



## Recommendation for Action

**File #:** 23-2216, **Agenda Item #:** 97.

7/20/2023

### **Posting Language**

Approve a resolution authorizing the acceptance of grant funding from the State of Texas, Office of the Governor, Criminal Justice Division to implement the Austin Police Department Crime Lab Enhancement Project.

### **Lead Department**

Austin Police Department.

### **Fiscal Note**

Funding in the amount of \$387,238 is available from the State of Texas, Office of the Governor, Criminal Justice Division, Coverdell National Forensic Sciences Improvement Act Fund for the project period of October 1, 2023 - September 30, 2024. A match is not required.

### **Prior Council Action:**

September 29, 2022 - City Council approved Resolution No. 20220929-042, authorizing the acceptance of grant funding from the State of Texas, Office of the Governor, Criminal Justice Division to implement the Austin Police Department Crime Lab Enhancement Project.

### **For More Information:**

Robin Henderson, 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 provide the required resolution needed by the Criminal Justice Division to complete the award process related to \$387,238 in grant funding. The project period is October 1, 2023 - September 30, 2024.

Coverdell funding will provide:

- Overtime (\$49,979) for existing civilian analysts to reduce backlogs in the specialty areas of chemistry, toxicology, AFIS and latent print, firearms/tool marks, and crime scene;
- Training (\$2,400) to improve toxicology analyst knowledge and skills;
- A 3D Microscopy Console (\$297,687) for ballistics identification;
- A high-resolution camera kit (\$12,212) for homicide scene processing; and,
- Drug standards (\$24,960) to improve results with impaired driving evidence.

This is the twentieth year of this project. APD anticipates that Coverdell funds will allow for the analysis of approximately 10,800 pieces of evidence.

The grantor requires a resolution approved by Council that addresses items one through four below.

1. Authorization by your governing body for the submission of the application to the Public Safety Office (PSO) 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 the PSO 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 PSO.