



Recommendation for Action

File #: 21-3024, **Agenda Item #:** 35.

9/30/2021

Posting Language

Approve an ordinance amending the Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Austin Police Department Operating Budget Special Revenue Fund (Ordinance No. 20210811-001) to accept and appropriate \$366,178 in grant funds from the State of Texas, Office of the Governor, Criminal Justice Division, Coverdell National Forensic Sciences Improvement Act Fund for the Crime Lab Enhancement Project.

Lead Department

Austin Police Department.

Fiscal Note

Funding in the amount of \$366,178 is available from the State of Texas, Office of the Governor, Criminal Justice Division, Coverdell National Forensic Sciences Improvement Act Fund. A City funding match is not required. A fiscal note is attached.

Prior Council Action:

January 27, 2021 - City Council approved Ordinance No. 20210127-036, accepting grant funding from the State of Texas, Office of the Governor, Criminal Justice Division, Coverdell National Forensic Sciences Improvement Act Fund for the Crime Lab Enhancement Project.

For More Information:

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

Additional Backup Information:

The City Manager's Office reviewed this grant for alignment as directed by Resolution 20200611-096 and recommends approval.

This action will accept \$366,178 in grant funds from the State of Texas, Office of the Governor, Criminal Justice Division, Coverdell National Forensic Sciences Improvement Act Fund; and amend the Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Austin Police Department (APD) Operating Budget Special Revenue Fund of Ordinance No. 20210811-001 to appropriate \$366,178 for the Crime Lab Enhancement Project for the grant period (October 1, 2021 - September 30, 2022).

Coverdell funding will provide overtime (\$45,213) for existing civilian analysts to reduce backlogs in the specialty areas of chemistry, toxicology, automated fingerprint identification system and latent print, firearms/tool marks, and crime scene; equipment and supplies (\$315,865) that will allow analysts to effectively and efficiently conduct non-DNA casework in their respective specialties; and training funds (\$5,100) to improve the knowledge and skills of analysts.

This is the 18th year of this project. APD anticipates that Coverdell funds will allow for the analysis of approximately 3,700 samples of evidence.

The General Fund will not be required to contribute additional funds beyond those currently budgeted to this grant. When the grant funds expire, APD's need for continuing funding will be evaluated and may be denied.

Strategic Outcome(s):

Safety.