

# **Recommendation for Council Action**

Austin City Council Item ID 49689 Agenda Number 46.

Meeting Date: 9/17/2015 Department: Austin Police Department

## Subject

Approve a resolution authorizing the application for and acceptance of \$133,881.08 in grant funding from the State of Texas, Governor's Office, Criminal Justice Division to implement the Austin Police Department project entitled Austin Police Services for Victims of Domestic Violence. Related to Item #45.

## Amount and Source of Funding

Funding in the amount of \$133,881.08 is available from the State of Texas, Criminal Justice Division, Violence Against Women Act Program for the project period of September 1, 2015 – August 31, 2016. A match of 35% (\$72,090) of the total project cost is required and will be met be accounting for the salary of an existing city-funded victim service supervisor and counselor.

### Fiscal Note

A fiscal note is not required.

Purchasing Language:	
Prior Council Action:	March 12, 2015: Resolution No. 20150312-010 approved on a 10-1 vote with Council Member Gallo absent.5
For More Information:	
Council Committee,	
Boards and	
Commission Action:	
MBE / WBE:	
Related Items:	49688

### Additional Backup Information

This action will provide the required resolution needed by the Criminal Justice Division to complete the award process related to \$133,881.08 in grant funding. The project period is September 1, 2015 – August 31, 2016. Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) funding will allow the City to:

- continue the salary of an existing full-time grant-funded victim services counselor (\$77,057.88)
- send twelve VAWA project staff members (counselors and investigators) to in- and out-of-state training (\$18,653.20)
- purchase project equipment (\$25,800) and supplies (\$12,370)

This is the eighteenth year of this project. The goals of the project are to assist victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence and stalking; to ensure proper case coordination, multidisciplinary case staffing, interagency communication, and follow up; and, to provide domestic violence and sexual assault training to professionals who

respond to incidents involving victims of the focus crimes. With CJD funds, the Austin Police Services for Victims of Domestic Violence Project provides mental health and practical intervention as close to the time of the event as possible. 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. Annually, the VAWA project provides services for 500 – 700 victims. The counselor also assists with cadet and service provider training.

The grantor requires a resolution approved by council that includes items one through four below.

- 1. Authorization by your governing body for the submission of the application to CJD that clearly identifies the name of the project for which funding is requested;
- 2. A commitment to provide all applicable matching funds;
- 3. A designation of the name and/or title of an authorized official who is given the authority to apply for, accept, reject, alter, or terminate a grant (Note: If a name is provided, you must update CJD should the official change during the grant period.); and
- 4. A written assurance that, in the event of loss or misuse of grant funds, the governing body will return all funds to CJD.