Grant
CITY OF AUSTIN
RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION

AGENDA ITEM NO.: 19
AGENDA DATE: Thu 09/29/2005
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SUBJECT: Approve a resolution authorizing application for grant funding from the Governor's Office Criminal Justice Division in the amount of $93,447 for the Austin Police Department, Forensic Science Division to receive training in forensic sample evidence.

AMOUNT & SOURCE OF FUNDING: Funding in the amount of is available in Fiscal Year 2005-2006 from the Governor's Office Criminal Justice Division.

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

REQUESTING Police
DEPARTMENT:

DIRECTOR'S
AUTHORIZATION: Rick Coy

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT: Robert Dahlstrom, Assistant Chief/974-5482

PRIOR COUNCIL ACTION: January 13, 2005 acceptance of FY 04 grant funding.

BOARD AND COMMISSION ACTION: N/A

PURCHASING: N/A

MBE / WBE: N/A

This action approves a resolution authorizing the City to apply for $93,447 from the Governor's Office, Criminal Justice Division Coverdell Forensics Science Improvement Program. The grant period runs from November 1, 2005 to August 31, 2006.

Funding will be utilized by APD Crime Lab employees to attend training classes and seminars covering various aspects of forensic sample evidence examination. The Austin Police Department Forensics Laboratory received accreditation from the American Society of Crime Laboratory Directors – Laboratory Accreditation Board (ASCLD/LAB) accreditation on August 3, 2005. An important component of the accreditation process is the laboratory system's training program. The training program must be sufficiently comprehensive to cover all aspects of the work performed by a laboratory for each discipline in which the laboratory performs casework. Training is required in order to maintain accreditation status.

The Coverdell Forensics Science Program will also enable the Forensics lab to access the training they need for the proper documentation, testing, examinations and retention of evidence. This grant addresses the Department goals of reducing the violent crime rate and the property crime rate. It also addresses the following APD Activity Objective: The purpose of the Forensics activity is to provide timely and accurate forensic science and operational support to APD, local law enforcement and judicial agencies so they can successfully resolve investigations.

RESOLUTION NO. 20050929-

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 $93,447 in grant funding from the State of Texas, Office of the Governor, Criminal Justice Division, for the Austin Police Department, Forensic Science Division to receive training in forensic sample evidence; and

WHEREAS, the City Council has considered the proposed application for State grant funds for said project, in the amount of $93,447 in grant funding from the State of Texas, Office of the Governor, Criminal Justice Division, for the Austin Police Department, Forensic Science Division to receive training in forensic sample evidence; 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, alter 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 $93,447.

ADOPTED: September 29 , **2005**   **ATTEST:**_____

Shirley A. Brown
City Clerk