



Recommendation for Action

File #: 20-3031, **Agenda Item #:** 40.

9/3/2020

Posting Language

Approve a resolution authorizing the application for and acceptance of grant funding in the amount of \$128,019 from the State of Texas, Office of the Governor, Criminal Justice Division to implement the Austin Police Department program titled Project Safe Neighborhoods.

Lead Department

Austin Police Department

Fiscal Note

Funding is available from the State of Texas, Office of the Governor, Criminal Justice Division, Project Safe Neighborhoods program for the project period of October 1, 2020 - September 30, 2021. A match is not required.

Prior Council Action:

September 19, 2019 - City Council approved Resolution No. 20190919-040 on consent on Council Member Alter's motion, Mayor Pro Tem Garza's second, with an 11-0 vote.

For More Information:

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Additional Backup Information:

This action will provide the required resolution needed by the Criminal Justice Division (CJD) to complete the award process related to \$128,019 in grant funding. The project period is October 1, 2020 - September 30, 2021.

The goals of the Project Safe Neighborhood (PSN) program are to improve the local criminal justice system and foster safer neighborhoods through APD's existing partnerships with the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Western District of Texas. Project objectives are to implement evidence-based strategies aimed at reducing violent crime, including the enforcement of gun laws, and prioritizing efforts focused on identified subsets of individuals or organizations responsible for increasing violence (downtown and Riverside areas); developing evidence-based and data-driven intervention and prevention initiatives, including juvenile justice projects and activities which may include street-level outreach, conflict mediation, provision of treatment and social services, and the changing of community norms, in order to reduce violence; and collecting data on outcomes achieved through programming, to include effects on the violent crime rate, incarceration rate, and recidivism rate in Austin.

With PSN funding for officer overtime operations, key personnel will employ multiple prevention and intervention strategies over the 12-month project period. In addition, funding will allow crime analysts to assist on an overtime basis and will allow the City to hire a temporary videographer to improve education and awareness around violent crime. This is the second year of programming. Activities will be coordinated with other local initiatives.

The grantor requires a resolution approved by Council that addresses the following criteria:

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.

Strategic Outcome(s):

Safety.