



MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor and Council Members

FROM: Rey Arellano, Assistant City Manager

DATE: August 31, 2020

SUBJECT: Austin Police Department Grants

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 September 3, 2020 meeting agenda meet the direction of the Resolution.

Last Friday, APD received notification from the U.S. Attorney’s Office that they will not be funding the City’s FY21 Project Safe Neighborhood grant application; therefore, #40 will be withdrawn from the agenda.

#40. Approve a resolution authorizing the application for and acceptance of grant funding in the amount of \$128,019 from the State of Texas, Office of the Governor, Criminal Justice Division to implement the Austin Police Department program titled Project Safe Neighborhoods.

Attached is a table which provides a summary listing of the proposed grant items moving forward for your consideration on September 3rd. For additional information, please contact Kyran Fitzgerald, APD Grant Manager (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

The item numbers refer to their listing in City Council [Regular Meeting Agenda of September 3, 2020](#).

Item	Description of what funds could be used towards	Remarks
<p>#7. Approve a resolution authorizing the application for and acceptance of grant funding in the amount of \$157,222 from the State of Texas, Office of the Governor, Criminal Justice Division to implement the Austin Police Department project entitled Air Support Improvement Program.</p>	<p>DJ-Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program funding will allow the City to purchase two mapping systems, a searchlight and necessary accessories for use in APD helicopters.</p> <p>This is a one-time equipment only project. The project period is October 1, 2020 - September 30, 2021.</p>	<p>A City funding match is not required.</p> <p>In spring 2020, the City presented the proposal to the Capital Area Council of Government (CAPCOG) Criminal Justice Advisory Committee (CJAC) for consideration. Representatives throughout the region acknowledged the pressing need for this equipment, and prioritized this specific project above all others and recommended full funding through the Criminal Justice Division.</p> <p>The APD Air Support Unit is one of few air support response units available in the region. The unit responds to a variety of calls for service, such as missing children, missing elderly persons, missing or lost hikers. The equipment requested will greatly assist with search and rescue operations following natural and anthropogenic disasters and will support law enforcement officers engaged in pursuits and with locating subjects evading on foot, particularly after burglaries have occurred.</p>

Item	Description of what funds could be used towards	Remarks
<p>#8. Approve a resolution authorizing the application for and acceptance of grant funding in the amount of \$310,000 from the State of Texas, Office of the Governor, Criminal Justice Division to implement the Austin Police Department project entitled Rifle-Resistant Body Armor.</p> <p>Related to Item #9.</p>	<p>Funding will allow the City to outfit an estimated 400 officers with National Institute of Justice (NIJ)-rated rifle resistant body armor (replacement equipment).</p> <p>The project period is September 1, 2020 - August 31, 2021.</p>	<p>A City funding match is not required.</p> <p>Body armor has a life of five (5) years – the expiration (also known as the manufacturer’s declared warranty period – is stamped on the issued equipment). Five-year replacement is critical due to material degradation, moisture exposure, UV exposure, and wear and tear with daily use.</p> <p>All officers are assigned protective armor for daily use and many are also issued a rifle vest. With this funding, the APD will purchase the NIJ-rated equipment (carriers and plates) that will replace the current armor and will protect officers from rifle fire. This equipment is advanced and has the features of both the daily vest and the rifle vest. The requested grant funding will allow the City to replace approximately 400 NIJ-rated resistant carriers and plates scheduled to expire beginning in December 2020 (Note: turnaround time from order to delivery averages two months).</p> <p>Funding will not cover the costs of body armor for non-law enforcement (civilian) personnel.</p>

Item	Description of what funds could be used towards	Remarks
<p>#9. Approve an ordinance amending the Fiscal Year 2019-2020 Austin Police Department Operating Budget Special Revenue Fund (Ordinance No. 20190910-001) to accept and appropriate \$310,000 in grant funds from the State of Texas, Office of the Governor, Criminal Justice Division, BG-Rifle-Resistant Body Armor Grant Program for the Rifle Resistant Body Armor Project.</p> <p>Related to Item #8.</p>	<p>This action will accept \$310,000 in grant funds to appropriate \$310,000 for the Rifle Resistant Body Armor Project for a one-year grant period. Funding will allow the City to outfit an estimated 400 officers with NIJ-rated rifle resistant body armor (replacement equipment).</p>	<p>A City funding match is not required.</p>
<p>#40. Approve a resolution authorizing the application for and acceptance of grant funding in the amount of \$128,019 from the State of Texas, Office of the Governor, Criminal Justice Division to implement the Austin Police Department program titled Project Safe Neighborhoods.</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>APD received notification from the U.S. Attorney’s Office that they will not be funding the City’s FY21 Project Safe Neighborhood grant application; therefore, this item will be withdrawn from the agenda.</p>