



Recommendation for Action

File #: 22-1322, Agenda Item #: 21.

3/3/2022

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 \$200,101 in supplemental grant funds from the State of Texas, Office of the Governor, Criminal Justice Division, Victims of Crime Act Formula Grant Program and to add 4.0 full-time equivalent grant funded positions for the Austin Police Department Victim Crisis Intervention Project.

Lead Department

Austin Police Department.

Fiscal Note

Funding in the amount of \$200,101 is available from the State of Texas, Office of the Governor, Criminal Justice Division. A City funding match (20%) is required and will be met by accounting for portions of the salaries of existing City-funded Victim Services positions. A fiscal note is attached.

Prior Council Action:

September 30, 2021 - Ordinance No. 20210930-033 was approved on an 11-0 vote.

For More Information:

Robin Henderson, Chief of Staff, Austin Police Department at 512-974-5030

Additional Backup Information:

This action will accept \$200,101 in supplemental grant funds from the State of Texas, Office of the Governor, Criminal Justice Division, Victims of Crime Act Formula Grant Program; and amend the Fiscal Year 2021-22 Austin Police Department Operating Budget Special Revenue Fund of Ordinance No. 20210811-001 to appropriate \$200,101 for the Austin Police Department (APD) Victim Crisis Intervention Project for the 1-year grant period (October 1, 2021 - September 30, 2022).

This supplemental award will allow for the addition of four new grant-funded full-time equivalent positions (FTEs) (victim counselor positions) as well as related supply and training costs. APD counselors provide mental health and practical intervention for victims of crime as close to the time of an incident as possible. This 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. APD anticipates that the project will provide services for an estimated 600 victims of crime over the remainder of the project period.

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

Strategic Outcome(s):

Safety.