

Recommendation for Council Action

Austin City Council Item ID 60851 Agenda Number 51.

Meeting Date: 8/18/2016 Department: Austin Police Department

Subject

Approve a resolution authorizing the acceptance of grant funding from the State of Texas, Governor's Office, Criminal Justice Division to implement the APD Assistance for Victims of Violent Crime project.

Amount and Source of Funding

Funding in the amount of \$243,659.66 is available from the State of Texas, Criminal Justice Division, Victims of Crime Act Fund for the project period of September 1, 2016 – August 31, 2017. A match of 20% of the total project cost is required and will be met be accounting for the salary of an existing City-funded victim service supervisor.

Fiscal Note

A fiscal note is not required.

Purchasing Language:	
Prior Council Action:	September 17, 2015
For More Information:	Brian Manley, Chief of Staff, Austin Police Department (512) 974-5030
Council Committee, Boards and Commission Action:	
MBE / WBE:	
Related Items:	

Additional Backup Information

This action will provide the required resolution needed by the Criminal Justice Division (CJD) to complete the award process related to \$243,659.66 in grant funding. The project period is September 1, 2016 – August 31, 2017. A match of 20% of the total project cost is required and will be met be accounting for the salary of an existing City-funded victim service supervisor.

Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) funding will allow the City to continue the salary of an existing grant-funded victim counselor position, provide overtime for existing counselors and purchase minimal supplies. Funding will also allow the City to hire two new full-time temporary status victim counselors. This is the third year of this project, which was formerly entitled Assistance for Female Victims of Domestic Violence. With CJD funds, the APD Victim Crisis Intervention Project will provide mental health and practical intervention for victims of crime as close to the time of an incident as possible. This intervention may include crisis counseling and stabilization, justice support, personal advocacy, emergency placement in shelter, safety planning, and information and referrals to other helpful service providers.

The grantor requires a resolution approved by Council that includes items one through four below.

- 1. Authorization by your governing body for the submission of the application to CJD that clearly identifies the name of the project for which funding is requested;
- 2. A commitment to provide all applicable matching funds;
- 3. A designation of the name and/or title of an authorized official who is given the authority to apply for, accept, reject, alter, or terminate a grant; and
- 4. A written assurance that, in the event of loss or misuse of grant funds, the governing body will return all funds to CJD.