 cases); process sample matrices that would not otherwise be possible with the gas chromatograph-mass spectrometer instruments in the laboratory (e.g., sticky compounds); and rapidly identify lethal emerging compounds, such as those associated with clusters of local overdoses.</p> |