

AGENDA



Recommendation for Council Action

Austin City Council	Item ID	40379	Agenda Number	14.
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Meeting Date:	2/26/2015	Department:	Austin Police Department
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Subject

Approve an ordinance accepting \$100,000 in grant funds from the State of Texas, Governor's Office, Criminal Justice Division, Edward Byrne Justice Assistance Grant Program; and amending the Fiscal Year 2014-2015 Austin Police Department Operating Budget Special Revenue Fund (Ordinance No. 20140908-001) to appropriate \$100,000 for the Austin Police Department Incident-Based Reporting Project. Related to Item # 13.

Amount and Source of Funding

Funding in the amount of \$100,000 is available in a grant from the State of Texas, Criminal Justice Division, Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program. A match is not required.

Fiscal Note

A fiscal note is attached.

Purchasing Language:	
Prior Council Action:	
For More Information:	Assistant Director Alice Thomas, APD, 512-974-5069
Boards and Commission Action:	
MBE / WBE:	
Related Items:	

Additional Backup Information

This ordinance will authorize the City to accept \$100,000 in grant funding from the State of Texas, Governor's Office, Criminal Justice Division, Edward Byrne Justice Assistance Grant Program; and amend the Fiscal Year 2014-2015 Austin Police Department Operating Budget Special Revenue Fund (Ordinance No. 20140908-001) to appropriate these funds for the Austin Police Department (APD) Incident-Based Reporting Project.

Since its inception, the Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) program that APD currently uses has provided a steady, reliable stream of information about crime in this nation. However, because UCR is a summary-based-reporting system, data about individual crime incidents are not available. The summary-based methodology, despite its reliability, is limited in many aspects. Limitations of the summary system include a lack of information on offenses, arrests, and victim/offender relationships.

The National Incident Based Reporting System (NIBRS) was designed in cooperation with the International Association of Chiefs of Police and the National Sheriffs Association to replace the existing Uniform Crime

Reporting summary system. This new system has many changes in contrast to the current UCR system.

Some of the major differences include:

- (1) Additional and expanded Part I offenses - from eight to 23;
- (2) More data elements collected for the Part I offenses for better crime analysis; and
- (3) Magnetically submitted information (e.g. disk, electronic submission).

The Texas Incident Based Reporting System (TIBRS) is modeled after the FBI's NIBRS. Unlike the summary-based UCR Program, TIBRS collects data on each single crime occurrence. TIBRS is a part of the NIBRS submission. Texas requires that additional data on family violence and drug seizure offenses be collected.

These funds will allow APD to purchase Versaterm incident-based reporting software in a package that includes project management, support, development, installation, configuration, testing, and formal certification. Funding will also cover the cost of server licenses, training supplies and overtime, new workstations, and a full workspace restructure. This will allow APD to report properly to the TIBRS system. This project will transition APD from summary-based to incident-based reporting, effectively enhancing the availability, accuracy and usefulness of local crime statistics.