



DATE: December 13, 2016

CATEGORY: Consent

DEPT.: Police

TITLE: **Acceptance and Appropriation of Federal Funds Designated for the Fiscal Year 2016 Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program**

RECOMMENDATION

Accept \$12,485 in grant funds from the Fiscal Year 2016 Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program to support a Systems Specialist position in the Police Department.

BACKGROUND

In Fiscal Year 2006, the Federal budget consolidated many local and State law enforcement assistance grants. Under this consolidation, the Edward Byrne Memorial Grant Program and the Local Law Enforcement Block Grant (LLEBG) were combined into a single program known as the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG).

Like the previous LLEBG program, this grant program is a noncompetitive pass-through of Federal funds to be used within specific program areas. One of those program areas includes hiring new personnel in order to accomplish a net increase of staffing. This includes staff that enhances the Police Department's service levels on the front line.

When reviewing the major priorities during the preparation for Fiscal Year 2000-01, an additional information systems support position surfaced as the single-highest unfunded need. From that fiscal year through to Federal Fiscal Year 2004, LLEBG program funds were appropriated and authorized to expend on personnel costs relating to supporting information technology services in the Police Department.

The JAG legislation requires public notification and comment and governing body notification regarding the intent to apply for and use JAG funds, or that a date be provided as to when the governing body is scheduled to review the application and when and how the public was or will be notified.

ANALYSIS

As Police Department personnel have grown increasingly dependent upon existing information technology resources, the Police Department's need for support has increased. Also, as the Police Department implements new information technology systems; plans for upcoming changes in local, State, and Federal criminal justice systems; and plans for replacement or upgrade of its existing systems, the Police Department's need for quality technical support will continue to grow. It is critical that the personnel in this role be able to support the essential systems on a 24-hour-a-day, 7-day-a-week basis. They must also be familiar with public safety automation systems as well as modern desktop computer operating systems and applications, and be familiar with the information and systems security requirements placed on the Police Department by the State of California Department of Justice.

FISCAL IMPACT

The City is eligible to receive \$12,485 in JAG Program funds. A local match is not required with this program.

These grant funds will assist with the Police Department's Systems Specialist personnel costs. The Systems Specialist personnel costs were approved and budgeted 100 percent in the Police Department operating budget. The grant funds are then posted to revenue as a reimbursement for these costs.

ALTERNATIVES

The City Council could direct that the Federal grant funds be put to other uses.

PUBLIC NOTICING – Agenda posting.

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