



Recommendation for Action

File #: 20-1794, Agenda Item #: 15.

4/9/2020

Posting Language

Approve an ordinance amending the Fiscal Year 2019-2020 Police Department Operating Budget Special Revenue Fund (Ordinance No. 20190910-001) authorizing 1.0 full-time equivalent grant position funded from the State of Texas, Office of the Governor, Criminal Justice Division, Victims of Crime Act Critical Incident Stress Debriefing Program.

Lead Department

Austin Police Department.

Fiscal Note

Funding in the amount of \$123,000 is available from the State of Texas, Office of the Governor, Criminal Justice Division through the Critical Incident Stress Debriefing Program. A City funding match of \$30,500 is required and is available in the Fiscal Year 2019-2020 Austin Police Department's Operating Budget. A fiscal note is attached.

Prior Council Action:

On February 21, 2019 - City Council approved Resolution No. 20190221-012, which was approved on an 11-0 vote.

For More Information:

Troy Gay, Chief of Staff, Austin Police Department, (512) 974-5030.

Additional Backup Information:

This action will authorize the addition of 1 grant-funded position to serve as a victim counselor for the Critical Incident Stress Debriefing (CISD) Program. The counselor position is a grant requirement and was originally included as a temporary employee. The department has retained a qualified counselor for the program and brings forward this request to ensure retention by providing minimal benefits; healthcare, and retirement. Converting this position to a regular grant funded Full Time Equivalent (FTE) should allow the City to retain the counselor for the duration of the project, which is funded through December 31, 2020. The position is also included in a grant application, with full funding provided through September 30, 2021.

The CISD counselor is dedicated 100% to pre-and post-crisis management activities, serving only sworn survivors. Direct service hours, focused on trauma-informed care, include crisis intervention, counseling, personal advocacy, and information and referrals to help sworn survivors recover more quickly and completely from the effects of victimization.

The General Fund will not be required to contribute additional funds beyond those currently budgeted to this grant or to the funding of this position. When the grant funds expire, the Austin Police Department's need for this position will be evaluated and the position may be eliminated.

Strategic Outcome(s):

Safety.