

AGENDA



Recommendation for Council Action

Austin City Council	Item ID	29139	Agenda Number	40.
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Meeting Date:	1/23/2014	Department:	Austin Police Department
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Subject

Approve an ordinance accepting \$63,000 in grant funds from the State of Texas, Governor's Office, Criminal Justice Division; and amending the Fiscal Year 2013-2014 Austin Police Department Operating Budget Special Revenue Fund (Ordinance No. 20130909-001) to appropriate \$63,000 for the project entitled Austin Police Services for Victims of Crime.

Amount and Source of Funding

Funding in the amount of \$63,000 is currently available from the State of Texas, Criminal Justice Division, Victims of Crime Act Fund, for the project period of January 1, 2014 – December 31, 2014. A match of 20% (\$15,750) of the total project cost is required and will be met by accounting for the salary of an existing city-funded victim service supervisor.

Fiscal Note

A fiscal note is attached.

Purchasing Language:	
Prior Council Action:	
For More Information:	Jessica Robledo, Assistant Chief 974-5030
Boards and Commission Action:	
MBE / WBE:	
Related Items:	

Additional Backup Information

This ordinance will accept \$63,000 in grant funding from the State of Texas, Office of the Governor, Criminal Justice Division and will amend the FY 2013-2014 Police Department Operating Budget Special Revenue Fund of Ordinance No. 20130909-001 to appropriate said funds for the project entitled Austin Police Services for Victims of Crime.

Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) funding will allow the City to hire a victim services counselor for a 12-month period. The counselor will provide mental health and practical intervention as close to the time of a criminal 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.

APD anticipates that the counselor will provide services for 500 victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking,

and/or dating violence during the project period replacing the services lost when funding expired for a prior grant funded counselor. The project period is January 1, 2014 – December 31, 2014.

The General Fund will not be required to contribute to this grant or to the funding of these positions. When the grant funds expire, APD's need for the positions will be evaluated and the positions may be eliminated.