



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

**AGENDA ITEM NO.: 16
AGENDA DATE: Thu 12/15/2005
PAGE: 1 of 1**

SUBJECT: Approve a resolution authorizing application for \$750,000 in continuation grant funds from the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Violence Against Women Grants Office, "Grants to Encourage Arrest Policies and Enforcement of Protection Orders" to provide comprehensive services to the victims of domestic violence.

AMOUNT & SOURCE OF FUNDING: Funding is available from the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Violence Against Women Grants Office "Grant to Encourage Arrest Policies and Enforcement of Protection Orders" for the 24-month grant period September 1, 2006 through October 31, 2008.

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: Robert Dahlstrom, Assistant Chief/974-5482

PRIOR COUNCIL ACTION: March 4, 2004 application for FY 2004 grant.

BOARD AND COMMISSION ACTION: N/A

This action authorizes the City of Austin to apply for \$750,000 in continuation grant funds from the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Violence Against Women Grants Office "Grants to Encourage Arrest Policies and Enforcement Orders" program for the Austin-Travis County Family Violence Protection Team (FVPT). The FVPT was established in 1997 with grant funds to provide comprehensive services to the victims of family violence. The new grant will provide funding for continued consolidated services. The grant is for a 24-month award period from September 1, 2006 through October 31, 2008.

The FVPT is a collaborative effort between the Austin Police Department, Travis County Attorney's Office, Travis County District Attorney's Office, Travis County Sheriff's Office, SafePlace, Texas Rural Legal Aid, and the Women's Advocacy Project. Under the terms of the grant, the City of Austin must serve as the grant applicant. In the past, the City contracted for services with each of the non-profit agencies and Travis County. The administrative burden for maintaining the contracts was substantial. In this grant, all of the funds will be subcontracted to SafePlace and they will maintain contracts with the other partner agencies at the FVPT. If the grant is awarded, APD will submit a council action for a two-year contract with SafePlace to administer the grant and to continue to have SafePlace serve as the FVPT coordinator. The grant will allow the FVPT to continue the salaries for a detective with the Travis County Sheriff's Office who investigates family violence cases; a part-time attorney with the Women's Advocacy Program to assist with Emergency Protective Orders, and part-time legal assistance from the District Attorney's Office and County Attorney's Office in prosecuting family violence cases.

RESOLUTION NO. 20051215-

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 \$750,000 in grant funding from the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Violence Against Women Grants Office, "Grants to Encourage Arrest Policies and Enforcement of Protection Orders" program to provide comprehensive services to the victims of domestic violence; and

WHEREAS, the City Council has considered the proposed application for U.S. Department of Justice grant renewal funds for said project, in the amount of \$750,000 from the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Violence Against Women Grants Office, "Grants to Encourage Arrest Policies and Enforcement of Protection Orders" program to provide comprehensive services to the victims of domestic violence; 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 U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs funds, the

City Council assures that the funds will be returned to the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs 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 U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs in the amount of \$750,000.

ADOPTED: December 15, 2005

ATTEST: _____

**Shirley A. Gentry
City Clerk**